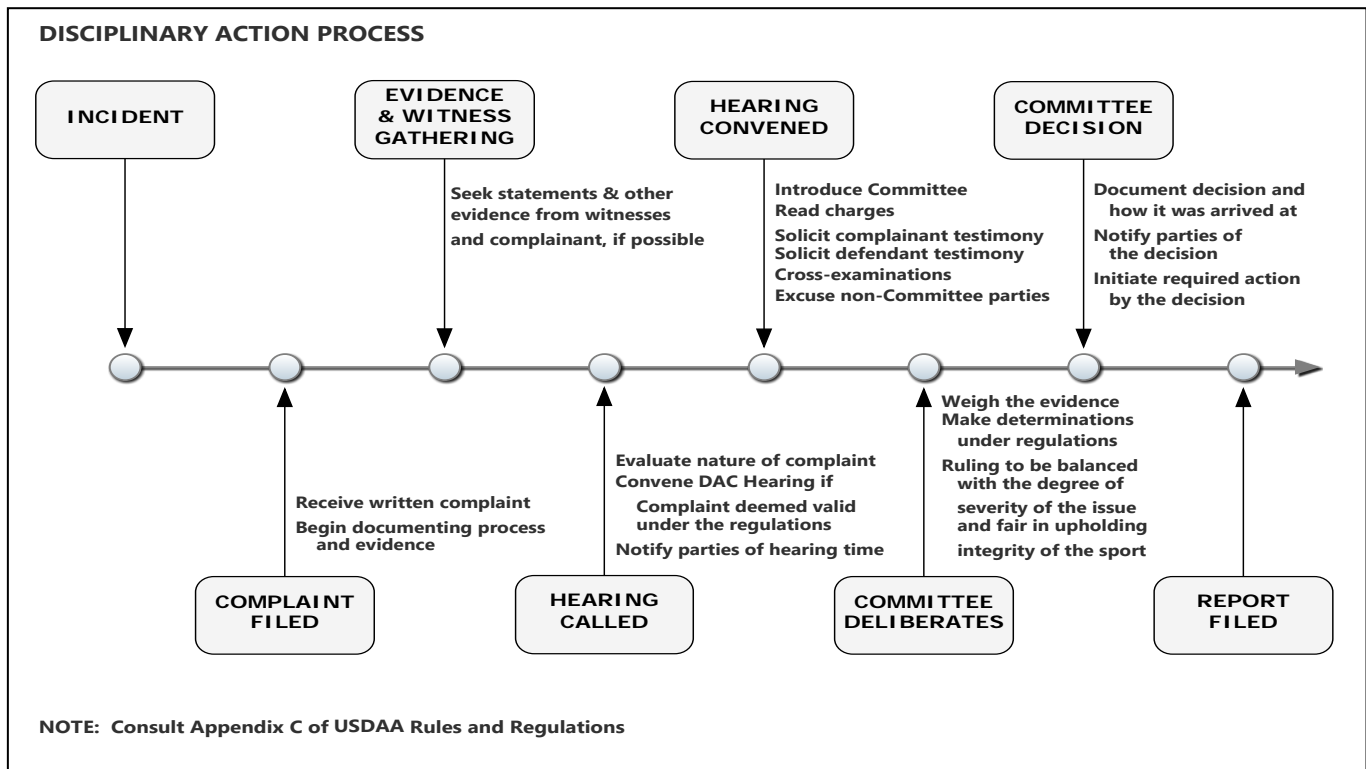




Disciplinary Action Committee Guidelines

The following Disciplinary Action Report is provided to assist show committee members and the Disciplinary Action Committee (DAC) members in the event of receipt of complaint for (1) an incident of dog aggression / threat / attack against a human or dog, and/or (2) in the event a person has exhibited unsportsmanlike conduct or other violation of the regulations of conduct as set forth in USDAA Official Rules & Regulations (including Appendices thereto).



PLEASE NOTE:

It is not a requirement of the disciplinary policies that the person involved in the incident files a complaint or brings the incident to the attention of a member of the show committee or DAC. Any witness to the incident may initiate the process. All DAC members, as well as members of the show committee, should familiarize themselves with procedures as outlined in Appendix C to the Regulations prior to the event.

It is viewed to be the responsibility of all parties to participate in a hearing in order to resolve all complaints. Should the accused leave before a hearing can be held, such action shall be considered a plea of no contest, with the presumption that the accused is waiving their rights to present evidence or arguments in a hearing, and will accept the findings of the Committee and any sanctions rendered in a hearing.

It is incumbent upon everyone, no matter how unpleasant the circumstances, to report incidents and convene hearings to deal with issues that are in direct contradiction to USDAA regulations and policies, including but not limited to unsportsman-like behavior and dog aggression, in order to uphold the integrity and atmosphere of USDAA events, as well as to avert any potential claims relative to legal liability. Any behaviors in violation of the regulations should not be tolerated.

