



Tasmanian Dog Training Club Inc. Newsletter

APRIL/MAY 2023

PO Box 1199 Launceston
Email:tasdogclub@gmail.com
Website:www.tdte.org.au
Facebook:tasdogtrainingclub

Training Course Notes

Next Sunday Courses:-

Commencing 7 May 2023

Basic Obedience - 7 week course - starting at 9.30 am
Puppy Preschool - 4 week course - starting at 10.00 am

Commencing 4 June 2023

Basic Obedience - 7 week course - starting at 9.30 am
Puppy Preschool - 4 week course - starting at 10.00 am



NOTE:

Any changes to training will be advertised on the TDTC website and the TDTC Facebook page so we do advise that you check each week before coming to classes.

Reminder: No Club Easter Sunday 9th April

COMMITTEE 2022-2023

President: Lyn Deitch
Vice President: Chris Pontin
Secretary: David Tomkinson
Treasurer: Yvonne Tomkinson

Members:

Norm Deitch Nicquel Walker
Gary Lusted Trudie Lusted
Keryn Mahoney Alan Payne
Ann Peters Sue Furlonge

Patrons:

Rosemary Armitage MLC

Animal Medical Centre
Charles Street, Launceston

CLASSES CONDUCTED SUNDAYS AT CHURCHILL PARK, INVERMAY

Obedience:
9.30am Basic Obedience
10.00am Puppy Preschool
10.45am Intermediate / Advanced /
Trialing

Other:
Rally
Agility
Tracking
Scent Work
Enquire at office for times and dates

UPCOMING TRIALS

**Apr 29/30 Agility/
Jumping**
May 13 Obedience
May 14 Rally
**Jun 10/11/12 Tracking
Trial**
**Jun 17/18 Agility/
Jumping**
**You are welcome to
come and watch but
please keep your dog
away from the trial area.**

Suggestions and contributions to Dog Tales in any form are most welcome. Please see Nicquel, leave at the office or submit via the Facebook page. Views expressed and articles printed are not necessarily those of the TDTC Committee or its instructors - they are intended as information for reading and consideration should you feel they are appropriate to your situation.

A FEW REMINDERS FOR OLD AND NEW MEMBERS of things which help the club operate smoothly and ensure the safety of all members and their dogs.

Arrive on time for your class. The instructors do not always have time to repeat instructions for the benefit of latecomers.

It is a Launceston City Council requirement that parking is in the car park. Parking inside the boom gate is restricted to instructors to ensure their dogs can be left in safety in the shade while they are conducting classes.

Membership name badges must be worn when training. It helps the instructor to get to know you and your dog's name. Annual membership is to 30th September each year. Your membership expiry date is printed on your name badge. You must be a current financial member to train with the club.

Due to insurance requirements sensible, enclosed footwear must be worn and try to avoid loose, flappy clothing which can distract the dog – thongs are not permitted in class.

Dogs must be supervised at all times. Do not tether your dog and leave it unattended. Do not leave your dog unattended in a car during hot weather. All droppings must be removed immediately by the handler and placed in the bin provided. Dogs must be on lead at all times.

When possible, mobile phones should be turned off during training. Also, chatting with other handlers during a class or not being attentive to the instructor is disruptive and at times rude. If you wish to chat please leave the class so that others may concentrate.

Tea, coffee, bottled water and soft drinks are available from the clubhouse. Cost \$1 per item. Please help yourself and put the money in the tin provided.

Food rewards for dogs are available from the clubhouse freezer. Chicken loaf, low fat cheese, garlic sausage. Cost \$2 per bag. Please put the money in the container provided. 20 seconds in the microwave will thaw the treats ready to use.

Bitches in season are not permitted at training and dogs suffering from any contagious disease or illness must not be brought to training.

YELLOW – GIVE ME SPACE - if you see a dog wearing a yellow ribbon/vest/bandana it means that the dog has a personal space problem so you should give the dog plenty of space. Ask the dog's handler before approaching yourself or allowing your dog to approach. You should always ask permission before approaching another member's dog when socialising. Be aware of your dog and other dogs and avoid confrontations. Move away from a dog that takes an obvious dislike to your dog.

The club trains most Sundays from February to the end of November. Training may also be cancelled, without notice, due to heavy rain/thunderstorms or if the grounds become dangerous in the opinion of the Launceston City Council.

Please let us know if you change your contact details, address, phone number or email address. We like to keep our membership database up-to-date, just in case we ever need to contact you.

