

DOG TRACKS

Leap Back into Training



Classes are Back

Message from the President



I hope everyone had a safe and well-deserved break with their families over the holidays.

2021 was a challenging year, our club reopened with Covid-19 rules following NSW Health regulations and as an affiliate of Dogs NSW we were mindful of their guidelines. As we enter the next Covid-19 phase we have excellent momentum moving into 2022 albeit our committee will of course cautiously manage our training programs to keep members safe.

Our January Tricks Seminar was postponed due to the escalating Covid situation but we plan to run the event during 2022. Rest assured those who registered will be guaranteed a place in the rescheduled event as the purpose of this training is to better equip trainers to engage with their dogs and when instructing others.

On the grounds we will continue to offer a safe environment with hygiene items such as disinfectant wipes, sanitizing hand wash, gloves and masks available for the use of members at no charge. I ask members to observe a 2 square metre safe distancing.

Registration for classes this year will be as follows:

Pre-registration will continue to be required for **Agility, Flyball, Frisbee** and the **Introduction to Obedience (ITO)**. This is necessary as we need to carefully manage the numbers in these classes.

Pre-registration will not continue for **Obedience sessions on Thursday or Sunday**

All attendees at training grounds register by mobile phone scanning TWO **QR codes**

1. *The NSW Health QR* used to track potential positive Covid cases and contacts
2. *The Club QR* which will record attendees for our insurance purposes. This is in lieu of the paper sign-in book which will be retained only as a backup

* NOTE: proof of vaccination is required by our club for training attendees

These procedural updates reflect the plans we have to make easier the involvement of members in club activities. To this end we have launched a revamped club website with improved functionality. This is the place to go to check out wet weather advice impacting training and our calendar of events.

We have also changed the club website name and associated email addresses from 'northernbeachesdogtraining' to 'manlydogclub'.

This will simplify and make clearer our club identity. As examples the club website is now www.manlydogclub.com.au and the email address is info@manlydogclub.com.au

The official club name continues to be **Manly & District Kennel & Dog Training Club Inc.**

I wish all members and their families a safe and productive 2022!

Regards,

Peter Coulthart

with editorial help from his Irish Setter, Hunter



How to Teach Nose Work



Nose Work is a sport that mimics the task of working detection dogs to locate a scent (e.g., explosives or narcotics) and communicate to the handler that the scent has been found. Nose Work is a positive, challenging activity that allows dogs the opportunity to use their strongest natural sense in a way that's fun, engaging, and that builds and strengthens a foundation of trust between the handler and dog.

What You Need for Nose Work Training

Birch essential oil

Cotton buds, cut in half

Tweezers

A small glass jar with a lid

A "scent vessel" to hold the cotton swab.



(An empty, cleaned mint tin with holes drilled in the lid will work to get started)

Disposable gloves

High-value treats

A lidded, plastic container with holes drilled in the lid

Prepare the Odour and Scent Vessel

1. In a room far away from where you're working with your dog, wear disposable gloves as you apply two drops of essential oil to each cotton swab. Place the scented cotton swabs in the glass jar.
2. Take the gloves off by turning them inside out, roll them in a newspaper, and put them in a trash can outside immediately.
3. Using your tweezers, take a cotton swab out of the jar and put it in the scent vessel.
4. Place your tweezers in a plastic bag and seal.

After the training session, you can reuse the cotton swab if your dog doesn't drool, and if food or soil doesn't contaminate them.



Introduce Your Dog to Identifying the Scent

1. Hold the tin in one hand and treat in the other, about a foot apart from each other.
2. When your dog finally stops smelling or licking your hand with the treat and investigates the hand with the tin, say "Yes" and reward him by bringing the food to the hand with the tin. Note: This is an important step. You must feed the dog at the source of the odour. If the dog continues smelling the tin, you can feed at the tin.
3. After a few reps, switch the tin to the other hand so the dog doesn't rely on memory to know which hand to go to.
4. You're ready to move on if your dog can correctly identify the scent in each hand within a few seconds, three times in a row.

