



# **Dog Chat**

Brought to you by  
**Illawarra Dog Training Club**



**August/September 2018**

## **Executive Committee Members**

<b>President</b>	Linda Thomas
<b>Vice President</b>	Tony Gardiner
<b>Chief Instructor</b>	Mark Johnston
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Dave Cooper	Phil Rath
Fiona Moulton	Lorraine Lipman
Geoff Taylor	

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Kyle Charnock	Carol Zietsch		

## **Instructors**

<b>Mark Johnston</b>	<b>Linda Thomas</b>	<b>Tony Gardiner</b>	Dave Cooper
Phil Rath	George Bartolo	Lorraine Lipman	Geoff Taylor
Larissa Woods	Pam Townsend	Fiona Moulton	John Hallett
Heather Kennedy	Kat McGuiggan	David Chester	Chris Dowling
Vikki Geraghty			

## **Ground Rules**

- Dogs are to be kept on leads at all times, unless in training class and under direct supervision of an instructor
- Covered shoes must be worn by members training their dog(s), no sandals or thongs.
- Dogs are not to be tied to the club house or trees
- Bitches in oestrus (season) shall not be permitted on the grounds while training is in progress
- Classes using club equipment will be responsible for returning this equipment to the correct storage place under the supervision of the class instructor
- Parking on ground is for instructors and workers on that day only. Cars are to be parked no closer to the club house than the southern boundary fence of the electrical sub station
- Pick up your dog's droppings if they foul the ground. Plastic bags are available to ensure responsible disposal
- Be on the alert for other instructors requiring assistance in training their own dogs
- Do not automatically use equipment set up on the ground. It may have just been set up by an instructor who is in the process of preparing to use it. They may also be in the process of using it, but not necessarily in the immediate vicinity
- Equipment such as jumps and obstacles, are not for general use without supervision
- Children are to be kept away from dogs pegged near volunteers' cars for both children and dog's safety
- Children are not permitted in class with parents

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*It's not the size of the dog in the fight,  
It's the size of the fight in the dog.*

*-Marc Twain*



**Upcoming Events**  
**Puppy Prep Classes**

**6<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

**3<sup>rd</sup> November 2018**

**Santa Photos**

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> November**

**\$5 donation**

**Last Day of Training for 2018**

**8<sup>th</sup> December starts at 3.00pm**

**\*\*\*\*IDTC are requesting Donations for the  
Christmas Raffles for 2018\*\*\*\***



# Chief Instructors Report

## August/September 2018

We have had a couple of quiet months of training during August and September averaging about 63 dogs on the ground at training, including a couple of weeks of bad weather where we had < 50 dogs on the ground. Again, we have worked hard at maintaining promotions, so members can progress their training.

As instructors we need to pay close attention to the mechanics of each exercise and making sure members understand exactly HOW to perform the exercise, If the exercise is performed consistently, with patience, and perseverance, the dog will eventually understand what is required. We need to remember that we are training PEOPLE, so they can improve their communication with their dogs.

**I also have a few of reminders for members,**

- **Covered Shoes** -JJ Kelly is a public park through the week, so even though we inspect the grounds before training, we can't be completely sure of what surprises we might find on the grounds, it is a club requirement that all people training are wearing covered shoes.
- **Dogs Off Lead**, JJ Kelly is NOT an off-lead park, so outside of class you dog should be on lead and under control, and in class, you can drop the lead if a training exercise requires it and YOU ARE CONFIDENT you have voice only control over your dog.
- **Yellow Bandannas**. We want all our members to enjoy the time spent on the grounds with their dog, so just a general reminder to look out for dogs that are wearing yellow bandannas, these bandannas indicate the dog is uncomfortable near dogs OR PEOPLE and the owner of the dog should be consulted before approaching. All members should be aware that we are our dogs advocate and we can certainly opt out of interactions if we feel it is not in our dogs' interest.

As always, A BIG Thank You to Instructors and Helpers who were able to give up their time during the last 2 months, your assistance is much appreciated by both members and me.

The Diggers visit for August was attended by Barbra Inskip with Jade and Marilyn with Millie. September was attended by Larissa with Sinn and Molly and Maureen with Bruno.

