Training Course Syllabus for Licensed Dog Breeders, Traders and Staff

Modules required

DBLA, DBLB licensees and managers/supervisors of DBLB premises: 1-16 [24 hours]

ATL licensees and managers/supervisors of ATL premises: 1-8, 13-16 [18 hours]

Supervised staff: 1-8 – [12 hours]

* The total course time should not be less than that stated above. A suggested time allocation for individual modules is given below but may be varied at the Course Provider's discretion as long as all the subject matter is covered.

Item	Content	Suggested time* (hrs)
1.	Legislation relating to dogs in Hong Kong - Prevention of Cruelty Cap. 169 - Animal Trading and Breeding Cap. 139B - Licensing and Control of dogs – Cap. 421 and 167	1.5
2.	Welfare - What is welfare? - Why is welfare important? 5 freedoms - How can we ensure good welfare?	1.5
3.	Basic requirements of dogs - basic nutrition - housing and environment - exercise - social contact and play; behavioural enrichment	1.5
4.	Hygiene - link between hygiene, welfare and disease - types of disinfectants - cleaning of housing and environment - cleaning of utensils - frequency of cleaning	1.5
5.	Basic healthcare - signs of good health - signs of illness and when to seek professional advice - how to give medicine (oral and topical) - how to perform a basic examination including temperature	1.5
6.	First aid - wounds and haemorrhage - hyper- and hypo-thermia - fractures and trauma - toxins - shock	1.5
7.	Grooming - bathing - ears and eyes cleaning - nail clipping - hair trimming	1.5

8.	Handling - correct lifting of dogs - correct use of collar, leash, harness, muzzles - how to behave around dogs to avoid bites	1.5
9.	Genetics - basic genetics and concept of heritability - common inherited diseases - responsible breeding practice and avoiding genetic diseases	1.5
10.	Mating - age and frequency of breeding (licence conditions) - the female cycle, detection of oestrus and when/how to mate - factors affecting male fertility - pregnancy diagnosis (overview) and duration of pregnancy - care of the pregnant dog	1.5
11.	Whelping - housing and environment for whelping - normal delivery - dystocia – how to detect it and how to deal with it - common whelping problems - care of the bitch after whelping	1.5
12.	Care of neonates - importance of colostrum - how to detect problems in neonatal puppies - bottle feeding technique	1.5
13.	Socialization of puppies - why proper socialization is vital - when should socialization occur - how to properly socialize puppies - basic concepts of common behavioural problems and how we can help to avoid them	1.5
14.	Infectious disease and disease control - common infectious diseases - measures to prevent disease outbreaks - measures to be taken in the event of a disease outbreak	1.5
15.	Preventative care - vaccination: what, when and why - endoparasites – life cycle, effects and prevention - ectoparasites – lice, fleas, ticks and mites - heartworm	1.5
16.	Dog breeds - common breeds in Hong Kong - characteristics of different breeds - common problems associated with different breeds - different requirements of small and large breed dogs	1.5