

 AFP AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE	AFP National Canine
	Station Protocol K9/2015
	NCOC Dog Walking and Exercise

1. Purpose

This Station Protocol details the local procedures for exercising AFP detection dogs.

This Station Protocol will be provided to members of the AFP, prior to any detection dog exercising activity.

This Station Protocol should be read in conjunction with the [National Guideline on AFP National Canine](#).

2. Background

AFP detection dogs require frequent and regular exercise.

Members of the AFP are welcome to walk AFP detection dogs, which are based at the National Canine Operations Centre (NCOC).

3. Detection Dog Exercising Procedures

For AFP Members:

- The member should send an email through to [National-Canine-Kennel-Staff](#) to advise he/she would like to walk a dog, and what day and time they are available.
- Members should be supervised on their first walking session with the dog.
- Members should be contactable via mobile while walking.
- It is recommended that members perform basic warm-up stretches before walking to prevent injuries and watch their footing when walking around the Majura area.
- Members walking dogs **MUST NOT** enter the **Vehicle Driver Track** if it is closed, and must walk in approved walking areas.
- Members must complete the canine exercising log-book upon leaving and returning from their walk (located in NCOC kennel office).
- General Purpose dogs (German Shepherds) must only be handled by the NCOC staff members who have received the appropriate training.

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- Members must ensure that kennel staff is informed if there are any problems encountered with any of the dogs during the exercise period.

For AFP Dogs:

- Dogs can be exercised during the hours:
**0800 – 1400 (Monday-Friday) and
0900 – 1400 (Saturday-Sunday)**
- Dogs should never be exercised after feeds.
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- Dogs **MUST** remain on their leads at all times, and care should be taken to avoid the kangaroos and other animals in the area.
- Dogs **are** allowed to walk freely on lead.
- Dogs **should not** be disciplined in any way as this can interfere with training and drive.
- Dogs **should NEVER** be given the commands to "SIT" "STAY" or "DOWN" during exercise or when moved around the Majura area.
- Keep pats, praise and attention to a strict minimum. This can impact the dogs' training in the long run. (A quick pat leaving and returning to the kennels is sufficient.)
- Say, "Dog coming", loudly and clearly when approaching a blind corner. (If "Dog coming" is heard, remain still until the other dog passes by safely.)
- Keep a 5-metre distance between dogs when possible. (This safe distance is to avoid confrontation between dogs.)

If a dog gets out of its day run and is in the open: yell, "LOOSE DOG!"

Anyone who has another dog in the area should put the dog back in its kennel/yard or indoors. The kennel staff will assist to restrain the loose dog and return it to its designated yard.

If a dog fight breaks out: yell, "DOG FIGHT!!"

DO NOT put YOUR hands between the dogs fighting. It can be useful to throw a bucket of water over the dogs, which may defuse the situation. Try to restrain the dogs, however, the kennel staff will assist immediately.

4. Reporting Injuries

Any injuries sustained by a member or a dog should be reported as soon as possible or upon return to the kennels.

First aid should be administered immediately and appropriate action taken.

Members who are injured should advise the kennel staff and complete a Work place incident form located on *Insight*.

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5. Queries

Any queries regarding dog exercising should be forwarded to the AFP Kennel Manager.

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