

DOG TRACKS



September / October 2025



President's Message

Oct 2025



Welcome to our new members who have joined our classes at Deep Creek Reserve. We are all aware that the very rainy year has switched to a much welcome dry period but with warmer weather comes the added challenges of insects particularly in bush areas like mosquitoes, flies and paralysis ticks. Please check your dogs daily to be sure that these dangerous ticks have not attached to your pet, remembering that your vet can determine if tick medication should be administered. In serious cases it is a matter of life and death if not properly treated so if your dog is showing any symptoms of paralysis or changed behaviour like not eating, coughing or any other concerns a middle of the night rush to the emergency vet may just save its life.

During September we held the club's annual general meeting and I congratulate those who have been appointed to positions. Please join with me welcoming the club committee.

President: Peter Coulthart

Vice President: Jo Comber

Secretary: Gael Sinclair

Treasurer: Jill Fausold

Committee Members:

Alex Surplice, Wendy Jones, Meisha Stevens, Clare McElroy, Kim Cormack.

Chief instructors on the grounds, obedience and agility and flyball, remain the same as the previous year. Trial managers Kim Cormack and Ren Astono continue in their positions. These secretarial management roles take a lot of time and expertise to organise.

As we come up to the clubs November agility trial I want to particularly congratulate the ongoing and enormous effort by Ren Astono organising prize sponsorship which saves the club a lot of money and makes the event interesting and well advertised in the dog community.

Vice president Jo Comber has completed the annual registration application with council for our hire of the Deep Creek Reserve field for our training. Members should be aware of our rights to conduct dog training in the open ground area but we must also be aware that the car park is public therefore we cannot expect to exclude the many vehicles that may arrive while we are training particularly the bike riders. The members of the public can of course access the reserve and the walking tracks surrounding our training field area, but we should acknowledge that our rental area does not include the picnic tables, the walking tracks and the surrounding edge of the oval because that is the only way the public can access walking tracks and the creek foreshore. We do have new signage erected on the ground by council and temporary signage that we can put in place to remind the public that we have hired the ground but please be patient and polite with members of the public as we do not wish to cause conflict and have any adverse reports to Northern Beaches Council.

By the way - happy Halloween

Peter Coulthart

With editorial help from his English setter Venice



2025 Agility Review



As we draw to the end of another very successful Agility year, there were some great performances and results, along with a very successful "Manly Agility Trial Take 2".

NSW State Titles

The NSW State Titles were held over 3 days in early September at Dogs NSW. We had another great line up of judges across the 3 days, with Clover Ward, travelling up from Tasmania, Lisa Kaddatz & Murray Sharman from Queensland, and Peter Westwood and Tienielle Thwaites from our great state, who all put a series of fast and flowing courses on the ground for us to play on.

Friday saw Snooker, Open Agility and Open Jumping being run. Wow!!! Can I say, the results were magnificent.

We shone in **Open Jumping**, with a field of 112 competitors, we had the following results:

1st Place - Molly & Buddy

2nd Place - Molly & Pickles

3rd Place - Emma & Bindi

5th Place - Rachael & Zari and to round it off Kim & Zara came in 21st place

Snooker also saw some wonderful results with the following club members gaining Qualifications:

Novice Snooker

4th - Kim & Zara

Excellent Snooker

2nd - Emma & Bindi

4th - Rachael & Phoenix

Masters Snooker

2nd - Rachael & Zari

Two sets of heats were run on Saturday for Agility & Jumping and those with qualification rounds and even some with non-qualification runs made Finals on Sunday. Below were the results for those who qualified and gained immediate entry in the finals.