Thanks Mark

# Welcome to Our New Members

First Name	Dog's Name	Breed
JESSICA	ALANNAH	GERMAN SHEPHERD
	SHELLEY	GERMAN SHEPHERD
LILLIAM	LUNA	WEIMERMER
ISABELLE	MR GIBBS	KELPIE
KAYNE		
BILL	REX	GERMAN SHEPHERD
BELINDA		
DALLAS	MAC COOPER	MINIATURE BULL TERRIER
ROSEMARY	BAZ	CATTLE DOG X
TERRY	GEORGY	BORDER COLLIE
DANIELLE	STORMY	BORDER COLLIE
EMMA		
MARNIE	EVIE	LABRADOR
REBECCA	WILSON	RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK
BYRON		
KYM	ARCHIE	ITALIAN GREYHOUND
ELIZABETH	ROSIE	GREAT DANE X MASTIFF
FIONA	SHANKLY	BORDIE COLLIE
STEVE	LEXI	STAFFY CROSS
KERRY	HUNTA	AUSSIE SHEPHERD
MARTINA	GEORGE	TOY POODLE
EBONY	BEAR	LABRADOR
NATHAN		
DARREN	PABLO	ENGLISH STAFFY
STACY	JUNO	AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD
SAMANTHA	VINNIE	MINI SCHNAUZER X BORDER COLLIE
REUBEN		
STELLA		
BRONTE	DWIGHT	PUG
FRANK	ABBY	CHIHUAHUA
TRACY		
LINDA	NARLAH	GREAT DANE X MASTIFF

JENNY	LOKI	MINIATURE SCHNAUZER
CASPER		
KIRAN	BOWIE	KELPIE
NATASHA	ACHILLIES	DOUGE DE BORDEAUX
FRANK	LUNA	GROODLE
JENNIFER		
DEBBIE	STELLA	GERMAN SHEPHERD
MARC	GRACIE	STAFFY CROSS
CHANTAL		
KIERAN		GSP
MYRIAM		GSP
JOANNE	CHARLIE	LABRADOR
MARK		LABRADOR
JARRAD	PABLO	HUSKY
BARBARA	TALLIS	SALUKI
KATHRYN, ROS & JAMES	JUNO	KELPIE
LUCY & JESSICA	POPPY & DAISY	COCKER SPANIELS
LENA	CAESAR	GERMAN SHEPHERD
RUCHI & JASON	OBI	DALMATIAN
MITCHELL		
JONO	RUBY	BORDER COLLIE
MONIQUE		
WARWICK	ORLANDO	LAGOTTO ROMAGNOLO
CRIS	DIXIE	KELPIE
SARAH	CHASE	ROTTWEILLER



WELCOME

# Promotions

## **Class 1 Basic to Class 2 Stabilising:**

To be able to be promoted from class 1 to class 2 you and your dog must be able to complete the following exercises

1. Your dog is comfortably walking next to your left leg.
2. Your dog can sit next to your left leg on command.
3. Your dog can stand next to your left leg on command
4. You can call your dog back to you on lead and continue walking.
5. You can complete left and right turns successfully
6. You can complete left and right about turns successfully.
7. Your dog can sit and stay with you standing beside it, in position for 30 seconds.

Handling the lead with 2 hands on most of the time and using the lead to position the dog.

At this stage it is much more important that the handler's mechanics are good – giving clear commands, guiding the dog as necessary, and praising the dog. If the dog makes a mistake and is effectively guided by the handler this is a positive.

## **Class 2 Stabilising to Class 3 Challenge:**

To be able to be promoted from class 2 to class 3 you and your dog must be able to complete the following exercise

1. Your dog is comfortably walking next to your left leg.
2. Your dog can sit next to your left leg on command.
3. Your dog can stand next to your left leg on command
4. You can complete left and right turns successfully.
5. You can complete left and right about turns successfully.
6. You can call your dog back to you and get them to place finish as one exercise.
7. Your dog can calmly work at fast pace with you.
8. Your dog can sit and stay with you standing in front, in position for 30 seconds.
9. Your dog can stand and stay with you standing beside it, in position for 30 seconds.

