



DOG CHAT

Brought to you by
Illawarra Dog Training Club



DECEMBER 2022



MERRY CHRISTMAS

NOTE FROM EDITOR

Please refer to website for Ground Rules ie. footwear

If you would like to contribute anything for future newsletters or suggestions in what you would like to see, please feel free to email them through or hand it in to the Clubhouse and I will include it – Cheers

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Committee, Instructions, Ground Rules & Promotions.



Membership Cards

Any member on the grounds is asked to wear their membership card. This will allow records to stay up to date, helps us out when recording the information and most importantly it protects you.

In case of an emergency, it will help us identify quickly and efficiently.

If you have misplaced your card or holder replacement cards and holders can be purchased at the clubhouse for \$2.

Extreme Weather Cancellations

We ask our members to keep an eye on the social media Facebook and Instagram on days when it is extremely hot or electrical storms are around.

Illawarra Dog Training Club must abide by Dogs NSW and we have a duty of care to all our members including the dogs to keep everyone safe.

Cancelling any training day is a decision not taken lightly but sometimes it is necessary.

CHIEF INSTRUCTORS REPORT

We are about to say goodbye to 2022 which was another disruptive year for club activities. We have however finished on a positive note with numbers on the ground remaining steady and the quality of work remaining at a high standard.

With our last full training session now completed and resumption next year on the 28th January we remind you to continue with your training over the break, as you have done all this year with the many disruptions encountered.

So, on behalf of all your instructors and officers in the club we wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy, safe and positive new year.

Cheers

Tony



TRIALLING RESULTS

Blacktown Kennel Club	12.11.22			
Roz Manning with Barney	CD	193 points	2nd Place	1 st Pass
Deer Bush Dog Training Club	13.11.22			
Roz Manning with Barney	CD	193 points	EQ 3rd	2 nd Pass
Floyde Gilbert with Alf	CD	193 points	EQ 3 rd	2 nd Pass
Newcastle A.B.D.T.C	19.11.22			
Floyde Gilbert with Alf	Rally Adv.	96 points	TITLE	
Floyde Gilbert with Finn	Rally Advanced		91 points	4/5 RAE
	Rally Excellent		96 points	
Wollondilly All Breeds	03.12.22			
Janice with Fergie	CCD	90 points	2nd Place	2nd Pass
Janice with Fergie	CCD	92 points	2 nd Place	TITLE
Floyde Gilbert with Alf	CD	2 nd Place	TITLE	
Floyde Gilbert with Alf	CD	186 points	3 rd Place	
Danielle Zietsch with Pepsi	CDX	172 points	2 nd Place	3rd Pass
			TITLE	
Danielle Zietsch with Pepsi	CDX	180 points		

Congratulations to our trailers in a disruptive year.

If you are interested in trialling or thinking about trialling in Obedience or Rally, please let us know. We have a team of trailers who are training their dogs for competition so the club has a wealth of information.

If interested let us know so we can help you on where to start

WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING

Due to the wet weather many places have not been able to do the ground treatment to keep a handle on bindies and bees. Please make yourself familiar with what to do in case of bee stings. This is only one article but please ask your vet if you have any questions.

Bee and Wasp Stings on Dogs: What to Look Out For

by Dr Kate Mornement, Vet and Pet Behaviourist. Published 9 February 2021



Insect stings from bees and wasps are quite common in dogs because they spend so much time outdoors, especially in the warmer months. Running and playing on grass and in bushes can put dogs at increased risk of an insect sting. Dogs are also curious creatures and this curiosity often leads to a sting from a bee or wasp on the face, muzzle area or inside the mouth.

When a bee stings a dog, the stinger comes away from the bee and lodges in the skin, killing the bee in the process, meaning they can only sting once.

Wasps, on the other hand, can sting multiple times if aggravated. These stings release venom which causes pain, mild swelling and discomfort.

In some cases, dogs may have an allergic reaction to a bee or wasp sting.

How to tell if a dog was stung by a bee or wasp

Bee stings are usually easy to identify if the venomous barbed sack is still lodged in your dog's skin. If so, remove it by gently scraping it away trying to avoid damaging the sack in the process as this will release more venom.

