

# SECURITY ANIMAL WELFARE GUIDE

A Practical Guide for SPCA Inspectors to  
assist animals used for safeguarding



**National Council  
of SPCAs**



**NATIONAL LOTTERIES COMMISSION**  
**LOTTO FUNDED**

# SECURITY ANIMAL WELFARE GUIDE

**Purpose of this document:-** to provide a guide on the legal requirements and best practices for the humane housing, handling and use of animals used for safeguarding purposes

The National Council of Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NSPCA) is a statutory body mandated to protect animals and enforce national legislation.

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The historical development of the protection of animal welfare, and the role of the NSPCA in upholding this mandate, illustrates why the NSPCA plays a critical and unique role in our polity. Its long history of guarding the interests of animals reflects constitutional values. It has taken on the role of protecting animals in all of our interests". *excerpt from Constitutional Court Ruling, 2016*

## NSPCA STATEMENT OF POLICY

Every living creature has intrinsic value and is a sentient being . The NSPCA considers that the welfare of an animal includes its physical and mental state and that good animal welfare implies both fitness and a sense of well-being. The Council believes that the animal's welfare should be considered in terms of the five freedoms which are a globally recognised framework for animal welfare

### **Freedom from Hunger and Thirst**

By ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour

### **Freedom from Discomfort**

By providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area

### **Freedom from Pain, Injury or Disease**

By prevention, by rapid diagnosis and treatment

### **Freedom to express normal behaviour**

By providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animals' own kind

### **Freedom from Fear and Distress**

By ensuring conditions an treatment which avoid mental suffering

## 1. Legislation and Offences

The purpose of the Performing Animals Protection Act No 24 of 1935 (PAPA) is “**to regulate** the exhibition and training of performing animals and **the use of animals for safeguarding**”.

The Animals Protection Act No 71 of 1962 applies to all animals. Below is a quick reference and brief examples of sections of the Act and typical conditions that may apply in the context of this guide. Remember that a person can be charged under as many sections as apply in a specific case.

- Animals Protection Act (Act No 71 of 1962) (**APA**) and Regulation No 468
- Performing Animals Protection Act No 24 of 1935 (**PAPA**) and Regulations
- Private Security Industry Regulation Act No 56 of 2001 (**PSIRA**)

This Guide should be read in conjunction with the relevant checklists.

Typical Offences	Act No 71 of 1962 Reference
<b>Ill-treating Neglecting Terrifying Beating/Kicking</b>	<u>Section 2 (1) (a)</u> Offences in respect of animals. – (1) Any person who- Overloads, overdrives, overrides, ill-treats, neglects, infuriates, tortures or maims or cruelly beats, kicks goads or terrifies any animal; or
<b>Overworking Overloading</b>	<u>Section 2 (1) (a)</u> Offences in respect of animals. – (1) Any person who- <u>Overloads, overdrives, overrides</u> , ill-treats, neglects, infuriates, tortures or maims or cruelly beats, kicks goads or terrifies any animal; or
<b>Keeps animals in unacceptable manner</b>	<u>Section 2 (1) (b)</u> Offences in respect of animals. – (1) Any person who- Confines, chains tethers or secures any animal unnecessarily or under such conditions or in such a manner or position as to cause that animal unnecessary suffering or in any place which affords inadequate space, ventilation, light, protection or shelter from heat, cold or weather; or
<b>Malnourished/ Underweight</b>	<u>Section 2 (1) (c)</u> Unnecessarily starves or under-feeds or denies water or food to any animal; or
<b>Dirty/Parasitic conditions/ Untreated Injuries/Illness</b>  <b>Fails to end life when an animal is suffering</b>	<u>Section 2 (1) (e)</u> being the owner of any animal, deliberately or negligently keeps such animal in a dirty or parasitic condition or allows it to become infested with external parasites or fails to render or procure veterinary or other medical treatment or attention which he is able to render or procure for any such animal in need of such treatment or attention, whether through disease, injury, delivery of young or any other cause,  or fails to destroy or cause to be destroyed any such animal which is so seriously injured or diseased or in such a physical condition that to prolong its life would be cruel and would cause such animal unnecessary suffering; or
<b>Inhumane use of equipment</b>	<u>Section 2 (1) (f)</u> Uses on or attaches to any animal any equipment, appliance or vehicle which causes or will cause injury to such animal or which is loaded, used or attached in such a manner as will cause such animal to be injured or to become diseased or to suffer unnecessarily : or
<b>Working unfit/ injured animals</b>	<u>Section 2 (1) (i)</u> drives or uses any animal which is so diseased or so injured or in such a physical condition that it is unfit to be driven or to do any work; or
<b>Transporting , Keeping or restraining in unacceptable manner</b>	<u>Section 2 (1) (m)</u> conveys, carries, confines, secures, restrains or tethers any animal- (i) under such conditions or in such a manner or position or for such a period of time or over such a distance as to cause that animal unnecessary suffering; or (ii) in conditions affording inadequate shelter, light or ventilation or in which such animal is excessively exposed to heat, cold, weather, sun, rain, dust, exhaust gases or noxious fumes; or iii) without making adequate provision for suitable food, potable water and rest for such animal in circumstances where it is necessary; or
<b>Omission or Commission</b>	Any combination of the sections may apply together with: Section 2 (1) (q) and (r) (q) causes, procures or assists in the commission or omission of any of the aforesaid acts or , being the owner of any animal, permits the commission or omission of any such act; or (r) by wantonly or unreasonably or negligently doing or omitting to do any act or causing or procuring the commission or omission of any act, causes any unnecessary suffering to any animal;

## 2. PAPA Act No 24 of 1935 and PAPA Regulations 2016

### PAPA

**LICENSING** - The Performing Animals Protection Act controls the training and exhibition of animals and the use of animals for safeguarding and stipulates conditions under which animals may be worked/used. Each individual or company using animals for safeguarding or working purpose must be in possession of a **Licence** issued **by Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD))**. This is valid for a year from the date of issue on the licence.

**Sub-contracted individuals/companies** also require a PAPA licence – even if the animal is only hired and not owned by them. And regardless if the animal is used for safeguarding on a permanent or temporary basis. **Facilities** that train animals for safeguarding must be in possession of a PAPA Licence, irrespective if they have animals or not.

Forms and applications must be made directly to DALRRD who will appoint a Licensing Officer who will grant/deny the license.

If a Licensing officer approaches your SPCA regarding an application in terms of the PAPA for the use animals for safeguarding, the information must be forwarded to the National Council of SPCAs (NSPCA) as per Rule 5.36 in terms of the SPCA Act. The NSPCA shall investigate the matter and provide the appropriate opinion and/or advice to the person concerned.” **No information, reports or “letters of recommendation” are to be made to the individual or company.**

If an individual or company is operating without a valid PAPA licence they are breaking the law. If you discover this is happening with a company operating in your area: -

- Advise them they are operating illegally. Also notify NSPCA in writing.
- Issue a written instruction to remove the animals from duty. Report such company to [papa@dalrrd.gov.za](mailto:papa@dalrrd.gov.za)
- The company can also be reported to PSIRA via the NSPCA. A PSIRA officer can instruct to comply or remove or arrest any person who is not registered or do not have the correct training or do not comply with the PSIRA Code of conduct.

