

## Transfer (R11) Moratorium – Member FAQ

Helping you stay informed and supported during the compliance period

### What is a moratorium?

A **moratorium** is a temporary pause or suspension of certain rules or penalties. In this case, Dogs West is pausing **penalties and late fees** for breaches of Regulation R11.1 for dog transfers that **should have occurred between October 2021 and April 2025**.

This moratorium runs from **1 July 2025 to 30 December 2026** giving members a chance to catch up on overdue transfer paperwork from that period **without being penalised**.

### What is the R11 Moratorium?

The R11 Moratorium is a temporary suspension of penalties for breaches of Regulation R11.1 (relating to transfer forms and Non-Transfer agreements). It runs from **1 July 2025 to 30 December 2026**, and gives members a chance to fix outstanding transfer records without incurring late fees.

### What does Regulation R11.1 say?

Regulation 11.1 states that:

“A seller shall be responsible to transfer the ownership of a dog when a dog is disposed. A completed transfer of ownership form to the new owner must be submitted by the seller to the Association within 90 days of change of ownership. Where it is agreed by the parties that the dog is to remain in the registered ownership of the seller, then a Non-Transfer agreement must be submitted by the seller on the approved form within 90 days.”

### When did this rule come into effect?

From **1 October 2021**, Dogs West members have been required to do one of the following **within 90 days** of disposing of a dog:

- **Submit a transfer of ownership** to Dogs West to place the dog in the new owner's name, **OR**

- **Lodge a Non-Transfer Agreement** (signed by both parties) if it has been agreed the dog will remain in the seller's name.

This requirement falls under **Section R of the Dogs West Regulations** and is aligned with **Part 6 of the Dogs Australia (ANKC) Regulations**.

The national rule change was passed by Dogs Australia in **February 2021**, with the following motion:

“Effective 1 March 2021, it is the breeder/seller's responsibility, when disposing of a puppy/dog, to transfer the ownership of the puppy/dog to the new owner.”

Dogs West's implementation followed with effect from 1 October 2021.

### Why is Dogs West offering the moratorium?

Dogs West recognises that many breeders—especially those with high litter volumes—may have unintentionally fallen behind on their transfer paperwork since Regulation R11.1 came into effect in 2021.

The cost of correcting these issues, especially with accumulated late fees, could be significant and discouraging. This moratorium provides a **fair and supportive window** to help members get back on track **without the financial burden of penalties**, while still upholding the integrity of our registration system.

It's about education, transparency, and supporting members through a structured compliance reset.

### Why should I participate? What's in it for me?

Participating helps you:

- Avoid expensive late transfer penalties
- Bring your prefix and records into compliance
- Demonstrate good standing with the Association
- Access support and flexibility (e.g. case-by-case help, payment plans, Stat Decs where needed)
- Avoid future compliance issues once the moratorium ends

It's a **one-time opportunity** to sort out past transfer issues in a way that's **manageable, cost-effective, and fully supported** by Dogs West.

## Who is eligible?

All Dogs West members who:

- Disposed of a dog between **October 2021 and April 2025** and have not submitted transfer or non-transfer agreements; and
- Voluntarily identify their own non-compliance.

## What's covered by the moratorium?

The moratorium applies **only to breaches of Regulation R11.1**—specifically, overdue dog transfers or missing Non-Transfer Agreements for dogs sold **between October 2021 and April 2025**.

If you **correct** these issues between **1 July 2025 and 30 December 2026**, you will:

- **Not be charged late fees or penalties**
- **Not have a compliance case raised** against you for these specific breaches
- Be supported by Dogs West to bring your records up to date

The self-assessment program offers a **safe and supported way** for members to fix transfer issues without fear of disciplinary action, as long as they engage with the process in good faith.

## What's not covered?

- Breaches charged before **1 July 2025**
- Breaches identified after **30 December 2026**
- Requests for refunds on past penalties or late fees

## What about dogs born before 1 October 2021?

The **Transfer (R11) Compliance Program** and **Dog Record Update Form** are intended only for use in updating records for **dogs that remain untransferred and were born after 1 October 2021**.