Wasp stings are potentially more dangerous because they can sting numerous times.

A wasp sting on a dog will cause redness and swelling at the site of the sting(s).

Your dog may show signs including restlessness, whining, licking the affected area, pawing at their face or raising their paw if these are the affected areas. Often, a mild sting will cause temporary pain and discomfort which should subside after a short time.

Signs of allergic reaction to bee stings in dogs

Unfortunately, some dogs have allergic reactions to insect bites. Common signs that your dog has had an allergic reaction include:

- Severe swelling at the site of the sting
- Weakness
- Collapse
- Breathing difficulties
- Swelling resembling hives on the body.

Bee and wasp sting remedy for dogs: when to go to the vet

You can try treating the bee or wasp sting by applying an ice pack wrapped in a tea towel to the sting site to reduce the swelling, much as you would with a human bee sting. Give your pet fresh water to drink and try to keep them from scratching the sting as this may lead to infection.

IMPORTANT: If you suspect your dog has had an allergic reaction or they've had a bee or wasp sting inside or near their mouth, get them to a vet immediately.

Bee and wasp stings inside or near the airway can be life threatening because they cause swelling that reduces or prevents breathing.

If you have any concerns about your dog following a bee or wasp sting it's best to seek veterinary treatment.

It's also important to avoid encouraging your dog to chase or catch insects including flies. Although flies are harmless, if you [reward](#) your dog for catching and eating them, they may think bees and wasps are fair game!

NEWS!!!!

As you may be aware Black Hawk sponsor our puppy classes.

Black Hawk are also happy to support our rally and promotions at the club.

What we would like our members to do is tag your furry friends enjoying their treats on Instagram and Facebook

@BlackHawkPetCare



VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE

If you would like to be around dogs and people helping out on a Saturday afternoon or in the background, we would love to hear from you. Just see the girls in the Clubhouse

General Duties / Canteen

Newsletter Creator (We have had a volunteer for this – Thanks Abbey ☺)

Set up & Pack Up

Member number on field records

Puppy photographer

Train to be an instructor



PUPPY NEWS!!!

PUPPY PREP COURSE

The puppy prep course is a four (4) week certified course which runs monthly with limited numbers. Payment is cash only or bank transfer on your mobile device. Joining Fee \$100

Included in the cost is the full four-week course, single adult membership to the club, a puppy collar, comprehensive notes & General Information booklet and special treats from our sponsor Blackhawk.



BOOKING ARE ESSENTIAL – After hours on 0419 485 476
3pm – 4.30pm

 **BlackHawk®**

TOPIC OF THE MONTH

Keeping our dogs safe at Christmas Time

The Christmas period is a time of great fun for all the family and that (usually) includes your dog too! There are many dogs who love to celebrate the holidays with us and spend all the time getting up to mischief – like sneaking your Christmas treats or collapsing the tree – and while this may all seem like good fun, the festive season can also bring a wealth of potential hazards that you'll need to be on the lookout for. With Christmas on the way, you may be wondering how to ensure your dog's Christmas is just as merry as your own, which is why we've created this guide on keeping your dog safe and happy this holiday.

Dogs and Christmas trees

As you know, one of the biggest Christmas traditions involves bringing a tree into your home, and to your dog, this is a dream come true. Your four-legged friend will look at this tree and their eyes will light up at the thought of unlimited sticks to chomp and if you have a male dog, they may see it is as an excellent new spot to have a wee. Some pet owners will be lucky enough to own a pup that's unphased by this new addition, but if you have a dog that just can't resist, you'll need a dog-proof Christmas tree. Here's what to look for.

Fairy lights

One of the dangerous elements to dogs and Christmas trees are the twinkling lights wrapped around them. They may look harmless, but some dogs think of the wires as shiny new chew toys – which is most common with younger dogs or puppies. Also, if you have a particularly boisterous pup that likes to play, they may get tangled up in the wires.

An easy way to prevent your dog getting hurt by your Christmas tree lights is to cable tie any loose wires and then always disconnect from the mains when you go out. Alternatively, if you want to leave your lights on all the time, opt for battery operated ones instead and make sure that you place the battery pack in a place your dog can't reach.