Teach Your Dog to Find the Scent

1. Next, put the tin holding the scented cotton swab into the plastic container.
2. Repeat the same system, holding the box in your hand and waiting for the dog to indicate that he recognizes the scent. When he does, be sure to feed the dog at the box, like you did previously.
3. Once this is easily accomplished, place the box on the ground, between your feet, and repeat the above process.
4. Finally, you can place the box on the floor while your dog is in another room, and then bring him into the room and see if he can find it.

Nose Work Training Tips

When setting up, wear gloves, and always handle the cotton swab with tweezers.

The odour should always be "novel," so don't contaminate the environment with it. Be sure to dispose of everything that came in contact with the source odour properly (in a sealed plastic bag, preferably outside in a garbage can, away from where you're training).

Choose a location to set up your odour that's far away from where you're training for example in a bathroom, with the door closed.

From an article by the AKC



Fun Facts About Your Dog's Sense of Smell

1. Dogs have a strong sense of smell

Scientists guess the dog's sense of smell is somewhere between 10,000 to 100,000 times more acute than ours.¹ One of the reasons a dog has such better smelling ability than us is the number of scent receptors. For every scent receptor a human has, a dog has about 50.

2. Not all noses are created equal

While all dog breeds have an excellent sense of smell, dogs with short noses, such as bulldogs, have less space for scent-detecting cells than dogs with a longer snout.

3. The Best Nose Award goes to the bloodhound!

This breed takes the lead with approximately 300 million scent receptors. Other sporting breeds — like the Labrador retriever and herding breeds such as the German shepherd — follow closely behind.

4. Dogs smell differently than humans

We humans breathe and smell through the same air passage in our noses. When dogs breathe, a fold of tissue separates the two functions of smelling and respiration.

5. A dog's sense of smell can detect human emotions

A dog's sense of smell has been shown to detect fear, anxiety and even sadness in humans.

6. Scent-tracking dogs have special skills

They are trained to ignore thousands of other smells on their path to keep their noses on the prize.

7. Search dogs can catch scents carried by the wind

Many search dogs use air-scent, working to catch scents carried by the wind

8. A cold, wet dog nose has its benefits

A dog's cold, wet nose helps them smell the world more effectively. A coating of mucus on a dog's damp nose helps it smell by capturing scent particles



Should Your Dog Eat Raw Chicken ?



We often feed our dogs raw chicken wings and necks but never cooked as the bones can be dangerous and splinter. That was the chicken feeding rule that most dog owners know.

A study by the University of Melbourne's Animal Hospital has found that the consumption of raw chicken meat, particularly chicken necks, increases the risk of dogs developing a paralysing condition called acute polyradiculoneuritis (APN) by more than 70 times.

APN is a rare but very debilitating condition where the dog's hind legs first become weak. It can then progress to affect the front legs, neck, head and face. Most dogs eventually recover without treatment but it may take up to six months or more, and some dogs die from the disease if their chest becomes paralysed.

APN is the canine counterpart of Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) in humans, a condition that also causes muscle weakness and may require ventilation if chest muscles are affected.

The bacteria *Campylobacter* is considered a triggering agent in many GBS patients. It may be present in undercooked chicken, unpasteurised milk products and contaminated water.

Studies done by the University on dogs with APN showed that bacteriological results were consistent with the hypothesis that the uncooked chicken meat was the source of the *Campylobacter* and as a result, triggered APN.

A significant association was also found between APN and smaller dog breeds based on the research that smaller dogs are more likely to be fed smaller bones like chicken necks,"



Don't Forget your Dog On Valentine's Day



Heart Beets!

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



Preheat your oven to 180°. Mix all ingredients together to form a dough. If your dough is sticky add more flour. Lightly flour your surface, and roll out the dough to 1cm thickness. Cut dough with a cookie cutter and place on a lined tray and bake for 40 minutes. Cool completely on a wire rack. Cookies should have a bit of a crunch to them when they are cooled. You can use them as is, or decorate them with yogurt or cream cheese icing. Your four legged friend is going to love you for making these!



Cool Hearts for Cold Noses

½	x	Cup Strawberries
½	x	Cup Blueberries
1	x	Banana
½	x	Cup of Greek Yogurt
1	x	Tablespoon of Honey

Mix all ingredients together in a blender pour into a mould and freeze.



This Could Be the Worst Summer For Ticks Ever



What do Dog Ticks Look Like?

