



# DOG CHAT

Brought to you by  
Illawarra Dog Training Club



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**June / July 2020**

**Moving forward  
together  
with our Best  
Friends**



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## Lessons From COVID-19 Poem

The world had turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house, and their kids are yelling at them to stay home.

This virus has done what no woman has been able to do.... Cancelled all sports, shut down all bars, and kept men at home!

Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands?

Day 11 at home the dog is looking at me like “See? This is why I chew the furniture!”

2019: Stay away from negative people

2020: Stay away from positive people

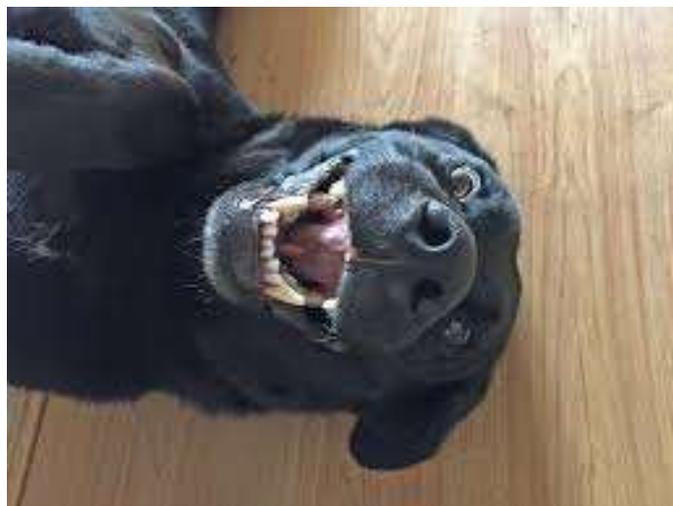
I never thought the comment “I wouldn’t touch him/her with a six-foot pole” would become a national policy

I swear my fridge just said, “what the hell do you want now?”

When this is over.... What meeting should I attend first? Weight watchers or AA?

Quarantine has turned us into dogs.

We roam the house all day looking for food. We are told “no” if we get too close to strangers. And we get really excited about car rides!



# Chief Instructors Report Year Ending July 2020

It is a pleasure to report on a successful but highly interrupted year. A big thank you to all Instructors and Volunteers who give up their valuable time to support the club. Saturday afternoon training is only successful as a result of a great team effort. This starts with the administration effort that happens because Carol, Danni, Fiona and Heather do the paper work involving new and renewed memberships, organising inspection tickets, puppy paper work, telephone liaison and stock and run the canteen, along with Janice who ably assists in the canteen.

I would also like to acknowledge all the instructors who have worked with their allocated classes each week. These people are the backbone of the club as our main purpose is to educate members with simple methods to teach their dogs a few valuable actions.

Thank you to each and every instructor.

I would normally post about our statistics however due to being shut down for over 3 months by COVID19 restrictions, the numbers are not representative however In the last year (31 Saturdays) we have had 1761 handler dog teams on the grounds averaging 56 teams each week, this includes 224 puppy training sessions averaging 7 puppies in a class

Finally, congratulations to our club triallers who represent the club in obedience competitions.

The highlights for this year are listed here



Shoalhaven 3/8/19 PM

Fiona and Storm RN Title

State Titles 7/10/19

Fiona and Storm RA TITLE

20/10/19 Southern  
Highlands

Linda and Jet CCD Title

*Mark Johnston.*

# Spring Dangers for Your Dog

written by Sarah September 10, 2019 mad paws

As we head into the warmer months, now is the time to talk about spring dangers for dogs. Because as we look forward to all the wonderful things that come along with spring, we want to make sure our doggos are just as happy. Here are a few of the things that you and you can look out for to keep your doggo safe and healthy this spring.



## Spring Dangers for Dogs #1: Allergies

Similar to humans, dogs can become bothered by all of the pollen floating around in the air during spring. There's also the extra exposure to grass that could cause allergies to flare up this season.