Please be aware of training classes in progress. Try not to wander through a class and don't let your dog interfere with dogs in a class. If in doubt, walk along the gravel road or around the edges of the green areas.

The club welcomes any comments or suggestions which you think may help the club's operation, so please pass them on to any of the instructors or committee members.

Club committee and members send our love and support to Yvonne and wish her all the best for a speedy recovery

Welcome to our new February and March members

Puppies – February Class

Tayla & Pippa, Sarah & Rosie, Evie & Max, Susannah/Landon & Nelson, John & Ted, Michelle & Lily, Ann & Ruby, Kate/Rasmus & Finn. Allison/Craig & Fenrir & Ingrid

Puppies - March Class

Kate & Tilly, Shane & Bella, Naomi & Marley, Fiona & Winston, Francis/Madeleine & Winston, Tayla/Alexander & Miles. Rod/Phillipa & Louie, Sue & Remi

Basic – February Classes

Stephen John & Mojo, Fraser/Lydia & Maggie, Christine & Rosie. Isobelle & Bart, Anne & Murphy, Alun/Judith & Boris, Kathy & Sunka, Scott & Boston, Margaret/Melitta & Dusty, Barbara/Udo & Lucy, Janice & Molly, Marilyn & Nobel, Kerri & Betty, Phil/Di & Sailor, Craig/Anne/Bhriannon & Daisy. Amanda & Ollie, Nicolas/Monica/Angus/Isabel & Pippin, Sheryl Ann & Lola, Toni & Zeus

Basic - March Classes

Thomas/Renee/Kasper & Tango, Tayla & Pippa, Sarah & Rosie, Evie & Max, Michelle & Lily, Nicole & Cricket. Kayla Anne & Moe, Kate/Rasmus & Finn, Allison/Craig & Fenrir, Allison/Craig & Ingrid, Chris/Rachele & Haven, Rebecca Elisabeth & Ruby, Kirsty & Bonnie, Lynn & Rosie, Megan & Fern, Jackson/Sofia & Alfie, Jessica & Rhonda, Jane/Natasha & Bodhi

My apologies for any omissions or errors in this list, please let me know & I will fix in the next newsletter.

We hope you enjoyed your time in the various classes and we'll see you back soon for the next exciting step in your training in the coming months.



November Basic



January Puppies

February Puppies



Editors Note

Welcome to our Autumn newsletter.

With the daylight hours quickly disappearing don't forget to put time aside to spend with your dog. You don't need to walk for km's to exercise your dog, did you know many dogs get just as much enjoyment from an upbeat training session as they do from a half an hour walk on a lead.

Have you considered learning a new performance sport with your dog ?

There are now many different disciplines that you and your dog can learn to compete in, a few of these are Scent Work, Track & Search, Agility and Rally. Please talk to one of our knowledgeable instructors if you would like more information on any of these exciting dog sports.

We wish everyone a happy and safe Easter, just a reminder that there will be no classes on Sunday 9th April, so everyone can enjoy a well earned break with their loved ones.

Nicquel



10 SIGNS YOU ARE DOG OBSESSED

1. YOU SAY HELLO TO DOGS AS YOU WALK DOWN THE STREET
2. YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES ARE FULL OF PHOTOS OF DOGS
3. YOU MEET A FRIEND FOR COFFEE & JUST TALK ABOUT YOUR DOGS
4. IN FACT THINKING ABOUT IT ALL YOUR FRIENDS LOVE DOGS
5. A WHOLE SECTION OF YOUR WARDROBE IS DEDICATED TO DOG-WALKING CLOTHES
6. SOFT FURNISHINGS ARE INSTANTLY MORE ATTRACTIVE IF THERE IS ARE IMAGES OF DOGS ON THEM
7. YOU HAVE A LEAST ONE OF THESE IN EVERY COAT POCKET:
DOG BISCUITS
POO BAGS
TENNIS BALL
8. WATCHING A DOG SLEEPING SOUNDLY NEVER FAILS TO MAKE YOU SMILE
9. DOG HAIRS? WHAT DOG HAIRS? YOU DON'T EVEN NOTICE THEM ANY MORE
10. YOU JUST KNOW THAT DOGS MAKE LIFE BETTER & ARE HAPPY YOU'VE AGREED WITH MOST OF THESE!



