

# Croydon Capers

FEBRUARY 2018 EDITION

A black and white photograph of a dog, possibly a Border Collie, jumping over a hurdle. The dog is in mid-air, with its front paws tucked under the hurdle and its hind legs pushing off. The hurdle is a black and white striped bar supported by white posts. The background is a grassy field with several orange traffic cones and a white rectangular object, possibly a sign or a box, in the distance.

*CDODC Rally o dogs  
have so much fun!*

Photo courtesy Wendy Potter

NEWSLETTER OF CROYDON AND DISTRICT OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB





# Committee of Management 2017/2018

**Croydon and District Obedience Dog Club Inc.**  
**Registration Number A008190W ABN: 82 580 068 107**  
**Postal Address: PO Box 465 Croydon 3136**

<b>President</b>	Geoff Coleman
<b>Vice President</b>	Wayne Tracey
<b>Vice President</b>	Anne Mann
<b>Secretary</b>	Gary McArthur
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	Pam Scott
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ann Statham
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Philip Blake
<b>Chief Instructor</b>	Barbara Schubert
<b>Committee</b>	Fiona Blake
	Lynne Brown
	Sandra Hughes
	Fiona McGregor
	Jan Seach
	Bob MacArthur

<b>Web Administrator</b>	Philip Blake
<b>Facebook Administrator</b>	Barbara Schubert
<b>Obedience Trial Secretary</b>	Lorraine Holland
<b>Rally Trial Secretary</b>	Gary McArthur
<b>Trial Grounds Manager</b>	Bobbee Terrill
<b>Demonstration Team</b>	Jill Spencer and
<b>Managers</b>	Linda Hedges

<b>Equipment Shop Supervisor</b>	Anne Coleman
<b>Tuck Shop Supervisor</b>	Jane Egan
<b>Editor of "Capers"</b>	Ann Statham
<b>TRAINING PANEL</b>	
<b>Chief Instructor</b>	Barbara Schubert
<b>Instructors' Representative</b>	Vicky Desouza
	Fiona Blake
	Linda Hedges
	Sandra Hughes
<b>Team Leaders</b>	
<b>Puppy</b>	Jan Seach and
	Vicky Desouza
<b>Basic 1</b>	Kerrie La Roche
	and Fiona Blake
<b>Basic 2</b>	Ken Leeming and
	Linda Hedges
<b>Advanced Obedience</b>	Anne Mann
<b>Agility</b>	Linda Hedges and
	Fiona McGregor
<b>Flyball Coordinator</b>	Florence Chiu
<b>Rally O Coordinator</b>	Gary McArthur

## LIFE MEMBERS

Arnold Adams	Melissa Foote	Beryl McCarthy	Ann Statham
Michelle Balzereit	Heather Gilbert	Rebecca McGroarty	Rita Thomas
Helen Bell	Carmel Green	Ruth Nicholls	Roger Thomas
Manfred Bentrup	Nan Hawkins (Dore-Smith)	Eddie Nissner	Frank Tipping
Marilyn Bentrup	Margaret Hopson	Mal Paton	Wendy Tosh (Tipping)
Bill Bradford	Sue Keable	Neil Peterson	Wayne Tracey
Lesley Bradford	Geraldine Kisielnicki	Margaret Pilling	Cathy Trudinger
Karen Bransgrove	Chris Krueger	Lyn Riley	Betty Tulloch
Marilyn Chaffey	Ingrid Krueger	Elizabeth Saltzer	Eric van Zuyden
Anne Coleman	Keith Layton	Sandra Schafer	Isobel van Zuyden
Geoff Coleman	Penny Lloyd	Margaret Schaffert	John Williams
Brian Constable	Clive Makepeace	Sheila Schaub	Anne Woods
Pam Cripps	Pam Makepeace	Jan Seach	
Robert Dark	Anne Mann	Jill Spencer	

Articles appearing in this newsletter are considered to be of interest to the members, but do not necessarily express the opinions of the Committee of Management or of the Editor.

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February 2018 ©Croydon and District Obedience Dog Club Inc.

# President's Report



**H**appy New Year to all. Welcome back to all our volunteers after a very well deserved break over the Christmas/New Year period.

I also welcome back current and new members to CDODC and look forward to seeing you all enjoying your classes and achieving your goals with your 4 legged friends.

As this edition of Capers is being printed prior to our first day back I can only say that I am sure that the first official day of new enrolments went well due to preparation, planning and co-operation between volunteers and new members.

**Geoff Coleman**  
CDODC President

## 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS

The following are the relevant dates for this year's AGM and elections:

AGM:	Friday 25th May 2018
Nominations close:	Friday 4th May 2018

**Reminder**  
Renewals are due by the 1st May 2018 after that date we are bound by the club rules to charge another joining fee.  
The financial year of the Club shall commence on the first day of April in each year; and terminate on the last day of March the following year. Membership fees must be paid on or before the 1st of May for continuity of membership.



**Please remember...**

Current  
Membership  
Card



**Training**

No  
Membership  
Card



**No Training**





## Chiefly Chatter



Welcome back to all our returning handlers and welcome to our new members. I hope you have all been enjoying your dogs over the Summer, and used any 'down time' you had to fit in some games and training with your dogs. Although we do enjoy the holiday break, training our dogs is an ongoing effort, bad habits can quickly slip back in if we aren't consistent.

Every so often as instructors we will hear "I have to use a particular tool (tightening harness/correction chain) to walk my dog. I can't walk my dog any other way!" Unfortunately, using a tool such as this often adds to the dog's stress rather than actually helping. Sometimes we forget that this tool is designed to be temporary while we effectively train our dog to walk nicely. The same goes for the head collars we sell at club, they are a temporary 'tool' to use while we are perfecting our training techniques and honing our skills to effectively teach our dog the behaviour we desire.

Looking at this a bit closer, is adding something like a 'training tool' really helping your dog if your dog does not understand what YOU want him to do. Of course, initially when applied, the dog may pull less, he may seem quieter, however in reality he may well be more cautious about acting. The behaviours you don't enjoy have stopped; the pulling, lunging, and barking, and YOU are now able to enjoy your walk. Of course, you have the right to enjoy your walk but is your dog enjoying the walk as much as you are when he's in a harness or other tool that is exerting pressure on him?