You'll know if your dog is suffering from allergies if they have some of the following symptoms:

Sneezing

Runny nose and eyes – more than usual

Excessive scratching, chewing or licking, either in one area or all over

Snoring – more than usual

Vomiting

Help your pup avoid spring allergies by bathing them regularly and keeping your house as clean as possible. Your pup's vet might also recommend medication to help them get through this pollen-filled season.

One thing to keep in mind is that you probably shouldn't share your antihistamines with your pup. Antihistamines are not harmful to your pet, but they're just not as effective as you might think. Talk to your vet to get a better recommendation for allergy-fighting medication.

## **Spring Dangers for Dogs #2: Fleas and ticks**

As temperatures rise, fleas and ticks become more active and eager to hitch a ride on your doggo. And their timing is pretty perfect, considering how many of us are excited to get out into nature with our furry friends.

Protect your pooch from these pesky parasites with flea and tick medication before you head outside.

## **Spring Dangers for Dogs #3: Toxic plants**

Imagine spring from the perspective of your beloved furbaby. There are so many flowers to smell, grass to chew, and bushes to jump into! But, your pup may not be aware that some of those plants are toxic.

In particular, you should keep your curious pooch away from spring-flowering plants like daffodils, tulips, and azaleas, which are some of the most common spring dangers for dogs.

## **Spring Danger for Dogs #4: Unsupervised doggos**

There are actually two spring dangers for dogs included in this one. On the one hand, we may leave the house more often during spring because there are so many fun things happening – concerts, festivals, and other not-so-dog-friendly events. That means our fur babies have more time at home to get into things that are dangerous – perhaps like those toxic plants we just mentioned.

Of course, we don't want to tell you never to leave your house this spring! In fact, this is a great opportunity to bring in a dedicated Pet Sitter to make sure your pup is looked after while you're off being a weekend warrior.

And the other risk is that when we do take our dogs out, we forget to keep a watchful eye on them. If you're in an area where leashes are optional, just make sure to keep your pup in your radar to prevent them from getting into unsafe business.

## **Spring Dangers for Dogs #5: Dogs in Cars**

During the cooler months, it might not have been much of an issue to leave your furry friend in the car while you ran into the coffee shop. And even during spring, we might not think much of leaving our pup in the car for a few minutes.

The danger here is that we often think of heat stroke only during the height of summer when the temperatures really get up there. But heat stroke can happen during spring, too, especially in those parts of Australia with unpredictable weather patterns.

If you're going to run errands with your doggo this spring, you might opt for pet-friendly businesses so that your pup can come in with you. They'll be so much happier than sitting in the car. Or, if dog-friendly establishments aren't common in your area, it's probably best to leave your dog in your temperature-regulated home. They'll give you sad puppy eyes, but it's best for them to avoid a hot car.

## **You and your pup are ready to head into spring!**

We love this time of year. It's absolutely ideal for those perfect doggie Insta posts. You can have the best season ever by making sure your doggo is safe and happy this spring!

## **Doggie Treat of the month**

### **Mint & Parsley Fresh Breath Cookies**



#### **Ingredients**

- 2 1/2 Cups of Rolled Oats
- 1/2 Cup Fresh Chopped Parsley
- 1/2 Cup Fresh Chopped Mint
- 1 Large Egg
- 1/3 Cup of Water
- 3 Tablespoons coconut oil (unrefined extra-virgin is best)

#### **Directions**

- 1 Preheat oven to 160°C
- 2 Add oats to a blender and pulse to a flour like consistency.
- 3 In a large bowl whisk together parsley, mint, egg, water, and oil.
- 4 Add oat flour and stir to combine.
- 5 Knead dough a few times then turn out onto a lightly floured surface.
- 6 Roll out and cut into disc shapes with a cookie cutter.
- 7 Place on a lined baking tray and bake at 160° for 35-40 minutes, or until crisp and golden.
- 8 Store in an air-tight container.

## Rawhide Tasty Treat or Poison?

### So, what is rawhide??

We've all seen it for sale in pet stores or online as a safe and tasty treat for your canine companion but do you know what it is and the process that the raw material e.g. hides the skin of an animal, has to go through to become that tough white bone-shaped treat?