There was **no Dogs West regulation requiring ownership transfers** prior to this date, so earlier cases are not included in the scope of the program.

If you wish to transfer a dog born **before October 2021**, please use the **standard transfer process**. **Late transfer fees may apply.**

### **Can I use the program to notify Dogs West of deceased dogs born before October 2021?**

While we understand members may wish to update the database for deceased dogs born prior to October 2021, **this is not the purpose of the Transfer (R11) Program.**

### **Do I need to notify Dogs West to be eligible?**

**No! The first stages of the program allowed members to self-identify** outstanding transfers or agreements.

We have now entered the stage of the program where **Dogs West will identify and contact members** with potential outstanding transfers or agreements.

### **How do I fix missing Non-Transfer Agreements for dogs still in my name?**

If you placed or sold a dog but agreed that **registered ownership would remain in your name**, you were required to submit a **Non-Transfer Agreement (NTA)** signed by both yourself and the new owner within 90 days of the change.

If a signed NTA was **not submitted at the time**, you must now take the following steps:

- **Mark the dog as “Transfer”** on your **Record Update Form**, even though no transfer took place. This flags the dog for review as part of the R11 Self-Assessment Program.
- **Make all reasonable efforts** to contact the new owner and obtain their signature on the NTA now.

- If you are **unable to obtain a signed agreement** after reasonable attempts, you may instead submit a **Statutory Declaration** confirming:
  - Your declaration **must** be on the [FHOG-Form-Statutory-Declaration.pdf](#)
  - That the dog was placed with another party but remained in your registered name
  - That ownership transferred in practice, but not on paper
  - That you've made genuine efforts to comply by contacting the new owner and provide evidence of your attempts to comply (e.g. emails / text message screenshots).

A **single Statutory Declaration may cover multiple dogs**, as long as all dogs are clearly listed by name or registration number.

This option is only available under the **moratorium period (1 July 2025 – 30 December 2026)** and is intended for historical compliance issues.

An example of what to place in your Statutory Declaration is available [here](#).

### What if I can't contact the new dog owner?

If you've made a reasonable effort to contact the buyer and have been unsuccessful, the General Manager may approve a [Statutory Declaration](#) in place of the buyer's signature.

### I have many outstanding transfers—can I get help?

**Yes!** Dogs West is offering case-by-case support to members with complex or high-volume compliance issues. Just reach out—we're here to help.

### I don't have time to contact Dogs West—what can I do?

We understand that breeders are busy, and managing administrative tasks can be time-consuming. To help, **Dogs West now offers an *Authorised Person Application Form***.

If you're short on time, you can **nominate someone you trust**—such as a family member, co-breeder, or kennel manager—to communicate with Dogs West and assist on your behalf.

By completing the form:

- The authorised person will be allowed to request records, receive updates, and help manage your transfers.
- You retain full responsibility, but they can do the legwork for you.

This is a great option if you need support or simply don't have the capacity to manage everything directly right now.

**How to apply:** You can request the **Authorised Person Application Form** from the Dogs West office or download it from our website [here](#).

Let us help make compliance as smooth as possible—for you, and with you.

### **How much does it cost to transfer a dog? Are payment plans available?**

The **standard transfer fee is \$47.50 per dog**.

Dogs West understands that for some members—especially those with a backlog of transfers—this cost can add up. That's why **payment plans will be available** for members participating in the Transfer (R11) Self-Assessment Program.

If you need a payment plan:

- You'll need to arrange it with Dogs West before **30 October 2026**.
- The plan must be **paid in full by December 2026**.
- Payment plans are **only available during the moratorium period** and must be approved case-by-case.

**Important:** Members who do not meet the terms of their payment plan will be in breach of Regulation **A11.4**, which states that:

- Members who fail to settle outstanding balances (excluding subscription fees), or

- Default on agreed payment plans, will have **three months** to settle the account before **membership privileges are suspended** until full payment is made.

We're here to help—please contact the Dogs West office early if you'd like to discuss a plan that works for you.