

## 1983 No. 378

## DOGS

Dogs (Licensing and Identification) Regulations  
(Northern Ireland) 1983

*Made* . . . . . 22nd November 1983

*Coming into operation* . . . . . 19th December 1983

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The Department of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 6(2), (3) and (5), 7(7), 8(2) and (3), 15(1) and 31(1) of the Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983(a) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:

## PART I

### GENERAL

#### *Citation and commencement*

1. These regulations may be cited as the Dogs (Licensing and Identification) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983 and shall come into operation on 19th December 1983.

#### *Interpretation*

2. In these regulations—

“certificate of registration” means a certificate of registration issued by the Kennel Club or such other organisation as the Department may specify by an order made under Article 8(1) of the principal Order;

“licensed” means kept under the authority of a dog licence or a block licence;

“the principal Order” means the Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983.

## PART II

### LICENSING

#### *Period of validity*

3.—(1) A dog licence shall, unless suspended, remain in force for a period of one year.

(2) A block licence shall, unless suspended, remain in force for a period of one year.

#### *Forms*

4.—(1) An application for a dog licence shall be in the form set out in Part I of Schedule 1.

(2) A dog licence shall be in the form set out in Schedule 2.

(3) An application for a block licence shall be in the form set out in Schedule 3 and shall be accompanied, where appropriate, by certificates of registration for dogs kept at the premises in respect of which the block licence is sought.

(4) A block licence shall be in the form set out in Schedule 4.

(5) A transfer certificate shall be in the form set out in Schedule 5.

(6) An application for refund of a dog licence fee shall be in the form set out in Schedule 6.

(7) An application for abatement of a dog licence fee shall be in the form set out in Part II of Schedule 1.

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(a) S.I. 1983/764 (N.I. 8)

*Register*

5. The register of dog licences and block licences to be kept by district councils shall contain such particulars as are set out in Schedule 7; and the register may be kept either by making entries in bound books or by recording the particulars in any other manner including a non-legible form so long as the recording is capable of being reproduced in a legible form for inspection.

## PART III

## IDENTIFICATION

*Identification of the keeper*

6.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) the keeper of a dog in respect of which a dog licence is required under the principal Order or of a dog to which Article 5(a), (b) and (d) of the principal Order applies shall ensure that that dog wears a collar with the name and address of the keeper inscribed on it or on a plate or badge attached to it.

- (2) The provisions of paragraph (1) shall not apply to the keeper of a dog—
- (a) which is a member of a pack of hounds; or
  - (b) while that dog is being judged at competition; or
  - (c) while that dog is being used for—
    - (i) any sporting purposes;
    - (ii) the capture or destruction of vermin;
    - (iii) the purpose of driving or tending sheep or cattle.

*Licence identification*

7.—(1) Subject to paragraph (5) the keeper of a dog which is required to be licensed shall ensure that that dog wears attached to its collar licence identification which shall relate to—

- (a) the dog licence issued in respect of that dog (“the relevant dog licence”); or
- (b) the block licence which is valid in relation to that dog (“the relevant block licence”).

(2) Licence identification shall be of metal 1.00mm in thickness and shall be of the shape, dimensions and colour set out in Schedule 8 in relation to the period during which a dog licence or a block licence is issued.

(3) Licence identification shall be issued to the licence holder by the district council for the district in which he resides and shall bear a symbol or other mark which denotes the council by which it was issued.

- (4) Licence identification shall not be attached to a dog other than—
- (a) the dog in respect of which the relevant dog licence was issued; or
  - (b) a dog in relation to which the relevant block licence is valid; or
  - (c) the new dog where a licence transfer certificate has been issued in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(4) of the principal Order.
- (5) The provisions of paragraph (1) shall not apply to the keeper of a dog—
- (a) which is a member of a pack of hounds; or
  - (b) while that dog is being used for—
    - (i) any sporting purposes;
    - (ii) the capture or destruction of vermin;
    - (iii) the purpose of driving or tending sheep or cattle;

- (c) in respect of which a dog licence has already been issued under legislation in force prior to the coming into operation of Part II of the principal Order while that licence remains in force by virtue of the transitional provisions of Article 55(1) of the principal Order; or
- (d) while that dog is being judged at competition.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 22nd November 1983.