Novice Agility

Heat 1

3rd - Sarah & Daisy

Excellent Agility

Heat 2

2nd - Ren & Poncho

Masters Agility

Heat 1

1st - Emma & Bindi

5th - Kim & Zara

Heat 2

1st - Amanda & Ted

2nd - Gunilla & Taffy

Heat 2

1st - Rachael & Zari



Novice Jumping

Heat 1

1st - Lauren & Tattie

Excellent Jumping

Heat 1

2nd - Rosy & Peppa

Masters Jumping

Heat 1

1st - Molly & Buddy

1st- Ashley & Blaze

2nd - Rachael & Strike

3rd - Rachael & Zari

6th - Ren & Poncho

16th - Kim & Zara

Heat 2

1st - Lauren & Tattie

Heat 2

1st - Emma & Raffle

Heat 2

1st - Emma & Bindi

7th - Rachael & Phoenix

7th - Siobhan & Vixen

9th - Kim & Zara

Before judging commenced on Saturday, awards were presented for the Dog of the Year winners. At the time of publishing we were unable to obtain a complete list of winners, however our very own Emma McGinley & Bindi need a very special mention. For those who don't know Emma & Bindi, Emma, supported by her dad, is one of our Junior Handlers and Bindi is a 400 height Cattle Dog X and this year they have excelled. Emma was awarded both the Agility Junior Handler of the year and the Jumping Junior Handler of the year. This achievement is nothing but fantastic, given these awards are gained from competitions across the year and Emma & Bindi compete in both Masters Agility and Masters Jumping. So, from all of us, **CONGRATULATIONS EMMA & BINDI** on an wonderful year.

Just to top off Emma and Bindi's State Titles, I have it on good authority they were crowned Masters Jumping State Champions, Masters Gamblers State Champions, Runner Up Excellent Snooker State Champions and having attained their last qualification for Excellent Snooker, means that they are now competing in all Masters Classes. I feel we have another Agility Champion in the making.

Finals Day saw a huge presence of Manly Club members with the following handler and dog teams reaching the finals.

Emma & Raffle (AD & JDX), Amanda & Ted (AD), Sarah & Daisy (AD), Lauren & Tattie (AD & JD), Kerry & Daphne (AD & JD), Gunilla & Taffy (AD & JDX), Ren & Poncho (ADX & JDM), Siobhan & Vixen (ADX & JDM), Emma & (ADM & JDM), Kim & Zara (ADM & JDM), Kerry & Margot (JD), Maria & Bailey (JDX), Molly & Buddy (JDM) & Ashley & Blaze (JDM).

Overall our results were brilliant with the following winners:

Emma & Raffle - 1st 200 JDX
Ren & Poncho - 4th 300 DM
Sarah & Daisy - 5th 300 AD - NQ
Emma & Bindi - 1st 400 JDM
Lauren & Tattie - 1st 400 AD, 2nd 400 - JD
Rosy & Peppa - 3rd 400 JDX - NQ
Rachael & Zari - 1st 500 ADM
Ashley & Blaze - 1st 600 JDM
Siobhan & Vixen - 2nd 500 ADX, 5th 500 JDM
Kim & Zara - 10th 500 JDM
Rachael & Zari - 13th 500 JDM - NQ
Kerry & Daphne - 15th 500 AD - NQ

Congratulations everyone!!!!

A special shout out needs to go those who came and tried hard and when home with their best friend and partner. Keep going – success will not be too far away. Lastly, I want to personally thank everyone that put their hands up to help run ring 4 on Saturday. Siobhan, Liz, Kim & Ren were the guiding force behind our crew, but everyone got in and helped out. We thank you for your support, especially seeing our trial would be held the following weekend.



Manly Trial - Take 2

The weather in Sydney has been nothing short of horrible and very little training and trialling has occurred as a result, with contingency plans put in place "just in case". Well that was the case with the Manly Trial, which was scheduled to be held at St Ives Showground on the 2nd & 3rd August.

As you are all aware, this didn't happen. Luckily, there was a vacant weekend following the State Titles and we took a deep breath and thought to ourselves "can we do it". To do it, things needed to happen and the gods needed to be on our side. Well we did it.

The showgrounds were available, the weekend was still free of other trials, the Dogs NSW Agility Committee met 'out of session' and approved our date change proposal and our Sponsors were keen to continue to help us out. Although Murray Sharman was unavailable, Wayne Bogart was and Jason McFarlane agreed to step in and help us out. On a good note, Murray has agreed to judge for us in 2026, so we have not missed his lovely courses completely. Lastly our small working group found enough momentum, time and enthusiasm to make it happen. And happen it did.

Manly Trial – Take 2 was a go!!!

The weather was perfect, not too hot and not too cold. After a little rain during the week, the sun came out and the grounds were solid. Ok there may have been a little mud at the side of the roadway around the grounds, and we couldn't drive onto the grass, so manual labour was required, but with the help of our many club members the day was a success.

Firstly we need to thank the Sponsors who provided prizes and gifts. Without them this trial would not have been as good as it was. Those sponsors are:

K9 Natural, Kong, Knose Pet Insurance, Vetz Petz and Antinol.

