

DOG TRACKS

2020



**Welcome Back
It's Training Time**

Something Different for 2020

Where there are 5 Sundays or Thursdays in a month we are going to do something a little different with our obedience classes.

Rather than doing our regular classes we will be offering a range of fun activities to help you train your dog to be more attentive and responsive to you and to help you build an even stronger relationship with your dog.



Our Agility colleagues will be offering an introductory class, showing the basics. Dogs cannot attend full agility classes until they are over 12 months, however this will be an opportunity to find out what it's all about and participate in some of the low physical impact parts of the sport. We may even be able to arrange for our Flyball and Frisbee colleagues to attend one of our days.



We will be also offering "tricks" classes and also fun classes to help you with recalls (ie getting you dog to come back to you), heeling, focusing and settling exercises and much more. These class will be adapted to the skill level of both you and your dog. Obviously the advanced classes will be more difficult than those at the beginner level.

The emphasis of these days will be to show both you and your dog that training can be fun and rewarding for both.

We will let you know in advance when these days are happening, with a run down of planned activities for the class sessions.





Home Alone!

Back to School Blues

Summer holidays are over, the kids are back at school, life is back to normal. Please think about how your dog might be feeling, suddenly all the excitement of Christmas is over, no one to play with, the visitors have all gone and everyone has suddenly disappeared during the day. This can be really hard for your dog, home alone after all those weeks of a full house.

Think about things to occupy your dog whilst you are out.

The Kong Toy

These are fun and perfect to leave when you go out. The Kong toy is hollow and can be stuffed with such things as kibble, cheese and peanut butter. Your dog will play and lick the end of the toy to get the food out.



The "Go Find Treats" Game

Without your dog seeing you hide tiny treats around the house or garden. You will have to show your dog how to play the game by saying "Go Find Treats" then leading them to each treat. They will very quickly understand the game and remember different hiding place and run around checking each spot where they have ever found a treat when they hear you call out "Go Find Treats".



Ice Cube Treats

Freeze fruit, treats or any of your dog's favourites in ice cubes and give a couple to your dog before you leave. Great fun especially on a hot day

Stay Safe This Summer

Heat Stress is a Medical Emergency!

Dogs in Australia are regularly exposed to conditions that place them at risk from heat stress. Heat stress usually occurs on very hot days or when a dog is confined to an area with restricted ventilation such as a car, a crate or an unshaded concrete area. Heat can build up quickly and dramatically. It can also occur after prolonged periods of exercise or over excitement. Certain dogs such as puppies, elderly dogs, cold climate breeds and short nosed breed such as Bulldogs and Boxers are more at risk.

Symptoms of Heat Stress

Rapid and forced panting.	Rapid pulse.
Vomiting.	Convulsions.
Glazed eyes.	Sluggishness.
Gums a bluish colour.	Unwillingness to move.
Deep red or purple tongue.	Collapse and unconsciousness.



Treatment

Cool dog by spraying with cool water, **not iced water**.

Place ice packs on the neck to allow blood flowing to the brain to cool, this reduces the chance of brain damage.

Place ice on the bridge of the nose, the sides of the neck and over the large superficial veins of the armpits and groin.

After the initial cooling take the dog immediately to the vet, an intravenous drip may be necessary to lower the dog's core temperature and save their life.

If the dog appears to recover quickly, leave them sitting or laying on a wet towel and give a small drink of water. Do not cover with a wet towel as this will stop the body heat dissipating. Continue to monitor the dog even after the panting has stopped.

Prevention – Is Far Better Than Cure

Always ensure that your dog has adequate ventilation and plenty of shade.

Always leave more than one water source.

Use water containers that cannot be tipped over.

Freeze a water filled container that can melt during the day.

Leave a wet towel for your dog to lie on.

Keep dog inside on really hot days.

Never leave your dog in a car as temperatures can accelerate dramatically in just a few minutes.

Clipping the coat shorter helps keep them cool but never shave short as the coat insulates against heat and protects from sunburn.





Stuff for HOT Days

Cool Mats



These are great at trials and on days out. The mat is filled with a special gel which absorbs the dog's body heat.

Cooling Coats

There are a number of different types of cool coats on the market some work using evaporation by wetting the coat and some by reflecting the heat away from the body. You can also buy cooling collars. Shop around for coats as you need to get one that fits your dog.



Play Pool



The easiest way is to buy a kiddie pool. Easy to use and can be stored away when not in use. Your dog will love you for this on a hot day.

Inflatable ones not such a good idea unless you have a puncture kit as dogs just love to "dig".



What is Titre (pronounced TIGHT er) Testing

Before we explain what Titre Testing is and how it can replace your current vaccination certificate, we should first recap what vaccinating your furry friend is all about and why it should be done.

Vaccinations protect your canine companion against common canine infectious diseases. Those infectious diseases include canine distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus and canine cough. When puppies are born, their mother passes on immunity from these diseases through anti-bodies in her milk. Once the puppies have been weaned from mum, it's up to you as their new mum or dad, to provide ongoing protection against these diseases. Your vet will help guide you through the vaccination process for the life of your fur baby.



Vaccines work by introducing small quantities of altered or "killed" viruses and bacteria into your puppy. Once these are given, they stimulate your puppies immune system to produce disease fighting cells and proteins, known as anti-bodies, to protect against the diseases.