Baubles and hanging decorations

Another way to dog-proof Christmas trees is to make sure you're only buying safe decorations. Avoid tinsel and angel hair on your tree as when consumed, they can cause a blockage in your dog's stomach. Glass baubles are also a bad idea if you have a boisterous dog, as they may shatter which could potentially harm your pet. Instead opt for non-toxic plastic decorations.

If you have more expensive ornaments which are essential decorations for your tree, place them near the top of the tree where your dog and their wagging tail can't reach them. Also, don't put edible decorations such as chocolates or candy canes on the tree as they're highly toxic to dogs and many won't be able to resist.

Tipping the Christmas tree over



If your dog just loves to play with your tree, you'll probably need a solution to stop it from crashing down in the middle of your living room. The best way to do this is to either purchase a weighted base or attach weights to the bottom to keep it safely in place. Alternatively, if you want to be extra safe, you can anchor it to your ceiling or wall instead.

Presents under the tree

Where a Christmas tree surrounded by wrapped presents with bows on top may be a wondrous sight, it may prove too great a temptation for your dog. Keep presents out of sight until the day, then always make sure your dog's supervised with them – otherwise they may help themselves to a gift or two! Never put your dog's Christmas presents under the tree either, they definitely won't be patient and wait until the day to sniff out any tasty treats.

Other dog Christmas hazards

It's not just the Christmas tree that can be a hazard during the festive period, but there's plenty of other things you need to watch out for too.

Christmas foods

There's lots of Christmas foods which are poisonous or toxic to your dog, including chocolates, grapes, sultanas and raisins (present in Christmas puddings and mince pies). A lot of dog owners think feeding them a bit of chicken or turkey is a nice gift, but these scraps can contain tiny bones which are dangerous – always check the meat thoroughly before feeding to your dog. If you want to give your dog Christmas dinner, read our article for information on what you can and can't include.

Festive flowers

Festive plants and flowers look stunning in our homes, but unfortunately a lot of these plants are toxic to dogs. Poinsettia which is used in many wreaths and arrangements can cause stomach and mouth irritation, while holly and European mistletoe berries are also toxic and can cause stomach upset. American mistletoe on the other hand is highly poisonous. Additionally, ivy which is commonly used in wreaths can cause sickness and skin irritation like contact dermatitis.

Christmas crackers

Christmas crackers are a staple of festive get-togethers, but loud sounds can be very frightening for your dog.



If you're setting these off, it's a good idea to put your dog in another room or the garden. Also, be wary of little items that fly out of your crackers, which can end up on the floor where your dog may eat them.

Visiting friends and family

It's likely that you'll have plenty of friends and family visiting over the holidays and this can be quite overwhelming for your dog – particularly if they're not used to it. Make sure you provide them with a space away from it all, put down blankets and provide them with food and water. That way if they feel stressed from all the merriment, they can go to their quiet space.

So how to make sure you all have a merry Christmas?

1. Remember your dog's needs don't stop for the festive season.

Make sure they get enough exercise, stimulation – and indeed your attention – as they do at every other time of the year... no matter how busy you are. You signed up for 24/7 dog ownership and this includes Christmas!

2. Try and keep your dog's routine the same as always.

It's easier for a dog to deal with the unexpected if they have predictability the rest of the time.

3. Supervise all interactions between children and dogs.

This goes for both your own children and strange ones. If you can't, use baby gates to keep them separate – or just keep the dog with you. Make sure you know where everybody is - no matter how hard it can be to keep track!

4. Watch out for any signs your dog might be getting stressed.

Dogs can't tell you when they are beginning to feel worried or anxious, so you need to watch for those tell-tale body language cues. This might be subtle signs such as licking their lips or yawning – or it might be more obvious signals such as tension, looking worried, lowered body language or attempts to hide or just remove themselves from the chaos.