At this stage it is expected that to sit and stand, very little guiding is necessary (< 3 out of 5 times)

Still walking using the lead to position the dog, giving feedback to the dog when it is in position

## **Class 3 Challenge to Class 4 Finishing:**

To be able to be promoted from class 3 to class 4 you and your dog must be able to complete the following exercises

1. Your dog must be able to walk comfortably next to your left leg using a loose leash.
2. Your dog must be able to drop next to your left leg on command.
3. You can complete left and right turns successfully
4. You can complete left and right about turns successfully
5. You can call your dog back to you on lead and have them sit directly in front of you.
6. You can get your dog to do a place finish as a separate exercise
7. You can get your dog to successfully complete an off-lead recall to front on command.
8. Your dog can calmly work with you at slow pace.
9. Your dog can sit and stay with you standing in front, in position for 30 seconds, returning around your dog
10. Your dog can stand and stay with you standing in front, in position for 30 seconds
11. Your dog can stay in the down with you standing beside it in position for 30 seconds.

At this stage it is expected that to sit and stand and drop come and place, very little guiding is necessary (< 3 out of 5 times)

Still walking on lead but with a loose leash most of the time



**Congratulations to the following club members on their promotion Class 1 Basic to Class 2 Stabilising:**

Laura and Nacho,	Joanna and Jovi	Phil and Maple	Pip and Charlie
Leila and Pecos	Nathan and Sam	Jess and Alannah	Callum and Kleo
Bernadette and Roxy	Mathew and Ranger	Debbie and Willow	Rebecca and Wilson
Germain and Jed	Mohsen and Shadow	Aleisha and Shadow	Anne and Frankie
Elizabeth and Rosie	Rachel and Maple	Jodie and Jordan	Catherine and Ivy
Maureen and Bruno	Fiona and Shankly	Steve and Lexy	Kerry and Hunter
Ron and Ivy	Martina and George	Phil and Bella	Terry and Georgy
Emma and Stormy	Elaine and Marley	Kasia and Oscar	

**Congratulations to the following club members on their promotion Class 2 Stabilising to Class 3 Challenge:**

Katherine and Dita	Elizabeth and Ziggy	Michelle and Shelby	Lorraine and Alfie
Terri and Achilles	Fiona and Nixie	Danielle and Zed	Jimmy and Remi
Brenda and Coco	Leila and Pecos	David and Mia	Jose and Mika
Jessica and Alannah	Henry and Geronimo	Jacque and Holly	Natasha and Arlo
Paul and Archie	Pete and Coco		

**Congratulations to the following club members on their promotion Class 3 Challenge to Class 4 Finishing:**

Michelle and Bella	Mark and Kali	Sue and Harley	Julie and Cuinn
Gail and Coco			



# **Trial Results**

*Janice and Kippa*      *Shoalhaven 4/8/18*  
*CDX 175 points*      *1<sup>st</sup> Place - TITLE*



## **The life and times of a toy poodle ©**

My youngest daughter wanted to know whether a “toy” or “miniature” poodle is the tiniest? Having no idea guessed a miniature that ended up sending her off to Ryde on a wild goose chase. A bit puzzled by her mind change, a few years earlier she discovered about the responsibility and compromise it implicated then decided against its commitment. With a white poodle on her agenda and the silly season in full swing it became apparent white poodle puppies were rare as a hen’s tooth.

After the Ryde fiasco still feeling guilty I was easily persuaded into a trip too Liverpool. It was two black male puppies we were to look at and one would be returning home with us, informed my daughter after giving up on the idealistic white. The conversation regarding the pup’s name cropped up driving along the motorway she blurted out “Marley” no surprise there. As a teen she called Bob Marley a legend! I teased how could he be a legend if I had never heard of him you mean Bob Dillon.

We were greeted by a woman that led us to the back of the house where she picked up two puppies cuddled in a basket one looked much tinier with a stylish poodle clip. She did not seem keen on the poodle clip besides the bigger pup already looked like Bob Marley covered in curly black-hair.

Regular feedback on Marley made him sound spoilt and on top of that mischievous. Before long he eventuated into an escape artist by squeezing through the smallest opening in the backyard. Because of his pip-squeak size Marley became a traveling companion by easily fitting into handbags, most weekends went to brunch or shopping excursions with his mistress. Living in a Villa shared with a friend the girls took Marley for a stroll along a busy road, causing panic when he slipped his collar and bolted along the roadside. They chased after him in hot pursuit and resorted to using stop signals to force traffic to a standstill, so they could catch the runaway. From that one incident Marley turned it into a fun game lasting nearly all his life. One could never trust him without a leash even in fenced off dog parks he would find a way out. Walking out the front door or gate ‘*away with the pixies*’ gave him an opportunity to whizz by at top speed and he never missed the occasion.