You most likely don't because if you did you certainly wouldn't give your pet this horrible stick of toxins!! To understand what rawhide really is and the hidden dangers that this well-marketed by-product from the leather industry can have on your pet, we need to start at the very beginning of the manufacturing process and move through each and every step.

### How is Rawhide Manufactured?

There are various steps for turning rawhide into a processed treat for our canine companions and below you'll find the scary list of steps that are taken to make this extremely unsafe treat!!!

- **Step 1, Acquire Rawhide from the Slaughterhouse.**



Rawhide is made using the hides from various animals but mainly from cattle.

***“The skins of brutally slaughtered dogs in Thailand are mixed with other bits of skin to produce rawhide chew toys for pet dogs. Manufacturers told investigators that these chew toys are regularly exported to and sold in U.S. stores.” -dogingtonpost.com***

I wish I could say the information within this post gets better as we go on, but the truth is rawhide is a by-product of the leather industry and companies solely care about making a treat that can be clearly marketed and sold to pet owners to make profit, rather than a product that is safe and fit for consumption by our beloved pets.

## Step 2, Add Preservation Chemicals for Transportation to the Tannery.

Now that the manufacturers have acquired their rawhide it is time to transport it to the tannery so it can go through the remaining steps and be turned into the final product that we all know.

But they need to make sure that the rawhide doesn't spoil and go rancid during

transportation, so to be extra sure that this doesn't happen it's best to add a mixture of preservation chemicals.



## Step 3, Once at the Tannery soak Hides in Chemicals.



Now the rawhide has arrived at the tannery, it's time to start turning it into that familiar hard chew.

The first thing to do is to treat and soak the hide in a myriad of chemicals to help remove any remaining hair or fat from the skin. The hides are treated with a mixture of Ash-Lye Solution or a toxic mixture of Sodium Sulphate Lyming and

once soaked they are then rinsed to remove any excess chemicals.

The reason the hides are soaked in chemicals is to ensure all hair and fat is removed before moving on to the next step which is splitting the hides into two parts.

Another thing on the toxic to do list is to treat the hides with various chemicals to help them puff up, which in turn makes the splitting process a lot easier. Also, if necessary the hides will then go through a de-meating process which will remove any remaining flesh, fat or loose skin from the hides that the chemical bath didn't quite get.

## Step 4, Split the Hides into Two Parts.

Now it's time to move on and split the hides into two parts, as I mentioned above rawhide is a by-product of the leather industry so once the hide has been split into two parts, the outer portion which is higher grade goes to the leather industry to be turned into

Clothing Items such as

- Bags
- Shoes, or
- Coats
- Car Interiors



The inner layer, however, which is used to make rawhide can also be used to make a mixture of other products such as

- Glue.
- Gelatine
- Cosmetics.

As you can see we use hides to manufacture a large range of goods for human use, but if rawhide chews were sold for human consumption it wouldn't be the case for very long!!

Unfortunately, the rules and regulations regarding rawhide and the manufacture and sale of such a product to our canine counterparts don't come with many regulations to help produce a safe and healthy product for our pets.

Why would they though, if they did it would seriously have an impact on the profit companies get from the sale of rawhide but hopefully one day the industry will be forced to move away from producing a highly toxic treat and make all-natural rawhide chews instead!!

## Step 5, Wash and Whiten the Inner layer of the Hide with more Chemicals.

Now that the hides have been split and the top portion can go to the leather industry, it's time to start turning the inner portion into rawhide chews. First, the hides need to be properly cleaned and whitened which is made possible by adding even more chemicals to the mix.

The chemicals that are normally used to clean and whiten the hides are

- Hydrogen Peroxide.
- Bleach.
- And Formaldehyde.

As you can see just the usual chemicals that should be inside your pets treats, not!! By doing this it will help to remove any nasty smells or discolouring that may be there due to rotten hides.