Using a tool, to control our dogs is not teaching what you want or how your dog can be successful in the behaviour. We could look at it as teaching him what to avoid, no pulling means no tightening (something the dog does

not like), but is your dog really learning not to pull or simply avoiding something aversive. We want dogs that offer behaviours that we can reward and ultimately ensure the dog is confident in 'trying things out'. A dog who is not given the chance to experiment with behaviours may at the very worst scenario shut down and cease offering behaviours. A happy dog is a confident dog who will offer various (desired) behaviours and this all enhances the learning experience for dog and handler.

Similarly, it goes without saying that when we use punishment in dog training we end up with the same result; a dog who is hesitant to try things out, lacks enthusiasm and generally is not enjoying the training we do. Did you know that positive dog training is not a new phenomenon? Way back in the 1930s it was well documented that animals could be trained to perform and repeat behaviours by consistent reinforcement. Think of dolphin trainers; they can't physically manoeuvre the animal into position, but they can reinforce and reward when the animal exhibits the desired behaviour. A behaviour (good or bad) when rewarded is likely to be repeated and increase. Be careful of rewarding what you don't want!

Perhaps we need to look at ourselves and our expectations of our dogs. Nobody wants an unruly, rude dog but perhaps the unrealistic perception of a "well-trained" dog is quiet, compliant and non-reactive (even when instinct tells the dog a reaction is appropriate).



For many years it was expected that we are the one with the authority and our dogs should “obey” us, and more sadly we have been led to believe that training a dog can be instant and effortless.

When we are looking for something that works for both ourselves and our wonderful dogs rather than look for the ‘tool’ or magic bullet, we need to look for methods that are safe, comfortable and give our dogs time to acclimatise and importantly make it a positive experience. The important part is teaching him to walk where you want him to walk by showing him the desired position and reinforcing him in that position. You will make the decision of what the criteria it is you are trying to teach and teach it slowly at a pace that suits your individual dog by giving him the time and experience to fully understand the behaviour you are looking for before moving onto the next stage such as adding distractions. One step needs to be mastered well before we move onto the next.

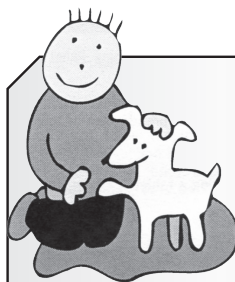
As your dog masters an exercise you will see enthusiasm for the task, the joy and how well he understands your cues when you communicate with him, as well as understanding that he has performed the behaviour well. Often, I will hear a handler comment that their dog is ‘bored’ in class. I’m not too sure dogs feel ‘bored’ but rather frustrated in not knowing what is expected of them and it’s more likely the dog and handler are not connecting with what is required of the exercise. Your instructor will be more than happy to help if you feel this is the case. We also have a team of experienced instructors who when available are more than willing to help you with any training difficulties you may have.

Don’t misunderstand, I’m not asking you to choose between a well-behaved dog and a

happy, enthusiastic dog – it’s perfectly possible to have both and that is what we should be aiming for. But it’s not effort free and it takes time but in the end, we have happy handler, happy dog.

**Enjoy your dogs!**

**Barb**



**Members are responsible for the behaviour of their children at all times.**

**Children must NOT approach a dog without the owner’s permission.**

## Do you want a trophy?

All handlers whose dogs have gained a title since 1st April 2017 are entitled to a trophy which will be presented at our 2018 AGM. Simply give your discipline coordinator a copy of your Title Certificate.

If you wish to be considered for one of our Perpetual Trophies, please make sure that you include a list of all the passes you have received since last April and qualifying scores you have earned. Please remember the Committee does not have E.S.P.







## Basic Obedience Passes

**CONGRATULATIONS to the following club members who have recently passed the Basic Obedience Test.**

If you have ordered your certificate and not received it please call into the office on any Sunday between 10.30 – 11.00 am to collect it.

Alex Ash, Adrian Morris and Toast  
Shannon Barratt and Clementine  
Peter Burchill and Paco  
Jason Cattach, Catherine Cattach  
and Bailey  
Renata Crachi and Charlie  
Lyn Cutajar and Junior  
Michelle Cutts, Thomas Wynne and Stella  
Shannon Dickson and Winnie  
Stephen Driscoll and Maxie  
Chamodi Ekanayake and Teejay  
Leonie Garlepp, Linda Garlepp and Darcy  
Rhona Gibson and Piper



Thomas Langley and Murray  
Trudi Ludlow and Misty  
Kim Morrison and Holly  
Adam Renkema and Loki  
Sarah Rice and Alfie  
Angelo Russo and Harley  
Wendy Scott and Balto  
Cameron Slater and Gypsyie  
Judi Thompson and Madison  
Angie Tran and Archie  
Dean Vernon, Rebecca Swann and Mia  
Shirley Willis and Eti  
Ian Woollard and Zeke



Dog training  
classes  
are for owners,  
not dogs.  
Class is where  
owners  
receive  
instruction  
in how  
to train  
their dogs;  
The work of  
training  
takes place  
*between*  
classes,  
not *in* class.

CINDY LUDWIG, CANINE CONNECTION LLC



## NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE CROYDON & DISTRICT OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of members of the Croydon & District Obedience Dog Club Inc. will be held in the Clubrooms, Richard Silcock Reserve, William Rd, Croydon on Friday 25th May, 2018 at 7.30pm.

### BUSINESS

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting
3. Presentation of the Annual Reports
4. Appointment or reappointment of Auditor
5. Appointment of Returning Officer
6. Election of the Committee of Management
7. Presentation of Awards
8. General Business pertaining to the Annual General Meeting

## CROYDON & DISTRICT OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB ANNUAL ELECTION 2018 – NOMINATION FORM

We wish to nominate .....for the position(s) of:

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> President             | <input type="checkbox"/> Secretary           | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vice President        | <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Treasurer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Committee (6) |  |  |

	PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE
NOMINATOR		
SECONDER		
I accept the above nomination(s)		

Nominations close with Secretary on Friday 4th May 2018.