Marley proved surprisingly protective apparently when strolling around the neighbourhood in fading light anyone overtaking got barked at in protest. As a young hoodlum and teething Marley kept busy in my daughter’s bedroom ripping designer underwear or chewing whatever he could when she was at work. It was around this time he got booked into doggy boot camp out Richmond way that specialized in training dogs for television work. Earning good money from two jobs made the expense affordable. This time I was invited to accompany her on a road trip to a family business of dog trainers. Marley stayed at the establishment for a fortnight to learn basic obedience my daughter was unable to master. On Marley’s return, my daughter’s lack of assertiveness managed to create her a few minor problems. Marley knew he out ranked my daughter in the pecking order department and she simply shifted the blame onto the dog trainer.

Marley came across conceited in spite of that with others he appeared obedient if one told to sit or drop.

Circumcises returned Marley a second time when he was nine. Out walking he earned top marks automatically sitting at my feet if I stopped for a chat. Marley may have had the upper hand putting Flint the whippet in place as a pup the tables had turned, and in Flint’s domain it was another story.

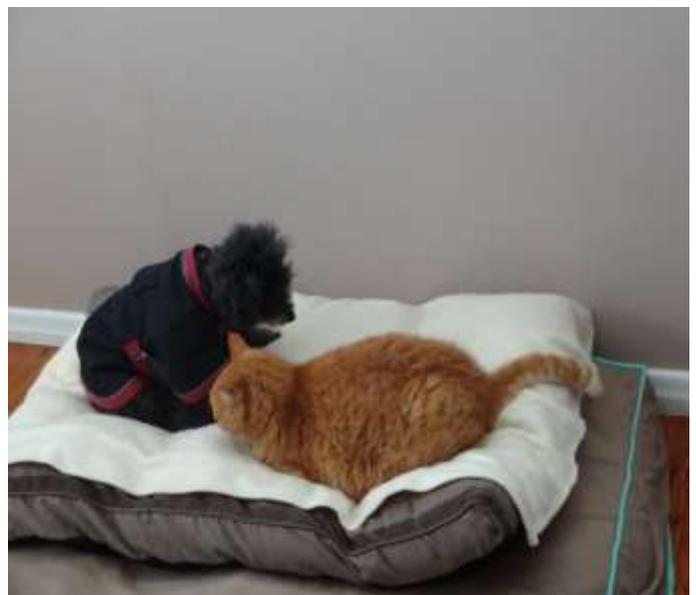
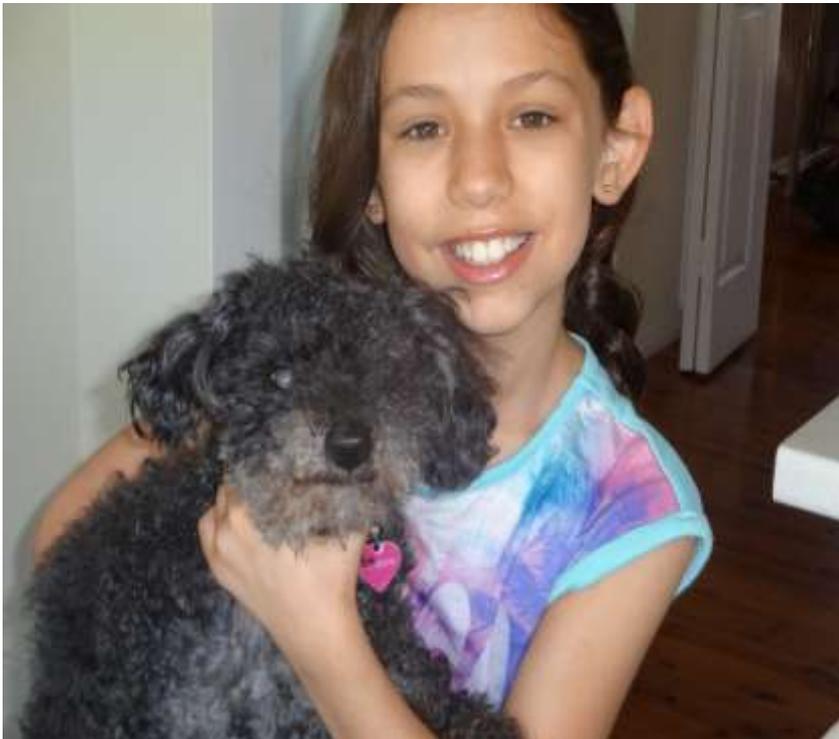
Scuffles became constant futile when Marley’s boldness got the better of him. Marley possibly held onto a memory pinning Flint onto the ground when Flint was young. Neither, Flint’s size or annoyed warnings to buzz off were a deterrent. Eventually when Flint got angry enough Marley copped it then sulked for days completely ignoring Flint’s existence. Peace would reign for many weeks until Marley decided to make another move up the pecking order.