There were also stall holders who quite happily helped us open our wallets and spend lots of money to support them (well I spent lots of money anyway). Continued support of those vendors is appreciated. They are K9 Natural, Knose, Simparica, Snuffle n Sniff, Zuna's Puppiporium & Northside Emergency Veterinary Service.



A huge shout out to our two great judges, Wayne Bogart and Jason McFarlane. The courses they set were challenging but flowing and much success was achieved across the day. Thank you gentlemen!!!. On a sad note, this was Wayne's last judging appointment, as he has now stepped down from Agility Judging and we wish him all the best for the future and hopefully may see him around. Thank you for your time to the sport Wayne.

As indicated above, without our volunteers, we would never be able to pull off such an awesome day and we thank each and every one of you for your time and effort. Finally, "the girls"!!!! Kim and Ren, with the help of Siobhan, Ashley and myself, they took on the big challenge of making this happen. This was their first time out as Trial Manager and Trial Secretary and they did a wonderful job to make this run smoothly. You did a fantastic job ladies and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Sponsors also provided raffle prizes which raised over \$600, which is going toward replacing much needed Flyball equipment for the club.

That's if for another year – **OR MAYBE NOT!!!!!!**

MANLY TRIPLE TRIAL – 1st & 2nd NOVEMBER 2025.

Yes even though we put Kim & Ren through the ringer several times to make the Manly Trial – Take 2 happen, they are stepping up to the plate again. This time we are off to Dogs NSW where we are holding a double trial on Saturday and a Single trial on Sunday. So what does this mean. Saturday we run two Jumping & Agility trials (AM & PM) and on Sunday we run a 3rd Jumping and Agility Trial. Judges will be Tenielle Thwaites, Emi Hinago, Dean Crossthwaite and myself (Jo Comber). It will be another great weekend to round off the year.

Yes this is being held at Orchard Hills, but we do need helpers. If you think you can help out, please get in contact with Kim & Ren via agility@manlydogclub.com.au and they can put you to work. Don't stress, no experience necessary (all training provided on the day) and we will feed and water you as well.

If you have not entered and you think you might like to. Entries close on Friday 24th. Yes that's this week. Get in quick.

Also there will be another super raffle with all funds raised going toward ongoing Club Members education programs. Get some tickets at training or on the day.

Anyway, enough from me and we will see you out there soon.

Cheers

[Jo, Caddy & Lyric.....](#)

FRISBEE UPDATE!!!!



We know that Frisbee has been a little quite of late, however there has been somerenewed interest in training and competing with the round discs.

Siobhan and Vixen, along with Jamie and Peppa travelled to Canberra last weekend to compete at BDOC in an UpDog Frisbee Competition. Siobhan and Vixen did really well, coming 1st in Frizgility (which is a cross over game where you combine agility equipment with frisbees). Peppa and Vixen also came equal 3rd in 4 Way Play, which resulted in a run off and Peppa pipping Vixen for the 3rd place spot. Well done Ladies.However, watch this space, as Siobhan and Emma may do some Updog Games and Freestyle Frisbee training during daylight savings. We will keep you updated.



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The Dangers of Dog Parks

"Dog Parks" were well-intended but a bad idea, especially when dogs are allowed to run off-leash. The main problems all stem from people who don't understand and have not established pack structure with their dogs. This means their dogs are out of control.

The average dog owner does not take the time to understand, much less, establish pack structure. They don't know how strong the pack instincts are in their family pets. These drives can and often do click into high gear when a dog is taken into a park with strange dogs.

When a new dog comes into a park that other dogs visit every day, the new visitor is often seen as an intruder into "the personal territory" of the regular visitor. More often than not, they are not seen as a friend. This often leads to either territorial aggression, dominance aggression, or fear aggression.

Dog Packs in the Park

When a group of dogs (3 or more) are allowed to run together in an area where there are no strong pack leaders (human pack leaders), they instinctively try to establish a rank order (or pecking order). If there are several dogs that want to assume a certain rank within this new pack, there are often problems. Too often this results in dog fights to determine what rank a dog will assume.