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4 ways to create healthy sleep habits for your puppy from Day 1



thespeakingdog.com

1. Your puppy should sleep in your room at night. Create a comfy sleep space next to your bed. Include a heartbeat puppy for added comfort as she gets used to sleeping without her littermates.



thespeakingdog.com

2. Soothe your puppy and give support at night if she is upset, lonely, or unsure. Do this by talking to her, giving her your hand, or petting her to give her the love and support she needs.



thespeakingdog.com

3. Keep your puppy on a routine sleep schedule, both at night and including restful nap times during the day.



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4. Create a calm environment to promote relaxation and rest. Dimming lights, calming music, and massage can help puppies find a more restful sleep.



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Don't share your Easter egg with your pet

Chocolate is toxic to dogs and other pets and ingestion often results in significant illness. Chocolate is toxic because it contains theobromine, a chemical similar to caffeine and used medicinally as a diuretic, heart stimulant, blood vessel dilator, and a smooth muscle relaxant. Theobromine can be poisonous and if eaten by our pets may result in severe clinical signs, especially if they do not receive early medical treatment.

How much chocolate can my dog have? The easy answer to this is none! The amount of toxic theobromine varies with the type of chocolate.

The darker and the more bitter the chocolate, the more dangerous it is to your pets. Cooking or baking chocolate and high quality dark chocolate contains higher amounts whilst, milk chocolate (commonly used in Easter eggs) has less and white chocolate barely poses any threat of chocolate poisoning. The amount of fat and sugar in white chocolate, however, can still make a dog very sick and result in conditions such as pancreatitis!

This means that for a medium size dog, weighing about 20kg it would take only 25grams of baker's or dark chocolate and 250grams of milk chocolate to potentially show signs of poisoning (Approximate figures only.)

Clinical signs of chocolate poisoning depend on the amount and type of chocolate ingested. For many dogs, the most common signs are vomiting and diarrhea, increased thirst, panting or restlessness, excessive urination, a racing heart rate, muscle spasms (tremors), and occasionally seizures. When in doubt, contact your vet to see if a poisonous amount of chocolate was ingested to begin with.



"I can see your dog's ribs"

Truth is, most people have no idea what a healthy weight dog should look like:

- *Ribs easily felt with little fat covering them*
- *Identifiable waist tuck*
- *Pelvis and backbone palpable with a thin layer of fat covering*

Underweight



Overweight



Tracking – what’s it all about?



Just imagine, you’ve got up at about 5 AM on a frosty winter morning, you’ve loaded up your dog, thankful that you put all the gear into the car yesterday and headed down to a property in the Midlands. As it starts to get light, you find the tracking site where there is a group of friendly people all rugged up and drinking coffee. You hand your plastic bag of end treats over to the steward and get your dog out for a walk and toilet. The judge calls everyone up for a briefing and you find out that your track will be run at about 10.30. You have to wait nervously at the camp until then, feeling very grateful for the portaloos. Eventually you are called and directed to your track, the judge says “Harness up here and start when you are ready”. There is just one flag with a sock at the base and a big empty paddock. Making sure your dog sniffs the sock, off you go, it’s all going well but suddenly your dog raises his head and then just as you are starting to panic he pounces on a sock. All’s well, you’re still on track. You keep going and after an eternity your dog goes around a stump or tussock and there is the tracklayer. You have no idea how you got there but thank your tracklayer, judge and steward, perhaps take a photo and then head back to spend a happy day at the camp waiting for presentations. It is totally exhilarating to know that your wonderful dog has just followed a track to the end with just a pat and a treat as a reward.

Tracking is a sport we do in the winter, your dog has to be 6 months old to enter official trials, but a puppy can start learning earlier. It is done on farms in paddocks and in the bush, there are 8 tracks to complete to achieve a Tracking Champion title. These are graded in complexity, with the distance, number of turns and aging time increasing as you go up through the tracks, the higher tracks include added difficulties such as blind starts, acute turns and contamination with cross tracks. You need to pass tests 1 – 3 to qualify for Tracking Dog Title (TD), 4 – 6 for Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX), 7 and 8 for Tracking Champion (TCH).

The main reason that I love tracking is that my dogs are so enthusiastic, all training is positively based with plenty of rewards for the dog. We get some glorious days in the bush in winter and being a tracklayer and having someone else’s dog find me is almost as exciting as tracking my own dog. It is also good to have a reason to be active during the winter, in fact the winter passes much too quickly when you are tracking.



Pat Hallam



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HON. ROSEMARY ARMITAGE MLC

Independent Member
for Launceston

T: 03 63242001 F: 03 63242008

M: 0419 341 178

Ground Floor, Henty House,
One Civic Square
Launceston Tas 7250

Thank you to the following Contributors to the Newsletter

Pat Hallam, Chris Pontin, Lyn Deitch,
and David Tomkinson