**Military, South African Police Services and Prison Services** (government bodies) are exempt ONLY from licensing under the PAPA however the Animals Protection Act No 71 of 1962, welfare concerns and inspection protocols still apply.

## Performing Animals Protection Act - Regulations, 2016

The 2016 regulations and licence have specific requirements for animals including but not limited to:-

### 4. Licensing Requirements shall apply for each species and include:-

- (1) Updated records, which will include an animal register, health and animal welfare plans, medicine register, movement register and other documented proof of licencing requirements.
- (2) Appropriately trained and/or qualified staff.
- (3) All animals should,
  - a) Be individually identified
  - b) Be kept in well maintained, hygienic and appropriate accommodation with:
    - i. an approved site plan for the primary and secondary facilities;
    - ii. Fencing and access control’;
  - c) Have adequate space with suitable surface,
  - d) Have a suitably stimulating environment to enhance the animals’ wellbeing (environmental enrichment),
  - e) Have access to adequate feed and to water at all times;
  - f) Have access to suitable shelter,
  - g) Should be trained and handled using appropriate humane methods.



## 2. PAPA – Act and Regulations cont.

- 4) The facility should:
- a) be free of hazards that could harm animals;
  - b) have applicable pest control program;
  - c) have appropriate feed storage;
  - d) make provision for isolation and handling of sick and vulnerable animals;
  - e) have a veterinarian responsible for the healthcare of the animals;
  - f) have a trainer;
  - g) have a handler at all times;
  - h) have appropriate transportation methods and equipment

Applicants must ensure they have all the necessary requirements in place and are compliant with these regulations, including all the required specific details of the animals as required

Species	Duration of exhibition (hours per day/week)	Duration of training (hours per day/week)	Duration of safeguarding (hours per day/week)

## Powers

The Performing Animals Protection Act No 24 of 1935 enables the Inspector to enter and inspect. Any person obstructing the duties of the Inspector is liable on conviction to a fine (R20 000) or imprisonment.

### PERFORMING ANIMALS PROTECTION ACT NO. 24 OF 1935

**4. Right of entry.**—In addition to the powers conferred by any other law, any police officer may—

- (a) at any reasonable time enter upon any premises, place or vehicle in which animals are maintained, or kept or confined for the purposes of exhibition or of being trained or of being transported or in which animals used for safeguarding are maintained, kept, confined or conveyed;
- (b) inspect any such animals, premises, places or vehicles and may fully enquire into the measures and methods by which such animals are controlled, restrained, trained or used and the course of feeding such animals; and
- (c) during any exhibition of trained animals, or during the use of animals for safeguarding, or at any other time, enter upon any premises, place or vehicle or portion thereof used in connection with such exhibition or use in order to inspect such premises, place or vehicle, the animals present therein and the conditions under which such animals are maintained, controlled and fed during such exhibition or use and at other times.

[S. 4 substituted by s. 4 of Act No. 7 of 1991 and by s. 4 of Act No. 4 of 2016.]

**5. Obstruction of police officer.**—Any person who wilfully obstructs, delays or otherwise interferes with a police officer in the exercise of the powers herein granted, or who conceals any animal with intent to defeat the exercise of such powers, or otherwise hampers or impedes the exercise of such powers, is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding R20 000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding five years in addition to any other penalty imposed for the contravention of any provision of this Act or any regulation made thereunder.

[S. 5 substituted by s. 2 of Act No. 7 of 1972 and by s. 2 of Act No. 20 of 1985, amended by s. 5 of Act No. 7 of 1991 and substituted by s. 5 of Act No. 4 of 2016.]

**"police officer"** has the meaning assigned to it by the Animals Protection Act, 1962, and includes a person authorized under section 8 of the said Act;

[Definition of "police officer" substituted by s. 7 (b) of Act No. 7 of 1972.]

### 3. PSIRA and Private Individuals

#### PSIRA

The **Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (PSIRA)** is the regulatory body for all persons/companies providing security services, in terms of Private Security Industry Regulation Act No 56 of 2001. It is mandatory that all persons/companies providing security services with animals are a member of PSIRA. In terms of this Act and regulatory body :-

- All companies must be registered
- All security officers must be registered
- All Dog Handlers (**DH**) must be trained to a certain level
- All animal trainers must be certified

Each company and handler will be issued with their own registration no i.e. PSIRA No 1249587.

Any irregularity regarding a company or handler falls under the **Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (PSIRA)** and concerns should be forwarded to NSPCA who will address them with PSIRA.

Our primary goal is not licensing issues but ensuring the welfare of the animals is protected and enforcing Act No 71 of 1962. Contraventions of the act or problems can be forward to PSIRA via NSPCA and they may/will take internal action but this is separate from our enforcement of the Animals Protection Act.

Any offence by a security service provider (business or security officer) in terms of statutory law involving cruelty to an animal constitutes a Scheduled offence in terms of the “Private Security Industry Regulation Act No 56 of 2001”. On conviction PSIRA may withdraw the registration of the security service provider. PSIRA may also suspend the registration of the security service provider *pending* the finalisation of the criminal case in terms of Section 26(1)(b) of the said Act.

#### PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS

Private Individuals who have animals for safeguarding (i.e. car dealers who have their own security dogs living on the property) also have to **comply with all the requirements of the Act No 71 of 1962 and Act No 24 of 1935** and are required to have a PAPA licence.

However, private individuals do not have to be a member of PSIRA.

#### KEY AREAS OF CONCERN THAT REQUIRE INSPECTION

Condition of the Animals	Health and Veterinary Care	Hygiene and Parasite Control
Facility Management	Facilities	Off-site Stabling/Kennelling
Nutrition	Training of Animals	Training of Staff
Working Hours and Conditions	Breeding and Disposal of Animals	Rest and Recuperation
Tack and Equipment	Documentation	Transport
Exercise and Enrichment	Behavioural Concerns	Retirement

#### Management - Accountability and Traceability

1. All facilities must have a competent person/s responsible for the welfare of the animals and who is readily contactable at any time in the event of emergency or problem.
2. Staff working with animals must be well supervised to ensure they undertake work effectively and timeously. The handling, use and training of animals must be well supervised and monitored. Disciplinary action must be taken where staff have neglected or harmed animals.

## 4. Horses used for Safeguarding

Different breeds of horses are used for safe-guarding, including Thoroughbred (TB), Arabians, Friesians, Boerperd. The selected horse should be suited to this work and be well schooled, sturdy, strong and with a stable temperament.