Ticks on dogs tend to be about the size of an apple seed when they have not fed, and can vary in colour, depending on the species. After they take a blood meal from their host, ticks become 'engorged'. When this happens, they can be as big as your little fingernail. Not all ticks look the same, and ticks tend to look different throughout their lifecycle, so if you're not sure if it's a tick, it's best to consult with your vet.

The Types of Ticks on Dogs

There are three main tick species that infest dogs in Australia: paralysis ticks, brown dog ticks, and bush ticks.

Paralysis Ticks: Paralysis ticks are typically found along the east coast of Australia, from Cape York in the north, all the way down to Lakes Entrance in Victoria. They are occasionally seen outside this area (e.g. the greater Melbourne area). They are one of the most dangerous parasites that can affect your pet as they produce a toxin which causes tick paralysis in dogs and cats.

Brown dog ticks: The brown dog tick is widely distributed throughout Australia. Although these brown ticks cannot cause paralysis, they can cause skin irritation and heavy infestations may result in anaemia from excessive blood loss. Brown dog ticks can also transmit potentially fatal infections from one dog to another. Ehrlichia canis is one such bacteria that is transmitted by brown dog ticks. This potentially fatal brown dog tick disease was identified for the first time in Australia in 2020.

Bush tick: Australia is home to bush ticks which are found along parts of the east and west coast. If you find a bush tick on your dog, it is important to remove it. Bush ticks can cause skin irritation and can also transmit potentially fatal diseases when they bite (e.g. babesiosis).

How to Find Ticks on Dogs

If you are trying to find a tick on your dog, first check for signs of itching and look at the site where your dog is scratching. Another sign your dog has a tick is if it yelps or winces when patted. The tick may be causing it to feel sensitive where it has latched on.

A thorough check of your dog can also help you find ticks. Run your fingers over them, parting their fur around their neck, ears and tail. If you feel a very small bump, it could be a tick.

How do Dogs Get Ticks?

Dogs get ticks from the great outdoors. Ticks 'quest' to find a host, which includes crawling up low grass or shrubs and lying in wait. Ticks are sensitive to heat and the carbon dioxide that your dog exhales, which alerts them that there's a suitable host nearby. When your pet pooch brushes past on a walk or while playing outside, the tick uses its front legs to grab on, then crawls over the coat and through the fur to find a suitable place to attach and feed.

Ticks can be a problem all year round in Australia, but the highest risk is in spring and summer.



The Problems Ticks Cause in Dogs

As mentioned above, there are different types of ticks on dogs. Depending on the tick species, they can cause deadly tick paralysis or transmit other harmful and potentially fatal diseases to dogs. At the very least, a tick bite may cause irritation where it attaches to your dog.

The Symptoms of Ticks on Dogs

Tick bite symptoms in dogs vary depending on the type of tick involved. Brown dog tick symptoms may include irritation of the skin or anaemia, while for paralysis tick symptoms, you may notice one or more of the following signs (It usually takes three days or more after a paralysis tick attaches before signs develop):

- A loss of coordination in the hind legs (wobbly or not being able to get up) which may progress to paralysis.
- A change in voice or bark.
- You may notice your dog vomiting after a tick bite.
- Retching, coughing or loss of appetite.
- Laboured breathing or rapid breathing.
- You may notice that your dog is lethargic after a tick bite.

How to Remove a Tick From a Dog

You may be wondering how to get rid of ticks on dogs. If you find a tick on your dog it should be removed as soon as possible. Please see the instructions below for how to remove a tick from a dog.

Tweezers can be used to remove a tick from a dog that's embedded into its skin. Grab the tick adjacent to your dog's skin (at the tick mouthparts), twist the tick, then pluck the tick away from the skin. Take care not to squeeze the tick's body. If you want to remove a tick from a dog without tweezers, you can also purchase a tick removal tool, like a tick hook, from your local vet and follow the instructions on the packaging.

After removal, store the tick in a sealed container for identification by your veterinarian.

It is possible for a dog to develop signs of tick paralysis even after a tick has been removed, so it is recommended to keep a close eye on your dog for a few days. If you have any concerns about your dog's health you should seek immediate veterinary attention.

Article by Nexguard