(L.S.)

*S. R. Armstrong*

Assistant Secretary

SCHEDULE 1

Regulation 4(1) and (7)

PART 1

DOGS (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1983

Application for Dog Licence

Please use BLOCK LETTERS

Details of applicant

Mr, Mrs or Miss	Forename/s	Surname
Address		Postcode

ADDRESS OF PREMISES AT WHICH DOG IS KEPT (if different from above)

Description of Dog

Colour	Breed	Male or Female
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AGE Distinguishing Marks (if any)

NAME (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Kennel Club or Other Registration Number (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of expiry of previous licence (if any) .....

I apply for a licence for the dog described above and enclose cheque/postal order/crossed Giro payment order/cash (delete whichever does not apply) for fee payable £.....

I declare that the information given above is correct in every respect and that I am not under 16 years of age and that I have not been disqualified from keeping a dog under the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 1972(a).

For office use only

Signed ..... Licence No. .... Issued

Date ..... Initials.....

Date .....

WARNING: An applicant for a licence who knowingly and wilfully makes a statement in this form which is false in a material particular is liable to prosecution.

PART II

FOR THOSE APPLYING FOR ABATEMENT OF DOG LICENCE FEE ONLY:—

I further declare that I have attained the age of 65, that I live alone, that I normally keep the dog described above in my possession and that I have not previously been granted an abatement of licence fee in respect of any dog in the past 12 months.

I apply for abatement of the licence fee	For office use only
Signed.....	Abatement given .....
Date .....	Initials.....

WARNING: An applicant for abatement of a dog licence fee who knowingly and wilfully makes a statement in this form which is false in a material particular is liable to prosecution.

DOGS (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1983

**Dog Licence**

Licence No. ....

Mr, Mrs or Miss	Forename/s	Surname
Address		Postcode

is hereby authorised, having paid the fee of £..... to keep the dog described below until and including..... 19.....

Description of dog

Colour	Breed	Male or Female
Age	Distinguishing marks (if any)	

Name (if any).....

Kennel Club or other registration number (if any).....

Issued by/on behalf of..... District Council  
at..... on..... of..... 19.....  
(place) (day) (month)

Signed: .....

Issuing Officer

NOTE: Any permanent change of address should be notified to the District Council Office.  
WARNING: Maximum penalty for failure to produce this licence when required to do so under the above Order — £50.

SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 4(3)

DOGS (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1983

Application for a Block Licence

Please use  
BLOCK LETTERS.

Details of Applicant

Mr, Mrs or Miss	Forename/s.	Surname
Address		Postcode

Premises at which dogs are kept (if the same as postal address please write "as above").....

Number of dogs..... bitches..... kept on the premises at the time of application.

Date of expiry of previous licence (if any) .....

I declare that the information given above is correct in every respect, that I am not under 16 years of age, that I have not been disqualified from keeping a dog under the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 and that I keep on the same premises:—

(a) not less than 3 unsterilised bitches any of which is used for breeding.

\* (b) not less than 3 dogs registered with the Kennel Club or other registering organisation specified by the Department of Agriculture under Article 8 of the Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983.

(c) the premises being the premises of guard dog kennels in respect of which I am registered under Article 10 of the Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983 — not less than 3 dogs used as guard dogs elsewhere.

(If either (a) (b) or (c) above does not apply, please delete).

I apply for a block licence and enclose cheque/postal order/crossed giro payment order/cash (delete whichever does not apply) for fee payable £.....

Signature.....

Date:.....

For office use only
Licence No. .... Issued
Initials.....
Date .....

WARNING: An applicant for a block licence who knowingly and wilfully makes a statement in this form which is false in a material particular is liable to prosecution.

NOTE

\*Certificates of registration must, where appropriate, be produced in support of this application. The registering organisations (other than the Kennel Club) currently specified are the Irish Coursing Club, the Masters of Foxhounds Association, the Masters of Harriers and Beagles Association and the Northern Ireland Masters of Hounds Association.