Breeding- Security providers typically don't breed their own horses as horses are only suitable for working from 4 years of age. It is more time and cost effective to purchase a horse ready to be worked. Any stallions on site must be gelded for safety reasons.



## 5. Nutrition

Horses will naturally most of their day grazing to fulfil their nutritional needs but also because it is a very important part of their natural behaviour. Working horses must be provided with food of a suitable good quality, quantity and palatability to promote full health and vigour. When not working they should have ad lib access to good quality roughage. Diet requirements vary between individuals according to factors such as activity, age and health and management must ensure each animal has their needs met.



Roughage (i.e. teff/oat hay/eragrostis) must be provided at all times and must not be mouldy, dusty or soiled.



Concentrates should be fed daily in suitable containers.



Mineral licks/ salt and supplements should be provided where necessary.



Clean, potable water must be provided at all times and protected from direct sunlight.



There must be several feed points to minimise bullying and ensure all animals have opportunity to eat.

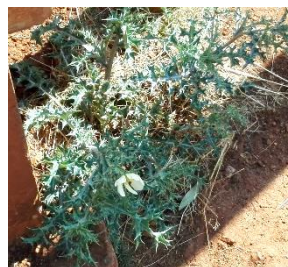


Where horses are fed on the floor (a natural grazing position) ensure the area is clean, with adequate food to prevent hungry animals picking up feed remnants and ingesting sand to minimise problems such as colic.

If hay/teff nets are still used they must be at the right height. *Too low* - hooves/legs can get caught in them. *Too high* – risk of dust/ grass debris in eyes and this position can have negative muscular and skeletal consequences.



**Storage** - Food should be stored hygienically and appropriately to prevent damage from weather, temperature or pests. Harmful chemicals or products should not be stored near feed.



Paddocks must be kept free of all toxic or noxious plants.

Paddocks must be kept free of refuse, baling twine and harmful objects

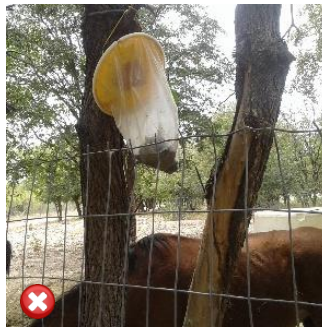


## 6. Stables and Paddocks

Stables, paddocks and handling facilities must be well maintained and suitable for horses. Stables and animals should be checked at least twice daily by a competent, trained staff member and a daily checklist should be completed and filed to record conditions. Stable and paddocks must be well cleaned every day.



Handling facilities should have non slip flooring and no injurious edges or other features.



Correctly maintained Fly traps should be hung away from animal/ food to draw flies away.

Horses need to be provided with suitable paddocks to meet their health and welfare needs. They need to be able to exercise to maintain physical fitness and to be able to graze and express normal behaviour and interaction with others horses.

The paddocks should be large enough that the horses can avoid bullying and competition.



Suitable shelter/s must be provided for all horses at all times. Some horses are not compatible and will not share shelter.



Emergency/backup water supply must be available at all times.



**Feeding** ✗ - 2 horses and 1 feed dish, this can lead to bullying, competition and injury. **Shelter** ✓ **Fencing** ✗ Fences should be of solid structure and easily visible to the horses to minimise risk of injury if they run into them.

### Stables should :-

- Have a solid roof and sides
- Be well maintained and free of any harmful features
- Measure 3m x 6m x 2 m high
- Measure (min) 3mx6mx2mhigh
- Doors should be 2m wide
- Doors should be 1.5/-2 m high
- Have bedding of straw or wood shavings approx. 10cm thick
- Have potable water provided in non tip buckets
- Be insulated against extreme heat or cold
- Have non-slip flooring
- Have lights for emergencies or night inspections
- Be well ventilated but not draughty
- Not be near noisy or polluted areas
- Must be cleaned daily
- Bedding only to be placed inside when the stable is dry



- Have roughage provided
- Horses should only be kept in stables at night or as necessary i.e. vet advice, for feeding or during inclement weather such as hail.

During the day they should be in a paddock to graze, exercise and perform natural behaviour with other compatible horses.



## 7. Behavioural Concerns



Behavioural problems are an indication of poor management, housing or handling. They are serious and must be rectified.

- Biting/Kicking
- Crib Biting
- Wind Sucking
- Pacing or Weaving
- Depression / withdrawal

Expert advice must be employed to assist with horses who have behavioural problems and humane remedies used to address the problems and horses should spend more time in suitable paddocks with suitable companions.

## 8. Tack

Tack (bridles, bits, halters, saddles, stirrups, numnahs etc) used on horses have a direct impact on their welfare. Tack must be correctly fitted, maintained and cleaned to prevent discomfort, pain and or injury.



Bridles and bits should be cleaned after each use.

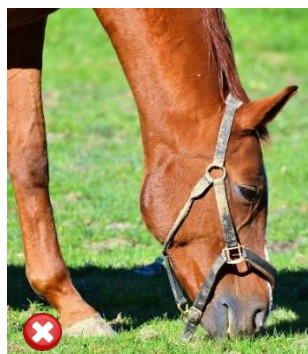


Flies are annoying, bite horses, cause irritation, sores and deposit larvae and bacteria as well as carrying disease. Flies can make horses irritable and can affect their performance.



Fly masks or fringes must be used where necessary in conjunction with other methods such as fly traps and fly repellents.

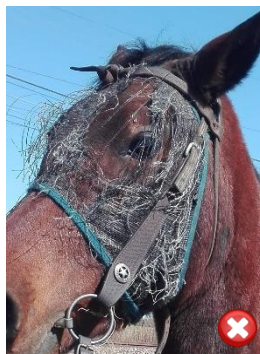
Harmful equipment such as spurs, harsh bits, damaged saddles, electric prodders, crops and whips may not be used on a horse.



Halters should not be left on when the horse is out grazing as they can become caught and cause stress and injuries when unsupervised.



All tack/equipment must be kept clean, stored correctly and out of the direct sun/rain.



Worn and damaged equipment such as this fly mask must be removed, repaired where possible or replaced.



Inspect under tack and equipment to ensure there are no injuries or concerns that need to be addressed.

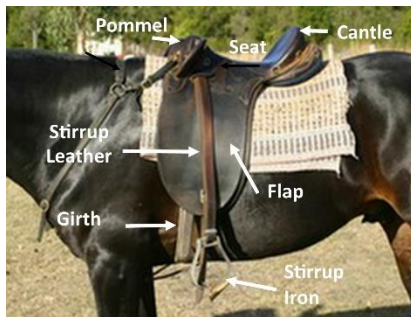


## 8. Tack cont.

Saddles help disperse the weight of the rider and provide improved comfort and safety. There are many different types of saddles and sizes to fit an individual horse (length and width of back etc) and the correct one should be used.