Vaccinations should commence about 6 weeks of age, when it is believed the anti-bodies from their mother is diminishing. They should receive 2 or 3 injections about 4 weeks apart and after this annually or as identified by your vet. (Some vaccines only need repeating every 3 to 5 years).

Like any drug treatment, vaccinations cannot be 100% guaranteed, but is considered your puppies best defense against these infectious diseases.

So what is titre testing and how does it help protect my fur baby?

A titre test is a laboratory test that measures the existence and level of antibodies, or immunity against diseases, in your dog's blood. You will need to test for parvovirus and distemper and consider testing for hepatitis (also known as adenovirus or herpesvirus). The results of the test (levels of anti-bodies) will determine if your dog requires additional vaccinations or if there are sufficient anti-bodies to protect your dog without the need for further shots, preventing over vaccinating. Titre testing is also useful to determine if a new, older puppy or rescue dog, requires vaccinating when their vaccination history is unknown. Yes, titre testing is that simple.

Titre testing can be completed yearly, however some vets recommend it be conducted 3 or 5 yearly.

This information was sourced from the Mona Vale Vet website. If you require more information, consult your vet.

Of note: If you do decide to titre test and opt not to vaccinate your puppy, your vet will need to issue you a titre test certificate and include when retesting is required. If there is no date included, we will assume you will need to complete a further titre test, 1 year after your test date. Our club accepts **either** a current vaccination certificate or a titre test certificate as proof of vaccination.



Be My Valentine



2½	x	Cups of Rice Flour
1	x	Egg
1	x	Cup of Pureed Beetroot
½	x	Cup of Pureed Sweet Potato
½	x	Cup of Water

Preheat oven to 180°. Cook and puree sweet potato and beetroot. You can use tinned beetroot if you prefer, organic is best. Mix egg and water together then mix in sweet potato and beetroot then gradually add in rice flour. Knead well, if too sticky add extra flour. Roll out onto lightly floured surface and cut out shapes with a cookie cutter. You can glaze with a beaten egg yolk as pictured. Place on lined tray and bake in oven for 30 minutes or until hard.

For a special treat top with Greek yogurt when cooled.



Come to Our Frisbee Classes

Frisbee is a fast growing sport in Australia and Manly Dog Club is lucky to have not one but two (Updog Certified) Canine Disc Dog judges as members, and they are currently the only Disc judges in NSW.

Jo Comber and Ange Hamilton both compete their dogs in Updog and teach Disc Dog skills at Deep Creek in the summer months on a Thursday night (training moves to St Ives Showgrounds in the winter months as there are lights)



Frisbee / Disc is a very inclusive sport and it caters for dogs of all breeds, ages and athletic abilities. Handlers don't need to have any specific athletic talents either, however if you don't have a dog that brings the frisbee back to you - guess what.... you'll be the retriever!

Most people think of dogs doing flips and launching off their handlers into the air to catch discs - while it is true that this is part of the sport - it's optional and not the majority of the sport. This aspect is called Freestyle and it is always a crowd pleaser to watch as the dogs and handlers show off their skills.

My choice for my body (with my various injuries) and my dogs (and their particular talents/preferences) is not to partake in this aspect of the sport, I focus on the games.

The games offered by the governing body (UpDog) that we are members of are so much fun. The games offer a variety of skills and each game highlights a different skill, some favour fast retrieving dogs, other games favour accurate throwing/catching, and others are a hybrid of Agility (jumps and tunnels) and incorporates throwing and catching also.

My favourite game at the moment is called 7Up. It has agility jumps and there are areas marked on the field that are "catch zones" the rules can be found at UpDogChallenge.com (for all the games). I love the mix between Agility and Disc.

A favourite with most of the Agility folk that do Disc is called Frizgility and it is a fast paced race to get as many points as possible before your time runs out.

If you are interested in coming along to class then come and check it out on a Thursday night at 5.30 at Deep Creek. We resume training this coming Thursday 30th Jan and we train year round. New comers are always welcome and the Club has Discs available for sale if you don't already own a suitable disc for your dog.

games can be modified for young and elderly dogs making them suitable for literally any dog

We look forward to see you and your pooch at training soon.

Ange Hamilton



Back to Training in 2020.

Training schedules are listed on the calendar on the Club's website.

The Christmas break is a busy time for everyone and it is often hard to keep on top of your training; don't worry, it's like riding a bike for both you and your dog, you'll be back in training mode in no time.

It is really important with your training that you are methodical and that all the family is on the same page with voice cues and hand signals.

Keep your voice up-tempo, your hand signals accurate and don't "nag" your dog, give a voice cue only once.

There are handouts for the obedience classes regarding "Hand Signals" at the desk, so please don't forget to take one home.



Please Note
Sunday Obedience
Classes 3 & 4 now at 9:00am

Back to Training Reminders

- Don't forget to bring your Club training lead
- You MUST wear your badge
- Bring yummy training treats and your treat pouch
- No breakfast before training (your dog that is, not you!)
- You must wear closed shoes, no thongs or sandals
- Keep both yourself and your dog well hydrated
- Remember sunscreen for yourself and your dog if it has pink skin
- Always check for ticks when you get home
- Please arrive 15 minutes before class



Deep Creek Reserve

Deep Creek is NOT an unleashed dog park.
Dogs can only be unleashed when conducting
dog training sessions.