Where Flint and Cat became bonded buddies, Marley could barely tolerate Cat and often tried to get Flint involved in chasing or tormenting him. Flint far from stupid hung back knowing Cat

was no fool. Marley had no hope against Cats speedy swipes and always gave the project a miss realising no backup forthcoming. In situation's one on one with Cat Marley's craftiness had him backing off. As time went on Marley's grudge against Cat stayed intact from a misunderstanding originating several years earlier.

Marley came for a week's holiday shortly after Cat was adopted. Cat decided a wrestling game with Marley could make his afternoon exciting. He dragged Marley off the footstool then proceeded wrestling him until Marley got his bearing and exploded. Cat hissed and spat at Marley when he suddenly turned irate and flew at Cat that bolted at lightning speed from the room with Marley close behind. The grudge lay dormant until Marley thought it needed another airing.

When Mollie a setter puppy arrived at eight-weeks old, Marley on the contrary put up with her shenanigans. Mollie treated him like a littermate hitting him with her paw never taking Marley's grumpiness seriously and liked squashing him against the sliding door with her weight. Funnily Marley put up being squashed like a fly against the door when Mollie grew taller he released himself ducking under her. Marley lived to see his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday and his nemesis to his 18<sup>th</sup>.



# **Doggie Treat of The Month**

## **Peanut Butter & Pumpkin Dog Treats**

### **Ingredients**

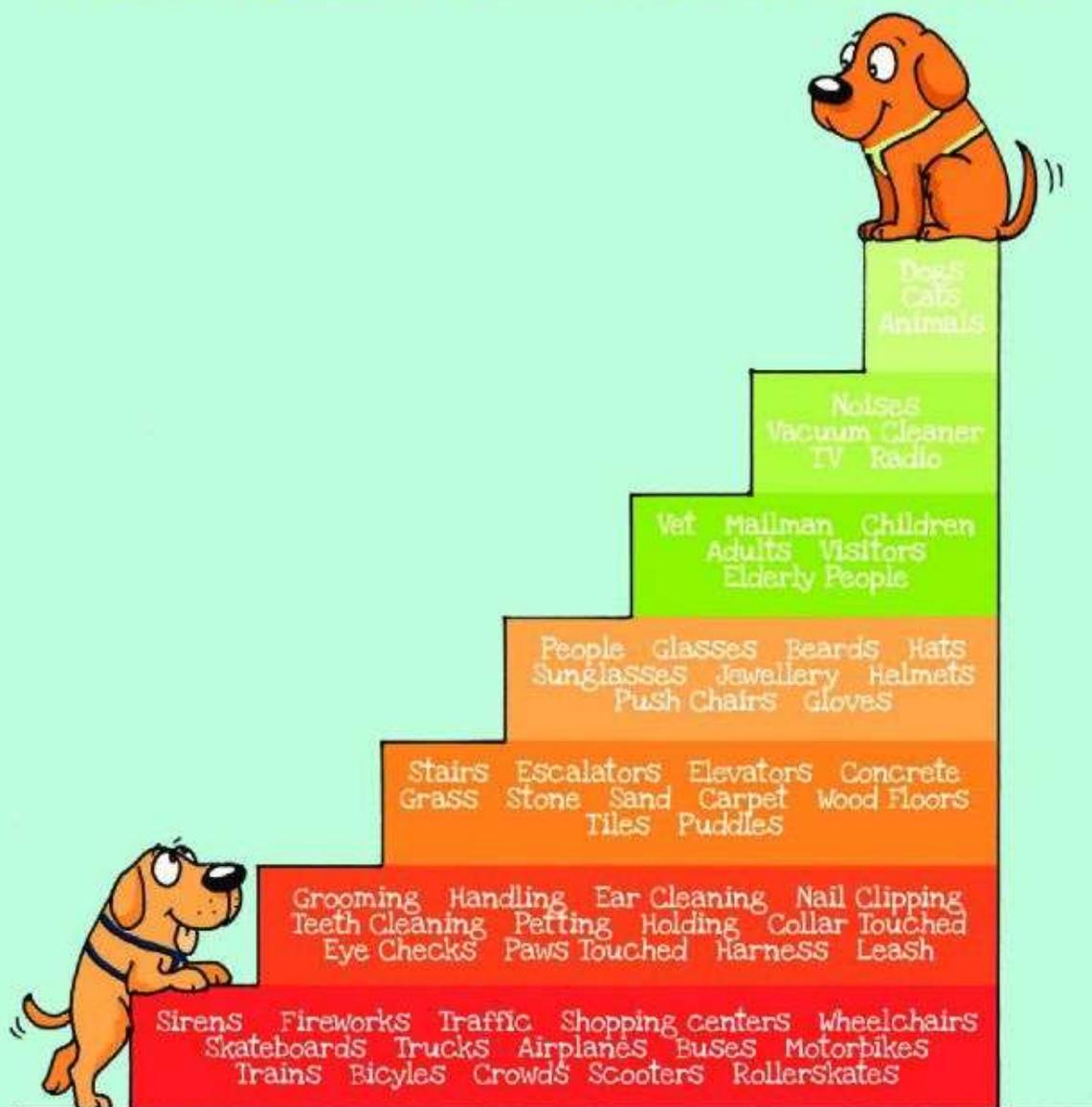
- 2 ½ cups whole wheat flour
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup canned pumpkin
- 2 tablespoons peanut butter
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon



### **Directions**

1. Preheat oven to 175 degrees C
2. Whisk together the flour, eggs, pumpkin, peanut butter, salt, and cinnamon in a bowl. Add water as needed to make the dough workable, but the dough should be dry and stiff. Roll the dough in a ½ inch-thick roll. Cut into ½ inch pieces.
3. Bake in preheated oven until hard, about 40 minutes.

# Simple Steps to Successful Socialisation



Early socialisation is an essential part of your dog's development.

By pairing these associations with treats (or games with toys, providing options and rewarding good decisions)

you will help your dog become more confident and well adjusted. Putting the time in early will help prevent behaviour problems at a later stage.



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# **Breed of The Month**

## **Airedale Terrier**

The Airedale Terrier, also known as the Waterside Terrier, the Yorkshire, the Bingley Terrier, the Warfedale Terrier, the Broken-haired Terrier and the Working Terrier, is a hardy, water-loving dog that is the largest of all terriers. Its name comes from a small otter-river, the Aire, in northern England. The Airedale is known for its extreme intelligence, dense wiry double coat, high energy level and tenacity. This breed is peaceful unless provoked; they are said not to pick a fight, but always to finish one. Airedales will fight furiously to protect home and family and typically are better with people than with other dogs. If not properly socialized and trained from a young age, Airedales may exercise their intense prey drive on smaller dogs and cats. Without regular exercise, they can become destructive. Male Airedale Terriers should be 23 to 24 inches in height and weigh between 50 and 65 pounds. Female Airedales should be 22 to 23 inches tall at the shoulder and between 40 and 45 pounds in weight. Fairly intensive grooming is a lifelong requirement to keep an Airedale's coat and skin in good condition. They do not shed as much as many other dogs, but they do shed their entire coats twice a year. Acceptable coat colours are tan and black, and tan and grizzle.

### **Personality**

Airedale Terriers are hard-working, hard-playing dogs with boundless energy. They are vigilant and protective, making them excellent watchdogs, though they are friendly to family and friends. A true family dog, the Airedale loves attention from all people, will enjoy running and playing with children by day, and curling up for a belly rub with parents by night.

### **Activity Requirements**

Airedale Terriers are a high-energy, thinking breed. They need as much mental activity as they need physical activity, and apartments are not the right living situation for them. Families with large, fenced yards are ideal, as the Airedale needs plenty of room to run during the day. They enjoy chasing and hunting, so fetching and hide-and-seek games are among an Airedale's favourite activities.