Ensure numnahs are used under saddles and that they provide suitable padding and comfort, are clean and in good condition.



Saddles are expensive and must be well maintained – oiled and cleaned after each use.



Incorrectly fitted saddle – note the position of the girth. Ensure saddles are in good condition and fitted correctly.



Horse tied to a pole, damaged/worn fly mask; dirty and poorly fitted saddle and blanket (sack). Not acceptable.



Sacking put on incorrectly with ridges which cause rubbing/discomfort under the saddle.



A poorly maintained saddle, with damaged/ worn parts both visible and on the underside. Any saddle that causes harm cannot be used.



Injuries caused by the girth are called Girth Galls/Sores and are typically painful. The horse will be unfit to work, need veterinary care and the problem with the girth/saddle and rider must be rectified.



When tack and equipment are left lying around this is an indication of unsupervised staff with insufficient knowledge or lack of care. And this may be seen with the care of the horses as well. Remember damaged tack can harm the animals.

## 9. Working Hours and Conditions

**Horses should work for max 6 hours per day and rest and potable water must be provided every 2 hours**  
**Horse must be rested for 2 full days per week.**

Before going on duty the handler must ensure the horse has been rested and is well hydrated. The horse must be well groomed/ brushed prior to tack being put on. Tack must be clean, in good repair and fitted correctly.



Damage to mouth caused by incorrectly fitting/ worn bits and or harsh handling and pulling on the bits



Hooves must be cleaned before and after working and oiled as necessary.

Lack of grooming (such as this horse with knotted mane) are an indication of poor handling and management.

The purpose of grooming is to remove dirt etc on the skin before tacking up for comfort and to avoid even minor abrasions and injuries; to improve the horse/handler bond and trust; to identify sensitivity in the horse and injuries.

Inhumane tack must be replaced

Overworking horses or working in high temperatures puts the animals at risk of heat stress, exhaustion and distress and should not be done.

**Signs overwork include but are not limited to:-**

- Dehydration
- Excessive sweating
- Excessive panting – fit horses should recover to normal breathing within 10min of their workout
- Exhaustion
- Lethargy
- Loss of muscle co-ordination
- Respiratory Issues



Indications of overriding include: Excessive sweating/ salt crystals on the skin/very heavy breathing.

Striking a horse, except in self defence, is not permitted.

**Carrying Capacity** - It is recommended that the horse carries no more than 15% (maximum 20%) of their own body weight – rider and tack. Exceeding this can cause the horse discomfort and pain and can become unsafe for horse and rider. **Weight of horse x 15%÷100= acceptable weight of rider and tack/equipment**

*Example:- Horse 500kg x 15%÷100 = 75kg rider and tack/equipment*

There are other factors that influence the ability of the horse including:-

- Height, Weight, Fitness and Skill (horse and rider)
- Type and purpose of horses
- Weather and Terrain
- Age and Health issues (arthritis, Cushings, etc)

Are handlers skilled and competent? Do they use force to handle the horses?

### Hobbling

Where necessary, horses can be hobbled if done correctly (humane hobbles on front legs). Horse must be able to stand in a normal position and move without risk of harm. Should not be hobbled for more than 2 hours.



### Tethering

Where necessary horses can be tethered but for a maximum of 2 hours. But horses must be able to lie down and turn around. Water should be provided for tethered animals.



How do the animals respond to handling? Are they fearful or aggressive?

**Unfit or injured horses may not work.**



## 10. Health and Fitness

**Working animals will require regular care from veterinarians, equine dentists, farriers, physiotherapists and other health care providers.**

Each horse must have their own medical file which includes information such as micro-chip numbers/brand marks, vaccinations, sterilisation, farrier reports, dental treatment, x-rays, parasite control and other medical issues.

There must be procedures in place to ensure that sick, injured or unwell animals receive appropriate veterinary care immediately where necessary or rapidly (depending on the severity of the situation) – max within 24 hours.

**Horse should receive regular treatment, but more often if necessary:-**

- Vet check every 12 months
- Farrier treatment every 6-8 weeks
- Equine dentist every 12 months
- Physiotherapist as required

### **Preventative Treatment**

- Deworming and Parasite control (i.e. ticks, midges, flies etc)
- Vaccinations (Mandatory)

### **Euthanasia**

Where euthanasia is necessary it must be undertaken promptly, without delay, with compassion and by personnel who are highly qualified, trained and skilled to perform this.

Only animals in good body condition who are healthy, fit and free of injury and illness can be worked. Horses shouldn't be worked right after being fed to avoid problems such as colic

**Unfit to work**



This horse is unfit, underweight, ungroomed, the hooves are too long and she may not be worked.

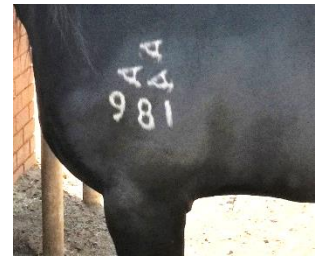
She needs to be rested and receive appropriate treatment.

## 11. Injuries on Duty (IOD)

There must be protocols in place for the immediate and appropriate treatment of any animal who suffers an **Injury on Duty** including after hours.



Ensure the staff have emergency contact details (i.e. for vets) and use them in the event of an emergency.



Some horses are still freeze branded



Animals must be thoroughly inspected (check under all tack including blankets and fly masks) and inspect hooves. Grooms should assist with controlling the horse and lifting feet if required. If you have concerns that the animal is not fit to work, follow the correct legal procedures and ensure you are provided with veterinary proof that the animal is fit for duty.



Hooves that are cracked, worn and chipped with one shoe missing. Horse unfit to work.

**NB:** farriers train for years to qualify and have specialised knowledge of the structure of the hoof and anatomy of the horse. This is a highly skilled and complex profession and shoeing should only be done by a farrier.

## 12. Transportation

During inspection ensure that the transport vehicles are thoroughly inspected. All vehicles must be road-worthy and have a valid licence. Drivers must be trained and competent to pull trailers in a safe manner and take every precaution to transport the animals in a way that minimise accidents, discomfort and stress.

### Vehicle Design and Maintenance

1. Vehicles must be appropriate for the species being transported.
2. They must be clean, well maintained and with no harmful or dangerous features.
3. They must provide adequate ventilation and with protection from exhaust fumes
4. Floors must be non-slip
5. All parts of the vehicle must be secure and stable and able to contain the animals safely

### Vehicle Use

1. Animals should be transported safely and in the shortest time possible from one point to another
2. Animals should not be left in vehicles – they are designed for transport and not holding
3. Dogs should be able to sit, stand and lie down in a normal positions
4. Horses should be able to stand in a normal position with head erect.

### 6 Berth Dog Trailer



### 2 Berth Horse Box

Horse boxes have many of the same requirements as dog trailers but with some additional considerations.