The Elections for the Committee of Management of CDODC will be conducted at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Friday 25th May, 2018

Executive members of Committee need to be members of the VCA.



## Membership Renewals (When must they be paid?)

The Club's financial year finishes on 31st March, 2018, and all memberships are due for renewal on that date. If you are not wearing a PINK membership card, please ensure that you renew your membership by the end of April. If your membership renewal has not been received by 1st May you will be ineligible to vote at the Club's 2018 Annual General Meeting, and you will be ineligible to run for a place on the Committee.

If you expect to be away from Club during April, please remember to pay your membership renewal BEFORE you go. We will not accept renewals past the 1st May; after that date we are bound by the Club rules to charge a new joining fee (that's an extra \$30.00 in addition to the renewal fees).

You will find a renewal form on our Web site ([cdodc.com.au](http://cdodc.com.au)) and you can lodge your renewal online, please remember to attach copies of your dog/s current vaccination certificate/s and a copy of your Dogs Victoria membership card if you are claiming exemption from the Insurance Levy. Please allow 2 weeks for your new membership card to be ready for collection from the office on a Sunday morning. Also spare copies of renewal forms can be collected from the Office. Please note that we will not be sending renewal forms through the post. Although we will accept renewals via post, send your completed form and a photocopy of your dog(s) current vaccination certificate along with a cheque or money order made payable to CDODC Inc to P O Box 465, Croydon 3136 please include a stamped self addressed envelope. You may also renew your membership at Club any Sunday, between 9.15 am and 10.30am. You will need to bring with you:

- Your dog's current vaccination certificate, ie. With a next vacc's due date of ?/5/18 to the end of 2018 or early 2019.
- Your BLUE membership card (we'll swap it for a nice PINK one).
- Your renewal fee (we accept cash, cheque or card). If you're a member of the VCA, your current VCA membership ticket.

The renewal fees are \$30.00 per person (membership fee), \$30.00 per dog (training fee) and Insurance levy \$8.00 per person for all NON VCA members.

### Volunteers Wanted

If you would like to join our band of happy helpers, please tick the appropriate box under the section headed "Volunteers Wanted" on your renewal form. We will use this information to compile a list of names of people we can call upon to help in particular, in the following areas.

- We need people to help in the Equipment Shop.
- We need people to help in the Kiosk.
- We need people to help on the BBQ
- We need people to help set up the Agility Equipment.
- We always need help on Fun Days and Trial Days (in May, June, Sept & Dec)
- From time to time we need the help of various tradespeople, and we would like to know if there are any plumbers, electricians, carpenters, etc, among our members who would be willing to help out.

### Children at Club

It is lovely to see families come down to Club with children and dogs in tow, but parents please remember that we have many dogs at Club at various stages of training and socialisation. We would hate to see a child knocked over or (heaven forbid) bitten by a dog, so please ensure you keep a close eye on your little ones. Sunday mornings at Club provides you with a good opportunity to remind your children NEVER to pat a dog which is unknown to them, without checking with the dog's owner first. On the other side of the coin, all members must make sure that their dogs are not tied up near doorways so that other handlers can go past without having to squeeze past a dog. Ask someone to mind your dog if you have to pop into the Clubhouse for a minute. If you are going to take longer, tether your dog under some shade with its fixed collar. 🐾



# Notice to All Members



The Club enjoys a reasonable relationship with the people who live in the houses next to the grounds. We need to ensure, for the neighbours' sake, and especially for the Club's sake that no-one does anything to destroy the good relationship. There are three problem areas that all members must ensure that they do not infringe on our neighbours.

## BARKING

In recent weeks some of the houses adjoining the Clubrooms have been disturbed by barking dogs on the grounds. Please ensure that you are aware of your dog's behaviour, and do not tolerate any barking by your dog. Barking not only disturbs our neighbours it also disrupts the classes and other activities around the Club.

## PARKING

Another problem is members parking partially across the driveways of the houses, making it difficult, and in some cases impossible, for the owners to get their cars in and out of their homes. At present we have one neighbour who is getting very irate at some people who are parking partially across drives. He has threatened to take a baseball bat to any car he finds blocking his driveway, and he has collected signatures for a petition from the other

neighbours to council about the problem. To try and alleviate any conflicts and damage we have asked for a By-Laws Officer from Maroondah Council to check the streets around Silcock Reserve on Sundays. Your class runs for an hour and if you have to park further away it is better for the Club that you do rather than upset the neighbours. There are three advantages: one, our neighbours are not upset, the second is that you will not get booked, and thirdly the extra distance you have to walk to class will help to settle your dog down before you start in class. It is much better for all concerned if you are a little late than having our neighbours complain to us and the Council.

## POOPING

The third problem we have is members allowing their dogs to relieve themselves on the neighbours' nature strips and it not being cleaned up. Under the Companion Animals Act it is an offence to leave dog's droppings on the street and you can be fined if you do. Always bring a plastic bag with you to clean up when you are outside the grounds, and then put the bag in one of the bins around the ground. Also please remember to clean up on the grounds. There are three bins and pooper scoopers put out each Sunday for this purpose. 🐾

## FOR DOGS' SAKE, PICK UP

Please clean up after your dog to ensure that dogs retain their rights to parks, beaches, dog-friendly accommodation facilities, walking trails and other public places.



A new trick to  
teach your dog.....



## Get moving!

*Reprinted from Dogs Life Mag Jan/Feb 2018*

**E**xercise is important to puppies as it is to us. Kristie Bradfield finds out how to choose the best exercise for growing bodies.

There's nothing quite like the chaos that a puppy brings to a home. It's a good kind of chaos, of course, but chaos nonetheless, so establishing a daily routine is one of the first things a family should do when a puppy arrives.

Puppies undergo significant developmental changes in a relatively short period of time and one of the most important needs to help manage this is regular exercise. For puppies to become well balanced, happy and healthy dogs they need exercise help from their family – they need you to be their personal trainer. The question is where to start?