5. Don't let anyone – child or adult – handle your dog roughly or inappropriately.

No grabbing, hugging or rough play. This is especially important when alcohol is involved as from a dog's point of view, drunk people behave very unpredictably. Also when people are the wrong side of a sherry or two, they don't read dog body language very well (if they ever could) and often overstep canine boundaries.

6. Have a 'safe space' for your dog where they can go and not be disturbed.

Use this space anytime things get chaotic, noisy – or you just can't supervise your dog – and make sure the dog has a special treat to make their 'den' feel special and not as if they are locked away from the fun.

Perhaps the most important thing you can do however is make sure you have some 'dog time' every day. Time where you forget about the madness of the season and you just focus totally on your dog, making sure you give them what they need to be healthy and happy. This is the very best Christmas present you can give you dog - your time and your love.

Note: If you have any concerns that your dog may behave aggressively to family members or visitors, consult a qualified and experienced behaviourist for help.

GRADUATIONS

Basic (class 1) to Challenge (class 2):

Jasmin and Bindt
Angela and Luna
Mathew and Tillie
Rhonda and Indi
Danielle and Dax
Lachlan and Nala
Darren and Luna
Heather and Yuki
Nikki and Scout
Jacqueline and Mia
Jacqui and Max

Larissa and Masie
Bianka and Roman
Margo and Samson
Kathryn and Marley
Kimberley and Tillie
Kristy and Muffin
Robyn and Posy
Michelle and Kali
Helen and Ruby
Carmel and Molly

Marion and Buddy
Franciene and Pengu
Kim and Zoe
Robyn and Hero
Jess and Amara
David and Phil
Andrew and Kona
Elizabeth and Fletch
Chris and Zaya
Suma and Rue

Challenge (class 2) to Stabilising (class 3):

Terry and Polly
Larissa and Masie

Jorden and Rookie

Carol and Barney



CHALLENGE FOR OVER THE CHRISTMAS BREAK

DOES YOUR DOG REALLY KNOW SIT??

CRITERIA: Handler asks ONE TIME and dog complies within 5 seconds.



(304) 910 1802

FB: thinkpawsitivepup
Instagram: thinkpawsitivepup

HANDLER POSITIONS

- Dog sits while handler is standing with hands above head
- Dog sits while handler is standing on a chair
- Dog sits while handler is sitting on a chair
- Dog sits while handler is sitting on the floor
- Dog sits while handler is lying in bed or on couch
- Dog sits while handler is lying on the floor

DOG POSITIONS

- Dog sits in front of handler
- Dog sits to the side of handler in heel position
- Dog sits behind handler (handler's back is turned - mirrors help)
- Dog sits from a down

LOCATIONS

- Dog sits on 3 surface types - grass, carpet, tile, concrete
- Dog sits on couch or chair
- Dog sits on grooming table or raised platform
- Dog sits in the shower or bathtub
- Dog sits in car - seat or floorboard
- Dog sits under a table

ACCESS

- Dog sits before food bowl is put down
- Dog sits before door is opened
- Dog sits before exiting crate
- Dog sits before petting
- Dog sits before toy is thrown
- Dog sits before sniffing interesting scent/tree
- Dog sits at intersection/light before crossing

CONDITIONS

- Dog sits while you hold collar
- Dog sits on hand signal only
- Dog sits with door open (car or house)
- Dog sits with mild toy distraction
- Dog sits with another dog in the room
- Dog sits with another dog playing in the room
- Dog sits in the rain
- Dog sits while traffic passes by
- Dog sits while bicycle/skateboard passes by
- Dog sits while child runs by
- Dog sits while dog passes by

ADVANCED

- Dog sits automatically in heel when you stop
- Dog sits with handler 10 ft away
- Dog sits "in motion"



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS FOR 2022

Welcome to the Club and we look forward to being part of your journey. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to talk to any of our instructors, volunteers or members.