## 13. Dogs used for Safeguarding



Different breeds of dogs are used for different functions. South African Police Services use dogs for many purposes including: Safeguarding, Patrol and Tracking as well as searching for explosives, narcotics and search and rescue. Security Companies typically only use dogs for safe-guarding and common breeds used are German Shepherds, Belgium Shepherds, Boerboels, Rottweilers, and large mixed breeds. Belgium Shepherds are the most complex of these breeds and require special management, and are also high risk for Behavioural Disorders (i.e. obsessive compulsive disorders).

They should be discouraged unless there is a high level of expertise and infrastructure to provide all of their needs and including a HIGH LEVEL of Pro-Active Management including exercise and R & R.



**Breeding** –the majority of security companies do not breed dogs but purchase them.

- Bitches should be sterilised for improved performance
- If breeding is taking place the highest level of care must be provided in addition to:-
- Separate, heated whelping areas with blankets
- 2 daily feeding of bitch    2 daily feeding of puppies
- Socialisation of puppies    Responsible disposal of puppies

## 14. Nutrition

Working dogs cannot function well or be expected to perform their duties without receiving the correct nutrition. Food must be of suitable quality, quantity and palatability to maintain and promote full health and vigour. Adult dogs must be fed at least once daily. Pups under 6 months must be fed twice daily.

Diet requirements vary according to factors such as activity, age, breed and health. Management must ensure that the specific needs of each dog is met – including increasing portion sizes or frequency where necessary



The disadvantage of the Automatic water dispensers is that it is not possible to tell if the animal is drinking enough daily.

Suitable, easy to clean feed and water bowls should be used and they must be an appropriate size. Water bowls must be **non-tip** (and secured if necessary). Some dogs will need bowls that can't be chewed. Damaged bowls that pose a risk must be replaced (hygiene and safety issues).

Feed Stores should be clean, neat and well organised. Feed should preferably be lifted off the ground and on pallets to provide air circulation and prevent soiling. Open feed bags should be put into clean, sealed containers to keep the food fresh and minimise contamination from pests.

Water bowls and dispensers must be cleaned daily. Check auto waterers are working correctly.



Food must be hygienically and appropriately stored to prevent damage from weather, temperature or pests. No dangerous chemicals/products should be stored near feed.

There must always be feed on site and stock should be ordered timeously.



## 15. Kennels and Kennelling

Kennels should provide the dog with a hygienic, safe, comfortable and protected environment to rest in .

Kennel size should not be smaller than **2m wide x 4m long and 1,8m high**

**If two compatible dogs are housed together the kennel size should be 3m wide x 6m long x 1.8m high**



Depending on the direction in which the kennels are built it may be necessary to put up extra protection against harsh weather conditions (i.e. sun, wind) to protect the dogs and maintain a suitable temperature. Kennels should not be exposed to direct sunlight for the whole day.



Depending on design/location, kennels can get hot/humid which can lead to heat stress or exhaustion in dogs which can be fatal. Solutions include: Improved ventilation/shelter; cooling dogs with water, not working in the heat.

### Kennels should :-

- Have a solid roof
- Be well maintained
- Be free of any harmful features
- Protect the dogs from heat, cold, wind, hail and inclement weather
- All dogs must have access to a protected sleeping area
- Indoor kennels must have provision to control temperature and humidity
- Have non-slip flooring
- Have lights for emergencies or night inspections
- Be well ventilated but not draughty
- Not be near noisy or polluted areas
- Must be lockable but the key must be easily and readily available in an emergency
- Be cleaned and disinfected daily (more often if required) with appropriate products.
- Have suitable drainage.



Each animal and their living conditions must be inspected thoroughly and all details recorded.

Speak to the handler to find out if they have any concerns and to listen to any challenges they may have which impact on the welfare of the dogs. Be informed!

## 15. Kennels and Kennelling cont.

There are still some individuals/companies who house or manage working dogs in an unacceptable manner. Education and law enforcement must be applied and regardless of the cost, conditions must be improved. Warnings, with time frames must be issued and follow up undertaken to ensure compliance.



Dog in an unsuitable kennel which traps heat and limits vision and interaction.



Broken fencing – poor maintenance.



Fence fighting – risk of injury and distress. Poor management.



Unsecured water buckets knocked over, inadequate drainage and shelter. Unacceptable wet and muddy conditions.



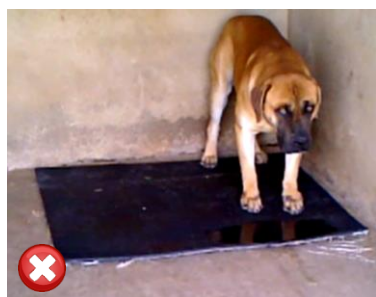
Inadequate shelter and gravel stone flooring is unacceptable (this causes discomfort and can result in lameness).



A dog that is ungroomed, in a area that is uncleaned, too small, without water and with a kennel that is too small.

Inspection should include all animal facilities including kennels, dip tanks, transport, exercise areas etc.

**Suitable Sleeping Areas** are required for :- Comfort, rest and also to minimise Joint Issues, Pressure Sores, Hygromas – all of which impact on the handling and work performance of the dogs. All dogs must have access to a sleeping board. No dog may sleep on concrete flooring.



Rubber matting can be effective but should be placed on top of a raised, wooden sleeping board.  
Note this very fearful dog.



Slatted pallets are unacceptable and pose risk to dogs paws/toes being caught in the slats. Must be replaced immediately, and where this is found, typically there will be other welfare concerns.



Some companies use raised sleepers at the back of the kennel run, for comfort and rest. Their dogs are well managed and exercised and do not chew/destroy these.



## 16. Equipment

A variety of equipment is used on security dogs, all of this must be inspected to ensure it is in good working order, correctly attached, correctly used, is the correct size and **is humane**.



Collar



Half Check or Martingale Collar



Check/Choke Chain

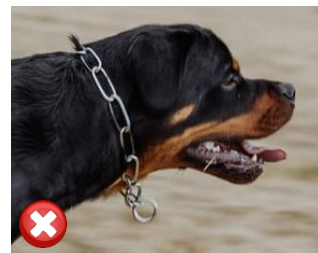


Prong/Spike Choke Chain

Choke chains are not recommended. If they are used they should be removed when dogs are in kennels due to the high risk of strangulation other harm, especially where facilities (such as fencing) are not maintained.

Choke chains are made of metal links, designed to control the dog by tightening around the dog's neck - an often painful and inhumane training tool that tightens and can choke or strangle the dog.

Other problems include:- injuries to the trachea and oesophagus, injuries to blood vessels in the eyes, neck sprains, nerve damage, fainting, transient paralysis and even death. It is very easy to misuse choke chains and with all the humane, effective collars on the market, choke chains are unnecessary and should not be used. **(Humane Society of the United States)**



If choke chains are used during work, ensure they are the correct size and fit.