It is a mistake to assume that every dog in the park is a well-mannered, well-trained pet. Just because it plays with other dogs does not mean that it will play with your dog. The issue of rank has already been settled with these other dogs and the game may be going according to their rules. Your dog will not know the rules and can easily get into trouble. Too often when a fight breaks out between your dog and the leader of this pack, the other dogs in the pack will also jump in and go after your dog.

The vast majority of dogs don't want to be pack leaders. They are perfectly happy with their owners assuming the position of leader. As such, these dogs expect their pack leader (their owner) to protect them. That's why these dogs will run to their owner when they feel threatened by another dog. When a handler does not protect his dog, the dog is in conflict and loses confidence. When the owner ignores the perceived threat, their dogs often move into fight or flight.

When new owners assume the position of pack leader and they do everything right when their pup is young, the dog will grow up to be a confident adult dog.

How to Handle Your Dog in the Dog Park

When your dog is approached by a dog that looks like it may be aggressive, YOU (not your dog) needs to take the aggressor's role.

Dogs that have the potential to be aggressive are going to have a stiff body. Their legs will be stiff and often their tail will be straight up in the air or straight back (never tucked under the stomach - that's a submissive posture). When another dog does this, it's to make itself look bigger and stronger.

Dominant dogs will T-OFF on your dog. That means standing at your dog's shoulder and put their muzzle over the shoulders of your dog. This is a dominant display.

When you see this:

Tell the dog's owner that he or she needs to get control of their dog. If this does not work, then it's time to leave the park. If the situation has moved beyond the point where you can't leave, then you need to take things into your own hands. Verbally tell the dog in a deep voice to get out of there. Usually, (not always) this is enough to make the dog back off. When that happens, you need to determine if you have solved the problem or if you need to leave. Always err on the side of safety.

While some breeds are predisposed to fight more than others, every breed has its own bullies. There are too many people out there that don't come close to the label of being a "responsible pet owner." Pet owners should know that once a puppy or adult dog has been attacked by another dog, it will become a dog aggressive animal itself. This only has to happen one time for a permanent temperament change to occur in some animals. Finally, if your dog is a bully and is aggressive to other dogs, you need to explain to him that this is unacceptable behaviour.

Allowing very small dogs to run with large dogs can be a very dangerous situation for the small dog. The average pet owner has no idea how to break up a dog fight. They also can't comprehend how quickly a large dog can kill or seriously injure a small dog.

Be a Responsible Handler

There are some basic common-sense rules that good owners should follow when they use a park.

When at the park and a dangerous or out-of-control dog shows up, leave the park.

While you may feel you have the right to be there, you gain nothing by pushing your limit and risking a dog fight.

Go to the park during off-peak hours. You will learn when the quiet times are. Those are the times to be there with your dog.

When a dog pile or dog fight occurs, immediately call your dog away from the pack.

There is nothing wrong with teaching your dog that you are more fun than other dogs at the dog park. When you go, play the games your dog loves away from the dog pack.

When your dog is off-leash at the park, 100% of your focus should be on your dog.

If you wish to socialize with other dog owners, that's fine. Just do it when you have your dog on a leash.

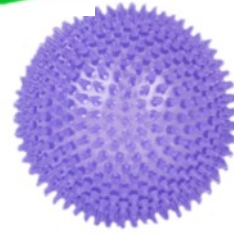
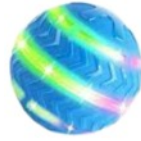
Don't make the dog park the only out-of-the-home experience for your dog. Take it for walks, take it swimming, play or train in different locations. People who only take their dog to a dog park set themselves up for a dog that will get out of control. Dogs with a lot of energy who only go to the dog park will take the attitude of "USE IT OR LOSE IT" which means they can get wild.

Ed Frawley





All About Dog Balls



Most people play ball with their dog and there are a multitude of choices available. They can be compared by material, interactivity and purpose such as fetch, chewing or mental stimulation. Types include durable rubber balls for aggressive chewers, interactive and automatic balls for mental stimulation, and treat-dispensing balls that combine play and training. Classic tennis balls are not a good choice and can be dangerous for your dog. Their abrasive texture can wear down a dog's teeth and they can be a choking hazard for larger dogs as they can compress and block the airway or be broken into pieces that can cause an internal blockage. The dyes, glues, and other materials used in tennis balls are not food-grade and can be toxic if ingested.

To Play Fetch & General Play

These balls are designed for throwing and retrieving, with some having erratic bounces to keep dogs engaged.

