

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LRreview](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] - auda Rules Review 2526
Date: Tuesday, 31 March 2026 5:23:54 PM

In relation to the domain rules review I provide the following submission:

1 - Allocation rules

- Individuals should be able to register domains as domains are meant to be for public use and in the public interest. Art, hobbyists, advocacy, private networks and websites should be using trusted domains to reduce confusion with bad faith domain extensions. Individuals are legally able to enter into contracts as they do with any other utility service and can be obliged to uphold responsibilities as much as a business or charity. Particularly with digitalID verification of identity for the purpose of registration there is little evidence of the need for this restriction.
- Privacy proxies should be allowed. It is 2026 and it is in keeping with modern expectations of privacy management. provide for functionality with legitimate privacy proxy services. It is not difficult to further negotiate the agreed public interest handling of legitimate access requests from law enforcement and journalists etc while maintaining the privacy of individuals who may also be sole/small business owners
- For the above points, auDA and their resellers have a responsibility to manage these domains with appropriate legal obligations and functionalities and not disadvantage individuals and small business owners. The 'free for all' argument
- Use of .com.au and .au should maintain the requirement of an Australian presence whether a business/org/individual
- Direct or close match to business name/event/service/etc should not be a requirement of registration. It is uncreative and a surprisingly poor business limitation for auDA to limit domain names in this manner. This is not an endorsement for any combination of domain naming for the use of spam and squatting i.e. audasnewdomain123.com.au

2 - Monetisation

- In the .org.au .asn.au spaces etc to continue as is - no monetisation allowed
- in the .au .com.au .net.au - limited monetisation allowed in line with genuine value of content alongside the domain name. No low rank squatting or to the detriment of others (see disputes)

3 - Disputes / complaints/ bad faith registrations/usage

- The current system for disputes favours larger organisations/govt departments over legitimate and hard working SME's. It is essentially a stand off into perpetuity. SME's, particularly Australian based (not an offshoot of a global company) should absolutely be prioritised.
- Domain squatting and misspellings of domain names is problematic and should be addressed. It may be that some business names are genuine misspellings and should not be prevented from being registered in the case of reserved names. It also seems this would be preferencing larger or existing organisations. This seems like a genuinely interesting use case for AI supported reviews of domain registrations (matching of existing or likelihood of bad faith usage).
- Complaints to auDA should be available to anyone, provided the registrars complaint process has first been followed or is lacking. This is basic good governance and should be included in all registrar complaints policies to the end consumer

4 - Aligning best practice

- Yes, align registration cycles with current best practice. It is a current administrative nightmare.

[REDACTED]
auDA member