- ☐ Are prong collars used (not permitted) ?
- ☐ Are shock collars used (not permitted)?
- ☐ Are choke chains used ? Used humanely?
- ☐ Are harnesses used and fitted correctly?
- ☐ Are muzzles used and fitted correctly?
- ☐ Is all equipment well maintained ?
- ☐ Is all equipment in good working order?
- ☐ Is any other equipment used? Is it humane?



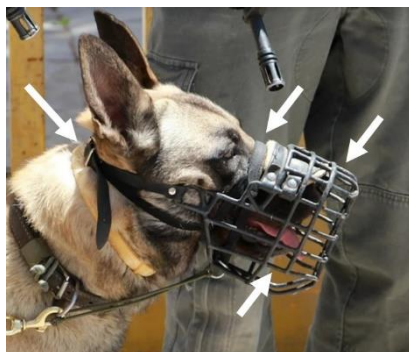
Correct – the chain will fall when tension is released



Incorrect – the chain won't fall when tension is released and the dog will continue to choke



- Harness must be the correct size
- Straps are not too tight – 2 finger gap between dog and straps
- Comfortable and well maintained



- Muzzle is well maintained
- Straps are not too tight
- Does not touch the eyes
- Muzzle is not too small - dog can open his mouth (to pant and drink) and does not touch the nose.



Incorrectly fitted Muzzle

- Straps are too tight
- Muzzle pushes into the eyes
- Muzzle is too short
- Front of the nose is pressed directly onto the muzzle causing distress and discomfort.



## 17. Working Conditions, Training and Handling

Some methods of training dogs for safe-guarding are cruel and harsh and make the dog either fearful or aggressive and reactive – which is unsafe for the staff and other animals. Training must be done by qualified, certified Trainers and ensure the methods are humane.



We recommend reward-based (positive reinforcement) training methods which are more effective than using aversive or punishment-based (e.g., shock collars). Positive reinforcement training engages the dog in a positive way and builds trust between handler and dog. However, this method requires high skills and knowledge, and some trainers and handlers still practice old training methods. No method may be used which contravenes the Animals Protection Act.

It is a requirement in terms of PSIRA for each dog handler to be qualified with a DH level. The dog who is being worked must also be assessed and certified to work.



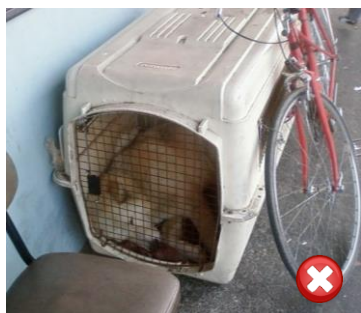
Do the handlers pet and talk to their dogs? This improves the working relationship; dogs welfare and performance. This does not make the dog 'soft'.



Do handlers tease the dogs to make them spin, bark or snarl? This is an indication of an unsuitable handler. Record this and report to management.



Observe how handlers work with the dogs. Are dogs fearful or pleased to see their handler? Are they compatible?



Dogs cannot be chained/tied up or crated except during brief rest breaks, and then in a suitable manner. Dogs must have a suitable rest mat (rubber etc) to avoid lying on concrete (health and comfort issues).

**Handler/Dog Ratio:** Ideal = 1 handler 2 dogs. If there are too many dogs per handler some dogs (typically the more problematic ones) will have less attention, exercise and training leading to welfare problems.

**Movement Register** – handlers should sign a register of when dogs are taken out and returned to help monitor and control this concern.



Dogs must not be worked on hot surfaces during the heat of the day (12-3pm) or at all on very hot days.

Adequate, purpose designed protection boots must be used on dogs paws where it is necessary for them to work on hot surfaces.

**Dogs cannot be worked for more than 12 consecutive hours per 24 hour period.**

**Dogs must have 1.5 days rest every 5 consecutive days worked.**

Dogs must have access to potable water at all times and regular rest breaks.

**Signs of a dog being overworked include:-**

- ◆ Listlessness
- ◆ Inappetence
- ◆ Withdrawal
- ◆ Reluctance to obey instructions
- ◆ Lethargy
- ◆ Whining
- ◆ Excessive panting

**Duty Roster /Plans** – management should be able to provide weekly plan on deployment and exercise of each animal.

## 18. Health and Fitness

**Working dogs will require regular care from veterinarians, physiotherapists, qualified dog behaviourist and other health care providers.** Each dog must have their own medical file including information such as micro-chip numbers, vaccinations, sterilisation, dental treatment, x-rays, scans and other medical issues.

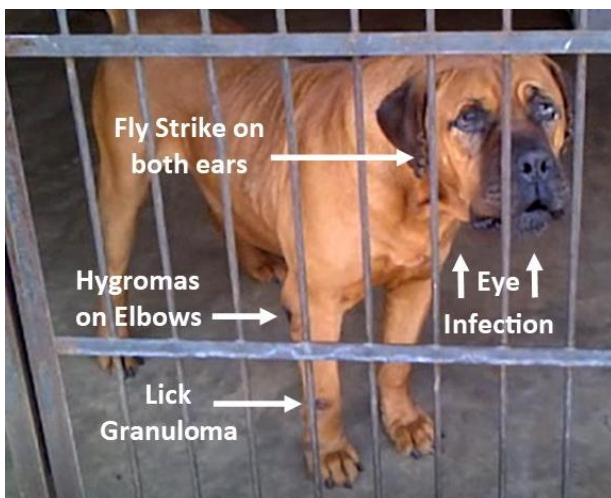
There must be procedures in place to ensure that sick, injured or unwell animals receive appropriate veterinary care immediately where necessary or within 24 hours.

**Dog should receive regular treatment, but more often if necessary:-**

- Vet check every 12 months
- Physiotherapist as required
- Qualified animal behaviourist as required

### Euthanasia

Where euthanasia is necessary it must be undertaken promptly, without delay, with compassion and by personnel who are highly qualified, trained and skilled to perform this.



Working Dogs who live their lives largely in kennels, on cement with hard sleeping areas are prone to specific health problems. These **are painful and must be rectified.**

**CALLUSES** – thickened, wrinkled, hairless areas of skin.

**HYGROMAS** – fluid filled swellings, commonly found on the outside elbow and hock of dogs

**PRESSURE ULCERS/SORES** – open sores that occur on bony pressure points

**LICK GRANULOMAS** – self-inflicted wound where the dog licks an area until the hair is worn off and it becomes raw – typically associated with injury and or pain or frustration/boredom



### Preventative Treatment

- Deworming and external Parasite control (i.e. ticks, flies, midges etc)
- Vaccinations (Mandatory)

### Key Areas To Check:

1. Effective Parasite Control
2. Fly strike esp. ears and nose
3. Lameness/mobility problems
4. Dental Problems
5. Underweight animals
6. Pressure Ulcers +++
7. Sick or Injured Animals
8. Behavioural Issues
9. Blindness or eye problems
10. Dysplasia and Arthritis

These injuries and conditions are **CHRONIC** and are typically caused by dogs lying on hard surfaces for long periods and is an indication of poor management and poor living conditions.



