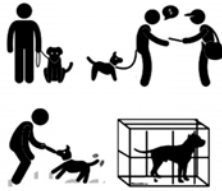


# WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

Under South African law:

It is a crime to be involved in any manner with the fighting of animals or to own, keep, train or breed animals used for fighting. It is also illegal to buy, sell or import these animals.



It is a crime to incite/encourage or allow any animal to attack another animal or proceed to fight.



You are committing a crime if you allow any one of these activities to take place on a property you own, live on or have control of.



It is a crime to promote animal fighting for money or entertainment.



You are committing a crime if you rent your property or property you manage for animal fighting purposes.



It is a crime to watch a dog fight. Even being a spectator at a dog fight is a criminal offence, as is being on the same property where dog fighting is taking place.



## PENALTIES

Fines up to R300,000.00  
Imprisonment of up to 15 years  
A criminal record and denial of animal ownership are all penalties you can face when convicted of dog fighting

# REPORT DOGFIGHTING REWARD IT'S A CRIMINAL OFFENCE R15,000

The National Council of SPCAs offers a reward of up to R15 000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of dog fighters



## IF YOU DON'T REPORT IT YOU SUPPORT IT!

CONTACT THE NSPCA  
specialinvestigations@nspca.co.za  
011 907 3590 | www.nspca.co.za  
You can remain anonymous  
Your identity is protected

# DOGFIGHTING IS A CRIME DON'T LET IT HAPPEN



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SPCAs



## WHAT IS DOG FIGHTING?

Dog Fighting is the premeditated and cruel practice of encouraging and inciting two dogs to attack and fight each other until one of the dogs is either killed or is too injured and exhausted to continue fighting.

Dog fighting is a thriving underground activity in both urban and rural areas across the country. This cruel and illegal activity may be happening in your community

Dogs used for fighting suffer terrible injuries such as - crushed and broken bones, ripped flesh, deep puncture wound, torn muscles, broken teeth and severe bruising. Dogs used for these activities often die as a result of these injuries from blood loss, shock, dehydration, exhaustion, and/or infection.

Most dogs used for fighting have miserable lives - caged or chained with heavy chains in bad living conditions for their whole lives.



## HOW DO I RECOGNISE THE PRESENCE OF DOG FIGHTING AND HOW CAN I HELP?

### Signs of possible dog fighting activities.

- ! Pit bulls kept on heavy chains or confined in small areas like alleys, garages or cages.
- ! Residences or properties with multiple pit bulls that are unsterilised, unsocialised or unfriendly to other animals.
- ! Pit bulls that have evidence of repeated injuries. Dogs with multiple scars or injuries on their bodies, especially their faces, front legs, chests, hind legs, thighs and ears.
- ! Purpose built fighting pits or square makeshift fighting areas with blood stains on floors and walls.
- ! The presence of training equipment (such as slat mills, treadmills, springpoles or break sticks) or veterinary drugs or supplies and steroids.
- ! Frequent or regular change in dogs at a specific property. As dogs are killed, new animals are purchased or stolen.

**If you suspect that dog fighting is taking place in your area, call the NSPCA.**

**As South Africa's largest animal protection organisation we are the leaders in law enforcement relating to animal cruelty, abuse and neglect.**

## HOW DOES THIS AFFECT ME?



### The Circle of Violence

Animal abuse has close links to other criminal activities, acts of violence and abuse of vulnerable people.

Dog fighting promotes a lack of respect for the law, insensitivity to suffering, an enthusiasm for violence and involvement in other crimes such as illegal gambling, drugs, illegal weapons and theft.

The presence of these dogs in a community, owned by irresponsible individuals, increases the risks of attack on other animals and also on people.



Where animal fighting is allowed to take place other illegal activities will flourish

**Protect your family, pets and community - report dog fighters.**