

## INSPECTION OF SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE DOG UNITS

SAPS K9  
277542



### IT IS IMPORTANT TO TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING WHEN INSPECTING SAPS DOG UNITS:

The SAPS Dog Unit Checklist has been designed specifically for the inspection of the South African Police Service Dog Units.

When conducting a proactive or reactive inspection at the SAPS Dog Unit in your area it is important that the Inspector reports directly to the Unit Commander for introduction and explaining the reason for the inspection. If the Unit Commander is not available then the Inspector needs to ask for the Acting Unit Commander or Kennel Official.

Inspectors must be authorized under the hand of the magistrate of the district, in terms of Section 8(1) of the Animals Protection Act No 71 of 1962, to conduct inspections at the SAPS Dog Units.

Prior to conducting the inspection of the kennel facilities, we recommend that the Inspector takes the time to go through the checklist to complete all the relevant information and questions. It is important to note that some of the questions are for your own personal knowledge/observations whilst conducting the inspection.

Upon completion of the checklist the Inspector will understand the basic layout and operations of the specific SAPS Dog Unit and what needs to be inspected. It is important that the Inspector is accompanied by a SAPS Official at all times during the inspection. It is not recommended that the Inspector handles the SAPS dogs. If handling is required then the SAPS Officials should be handling the dogs for safety reasons.

The Inspector must ask to inspect the last SAPS Veterinary Inspection Team Report conducted at the Dog Unit. The SAPS Veterinary Team Inspection is an internal inspection done by SAPS and is conducted at least once annually. This report states the concerns that were noted at the specific Dog Unit during the inspection. The Inspector must pay close attention to Section 5 "Clinical" and Section 6 "Structures/Facilities" of the SAPS Veterinary Report. The Inspector can then compare their findings with that of the SAPS Veterinarian.

Direct contraventions of the Animals Protection Act (APA) must be issued in writing to the SAPS Dog Unit in the form of an official written warning. Non APA contraventions can be pointed out as a separate recommendation. Warnings may only be issued for **direct** contraventions of the Animals Protection Act.

A copy of the warning issued to the SAPS Dog Unit must be forwarded to the NSPCA Special Projects Unit for further perusal. The NSPCA Special Projects Unit will forward a copy of the warning to the relevant heads at the SAPS for further investigation and perusal.

Please do not hesitate to contact the NSPCA on 011 907 3590 or [specialprojects@nspca.co.za](mailto:specialprojects@nspca.co.za) for more information or guidance on the inspection of SAPS Dog Units.

**SAPS DOG UNIT  
INSPECTION CHECKLIST**

|                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Date of inspection: <u>03/02/26</u> | Time of inspection: |
| Inspector(s): <u>R. DAVIS</u>       |                     |

|                                     |                               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>1. SAPS DOG UNIT INFORMATION</b> |                               |
| SAPS Dog Unit:                      | Province: <u>WESTERN CAPE</u> |
| Address:                            |                               |
| GPS Co-ordinates: S                 | E                             |

|                                                   |                              |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Unit Commander: <u>COMMANDER/COLONEL SPEALMAN</u> |                              |
| Tel No.:                                          | Cell No.:                    |
| Fax No.:                                          | E-mail:                      |
| Unit Second In Command:                           | Cell No.:                    |
| Kennel Official: <u>WARRANT MEYER</u>             | Cell No: <u>082 522 3232</u> |

|                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>2. VETERINARY INFORMATION</b> |           |
| SAPS Veterinarian:               |           |
| Tel No.:                         | Cell No.: |
| Fax No.:                         | E-mail:   |

|                                                                         |           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Local Veterinarian: <u>Blue cross vet (depends what vet is on duty)</u> |           |
| Practice Details: <u>Blue cross vet NEWLANDS</u>                        |           |
| Tel No.: <u>021 674 4090</u>                                            | Cell No.: |
| Fax No.:                                                                | E-mail:   |

The SAPS Dog Units make use of the SAPS Veterinarians based at Roodeplaat in Pretoria. But when the need arises in an emergency case they will make use of a local veterinarian.