Before beginning a new exercise regimen, we humans are often advised to run our exercise and diet plans past a doctor. We do this “just in case” and this cautionary approach works for puppies, too. Your vet will be able to give you very specific advice about the exercise needs and fitness level of your dog and this is important because all dogs and their needs are different. Your vet will also make certain that your puppy is up to date with all his vaccinations and that he has been microchipped.

### How much and where to start?

The Kennel Club, one of the world's largest dog welfare organisations, suggests exercising puppies for five minutes no more than twice a day, for every month of age. By this example, if your dog is three months old, you can walk him for 15 minutes twice a day. This slowly approach is endorsed by trainer Brydie Charlesworth. “You can start exercising your puppy straightaway but it should be light exercise,” she advises. “You want to avoid strenuous exercise for young puppies, especially if they are large, fast growing breeds.”

Walking on a lead is a safe and easy introduction to exercise, it's very likely that your pup won't be comfortable with his harness or collar and lead straightaway, and that's OK. Be patient and use positive reinforcement to create a good association between the lead and reward. Once she has the hang of it (and that can take days of practice), it's time to hit the pavement. After you've calculated your puppy's ideal exercising time and checked the outside temperature outside (dogs can quickly overheat if the temperature is too warm), getting started is simple. Just remember that you need to:

- Walk at normal pace.
- Stop along the way, especially if your pup sits or lies down.
- Always be mindful of your surroundings and keep walks as positive as possible.

Off lead exercise can also be fun provided it is done in a safe environment such as your backyard. Running freely allows puppies to regulate how much exercise they are getting. If they get tired, they can rest. Just provide plenty of fresh water and shade for them to cool down in. As mentioned, dogs can overheat very quickly so if you notice excessive panting, drooling, confusion or vomiting, take your pet to a veterinarian immediately.

If you or a certain family member believes that the best kind of exercise is exercise you don't know your doing, you may enjoy puppy preschool. This very popular form of early training provides plenty of exercise and the opportunity for dogs to learn simple skills such as sit, drop and stay. It builds a foundation for future training while offering a safe environment to exercise in and socialise with other dogs and people, which is very important in the early stages of a puppy's life.

### Working the Brain

Exercising isn't just physical – working the mind is important, too. Mental stimulation

*Continued on page 14*

**The Committee of Management  
hereby announce the  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
of the  
CROYDON & DISTRICT OBEDIENCE  
DOG CLUB INC  
7.30PM FRIDAY 25th MAY 2018  
SILCOCK RESERVE CLUB HOUSE**

**AGENDA**

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

GENERAL BUSINESS

ELECTION OF ALL OFFICE BEARERS

PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

TO AVOID DELAYS PLEASE BRING YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP CARD WITH YOU TO THE AGM

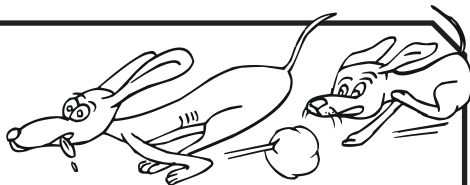
Each Family – Please bring a plate

**Would you like to become involved in  
the management of your Club?**

The Club is run by a Committee, and all positions will be declared vacant at the AGM (Friday 25th May, 2018). Don't wait to be asked: If you feel that you would like to know more about the Committee, please call into the office on a Sunday morning, or alternatively call any committee member. Any person who is a financial member of CDODC at the AGM, and who has been a member since at least 31st December 2017, is eligible to be nominated for the 2018–2019 Committee.

**NOMINATIONS must be lodged with the  
Club Secretary by 4th May, 2018.**

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP nominations** need to be lodged with the Club Secretary for consideration by the review committee by **Sunday 8th April 2018.**



## Dog Club Shop

Did you know that this shop is run for you the handlers and your dogs?

Prices are usually lower than pet shops, vets and supermarkets.

We sell...

- 🐾 Sentinel
- 🐾 Training treats
- 🐾 Australian pigs ears
- 🐾 Biscuits
- 🐾 Toys and much more



Come and have a look at our products and our prices.

We can source most products so ask us if you can't see it.



## Kiosk

Coffee/Tea/Hot Choc is available in the Kiosk every Sunday during training hours.

We also stock soft drinks, juices and water. Sausages are also on sale.



# CROYDON & DISTRICT OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC. NEW MEMBERSHIP and RENEWAL APPLICATION (Membership expires 31st March next year)

Office Use Only	
CDODC Membership N°	
Linked Member	
Dogs Victoria M'ship N°	

**NEW MEMBERSHIP** ☐ **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL\*** ☐ **EXISTING MEMBERSHIP N°** \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Renew online between 1st February and 30th April. Visit <https://www.cdodc.com.au/membership-renewal/>*

**SURNAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **GIVEN NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBURB** \_\_\_\_\_ **POSTCODE** \_\_\_\_\_ **TELEPHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**MOBILE** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**AGE OF HANDLER (if under 18 years):** \_\_\_\_\_ (Please complete and attach the Parental Agreement Form)

**1st DOG:** Name \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Pups ☐ B1 ☐ B2 ☐ Other ☐ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Vaccination Due \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ PPS ☐ Class date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Class Time \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor \_\_\_\_\_ Does your dog react in a negative manner towards other people or dogs? YES ☐ NO ☐

Where did you acquire your dog? Pet Shop ☐ Breeder ☐ Rescue/Shelter ☐

**2nd DOG:** Name \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Pups ☐ B1 ☐ B2 ☐ Other ☐ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Vaccination Due \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ PPS ☐ Class date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Class Time \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Class Time \_\_\_\_\_

Does your dog react in a negative manner towards other people or dogs?
YES ☐ NO ☐

Where did you acquire your dog?
Pet Shop ☐ Breeder ☐ Rescue/Shelter ☐

**For additional dogs or handlers, please attach another form.**

I have read and agree to abide by the Rules and Conditions of Membership of the Croydon & District Obedience Dog Club Inc.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**RENEWALS ONLY:** The Club will accept renewals via post. Please post your completed renewal form to:

CDODC Inc., PO Box 465, Croydon, 3136. Please enclose copies of:

- Valid photo ID of person applying for membership
- Secondary proof of address i.e. Utility bill
- Stamped self-addressed envelope
- Dog(s) current vaccination certificate
- Cheque or money order (NO CASH)
- Dogs Victoria membership (if applicable)

All photocopies will be returned to you with your new membership card.