Airedales do well with children, though they can exert dominance over small children. If an Airedale is raised alongside small children, however, they can be socialized to know that children are not to be dominated.

### **Trainability**

The Airedale is a thinking breed – in addition to keeping his physical activity high, he will require mental stimulation as well. Basic obedience should be conducted with confidence and positive reinforcement. This breed likes to be the Alpha Dog, so it is important to establish who is in charge from an early age, and always be consistent, because Airedales will take a mile if given an inch. They excel in advanced obedience, tricks and agility training, thanks to their high intelligence.

Training should be conducted with treats, and a drill-style of repeat tasks works best to keep an Airedale Terrier's attention.

## **Behavioural Traits**

The Airedale is a terrier, so barking is a common complaint of owners. Airedales will bark at strangers, other animals, neighbours, cars, anything that moves. Early training to obey a stop barking command is imperative.

Like barking, chasing is a common behaviour of terrier breeds, and the Airedale is no exception. They should be kept in a fenced-in yard or on a leash whenever outdoors. Once an Airedale takes off on a chase, it will be nearly impossible to stop him.

Digging can also be a problem with this breed. If outside, they should be supervised as they can tear up a flowerbed in record time.

Cats, rabbits or other small pets should not be brought in to a home with an Airedale. They were originally bred to hunt, and this instinct is still very strong.



# Spotlight on Dog Sports

## Endurance

The object of an Endurance Test is to demonstrate the dog's ability to work after being subject to a certain degree of physical strain without showing signs of undue stress or lack of constitution.

Due to the dog's physical structure, such a test can only consist of a dog travelling at a suitable pace for a performance of some lengthy duration, which, it is known places an increasing load, not only on its internal organs, such as the heart and lungs, but on many other aspects of the dog's physical structure and temperamental characteristics.

The effortless accomplishment of such a test shall be the evidence as to the physical fitness of the dog.



### Qualifications & Title

(1) To qualify for the title of Endurance Test ("ET") the dog must have passed the endurance test held by an affiliate of the Member Bodies of the A.N.K.C., subject to the approval of the State or Territory canine controlling body (hereafter called the "Control"). Upon application to the Control and production of the qualifying certificate and prescribed fee, the letters "ET" will become part of the registered name of the dog.

(2) After qualifying for the "ET" title, it is deemed to be a domestic matter whether dogs with a title can continue to compete.

(3) The judge's sheet must be completed, signed and sent to the Control within seven (7) days of the test.

(4) A qualifying certificate from the Affiliate holding the test shall be presented for each dog passing the test, signed and dated by the officiating judge on the day.

## **Terrain**

The test shall be carried out over three varying surfaces such as bitumen, unsealed roads, dirt tracks, grass etc, such that the total distance of the course shall be twenty (20 kms).



## **General Rules**

- (1) The test is to be conducted by an Affiliate or a Control only. Providing the Affiliate has approval of the Control.
- (2) The time of the year for the conducting of the test is to be deemed a domestic matter for determination by the Control in which the test is to be conducted.
- (3) The date of the proposed test is to be submitted to the Control at least sixty (60) days prior to the conduct of the test.
- (4) Entries are to be completed on official entry forms.
- (5) The date set for the closure of entry shall be a domestic matter determined by the Control in which the test is to be conducted.
- (6) All officials, except veterinary surgeons and veterinary teams, must be financial members of a controlling body.
- (7) If the climatic temperature reaches 24°C. the test is to be cancelled, regardless of what stage the test has reached. For further information please refer to the ANKC Rules for the Conduct of Endurance Test.

# What Should I Feed My Dog?

Domesticated dogs are largely carnivores that eat some omnivorous foods. Wild dogs eat a variety of food which consists mainly of prey animals. Prey animals are composed of raw meat, raw bones, organs, other tissue and digested vegetable matter. While dogs are carnivores they do consume a small amount of the vegetable matter contained in the stomach and intestines of their prey. Dogs have evolved over thousands of years to eat this type of diet.

## WHAT SHOULD I FEED MY DOG?

Feed high-quality balanced premium commercial food that is appropriate for the life stage and health condition of your dog. Check that it complies with the Australian Standard AS 5812:2011. Foods imported from the US must conform to AAFCO standards for labelling which are much more rigid.