If left untreated (or treated in an unsuitable/ineffective manner i.e. just with wound spray) the conditions becomes more severe and increasingly painful. This must be treated by a veterinarian and the living conditions must be improved and rectified as part of the treatment plan.



## 18. Health and Fitness cont.

**UNFIT ANIMALS** - No dog may be worked unless they are fit and healthy. A warning for a vet report to be issued and dog may only work once declared fit to do so.

Dogs with dysplasia will usually limp. Other symptoms:-

- Difficulty standing up
- Bunny hopping with hind legs
- Loss of muscle mass in the affected leg
- Difficulty jumping/climbing stairs
- This requires vet clearance and chronic pain medication for dog to continue working or retirement.



Every detail counts. Injured noses, overgrown nails – every aspect of health and welfare must be in suitable and correct.

**MOUTH HEALTH** - The condition of a dog's teeth and gums is often overlooked, sometimes this is because a dog is aggressive and/or a handler is fearful of handling the dog. Daily mouth checks should be undertaken and gums and teeth must be in good health for dogs to be fit to work. Dental issues can be very painful and the bacteria associated with dental disease can travel in the bloodstream and infect the heart, kidneys and liver. Veterinary care is required without delay.

### Peridontal disease warning signs:

- Bad breath
- Drooling
- Saliva that is stringy, sticky or thick
- Difficulty chewing and/or dropping food
- Spots of blood on toys/objects chewed
- Redness or bleeding along gum line
- Swollen gums, Gum recession
- Loose or missing teeth
- Behavioural changes
- Facial swelling especially under the eyes
- Nasal discharge
- Sensitivity to being touched on the face
- Pawing at the mouth
- Holding the head to one side
- Loss of appetite

**Note:** just because a dog is still eating well does not mean there aren't dental concerns.



Teeth problems do not just occur with older dogs. In barren environments, frustration and boredom can result in dogs chewing wire fencing, sleeping boards and even cement water bowls.

The teeth must be rectified but also the cause of the problem – poor living conditions.



If you cannot open the mouth, ask the handler to do this so you can inspect teeth and gums.



**All dogs with dental concerns must be inspected by a veterinarian and receive the appropriate treatment.**



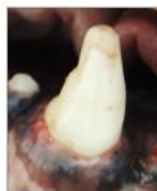
**Plaque and Gingivitis**



**Enamel Fracture**



**Trauma causing bleeding into tooth**



**Uncomplicated Fracture**



**Complicated Crown Fracture**

**Teeth** - With any type of cracked/broken tooth, the nerve (pulp) may become exposed which is extremely painful and there is risk of infection.



## 19. Behavioural Concerns

Dogs are highly social animals with complex social and behavioural needs. When kept in isolation and only used for periods of work it is not uncommon that many of them develop behavioural problems. These are an indication that the dog is not coping well and their welfare is compromised and positive changes need to occur to address these. Behaviour problems include but are not limited to:-

Excessive / Continual barking	Wall bouncing /spinning/pacing	Excessive aggression
Wire biting	Excessive self grooming	Depression / withdrawal



Depression/Withdrawal



Repetitive Barking



Wall bouncing/spinning/pacing



Excessive Aggression

Each dog must be carefully inspected. Look at kennels carefully to see where holes are worn in the floor, wire chewed or paint scratched off walls from dogs repetitive behaviour or even docked tails from self mutilation. These are all evidence of unsatisfactory conditions.

Dogs are smart, social animals and when kept in impoverished and living conditions or when poorly managed behavioural issues will occur.



Behavioural problems obviously impact the welfare of the dogs and they must be treated by a qualified animal behaviourist in conjunction with a veterinarian.

Providing more time in exercise camps, more positive human interaction and improved living conditions will help in improving these concerns.

The only thing that this dog can interact with is a sleeping board. This type of chewing is a key indicator of a dog not coping and in need of assistance.

## 20. Rest and Recuperation

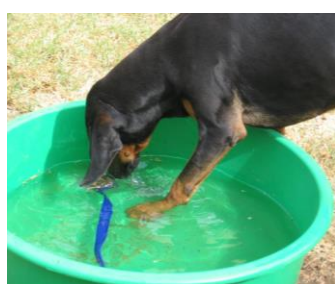
Working animals need Rest and Recuperation to operate effectively and safely. Each dog should have access to exercise camps **daily for at least 1 hour**. Camps should be secure with sufficient and suitable shelter and water and dogs should be allowed to run freely and with compatible dogs where possible.



Recuperation for Service Animals includes time to engage in normal behavioural activities including:-

- Investigatory Behaviours
- Play Behaviours
- Exercise Behaviours

Appropriate toys and forms of enrichment should be utilised



Rest and Recuperation serves to **RECHARGE** service dogs, improve their welfare and performance



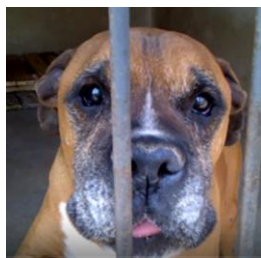
## 21. Disposal of Unfit, Unsuitable Animals and Retirement

Animals who are no longer fit for duty or those who are unsuitable (for example – no working drive, fearful, shy or excessively aggressive) should be disposed of in a humane manner through adoption or euthanasia and not passing on a potential problem to a lower level security company or person. Home checks and sterilisation should be undertaken prior to homing. Confirm if there is a rehoming policy.

Older animals will typically experience more health and welfare problems such as arthritis, impaired hearing and sight. Insist on a vet report that an animal is fit to work if you have concerns. We recommend that dogs are not worked over 10 years of age but are retired to a good home or euthanased.



Abused and fearful dog.



It is unethical and illegal to work animals who are unfit or compromised.





