# Privacy Policy

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| Policy number | 001 | Version | V001 |
| Drafted by | Annette Ferguson | Approved by Committee on | 8 June 2022 |
| Responsible person | DGHA Committee | Scheduled review date | 8 June 2024 |

## Introduction

The Committee of Dog Guide Handlers Australia (DGHA) is committed to protecting the privacy of personal information which the organisation collects, holds and administers. Personal information is information which directly or indirectly identifies a person.

## Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide a framework for DGHA in dealing with privacy considerations.

## Policy

DGHA collects and administers a range of personal information for the purposes of maintaining membership records, running events and advocating for the rights and protection of our members. The organisation is committed to protecting the privacy of personal information it collects, holds and administers.

DGHA recognises the essential right of individuals to have their information administered in ways which they would reasonably expect – protected on one hand, and made accessible to them on the other. These privacy values are reflected in and supported by our core values and philosophies and also reflected in our Privacy Policy, which is compliant with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth).

DGHA is bound by laws which impose specific obligations when it comes to handling information. The organisation has adopted the following principles contained as minimum standards in relation to handling personal information.

DGHA will

* Collect only information which the organisation requires for its primary function;
* Ensure that stakeholders are informed as to why we collect the information and how we administer the information gathered;
* Use and disclose personal information only for our primary functions or a directly related purpose, or for another purpose with the person’s consent;
* Store personal information securely, protecting it from unauthorised access; and
* Provide stakeholders with access to their own information, and the right to seek its correction.

## Authorisation

<Dr Kevin Murfitt>  
<Dr Kevin Murfitt>  
<8 June 2022>

# Privacy Procedures

## Responsibilities

DGHA’s Committee is responsible for developing, adopting and reviewing this policy.

DGHA’s Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson are responsible for the implementation of this policy, for monitoring changes in Privacy legislation, and for advising on the need to review or revise this policy as and when the need arises.

## Processes

### Collection

DGHA will:

* Only collect information that is necessary for the performance and primary function of DGHA
* Collect personal information only by lawful and fair means and not in an unreasonably intrusive way.
* Notify stakeholders about why we collect the information and how it is administered.
* Notify stakeholders that this information is accessible to them.
* Collect personal information from the person themselves wherever possible.
* If collecting personal information from a third party, be able to advise the person whom the information concerns, from whom their personal information has been collected.
* Collect Sensitive information only with the person’s consent or if required by law. (Sensitive information includes health information and information about religious beliefs, race, gender and others).
* DGHA will also collect sensitive information about an individual if such collection is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the life or health of any individual, where the individual whom the information concerns:
* is physically or legally incapable of giving consent to the collection; or
* physically cannot communicate consent to the collection; or
* If DGHA collects information during the course of the activities of a non-profit organisation—the following conditions must be satisfied:
* the information relates solely to the members of the organisation or to individuals who have regular contact with it in connection with its activities;
* at or before the time of collecting the information, DGHA inform the individual whom the information concerns that it will not disclose the information without the individual’s consent; and
* the collection must be necessary for the establishment, exercise or defence of a legal or equitable claim.
* DGHA will collect health information about an individual if:
* the information is necessary to provide a health service to the individual; and
* the information is collected as required or authorised by or under law and in accordance with rules established by competent health or medical bodies that deal with obligations of professional confidentiality which bind the organisation.
* Determine, where unsolicited information is received, whether the personal information could have collected it in the usual way, and then if it could have, it will be treated normally. (If it could not have been, it must be destroyed, and the person whose personal information has been destroyed will be notified about the receipt and destruction of their personal information).