FIRST NAME	DOGS NAME	BREED
KIM & GRAHAM	SEAMUS	STANDARD POODLE
JEN	MAE	BORDER COLLIE
SARAH & SCOTT	CHARLI	SPOODLE
CAROL	ANNIE	LABRADOODLE
TEGAN & MICHAEL	WINNIE	ENGLISH STAFFY
LEIGH	DIESEL	CAVOODLE
ANGELA & JOHN PAUL	ODIN	AMERICAN BULLDOG
STEVE & MEL	KIMARA	ROTTWEILER CROSS
ANTHEA	SAGE	LABRADOODLE
KATY	FREYA	AMERICAN STAFFY
JOANNE	MOCHA	BORDERDOODLE
CHRIS	ZAYA	POODLE X SCHNAUZER
FRANCIENE	PENGU	SHORT HAIR BORDER COLLIE X LAB
LACHLAN	NALA	LABRADOR
FIONA & CLARA	BANJO	CAVOODLE
HELEN & LOFTY	BAXTER	PAPILLON
SARAH	LOLA	SPOODLE
JOHN & JULIA	MO(MOZART)	MININ SCHNAUZER
BRANDON & NICOLE	JASPER	CAVOODLE
NATHAN & SARAH	WES	BLUE HEELER
NIKKI & LIAM	SCOUT	GREAT DANE
MICHELLE & RODNEY	KALI	LABRADOODLE
MICHAEL & ASHIFA	HAPPY	GOLDEN RETRIEVER
LISA	CLOONEY	SHETLAND
	SCOUT	SHETLAND
VERA	HAMISH	CAVOODLE
ALLY-CHEY & MITCHELL	CLEMENTINE	GERMAN SHEPHERD
ROBERT	LARRY	GREYHOUND
ROSIE	TOBY	SPOODLE
ANTONELLA	OTIS	CAVOODLE
NIGEL & KAY	FREYA	GREAT DANE X BULL ARAB
JESS	ALANNAH	GSD
	AMARA	AUSSIE SHEPHERD
SHARON	MIKEY	BORDER COLLIE
ADAM & KAREN	FRANKIE	AMERICAN STAFFY
ANME	BONNIE	SPOODLE
PENNY	GENIE & TESS	LABRADOODLES
ROBIN	ROSIE	CAVOODLE
MICHAEL & SHEREE	UB	STAFFY
ROBYN	GUS	LABRADOR
LAURA & LUKE	JESS	BORDER COLLIE
HEATHER	YUKI	MINITURE LABRADOODLE

FIRST NAME	DOGS NAME	BREED
REBECCA	DIAZ	GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG
BEDE	LANEY	HUSKY X
MELISSA	SCOUT	BORDERCOLLIE
	JUNO	HUSKY X GERMAN SHEPHERD
BRIAN	MURPHY	OLD ENGLISH SHEEPDOG



2022/2023

Executive Committee			
President	Linda Thomas		
Vice President	Mark Johnston		
Chief Instructor	Tony Gardiner		
Treasurer	Carol Zietsch		
Secretary	Danielle Zietsch		
2022/2023 Committee Members			
Kyle Charnock	Kim P	Mark Johnston	Floyde Gilbert
Loreena Tate	Phil Rath	Julie Blanchard	
Dave Cooper	Lorraine Lipman	George Bartolo OAM	
Life Members			
Ron Wilson	Kay Jefferys	Tony Gardiner	Carol Zietsch
June Franks	Phil Rath	George Bartolo OAM	
Kyle Charnock	Peter Franks	Bev Charnock (dec)	
Instructors			
Mark Johnston	Linda Thomas	Dave Cooper	Heather Kennedy
Phil Rath	Lorraine Lipman	George Bartolo OAM	Dianne Wastell
John Hallett	Pam Townsend	Julie Blanchard	Loreena Tate
Geoff Taylor	Acacia Dawson	Floyde Gilbert	Karen Wyers
Ellie Pice	Roz Manning	Lorraine Graham	Abby Cameron
Gary Lumley	Tracey Williams		

Meetings are held Bi-Monthly and are open to club members to attend. We would love to see you.

Meeting
7th February 2023
 7pm – 8.30pm

IDTC Club House
 JJ Kelly Park
 Swan Street
 Wollongong



**Illawarra Dog Training Club would like to thank our
sponsors**



Visit us at www.idtc.org.au

Call Us on 0419 485 476

Postal Address: PO Box 1712 Wollongong DC NSW 2500

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