**Office Use Only**

Joining fee (\$30.00 – New members only)	\$
Membership (\$30.00 per year)	\$
Training Fee (\$30.00 per dog, per year)	\$
Insurance Levy (\$8.00 Non Dogs Victoria member)	\$
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>

<input type="checkbox"/>	VACCINATION CERT.
<input type="checkbox"/>	PHOTO I.D.
<input type="checkbox"/>	EVIDENCE OF ADDRESS
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHEQUE / MONEY ORDER
<input type="checkbox"/>	DOGS VICTORIA MEMBERSHIP
<input type="checkbox"/>	STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE





## Get moving! Cont.

will enrich your puppy's life, especially if he is left alone during the day. Working the mind will challenge him and will, in turn, alleviate boredom and reduce the chances of him developing behavioural issues such as excessive barking, chewing or a destructive form of creative gardening. One of the best ways of providing mental stimulation is the use of food puzzles. "We always suggest feeding from toys as a general rule," Brydie advises. "Giving lots of different ways to work for their dinner keeps them occupied."

It's your job to always be on the lookout for warning signs during exercise, so watch for limping, excessive lethargy, refusal to walk further and reluctance to get up after exercising. If your puppy is showing any of these signs, stop exercising immediately and check in with your vet.

Your puppy should not be made to jump into cars or on and off furniture until she is more than a year old (or older for larger breeds). Young dogs don't have the necessary muscles to cushion a jump and their growth plates – the soft areas at the end of long bones – aren't fused until they are about a year old. Any injuries sustained before closure can cause long term damage, so it is best to instigate a no jumping rule.

### How much is too much?

With all the excitement surrounding a new puppy, it's very easy to over exercise your pet, especially small breeds or breeds with short snouts. Over exercising can lead to big issues with bone, joint and muscle development, so it's best to avoid the following exercises:

- Jogging and running.
- Long walks, especially on warm days.
- Running a puppy alongside a bike (which is also illegal in some states).
- Prolonged sessions of catching and retrieving balls or Frisbees.

Another serious condition to be mindful of is gastric dilatation volvulus or bloat. This can be caused by excessively exercising puppies – and older dogs, too – immediately before or after eating. Signs of bloat include:

- A tight swollen abdomen
- Excessive drooling
- Vomiting or wanting to vomit
- A weak pulse
- Paleness of the nose and snout.

## YELLOW BANDANNA?

**A number of our dogs at CDODC wear yellow bandannas... this is because they might be hyper, nervous, protective, or excitable.**

**Please give these dogs SPACE and ask the handler for permission BEFORE you or your dog approach.**



If you think your pup may have bloat, there is only one thing you must do, get to a vet as soon as you can. Bloat can be confirmed by x-rays or blood work, with the only treatment being surgery. If immediate vet care is not sought, bloat could lead to stomach ruptures, peritonitis and a possible fatal infection.

We take on a lot of responsibility when we bring a puppy into our home. Not only are we responsible for feeding them and providing them a safe home we're also making a commitment to care for their wellbeing for life. Exercise, both physical and mental, plays a big part in this. And who knows? The rest of the family may enjoy spending active time together too.

Three important things to do before you get started. Before you start exploring the great outdoors with your new puppy, make sure he is:

- Up to date with all of his vaccinations, which include distemper, infectious hepatitis, parvovirus and canine cough.
- Microchipped with contact information that is up to date.
- Registered with your local council. 🐾

## How hot is the pavement?

When exercising during the summer months, pay attention to how hot the pavement is. Even in the early evening, pavement can retain heat. Before your puppy steps a paw on the footpath, check the temperature. If it's too hot for your bare feet, it's too hot for your dog. 🐾

A dog is for life  
and not just for  
Christmas.



## ALTERNATIVE TITLES

This is for those of us with dogs that don't quite excel in the obedience ring just yet.

AD	Attention Deficit
ARB	Ace Refrigerator Bandit
BW	Butt Wagger
BWX	Butt Wagger Excellent
CC	Cat – Courser
CCX	Cat – Courser Excellent
CP	Couch Potato
CPX	Couch Potato Excellent
CSX	Counter Surfer Extraordinaire
GFIY	Go Fetch It Yourself
HHP	House Hold Pet
IDDI	I Didn't Do It
ILF	I Like Food
ILLF	I Like Lots Of Food
IWFF	I Work For Food
LD	Lap Dog
LDX	Lap Dog Excellent
OWTH	Oh, What The Heck
TBF	Thick But Friendly
TGS	Terribly Good Snorer
TSIM	That Seat Is Mine
TTIM	That Toy Is Mine
TGAN	Terribly Good At Nothing
UCD	Under the Covers Dog
UCDX	Under the Covers Dog Excellent



# I'll be watching you

*Reprinted from Pets Mag Aug 17*

**D**oes your dog constantly stare at you and watch your every move? Tim Falk finds out why.

Do you ever get the feeling you're being watched? Do the hairs stand up on the back of your neck when you feel a pair of prying eyes following you everywhere you go?

There are plenty of dog owners out there who will answer in the affirmative to these two questions. Many of our four legged friends seem to love nothing more than turning their piercing glaze on us and watching everything we do. It's often cute and adorable, though it can sometimes also be a little unnerving.

But have you ever wondered why your dog spends so much time watching you? Alisa Sannikova, animal behaviour scientist from Sydney dog walking and training service Perfect Dog, says it's important for your dog to always know what you're up to.

"Dogs are social animals, so they spend a lot of time watching the animals and humans they live with to guide their own behaviour. The more you interact and bond with your dog, the more he will look to you to see what you'll do next," she says. "Watching your behaviour is especially important if the dog will want to respond appropriately, such as agreeing to play or running to the door when you're planning to take him on a walk."

Dogs are also quite adept at reading our body language and trying to convince us to do things for them. By watching you closely and trying to figure out your mood, they can guess whether you might be particularly susceptible to begging for a treat, asking to be taken for a walk, or if it might be better to wait for later. "And they've gone ahead and tried behaviour out on you, they'll be staring at you to see whether it's had the desired effect," Alisa explains.