### Use and Disclosure

DGHA will:

* Only use or disclose information for the primary purpose for which it was collected or a directly related secondary purpose.
* For other uses, DGHA will obtain consent from the affected person.
* In relation to a secondary purpose, use or disclose the personal information only where:
  + a secondary purpose is related to the primary purpose and the individual would reasonably have expected us to use it for purposes; or
  + the person has consented; or
  + certain other legal reasons exist, or disclosure is required to prevent serious and imminent threat to life, health or safety.
* If the disclosure of sensitive information is necessary for research, or the compilation or analysis of statistics, relevant to public health or public safety and it is impracticable for DGHA to seek the individual’s consent before the use or disclosure and the use or disclosure is conducted in accordance with guidelines approved by the Commissioner under section 95A, the organisation may make such a disclosure.
* If DGHA has sufficient reasons to believe that an unlawful activity has been, is being or may be engaged in, and the disclosure of personal information becomes a necessary part of its investigation of the matter or in reporting its concerns to relevant persons or authorities, the organisation may make such disclosures.
* DGHA may further disclose personal information if its disclosure is mandated by an enforcement body or is required for the following:
* the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution or punishment of criminal offences, breaches of a law imposing a penalty or sanction or breaches of a prescribed law;
* the enforcement of laws relating to the confiscation of the proceeds of crime;
* the protection of the public revenue;
* the prevention, detection, investigation or remedying of seriously improper conduct or prescribed conduct;
* the preparation for, or conduct of, proceedings before any court or tribunal, or implementation of the orders of a court or tribunal.

For the purpose of this Clause, DGHA must make a written note of the use or disclosure.

### Storage of Data

* Implement and maintain steps to ensure that personal information is protected from misuse and loss, unauthorized access, interference, unauthorized modification or disclosure.
* Before DGHA discloses any personal information to an overseas recipient including a provider of IT services such as servers or cloud services, establish that they are privacy compliant. [organisation] will have systems which provide sufficient security.
* Ensure that [organisation’s] data is up to date, accurate and complete.

### Destruction and de-identification DGHA

* Destroy personal information once is not required to be kept for the purpose for which it was collected, including from decommissioned laptops and mobile phones.
* Change information to a pseudonym or treat it anonymously if required by the person whose information DGHA holds and will not use any government related identifiers unless they are reasonably necessary for our functions.

### Data Quality

DGHA will:

* Take reasonable steps to ensure the information DGHA collects is accurate, complete, up to date, and relevant to the functions we perform.

### Data Security and Retention

DGHA will:

* Only destroy records in accordance with the organisation’s Records Management Policy.

### Openness

DGHA will:

* Ensure stakeholders are aware of DGHA’s Privacy Policy and its purposes.
* Make this information freely available in relevant publications and on the DGHA website.
* On request by a person, DGHA must take reasonable steps to let the person know, generally, what sort of personal information it holds, for what purposes, and how it collects, holds, uses and discloses that information.

### Access and Correction

DGHA will:

* Ensure individuals have a right to seek access to information held about them and to correct it if it is inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or not up to date.
* If the individual and DGHA disagree about whether the information is accurate, complete and up to date, and the individual asks DGHA to associate with the information a statement claiming that the information is not accurate, complete or up to date, DGHA will take reasonable steps to do so.
* DGHA will provide to the individual its reasons for denial of access or a refusal to correct personal information.
* DGHA can withhold the access of an individual to his/her information if:
* providing access would pose a serious and imminent threat to the life or health of any individual; or
* providing access would have an unreasonable impact upon the privacy of other individuals; or
* the request for access is frivolous or vexatious; or
* the information relates to existing or anticipated legal proceedings between the organisation and the individual, and the information would not be accessible by the process of discovery in those proceedings; or
* providing access would reveal the intentions of the organisation in relation to negotiations with the individual in such a way as to prejudice those negotiations; or
* providing access would be unlawful; or
* providing access would be likely to prejudice an investigation of possible unlawful activity; or
* an enforcement body performing a lawful security function asks DGHA not to provide access to the information on the basis that providing access would be likely to cause damage to the security of Australia.
* Where providing access would reveal evaluative information generated within DGHA in connection with a commercially sensitive decision making process, DGHA may give the individual an explanation for the commercially sensitive decision rather than direct access to the information.
* If DGHA decides not to provide the individual with access to the information on the basis of the above mentioned reasons, DGHA will consider whether the use of mutually agreed intermediaries would allow sufficient access to meet the needs of both parties.

### Anonymity

* Allow people from whom the personal information is being collected to not identify themselves or use a pseudonym unless it is impracticable to deal with them on this basis.

### Making information available to other organisations

DGHA can:

* Release information to third parties where it is requested by the person concerned.

## Authorisation

<Dr Kevin Murfitt>  
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<8 June 2022>