## **Step 6, Shape the Hides.**

Once the hides have been bathed in a myriad of chemicals, rinsed, put through a de-meating process to remove any remaining hair and fat, then finally split in two, it's time to move onto the second last step which is shaping the hides.

If you've been in a large pet retail store or ever bought rawhide for your pet then you will be aware of how many different shapes and sizes these treats come in, you can get small shaped bones, large rings or extra-large shaped treats. It safe to say that your options are limitless and there is a rawhide treat perfectly sized for any small, medium, large or extra-large dog.

So once the hides have been shaped to look pretty and attractive with the hopes that pet parents will pick them up and treat their canine friend with a tough chew stick that comes with a mixture of health risks, we can move onto the final stage.

## **Step 7, Add Artificial Flavourings, Colourings or Dental Chemicals.**

Now that most of the steps bar the last have been completed it is time to add the finishing touches which are plenty of artificial flavourings, colourings and if you're purchasing a more expensive rawhide for your pet then maybe some dental chemicals to help keep their pearly whites lovely and clean.

If raw hides are off colour at all then manufacturing companies can baste the hides in a mixture of

colourings or smoke them to give them an appetising smell and add a little bit extra colour. Thinking about it they really have to do something to make that white tasteless stick look palatable, otherwise, you wouldn't buy it!!

Once the finishing touches have been added, it's time to package the final product and ship it out to countless pet stores all around the world for our lucky canine friends!!



## **My Conclusion on Rawhide!! Stay the hell away from it!!!**

If you do feed rawhide and weren't aware of the many dangers that come with this hazardous chew, then you know now and can cut it out of your canine friend's diet altogether. When feeding rawhide chews there is a large chance that your pet could choke due to the consistency of the chew and unfortunately, many pets around the world have died from consuming rawhide.

## Breed of the month

# Whippet



GROUP 4 - HOUNDS

### History

The Whippet is a fairly modern breed, not much more than a couple of hundred years old. He was developed in Northern England, specifically Lancashire and Yorkshire, probably during the late 1700s, by crossing Greyhounds with fast, long-legged terriers. The result was a small, swift dog frequently used by poachers to hunt rabbits and other small game on local estates.

The Whippet became popular with working men in Northern England, who spent their off hours seeing whose Whippets could kill the most rabbits or rats or whose was the fastest. Whippet races usually took place on a straight track that spread down roads and across fields. The Whippets would chase a rag or piece of cloth, and the contests became known as rag races.

### Personality

Amiable, friendly, quiet, and gentle at home, the Whippet is intense in the chase. He requires a leash or a fenced yard to prevent him from taking off after any moving object, be it a bunny or a radio-controlled car. He doesn't bark much, but he's alert and makes an excellent watchdog. Guard dog? Not so much. He'll happily show the burglar to the silver.

In the home, they're gentle and undemanding, asking only to enjoy your company. With children they're playful and mischievous. Their thin coats and affectionate nature make them unsuited to living outdoors. Whippets will snuggle with you on the sofa and warm your feet in bed at the end of an active day

## Health

The Whippet is a generally healthy breed, it's often recommended that dogs not be bred until they are two or three years old.

The following conditions may affect Whippets:

- Anaesthesia Sensitivity:
- Deafness:
- Eye Diseases:
- von Willebrand's Disease:



## Care

Most important to a Whippet's comfort is a nice, soft bed to cushion his body as well as access to your sofa and bed so he can cuddle with you. For cold-weather walks, he'll need a sweater or coat to help him stay warm. He can't tolerate being outdoors in the cold for long periods.

Give your Whippet a couple of 20- to 30-minute walks on leash daily. As often as possible, he'll love the chance to run off leash in a fenced yard or park, but don't be surprised if his burst of energy lasts only a few minutes.

With patience and consistency, you will find yourself the owner of a well-trained Whippet. After basic obedience you may want to pursue training in dog sports such as flyball, agility and lure coursing.

## Coat Colour and Grooming

The Whippet's short, smooth coat lies close to the body. It can be any colour or colour combination. You'll see him in black, white, red, fawn, blue, cream, brindle, and various combinations of those colours with a wide variety of spots, blazes, and patches.