## The eyes have it

There are many reasons why your dog might be watching you intently, so it can sometimes be tricky to work out exactly why their eyes are fixed on you. That being said, it's important to remember that your pooch's past behaviour can often be a good predictor of how she is currently behaving.

"If your dog stared at you from near the door and then you walked over and let him outside, the staring behaviour is likely to happen more often if the dog wants to go out again. The time of day, environment and whether your dog looks back and forth between you and something else around him are also all potentially useful clues," Alisa says. If you know your dog's quirks, personality and unique behaviour traits, you can make an educated guess at what she wants. If she's pleased or happy when you give it to her, that's usually a telltale sign that you've interpreted her gaze correctly.

## The big picture

Body language is a hugely important part of canine communication. So if you want to work out what your dog's stare is trying to tell you make sure to look at his body language as a whole, not just focus on his eyes.

"Intense staring eye to eye is actually quite confrontational in dog body language, which means staring on its own isn't always a good thing. It's important to look at the dog's body language as a whole, particularly how stiff the dog looks and where her ears and tail are, in order to determine whether the dog is acting aggressively," Alisa says.

A dog that is merely being interested or polite will be more likely to look away occasionally or get easily distracted by other sights and sounds. Her posture and movement will likely have less

tension, or will be combined with happy tail wags and a gentle open mouth.

"Similarly, a dog that is scared of you or anxious is likely to be watching you to see whether she needs to make a quick getaway or fight for her safety. Understanding dog body language is an important skill to have when you need to determine if a dog might be thinking about aggression," Alisa explains.

The animal behaviour scientist also points out that staring, especially when the dog is intently fixated on the object being stared at, is the first of a sequence of behaviours that is used for hunting – stare, stalk, chase, pounce, grab and bite or shake. When these behaviours occur individually, they can be used for different purposes or in different contexts: for example, normal dog play may include chasing or pouncing, but that doesn't mean the other dog is getting hurt.

"However, sometimes this staring behaviour can be triggered by another dog or cat, and the more these hunting behaviours occur in a row, the more likely it is that your dog is tapping into his hunting instincts instead of play," Alisha says. "Keeping an eye out for unusually intense staring behaviour either from or directed towards your dog will help you notice and interrupt a potentially harmful situation before they escalate."

Once you know the telltale signs to look for you'll be able to determine exactly why your dog is watching you – and exactly what he or she wants in return. 🐾

*"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."*

— Mahatma Gandhi



## Summer Tips for Hot Dogs

*Reprinted from Dog's Life*

- Keep your dog's kennel in a cool and shady place.
- Always have cool, fresh water available.
- Bathe your dog regularly. A clean dog is a happy and healthy dog.
- Walk your dog in the coolest times of the day.
- Remember not to leave your dog alone in the car – even for a couple of seconds!
- Think – if you feel hot, so does your dog.
- Freeze some water in a 2lt ice cream container and add to the dog(s) water bowl.
- Put some ice cubes in a sock.
- Wet a rope or tug toy, put it in a plastic bag to freeze, then leave it for the dog to play with.



# Training milestones

*Reprinted from Dogs Life Mag Jan/Feb 2018*

## **Tim Falk looks at the five essential training milestones every puppy must reach.**

Everyone knows that puppies need training, but where do you start? When you bring your new puppy home, what are the most important skills and behaviours you need to start teaching him?

Let's take a look at five key puppy training milestones you and your furry friend can target and how you can teach your pet to reliably perform each of them.

### **1. Paying attention**

You won't be able to teach your puppy anything if she doesn't listen to you, so it's essential that you can get your pup's attention. One of the biggest frustrations any dog owner can have is asking their pet to do something and being completely ignored, but it's a problem we've all faced at one time or another.

"When I see this, it's often because the dog never realised it was being talked to in the first place - it was looking at something else and had temporarily switched its ears off." Alisa Sannikova, animal behaviour scientist from Sydney dog walking and training service Perfect Dog, says. "Teaching the dog to listen and look at you is a fundamental baseline for asking it to do anything else and should be one of the first things you teach."

But there's a problem: dogs can find it hard to look at people's faces for long periods of time because in dog body language, this is seen as confrontational. This is an obstacle you'll need to overcome. As Alisa explains, a dog that learns to look at your face when you ask it to, or point to your eyes gets so many benefits.

"They are definitely focused on you and ready for further commands, they're actively ignoring other distractions, (and) they're learning to increase their attention span and self control.

Asking your dog to keep his eyes on you for several seconds can help you get past something without your dog noticing, particularly if your dog is reactive to other dogs on leash," she says.

So, how can you teach your puppy to pay attention? The first step is for the whole family to agree on what signal you will use, which might be harder than you think. If you want to use the dog's name for example, will you be able to avoid using her name when you don't need her attention, to prevent the name being ignored as background noise?

"I recommend picking a nickname to be your 'look at me' signal. Then, in a quiet, low distraction room of the house have treats at the ready, wait until your dog turns away from you then use your new signal. Your dog will probably look at you because nothing else interesting is happening - as soon as she does, quickly give her a treat as a reward," Alisa says.

As your pup gradually learns that looking at you when you say the magic word leads to many wonderful things, you can soon start practicing in more difficult areas or waiting for the dog to look at you for several seconds at a time before rewarding.

### **2. Sit (and stand and lie down)**

Next on the list is that core behaviour for all puppies and dogs: sit.

"I consider sit to be the most important behaviour because it's such a useful; way for getting dogs out of mischief. A dog that's sitting isn't jumping, running in circles, scratching at your legs or doing any number of other annoying things," Alisa says.

"It's also a good barometer for overexcitement or anxiety - a dog that won't listen to a sit request may be too bothered to comply to anything at all, and that can be your cue to get them out of that situation any way you can until they calm down."





Chiara Perri from Point Cook Dog Training in Victoria adds two other position changes – stand and lie down – to the sit milestone. She says that these three key position changes teach the pup body awareness and can help owners control their pets in all manner of situations.

