

## **OPERATION SNAKE SEASON**

## Snake season typically runs between October- March.

While we reap the benefits of the diverse landscape Melbourne has to offer, we are acutely aware of the dangers it also possesses all year round. More specifically in the warmer months of the year as it is during this time where Snakes are visible in urban areas.

To ensure risk is minimised, or team are prepared to tackle the coming months to avoid the risk of Snakes. We will be making some changes to the areas we adventure. Our team will be

- 1. Avoiding all high-risk snake areas across Melbourne. These areas are those where there are Snake warning notices provided by local councils.
- 2. Avoiding areas with high bushland and specifically those bush areas that fall near rivers. These are the areas are generally high risk. We instead will be sticking to open spaces with low bush coverage such as ovals, parks and large open spaces where bush density is low.

Whilst it's unfortunate our adventures may not be as picturesque as we have become accustomed to, we will still be able to have the same usual fun.

We do bear in mind that coming into the summer months a dip in water can be very beneficial to the dogs. We will always be balancing the risk of cooling off, however, still being wary of the dangers of snakes.

Our team will also be taking some additional precautions leading into October and heading out of March. While it is less common, there is still the increased risk of Snakes being visible in these times, particularly on days with higher temperatures.

## Incident response in the unlikely event a snake bite

Treat the wound as per our Dog First aid training. This includes, applying a pressure band to the wound if it is visible and mobilising the dog. We will then round up all dogs into the van and immediately exit the park. We will then visit the nearest VET. The owner will be contact on route to the vet. We expect you to meet us there ASAP so our team member can be relieved.

All dogs will be taken to CARE Vet in Collingwood. This is an emergency VET who stock and are able to administer anti-venom.

While risk is able to be minimised, it's not always avoidable. We will do our best to minimise the risk of snakes however, the risk cannot be eliminated. Walks with Olli will not cover the associated VET bills if a snake bite/ injury was to occur. As a result of this we encourage all owners to have a look at taking out Pet Insurance. It gives you the peace of mind that in the unlikely event of a snake bite occurring, the financial cost will not impact the treatment of your dogs. Please ensure that if you do decide to take out Insurance that it covers all treatment related to snake bites/ injuries.