Dog foods must provide the following:

- Energy (measured in calories or kilojoules) which your dog needs for muscle function for movement, a wide variety of bodily functions and to keep himself warm.
- Proteins and other nutrients for growth and repairing body tissues.
- Fats for energy and essential fatty acids.
- Vitamins, minerals and other micro-nutrients to regulate these processes.

You can offer some natural foods to provide some variety including fresh human-grade raw meat (e.g. raw lamb), raw meaty bones and vegetables. Always check with your vet first that raw meaty bones are suitable for your particular dog (e.g. some dogs with misshapen jaws or dental disease may find chewing on raw bones difficult).

Choose human-grade raw meat and raw meaty bones because some pet meat/pet mince/pet rolls/pet meat and bone products can contain preservatives that can be detrimental to the dog's health (e.g. sulphite preservative induced thiamine deficiency which can be fatal). However, avoid sausages, sausage meat and cooked manufactured meats as they can contain sulphites.

## Bones must be raw

Raw meaty bones such as raw lamb ribs (not lamb chops though), raw lamb flaps and raw chicken wings provide several important health benefits including keeping teeth and gums healthy. However, too many raw bones may lead to constipation. Generally, one or two raw bones may be offered per week with a few days in between each serving.

The bone must be large enough so that the dog cannot fit the whole bone in its mouth or swallow the bone whole and always supervise dogs when they are eating raw bones. Never feed your dog weight bearing bones as these have the very real potential to break your dog's teeth.

Never feed cooked bones as these can splinter and cause internal damage or become an intestinal obstruction.

Avoid large marrow bones (these have very thick outer rims), T-bones, 'chop' bones e.g. lamb cutlets, large knuckle bones and bones sawn lengthwise (as done by some butchers) as dogs may crack their teeth on these. Dogs 'like' bones very much and sometimes become protective. Do take care and discourage young children and others from approaching dogs that are eating.



Dogs may be offered fish such as tinned sardines in Springwater, tinned tuna and tinned salmon as a treat occasionally (care with any fish bones). Please avoid feeding fish constantly.

Dogs may also be offered a small amount of cooked vegetables e.g. pumpkin, carrots etc. Cooked meat such as boiled chicken or lamb may be offered but ensure there are no cooked bones or onions/onion sauces or other toxic substances present. A small amount of cooked plain pasta/rice may be offered but again ensure there are no onions/onion sauces or other toxic substances present.

For more information, please read our post on "15 People Foods Your Dog Should Never Eat".

Provide access to grass (avoid chemically treated grass and toxic plants) - dogs will sometimes eat grass which may provide a source of vegetable matter and micronutrients. The amount of food required will depend on your dog's size, breed, age and level of exercise, but take care not to overfeed or underfeed. Your vet will be able to weigh your dog, assess your dog's body condition score and provide advice.

Adults dogs should be fed at least twice a day to help avoid canine bloat which can be fatal. Also, dogs should not be exercised immediately before or after eating, to avoid bloat, particularly deep-chested dogs.

Fresh water must always be available.

## **A WARNING CONCERNING DOG TREATS**

Several Australian dogs have suffered from kidney problems after being fed pet treats.

The toxin which causes the illness has not yet been identified and several treats from several manufacturers could be involved. Researchers have said that it's difficult to pinpoint the treats involved because dog owners often feed several different treat brands to their dogs.

Cases have been associated with some chicken jerky treats, pig's ears and other porcine products in addition to some chew-type products, mostly but not exclusively of Asian origin.

If you want to feed treats, veterinary researchers advise to use:

- a small portion of commercial dog food; or
- an appropriate and safe morsel of human food; or
- home-made treats prepared under veterinary advice

If you are using commercial treats, then it would be wise to limit these to occasional use, for example, a small treat once or twice a week.

If you are feeding commercial treats and notice your dog showing the following signs/symptoms then you should see your vet as soon as possible:

- lethargy
- loss of appetite
- increased thirst
- urinating more frequently

According to research, the illness is normally treatable with most dogs making a recovery if treats are removed from diets completely. But very occasionally more serious illness and death can occur.





Website - <https://pawsforacause.com.au>



WINTER IS COMING

Previously known as “Alpha Dog Beds” they now make Premium Australian Made Dog Coats that support Animal Welfare – check out their website.



FREE SHIPPING ON ALL ORDERS



100% AUSTRALIAN MADE



50% OF PROFITS DONATED TO ANIMAL WELFARE



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