SCHEDULE 4

Regulation 4(4)

DOGS (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1983

**Block Licence**

Licence No. ....

Mr, Mrs or Miss	Forename/s	Surname
Address		Postcode

Premises at which dogs are kept.....

The above-named having paid a fee of £..... and having satisfied the conditions laid down in Article 8(1) of the Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983, is hereby granted a block licence in respect of the above premises.

The block licence shall remain valid until and including ..... 19.....

Issued by/on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ District Council  
 at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ 19 ..  
 (place) (day) (month)

Signed.....

Issuing Officer

NOTE: Any permanent change of address should be notified to the District Council Office.

WARNING: Maximum penalty for failing to produce this licence when required—£50.

DOGS (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1983

**Transfer Certificate**

This is to certify that Dog Licence No. \_\_\_\_\_ held by:—

Mr, Mrs or Miss	Forename/s	Surname
Address		Postcode

is hereby transferred to the new dog described below.

Description of dog

Colour	Breed	Male or Female
Age	Distinguishing marks (if any)	
Name (if any) _____		
Kennel Club or other registration number (if any) _____		

This certificate shall remain in force until

19

Signed .....

Issuing Officer

Issuing Office

Date .....

NOTE: Any permanent change of address should be notified to the District Council Office.



**Particulars to be contained in a register of dog licences and block licences to be kept by district councils.**

- (i) Licenceholder's surname, forename/s and address;
- (ii) The premises at which the dog/s is/are kept if different from the licenceholder's address;
- (iii) Type of licence;
- (iv) In the case of block licences only — the number of dogs kept at the time of application for the licence;
- (v) Licence number;
- (vi) Date of issue of licence; and
- (vii) Date until which the licence is valid.

## SCHEDULE 8

Regulation 7(2)

## Licence Identification

<i>Period during which licence is issued</i>	<i>Shape</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Colour</i>
From the commencement of this statutory rule up to and including 30th June 1984.	Circular	2.5 cms diameter	Red
From 1st July 1984 up to and including 31st December 1984.	Square	2.5 cms. × 2.5 cms	Blue
From 1st January 1985 up to and including 30th June 1985.	Oval	Not more than 3 cms from top to bottom	Yellow
From 1st July 1985 up to and including 31st December 1985.	Triangular	All sides 2.5 cms	Green

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These regulations prescribe the various forms to be used in relation to the licensing of dogs under the Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983. The forms prescribed are:—

- (i) application for a dog licence;
- (ii) the dog licence;
- (iii) application for a block licence;
- (iv) the block licence;
- (v) the certificate transferring an existing licence in respect of a dog which has died to a new dog;
- (vi) application for a refund of a dog licence fee in certain circumstances; and
- (vii) application for an abatement of half of a dog licence fee where a dog is kept by a person of 65 or over living alone.

The regulations also provide—

- (1) that a dog licence or block licence shall remain in force for a period of one year (Regulation 3);
- (2) for the wearing by dogs (other than dogs used for police purposes and dogs kept in a licensed petshop) of a collar with the name and address of the keeper of the dog inscribed on the collar or on a plate or badge attached to the collar (Regulation 6);
- (3) for the wearing by dogs of a coloured licence identification tag attached to their collars (Regulation 7).

The last two provisions do not apply in respect of a dog which is a member of a pack of hounds or while it is being judged at competition, or while it is being used for sporting purposes, the capture or destruction of vermin or for the purpose of driving or tending sheep or cattle. In addition the provision covering licence identification does not apply in respect of a dog where a licence for that dog remains in force by virtue of the transitional provisions of Article 55(1) of the Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983.

The regulations also prescribe the particulars to be contained in a register of licences kept by a district council. Provision is made allowing a register to be recorded in non-legible form so long as the recording can be reproduced in legible form for inspection (Regulation 5).

Contravention of the provisions of Regulations 6 or 7 is an offence under Article 31(2) of the Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983 for which the penalty on summary conviction is a fine not exceeding £200.