The pages that follow include an Incident Report to be completed and returned with the Organizing Committee Report via email to groupServices@usdaa.com, or faxed within 24 hours of the conclusion of the event to the office at (972) 231-9700.

LIST COMMITTEE, OFFICIALS & WITNESSES				
(Attach written statements by each witness and the accused; List names of each committee member, judge and)				
AT HEARING	NAME/ADDRESS/EMAIL/PHONE	DAC MEMBER	JUDGE	WITNESS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name/Phone	CHAIR <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Address/Email			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name/Phone	SECRETARY <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Address/Email			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name/Phone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Address/Email			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name/Phone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Address/Email			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name/Phone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Address/Email			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name/Phone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Address/Email			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name/Phone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Address/Email			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name/Phone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Address/Email			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name/Phone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Address/Email			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name/Phone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Address/Email			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name/Phone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Address/Email			

HEARING & GATHERING EVIDENCE

(DAC – Disciplinary Action Committee Member)

IMPORTANT NOTE: It is viewed to be the responsibility of all parties to participate in a hearing in order to resolve all complaints. Should the accused leave before a hearing can be held, such action shall be considered a plea of no contest, with the presumption that the accused is waiving their rights to present evidence or arguments in a hearing, and will accept the findings of the Committee and any sanctions rendered in a hearing.

Hearing Checklist

- Gather Evidence
- Obtain written statements from witnesses, complainant and accused
- Convene Hearing (Gather committee, parties involved and witnesses in a private place as soon after the incident as possible)
- Introduce members of committee and recording secretary for the hearing.
- Read the charges to all present and provide opportunity for complainant to speak
- Provide accused opportunity to present evidence, followed by witnesses (May hear each separately or with all present)
- After each witness is heard, the Chair will allow person accused to question witness
- Chair excuses non-committee members for deliberation.
- Committee deliberate and determine whether charged conduct was supported or refuted
- Committee makes a decision whether sanction rendered and notifies the accused of the decision (not obligated to provide basis to individuals)

DISCOVERY & CONSIDERATIONS

EVIDENTIARY FINDINGS:

- State details found to be leading up to the incident
- What is found to have happened in the incident
- Details of injury, if any occurred
- Damage or injury report by physician, veterinarian, police or other outside authority
- Other information relevant to the incident

Dog Bite Rating Scale: Note type of clothing worn if dog bites a person.

Level 1: no skin contact by teeth

Level 2: skin contact by teeth but no skin puncture

Level 3: single bite with no puncture deeper than half the length of the dog's canine teeth

Level 4: single bite with at least one puncture deeper than half the length of dog's canine teeth with possible shaking

Level 5: multiple level 4 bites

Level 6: victim dead

COMMITTEE RULING:

Considerations:

- In case of poor sportsmanship, did the accused exhibit clear disregard for the rules or disrespect authority of officials or volunteers? (possible Expulsion for Day or the Event)
- In case of dog aggression, was the dog deemed to be no danger to human or other dogs? Given same or other circumstances, would the action occur again. (Yes to either question expulsion from the Event)
- Incidents involving dog bites where skin is punctured must result in immediate quarantine of dog and the owner/handler to provide evidence of immunizations, including for Rabies; a doctor and/or veterinarian should be consulted and reported to local authorities in accordance with local or other law. Seek immediate medical aid. Expulsion mandatory.

Dog excused from event (aggression, out of control, sportsmanship, etc.)

Person and dog excused for event (sportsmanship, dog aggression involving bite of human)

Person and dog excused for day; indicate date: _____

Reprimand Issued (behavioral issue as unintentional violation, mitigating factors or insufficient evidence)

Complaint determined to be unfounded and complaint dismissed

Basis/rational for ruling:

ATTESTATION OF COMMITTEE: The information contained in this report is an accurate account of the testimonies and other evidence related to the incident reported in this complaint, and the findings were the supported by a majority of the Disciplinary Action Committee and are in compliance with USDAA Official Rules & Regulations.

X _____
 Committee Chair Signature

X _____
 Committee Secretary Signature

X _____
 Committee Member Signature

Name (PRINT) _____

X _____
 Committee Member Signature

Name (PRINT) _____

X _____
 Committee Member Signature

Name (PRINT) _____

X _____
 Committee Member Signature

Name (PRINT) _____

X _____
 Committee Member Signature

Name (PRINT) _____

ATTESTATION OF WITNESSES: The information contained in this report is an accurate account of the testimonies and other evidence presented relative to the incident reported in this complaint.

X _____
 Witness

Name (PRINT) _____

X _____
 Witness

Name (PRINT) _____

X _____
 Witness

Name (PRINT) _____

X _____
 Witness

Name (PRINT) _____

X _____
 Witness

Name (PRINT) _____