## 22. Key Definitions in terms of the Private Security Regulation Act 2001

**“Accreditation”** means the certification by the Authority of a security service provider contemplated in these regulations as having the capacity, resources, knowledge and experience to fulfil a particular function in the quality assurance system in relation to the training of working animals;

**“Act”** means the Private Security Industry Regulation Act, 2001 (Act No. 56 of 2001) and all the regulations made in terms of the Act;

**“Assessment”** means the process of gathering and weighing evidence in order to assess whether or not a working animal can demonstrate the outcomes required for a particular security purpose, and to determine whether the specified training standards applicable to that security purpose have been met;

**“Assessor”** means a natural person who conducts or intends to conduct external assessments;

**“DH 4”** has the meaning attributed to it in that part of the Training Standards for Security Dogs and Handlers referred to therein as Module: 5 – Grade DH 4 Special Patrol;

**“DH 5”** has the meaning attributed to it in that part of the Training Standards for Security Dogs and Handlers referred to therein as Module: 6 – Grade DH 5 Substance Detection;

**“Handler”** means a security service provider who has charge of a working animal for the purpose of rendering a security service, and **“handling”** has a corresponding meaning;

**“Horse”** means a colt, filly, gelding, mare or stallion trained, supplied or used for safeguarding as defined in the Performing Animals Protection Act; **“mare”** means a female horse 5 years and over; **“filly”** means a female horse under 5 years of age; **“gelding”** means a castrated male horse of any age; **“colt”** means a male horse under 5 years of age; **“stallion”** means an uncastrated male horse 5 years and over;

**“Patrol dog”** means a security dog trained, supplied or used to deter crime, search for and apprehend suspects, which is trained to operate with and without a leash;

**“Protection dog”** means a security dog trained, supplied or used to deter crime, which is trained to operate on a leash only;

**“Security dog”** means a dog trained, supplied or used for safeguarding as defined in the PAPA;

**“Sniffer dog”** means a security dog trained, supplied or used to search for substances, follow a scent track, search or locate persons or evidence and assist in investigating stock theft crimes, which is trained to operate with or without a leash;

**“Register”**, with regard to a working animal or a training centre, means to enter the identification and other details of a working animal or a training centre, as the case may be, in the register contemplated in section 24 of the Act, in the manner provided for in regulation 6 or regulation 9 respectively;

**“Supply”** means to sell, lease or make available a working animal to any person for a remuneration, reward, fee or benefit, and **“supplier”** has a corresponding meaning;

**“Training centre”** means any premises used for the purposes of training a working animal or for purposes of conducting assessments;

**“Training certificate”** in relation to a working animal, means a training certificate issued by the Authority under regulation 21(1);

**“Training instructor”** means a natural person who trains or intends to train working animals;

**“Training of Security Officer Regulations, 1992”** means the Training of Security Officer Regulations, 1992 made in terms of section 32(1) of the Security Officers Act, 1987 (Act No. 92 of 1987); and

**“Training programme”** means a programme, course, workshop or other form of instruction or training for working animals;

**“Training provider”** means a person who conducts or intends to conduct the business of providing training for or assessment of working animals, and includes the owner or operator of a training centre;

**“Training Standards for Security Dogs and Handlers”** means the Security Officers Board Notification of Establishment of Training Standards for Security Dogs and Handlers, published under Board Notice 120 in *Government Gazette* 19067 of 24 July 1998, in terms of the Security Officers Act, 1987 (Act No. 92 of 1987), as amended;

**“User”** means a security business that deploys working animals for the purpose of or in connection with the rendering of security services;

**“Working animal”** means a security dog and a horse.



# SPCA Contact Numbers



GAUTENG:	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Alberton	011 907 1568	065 616 9004
Benoni	011 894 2814/5	073 511 2261
Boksburg	011 916 5906/7	083 763 6311
Brakpan	011 742 2007	083 696 9052
Carletonville	018 788 6262	064 752 6035
Tshwane (Centurion)	012 664 5644	082 807 5671
Edenvale	011 974 9387	072 183 9794
Germiston & Bedfordview	011 825 5033	082 675 0072
Heidelberg	016 342 4114	071 994 9960
Johannesburg	011 681 3600	083 604 1172
Kempton Park	011 975 6537/8	079 509 7859
Midrand	011 265 9935	083 441 1564/5
Nigel	084 485 7029	084 485 7020
Randburg	011 462 1610	083 381 4732
Randfontein	011 412 3114	078 911 0538
Roodepoort	011 672 0448	076 070 1400
Sandton	011 444 7730	082 460 2765
Springs	082 668 5230	083 377 7029
Tshwane (Waltloo)	012 803 5219	083 453 3863
Vanderbijlpark	016 422 1505	083 292 5862
Vereeniging	016 422 1505	083 292 5862
Westonaria	011 412 3114	078 911 0538

NORTHERN CAPE	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Kimberley	053 831 7625	082 376 7679



FREE STATE	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Bethlehem	058 303 3998	083 629 6403
Bloemfontein	051 447 3801	078 322 8332
Kroonstad	056 110 0041	071 271 1731
Parys	056 811 3671	072 894 4061
Virginia	079 776 1153	076 114 4788
Welkom	071 403 4876	082 375 7357

WESTERN CAPE	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Beaufort West	072 847 7312	072 847 7312
Cape of Good Hope	021 700 4140	083 326 1604
Franschhoek	083 745 5344	083 745 5344
Garden Route	044 878 1990/3	082 378 7384
Paarl	021 863 2720	082 510 6387
Swartland	022 492 2781	082 414 7153
Swellendam	028 514 2083	084 737 1948
Wellington	021 864 3726	082 905 9184
Winelands	023 615 2241	071 025 7805

LIMPOPO	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Lephalale	079 398 6784	078 499 2645
Letaba	015 307 2611	083 628 9257
Louis Trichardt	082 965 5151	082 965 5151
Mokopane	015 491 3661	076 538 6291
Phalaborwa	015 781 2415	082 494 2147
Polokwane	015 291 1088	082 804 0065

NORTH WEST	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Mafikeng	018 381 0374	079 018 9552
Rustenburg	014 592 3181	072 933 7723

MPUMALANGA	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Bethal	017 647 5360	072 573 3122
Highveld Ridge	082 869 2350	082 222 1122
Nelspruit	013 753 3582	082 755 8687
Middelburg	013 246 1201	084 432 6278
White River	013 750 0240	082 706 1240
Witbank	013 650 2321	083 657 2421

KWAZULU NATAL	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Amanzimtoti	031 904 2424/5	072 122 7288
Dundee & District	034 212 2851	072 949 6235
Durban & Coast	031 579 6500	083 212 6103
Empangeni	071 174 4746	083 482 3866
Eshowe	087 802 1737	078 306 1439
Greytown	072 096 9634	072 096 9634
Kokstad	039 727 3092	083 207 2447
Kloof & Highway	031 764 1212/3	073 335 9322
Lower South Coast	039 312 0962	083 222 6355
Mooi River & District	033 263 1526	083 385 0807
Newcastle	079 246 1175	072 337 0347
Pietermaritzburg	033 386 9267/8/9	083 627 9736
Richards Bay	035 753 2086	073 551 4564
Umngeni (Howick)	033 330 4557	082 567 8297

EASTERN CAPE	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Amahlathi	043 683 1414	072 356 4565
Assissi	042 295 2814	073 121 8963
East London	043 745 1441	083 446 8682
Grahamstown	046 622 3233	064 820 8496
King William's Town	043 643 6008	082 255 4991
Mthatha	047 004 0014	083 759 0576
Port Alfred	081 280 3178	082 676 8605
Queenstown	045 839 2819	082 492 5588
Uitenhage & District	041 992 3016	082 905 4716



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Additional Contacts