## Children and Other Pets

Whippets enjoy playing with kids. They're not so large that they knock them over easily, and they're not so small or delicate that they're easily injured by them. That said, a few ground rules will keep everyone safe.

Whippets like the company of other dogs, and the presence of another dog or two can help keep them from being lonely if you're gone during the day. They have a high prey drive, however, and aren't really suited to living in homes with cats



## Breed Characteristics in A Snapshot

<p><b>Adaptability</b> <b>3/5</b></p> <p>Adapts Well to Apartment Living 5/5            Good for Novice Owners 3/5            Sensitivity Level 5/5            Tolerates Being Alone 2/5            Tolerates Cold Weather 1/5            Tolerates Hot Weather 4/5</p>	<p><b>All Around Friendliness</b> <b>5/5</b></p> <p>Affectionate with Family 5/5            Kid-Friendly 5/5            Dog Friendly 4/5            Friendly Toward Strangers 4/5</p>
<p><b>Health and Grooming Needs</b> <b>3/5</b></p> <p>Amount of Shedding 2/5            Drooling Potential 1/5            Easy to Groom 5/5            General Health 4/5            Potential for Weight Gain 1/5            Size 3/5</p>	<p><b>Trainability</b> <b>4/5</b></p> <p>Easy to Train 4/5            Intelligence 4/5            Potential for Mouthiness 4/5            Prey Drive 5/5            Tendency to Bark or Howl 1/5            Wanderlust Potential 4/5</p>
<p><b>Physical Needs</b> <b>4/5</b></p> <p>Energy Level 5/5            Intensity 2/5            Exercise Needs 5/5            Potential for Playfulness 5/5</p>	<p><b>Dog Breed Group:</b>            Hound Dogs  <b>Height:</b>            18 to 22 inches tall at the shoulder  <b>Weight:</b>            18 to 48 pounds  <b>Life Span:</b>            12 to 15 years</p>



# Pet Information & Wellness Review

It's that time of the year when we gather all our paperwork together, tax time, review all our insurances etc. but when was the last time we did that with our dogs.

Don't worry we have put together a template for you to use and review, keep it in a safe spot and its great to keep track of Fido's health.

You can add more things like favourite toys, games, dislikes, blood test results, etc.

We recommend taking a number of photos from all sides of the dog, also video your dog walking, running and getting up as this can be a great resource when monitoring health of your pet plus who can argue with more footage and memories of our pets. Remember to back it up on a computer or hard copy or better yet both.

Save the vets number in your phone or wallet so you have it in case of an emergency.



Below is a card you can fill out and put in your car or wallet

**I HAVE PETS HOME ALONE!**

**In an emergency please contact the people below to care them. Please help my pet!**

My name: \_\_\_\_\_

I have \_\_\_ dog(s), I have \_\_\_ cat(s), I have \_\_\_\_\_

Pet's name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*Please contact person(s) below, who can care for my animals until I return.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph: \_\_\_\_\_



# PET INFO & WELLNESS REVIEW

DOG DETAILS			
NAME		DESEXED	
BREED		BIRTHDATE	
SEX		COLOUR	
AGE		WEIGHT	
		MICROCHIP #	

OWNER DETAILS			
NAME		PHONE	
ADDRESS			

VET INFORMATION			
CLINIC NAME			
VET PHONE #			
PREFERRED VET			
ADDRESS			
PET INSURANCE		POLICY #	

MEDICATIONS		
NAME	DOSE	FRQUENCY
<b>Medical Conditions</b>		

VACCINATIONS		
NAME	LAST RECEIVED	DUE

**TREATMENTS**

NAME	LAST RECEIVED	DUE

**GROOMING DETAILS**

PHONE / ADDRESS		
NAME	LAST RECEIVED	DUE

**DENTALS**

LAST RECEIVED	OUTCOME	DUE

**FLEA & HEARTWORM**

Day of the month					
<input type="radio"/>					
JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPT	OCT	NOV
<input type="radio"/>					
DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY

**FEEDING SCHEDULE**

FOOD		FOOD	
AMOUNT		AMOUNT	
FREQUENCY		FREQUENCY	

**LABS & SURGERY**

VET	DATE & OUTCOME

**GENERAL OBSERVATION & NOTES**

## Challenge for the Juniors



# Dog Breed Word Search

AIREDALE  
AKITA  
BASSET HOUND  
BEAGLE  
BOXER  
BULLDOG  
CHIHUAHUA  
CHOW CHOW  
COLLIE  
DACHSHUND  
DALMATIAN  
GERMAN SHEPHERD  
GREAT DANE  
LHASA APSO  
MALAMUTE  
MALTESE  
MASTIFF  
PEKINGESE  
POMERANIAN  
POODLE  
PUG

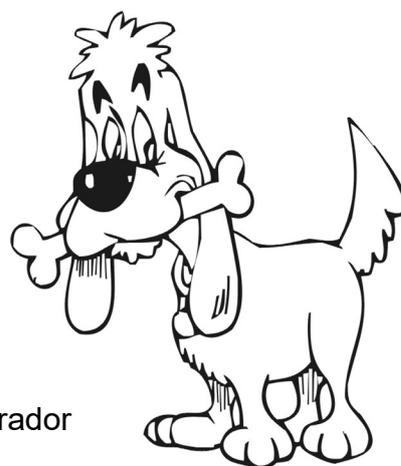
S	P	W	K	C	D	H	W	R	E	X	S	H	A	R	P	E	I
D	D	E	U	G	Z	T	E	C	G	I	Q	J	L	V	A	D	L
A	R	S	O	Z	Q	E	N	S	H	I	H	T	Z	U	E	M	B
C	O	E	Y	S	V	S	K	X	G	O	K	O	H	Y	A	U	E
H	T	T	H	N	P	S	E	D	U	C	W	A	O	S	L	T	T
S	T	L	H	P	S	A	N	S	D	V	U	M	T	L	U	D	P
H	W	A	C	K	E	B	A	D	B	H	A	I	D	M	O	O	A
U	E	M	T	D	S	H	P	S	I	S	F	O	A	H	M	E	R
N	I	J	O	I	R	D	S	H	A	F	G	L	D	E	R	E	E
D	L	V	Q	R	K	Y	C	N	K	H	A	T	R	Z	X	B	I
C	E	O	N	O	N	A	I	T	A	M	L	A	D	O	I	E	L
D	R	V	E	L	X	G	Q	Q	B	M	N	G	B	N	X	A	L
S	C	H	I	P	P	E	R	K	E	I	R	N	U	E	O	G	O
X	E	L	A	D	E	R	I	A	A	N	K	E	B	A	Y	L	C
D	R	A	N	R	E	B	T	N	I	A	S	P	G	N	N	E	U