|                                                                                                  |                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>3. GENERAL MANAGEMENT</b>                                                                     |                                                               |
| Number of dogs at the Unit?                                                                      | <u>18</u>                                                     |
| Is there a "SAPS 84" file available with information on each dog?                                | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Is the medical information available for each dog?                                               | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Breed of dogs used: <u>GSD, Rottweiler, Belgium Malinois, LABRADOR RETRIEVER</u>                 |                                                               |
| Function of dogs: <u>PATROL, EXPLOSIVE, NARCOTIC, BIOLOGICAL BODY FLUID, SEARCH &amp; RESCUE</u> |                                                               |
| Identification used: <u>Microchip</u>                                                            |                                                               |

|                                                                                  |                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Are any of the following dogs being housed at the Unit? If yes, how many?</b> |                                                               |
| Crime Intelligence and Protection Services Dogs                                  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Operational Response Services Dogs                                               | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Presidential Protection Services Dogs                                            | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Port of Entry Dogs                                                               | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No                       |

|                                                              |                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>4. WORKING DETAILS OF DOGS</b>                            |                                                                 |
| Duty roster available for each dog? (including rest periods) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No |
| Length of each shift? <i>6hrs</i>                            |                                                                 |
| Travelling time? <i>40min</i>                                |                                                                 |
| Travelling conditions? <i>i.e. VARIOUS work conditions</i>   |                                                                 |

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>5. KENNELS</b>                                                                             |                                                                 |
| Number of kennels at the Unit: <i>50</i>                                                      |                                                                 |
| Description of kennels: <i>Brick enclosures</i>                                               |                                                                 |
| Adequate shelter?                                                                             | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No |
| Size of kennels: <i>May not be smaller than 2m x 4m and 1.8m high 2m x 4m x 1.8m</i>          |                                                                 |
| Condition of kennels: <i>i.e. good, in need of repair, loose wires, broken gate, etc good</i> |                                                                 |
| Maximum time spent in the kennels? <i>most of the day</i>                                     |                                                                 |
| Fence fighting observed?                                                                      | Yes / <input checked="" type="radio"/> No                       |
| Description of exercise runs? <i>fully fenced enclosure</i>                                   |                                                                 |
| Adequate shelter available in the exercise runs?                                              | Yes / <input checked="" type="radio"/> No                       |
| How often are the dogs allowed into the exercise runs? <i>Daily</i>                           |                                                                 |
| How many hours are the dogs allowed to spend in the exercise runs? <i>1-2 hours</i>           |                                                                 |

|                                                                                      |                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>6. HYGIENE</b>                                                                    |                                                                 |
| Are the kennels and exercise runs clean?                                             | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No |
| Cleaning/disinfectant products used? <i>chlorine</i>                                 |                                                                 |
| How often are the kennels disinfected? <i>Daily</i>                                  |                                                                 |
| Are the dogs removed from the kennels during cleaning?                               | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No |
| What measures are in place to control flies & rodents? <i>fly traps / bait boxes</i> |                                                                 |
| Is the grass at the Unit kept short to prevent ticks and snakes?                     | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No |

|                                                                     |                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>7. FOOD AND WATER</b>                                            |                                                                 |
| How often are the dogs fed? <i>once daily</i>                       |                                                                 |
| Quantity of food? <i>700g</i>                                       |                                                                 |
| Brands of food used? <i>Olympic</i>                                 |                                                                 |
| General hygiene of food store? <i>clean, dry, smelly, etc</i>       |                                                                 |
| Potable water available for all the dogs?                           | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No |
| Are there any poisons or dangerous chemicals kept in the feed room? | Yes / <input checked="" type="radio"/> No                       |

|                                                           |                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>8. HEALTH MANAGEMENT</b>                               |                                                                 |
| Dipping bath available?                                   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No |
| How often are the dogs dipped? <i>once a week</i>         |                                                                 |
| Is the dipping bath in good working order?                | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No |
| Other form of parasite control: <i>i.e. BRAVECTO, etc</i> |                                                                 |
| General condition of dogs: <i>Good</i>                    | <i>i.e. fair, good, obese, etc</i>                              |