“As an example, teach the pup to sit and you now have polite greetings, sitting at the kerb, sitting before a meal and sitting before entering a door. With a stand, we have the position for a vet examination, grooming and waiting patiently. With the lie down position, we are set up for stay and settling, cafes and (meeting) visitors,” she says.

Your pup may be able to learn these three important skills in a day, but then you need to practise daily to remind your pet and reinforce the behaviour. Never push or pull your puppy into the position you want; instead use a treat and the motion of your hand to lure them into the desired spot.

“The key to these position changes is to do them everywhere and often so your pup rehearses exactly what you want, all the time, until it becomes quite natural for them,” Chiara says.

## 3. Walking on a loose lead

Any puppy can be taken for a walk on a lead, but it takes training (and sometimes a great deal of patience) to teach your pet how to walk properly on a lead. This means that instead of pulling you this way and that as he races to investigate every new sight, sound and smell, your puppy needs to learn how to walk politely on a loose leash.

Why? “Walking on a loose leash teaches the pup to stay close to the owner when out walking, and it teaches pups to connect with the owner and take notice of the owner by its side,” Chiara says. It also means your pup will get to go on plenty more walks with you in the future – after all, you’ll be much more willing to take Fido for a walk if you know you won’t have

to worry about him pulling your shoulder out of its socket.

“Walking on lead is a fundamental skill for all puppies,” Alisa says. “Although most puppies will tolerate a leash simply being attached with no prior work, they usually won’t learn how to walk politely unless the owner puts in the effort to teach it.”

An important part of loose leash walking is that the puppy should realize when the leash is tight and take a step herself to loosen it again. The best way to train this, Alisa explains, is by practising indoors first where there are fewer distractions.

“Put the leash on, wait for the puppy to walk to the end of it and then make sure you hold the leash steady. Don’t let the puppy take even a single step forward while the leash is tight, but don’t pull back on it either - just pretend that you’re a tree the leash is attached to. At some point, the puppy will give up and turn back towards you, making the leash loose again, which is the exact instant you should give your puppy a treat as a reward.”

With practice the puppy should think of a tight leash as an instant signal to drop back and make the leash slack again. Not letting your puppy walk forward and reward himself while pulling is crucial, so a front attach harness can be a big help when teaching this to big, strong puppies.

## 4. Coming when called

A good recall is an essential skill for all dogs and one that you’ll rely on as an owner time and time again. Ensuring that your dog will come when called is critical for her safety, and teaching this behaviour means you can broaden your dog’s horizons, with confidence.

“Coming when called allows the pup to explore beyond its fence boundary. It can go to the dog park, the beach, the bush when allowed off leash etc. Being off leash allows for appropriate

*Continued over >*



## Training milestones cont.

socialisation with other dogs and the owners can trust the pup will come back and will not run onto the road,” Chiara says.

But recall isn't just important for when you intentionally let your dog off leash, as even dogs that you never intend to release can get away from you – fences can be jumped or damaged, collars and leashes can snap, and doors and gates can be left ajar. Having a dog that is willing and happy to come back to you is very important for peace of mind in these situations, Alisa says.

“Puppies will usually naturally come closer to us when at home. The trick is to:

- Say the label ‘come’ when you think your puppy will walk towards you anyway – are you holding a treat or a toy that’s enticing them to you, for example?
- Always reward when the puppy approaches you – never punish – so that the puppy continues to think that coming is a good idea: and
- Try to hold onto the puppy’s collar while giving the reward to prevent your puppy learning to stay out of arms reach.”

With patience and repetition, your pup will soon be an expert at coming to you whenever he is called even in high distraction environments.

### 5. Relax when touched

Being happy about being handled is a necessity for any dog. Dogs should be able to allow vets, groomers and day care workers to touch them without stressing themselves out, but most puppies aren't automatically happy with being touched on all parts of their body.

“It’s of great importance that the dog is happy and looking forward to being touched everywhere, not merely tolerating it, so make sure all of these interactions are fun and rewarding for the dog,” Alisa says.

She suggests thinking of your puppy’s body like

a map. There are “green zones” (areas where your dog really loves and looks forward to being touched), “red zones” (areas where your dog will flinch, pull away or maybe even threaten you with a growl or nip) and fuzzy border in between. For really scared puppies, the red zone might even cover their entire body and the border might start 20cm away in the air around your pet.

To get your dog used to the idea of relaxing when being touched, start with your hand in a green zone and slowly move your hand towards one of the border areas. “As you touch the border, give your dog a tasty treat and while they are eating, retreat into green. By doing this repeatedly in small amounts every day, your dog will learn to trust you and the green zones will slowly expand until your dog loves it no matter where you handle them,” Alisa says. If your dog shows aggression or serious fear when being touched, always enlist the help of a professional.

### Getting started

You can start training your puppy to reach these milestones as soon as you get her home. Or, if you have a proactive breeder, they can even start the process for you.

While there may be variations in the exact way to teach your pup each of the behaviours listed above, Chiara stresses the importance of using positive reinforcement. “This means you give the pup something it wants, like a treat or even play with a toy, for the appropriate behaviour and by reinforcing this behaviour, you are likely to see it again and again. If you don’t like the behaviour, you simply walk away and ignore it momentarily,” she says.

“What we probably need to stress also is that training does not stop once your pup has become a teenager at six months,” Chiara says. “The brain is not fully developed until about two to three years of age, so good training and exposure need to continue right up until this age.” 🐾

# Obedience Trialers' Report



Our trial was held on 3rd December despite warnings of “catastrophic” weather conditions. We were so glad we didn’t cancel as the day turned out to be quite reasonable and the grounds were amazing considering the amount of rain the previous day. We only had a couple of showers and the sun did come out on occasions. It takes more than a bit of rain to stop most triallers!

Thank you to everyone – judges, stewards, competitors and of course our trial secretary Lorraine and her merry band of volunteer helpers, without whom there would be no trial. Well done!

It was also good to see Merrae judging CCD at her home ground, looking very confident and competent. She now has a few judging appointments under her belt.

We had some great passes...