For Chewing & Aggressive Chewers

These balls are made from tough, durable materials to withstand intense chewing.

Interactive & Automatic Balls

These balls move and make noise on their own to encourage a dog to chase and play.

Treat-Dispensing & Puzzle Balls

These balls hold treats, combining playtime with mental stimulation and rewarding your dog for solving the puzzle.

Water Balls

Designed to float for playing in water.

Dental Health

Balls with textured surfaces that can help clean teeth through chewing

Glow Balls

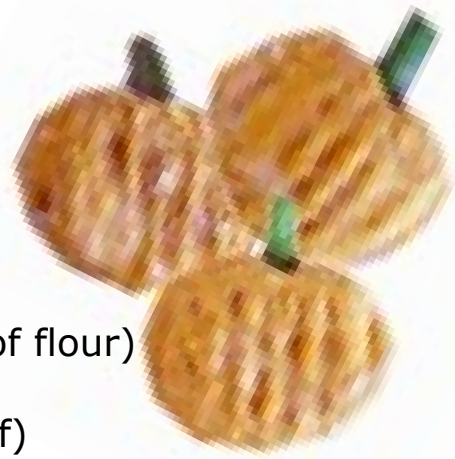
Ideal for playing after dark



Fun Halloween Treats

Ingredients

3/4 cup	x	Pumpkin Puree
1	x	Banana
1	x	Egg
2-2 1/2 cups	x	Flour (use your choice of flour)
1/4 cup	x	Oats
		Green Beans (cut in half)



Instructions

Preheat the oven to 180°

In a mixer, blend together the pumpkin puree, banana, and egg. Mix until smooth.

Slowly add in flour until dough forms (amount will depend on the flour you choose.) Fold in oats.

Shape dough into ping pong sized balls and flatten slightly with hands. Place on a lined baking sheet.

Using a fork, press down on each dough round. Then place a green bean into the top of each treat.

Bake treats until edges begin to brown, about 15-18 minutes.





Fun Facts About Dogs



- Dog's noses are wet to help absorb scent
- The Beatles song 'A Day in the Life' has a frequency only dogs can hear
- Three dogs survived the Titanic sinking
- A Bloodhound's sense of smell can be used as evidence in court
- The tallest dog in the world is 112 cm tall
- Basenji dogs don't bark, they yodel
- A Greyhound could beat a Cheetah in a long-distance race
- The Ewoks in Star Wars were based on a dog
- 30% of Dalmatians are deaf in one ear
- The Saluki is the oldest dog breed
- Chow Chows and Shar-Peis have black tongues
- Dogs have three eyelids
- The African Hunting dog is the most successful hunter in the world
- The oldest dog in the world was 31.5 years old!
- The smallest dog breed in the world is a Chihuahua
- A dog's nose print is as unique as a human fingerprint
- The Saluki is the fastest dog breed in the world
- Dogs have a natural instinct to dig
- Dogs have dreams too
- The Bloodhound has the keenest sense of smell
- Dogs have a sense of time
- Dogs have over 100 facial expressions
- The memory of a dog is remarkable
- Dogs are the most popular pet on the planet!
- Dogs evolved from a now-extinct species of wolf.
- They can learn over 100 words and gestures!
- Dogs are thought to be as smart as two-year-old children
- Dog noses are at least 40 times more sensitive than ours!
- Dogs also have fantastic hearing!
- They only sweat from their paws, and have to cool down by panting.
- They can be right or left-pawed!
- Ancient Egyptians saw dogs as god-like!
- Dogs use body language to express their feelings.





Trick or treating is great fun for children and the family dog often gets taken along to join in the festivities.

Please remember

Chocolate is very harmful for dogs as it contains theobromine, baking chocolate is exceptionally high in this chemical. The darker the chocolate the more dangerous it is.

Lollies often contain xylitol which is an artificial sweetener which is toxic to dogs.

Large quantities of **hard lollies** can clump in a dog's stomach and cause a blockage.

Lolly wrappers can become lodged in your dog's throat or intestinal track.

Raisins and grapes can cause renal failure in dogs.

If you are dressing your dog up in a **costume** make sure it's not too tight or liable to make your dog too hot. Check that there are no buttons or fasteners that could be chewed off and swallowed.

Glow sticks will often look like a toy to your dog but if chewed can leak the liquid into your dog's mouth.