ROTTWEILER  
SAINT BERNARD  
SAMOYED  
SCHIPPERKE  
SHAR-PEI  
SHIH-TZU  
WEIMARANER



## Welcome to our New Members

Lee & Stephen with Kaia the German Shepard  
Mirjana & Troy with Ella the Rottweiler  
Karleen with Taylor the Vizla  
Lisa & Amelia with Primrose the Toy Poodle  
Carolina & Martin with Lexi the American Staffy  
Lorraine with Lenny the Koolie/cross  
Jordan with Thea the American Staffy  
Ellie with Norma the Groodle  
Penelope with Sasha the Japanese Spitz  
Susana & Charlotte with Dante the Dachshund  
Lesley-Ann & Carl with Bingo the Cattle Dog  
Nora with Opal the Golden Retriever  
Wendy & Robert with Taffy the Staffy Cross  
Betty with Gemma the Vizla  
Jacqui with Ollie the Kelpie  
Treena & Phillip with Turbo the American x English Staffordshire  
Maria & Joe with Philly the Bichoodle  
Chloe & James with Lockie the Labrador  
Sky & Trevor with Luna the English Staffy  
Gabrielle & Maddline with Dennis the Border Collie  
Leisl with Cha Cha the Dobermann  
Pam & Belle with Chilli the Minature Schnauzer  
Melanie with Nala the Samoyed  
Karen & Garry with Buddy the Maltese x Cavalier  
Karen with Rosso the Terrier Cross  
Julie & Dragan with Thor the Brittish Bulldog  
Vicky with Dennis Denito the Labrador  
Stephen & Barbara with Bluey the Australian Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog  
Olivia with Koda the King Charles Cavalier  
Suzanne with Coco the French Bulldog  
Craig with Indie the Labrador  
Fady with Charlie the Cavoodle  
Paula with Lulu the Cavoodle  
Nicole & Cameron with Archie the Mini Daschund  
Vlad with Chaelie the Maltese x Shihtzu  
Mary with Kiki the Bichene Frise  
Trevor, Wendy & Luke with Milo the Staffy x Labrador  
Christine with Lilly the German Shepard  
Michelle, Tim & Ella with Lucy the Cavoodle  
Eloise with Alfie the German Shorthaired Pointer  
Kay with Levi the Beagle x Cavoodle Spaniel  
Toni, Ryan, John & Jennifer with Hazel the Chocolate Labrador  
Carolina with Layla Rafin the German Shorthaired Pointer



## 2019/2020

<b>Executive Committee</b>			
<b>President</b>	Linda Thomas		
<b>Vice President</b>	Tony Gardiner		
<b>Chief Instructor</b>	Mark Johnston		
<b>Treasurer</b>	Carol Zietsch		
<b>Secretary</b>	Danielle Zietsch		
<b>2019/2020 Committee Members</b>			
Kyle Charnock	Kim P		
Loreena Tate	Phil Rath		
Fiona Moulton	Lorraine Lipman	George Bartolo OAM	
<b>Life Members</b>			
Ron Wilson	Kay Jefferys	Tony Gardiner	Carol Zietsch
June Franks	Phil Rath	George Bartolo OAM	
Kyle Charnock	Peter Franks	Bev Charnock (dec)	
<b>Instructors</b>			
Mark Johnston	Linda Thomas	Fiona Moulton	David Chester
Phil Rath	Lorraine Lipman	George Bartolo OAM	Kat McGuiggan
Larissa Woods	Pam Townsend	Dave Cooper	
Heather Kennedy	Geoff Taylor	John Hallett	

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

Next Bi-Monthly Meeting is  
6<sup>th</sup> October 2020  
7pm – 8.30pm

IDTC Club House  
JJ Kelly Park  
Swan Street  
Wollongong



## Ground Rules

- Dogs to be kept on leads at all times, unless in training class and under direct supervision of an instructor.
- 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 in progress.
- Classes using club equipment will be responsible for returning this equipment to correct storage place under the supervision of the class instructor.
- Parking on the 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 volunteer's cars for both children and dog's safety.
- Children are not permitted in class with parents.
- Fully enclosed shoes must be worn at all times.

## 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 is able to sit next to your left leg on command.
3. Your dog is able to stand next to your left leg on command.
4. You are able to call your dog back to you on lead and continue walking.
5. You are able to complete left and right turns successfully.
6. You are able to 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 two (2) hands most of the time and using the lead to position the dog. At this stage it is much more important that the handlers 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 exercises;

1. Your dog is comfortably walking next to your left leg
2. Your dog is able to sit next to your left leg on command.
3. Your dog is able to stand next to your left leg on command.
4. You are able to complete left and right turns successfully.
5. You are able to complete left and right about turns successfully.
6. You are able to 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 is comfortably walking next to your left leg using a loose leash.
2. Your dog is able to drop next to your left leg on command.
3. You are able to complete left and right turns successfully.
4. You are able to complete left and right about turns successfully.
5. You are able to call your dog back to you on lead and have them sit directly in front of you.
6. Your dog is able to 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 using the lead but with a loose leash majority of the time.



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