## CROYDON ODC INC 3/12/17

NOVICE RING (CD) Judged by Fred Brueckner:

Marvellous result for **Anne Woods** and **Elzscot Reach For The Stars CD RN JD AD GD (Chilli)**, 1st Place, Score 192, Title, also Highest Croydon Member in Trial plus Highest Scoring Dog in Trial.

**Russ Grosvenor** and **Killara Miss Fisher CCD TD RN, (Phryne)** 5th Place, Score 178.



**Anne Woods and Elzscot Reach For The Stars CD RN JD AD GD (Chilli)**

**Joan Mayer and Sheltoah Nearly Irish (Teddy)** CD 6th Place, Score 176 and Title

UTILITY RING (UD) Judged by Kim Houlden:  
**Ian Woollard Dual Ch (Y) Killara Aella CDX TSDX (Nyssah)** 1st Place, 176 points



**Russ Grosvenor and his German Shepherd Killara Miss Fisher CCD TD RA (Phryne)**



**Joan Mayer's Shetland Sheepdog, Sheltoah Nearly Irish CD (Teddy)**



**Ian Woollard and his German Shepherd Dual Ch (Y) Killara Aella CDX TSDX (Nyssah)**



# Rally O Trial Results

To round out 2017 we had members entering two trials since the last Capers report.

The **Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club of Victoria** held a conglomerate of events at Bulla on 5<sup>th</sup> November. Two of our members competed in the **Rally Obedience** component which was restricted to registered NSDT Retrievers.

**Jess Hoare and sister Maddie** with their Tollers **Ruby and Cooper** had mixed success. Jess takes up the story:- Ruby did very well getting her first pass at her first Rally Novice trial with 84 points. She was a bit slow with no treats in the ring on a sunny afternoon. Owner error though - she would have been 6 points better off had I not retried two stations where she actually did okay, but I didn't realise because she was slow compared to normal!

Considering the conditions Jess your first effort with 84 points is nothing to "sneeze at!" Well done.

Cooper was in Rally Excellent going for his first pass, however...

Maddie and Cooper had one of those days which all competitors will experience at some time which are best forgotten. There's always next time Maddie!

## **Croydon & District Obedience Dog Club**

held its December Obedience and Rally O Trial on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

Despite the horrific forecast and the deluge dumped on Croydon in the days leading up to the trial we had a fantastic turn-up of entrants. We were expecting many people to pull out but this didn't occur. In fact the percentage of participants versus non-attendees was not much different to trials on fine days in the past!

Thank you to all the Rally O fraternity who were able to help in some way to make the day a success – you turned up in your wet gear, got wet at times but forged on to make the trial a very successful event.

Trialling kudos was achieved by current CDODC Rally O participants and from other CDODC club members. Congratulations to the following:-

## **NOVICE**

**Gaye Penny** with **Abtei Great Expectations**, 99 and second in ring.

**Di Gower** with **Hemp (Ben)**, 99 and third in ring, pipped by Gaye above by 4.72 seconds on count-back - great effort in their first trial.

**Kerry Salomon** with **Ellagant Work It At Ausranch**, 95.

## **ADVANCED B**

**Bobbee Terrill** with **Starkehre Run Lola Run**, 89 and fourth in ring.

## **EXCELLENT A**

**Russ Grosvenor** with **Killara Miss Fisher**, 87 and first in ring.

## **EXCELLENT B**

**Bobbee Terrill** with **Starkehre Run Lola Run**, 90 and first in ring.

Croydon starred with so many brilliant scores. Great work everyone.

The accompanying picture is of Russ Grosvenor and Killara Miss Fisher with their First in ring sash for Excellent A.

**Gary Mc Arthur**  
**Rally O Coordinator**



**Russ Grosvenor and Killara Miss Fisher**  
**(Phryne) CCD TD RA**



# Charmaine Lee Oodles of Spoodles



## DOG GROOMING

Shop 6, Wood Street, Nunawading  
0414 330 792

- 🐾 Located in a tranquil environment opposite Wood Park, Nunawading – plenty of parking near Nunawading train station.
- 🐾 Our key focus is that we create a happy and relaxed environment – we are passionate about dogs and their welfare.

## Services

- Full Groom (Complete Makeover), All Breeds.
  - Spa and Mud Bath
  - Tidy (Spa Bath, Pads, Nails, Face)
  - Carding and Hand Stripping
- 🐾 DIY Services Only – Exclusive to Croydon Members Only between June – September. Appointment Essential.



[www.oodlesofspoodles.com.au](http://www.oodlesofspoodles.com.au)



# CDODC OFFICE HOURS

## PLEASE NOTE:

The office hours are from **9.15am – 10.30am**

Certificates **ONLY** will be available from

**10.30am – 11.00am**

The office will **CLOSE at 10.30am sharp**, so that the volunteers who work on the desk can collect their dogs and go to their training classes.



Please note as at the 1st January 2018 the VCA insurance levy for non VCA members has increased from \$7.50 to \$8.00 per non VCA member.

### New Memberships

Joining Fee	\$30.00
Membership	\$30.00 (per person)
Training Fee	\$30.00 (per dog)
Insurance Levy	\$8.00 (per NON VCA member)
Total Fee for New member (1 person & 1 dog)	\$98.00

### Renewal

Membership	\$30.00 (per person)
Training Fee	\$30.00 (per dog)
Insurance Levy	\$ 8.00 (per NON VCA member)
Total Fee for Renewing member (1 person & 1 dog)	\$68.00



Feb	Tues 14	7.30 Committee Meeting
Mar	Sun 11	NO TRAINING - Labour Day Weekend
	Tues 20	7.30 Committee Meeting
Apr	Sun 1	NO TRAINING - Easter Sunday
	Tues 19	7.30 Committee Meeting
	Sun 22	NO TRAINING - Obedience & Rally Trial
May	Fri 4	Nominations for Committee Close
	Tues 15	7.30 Committee Meeting
	Fri 25	Annual General Meeting

Unless otherwise stated the following activities are conducted each week:

Wednesday 6:30pm and 7:30pm Puppy Pre-School  
Sunday 9.00am – 12:00pm:

Obedience Training – Puppies, Basic, Advanced.

Tuition in: Obedience Trialling · Rally O  
· Flyball Training · Agility Training