



# Dog Tales

Tasmanian Dog Training Club Inc. Newsletter

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2026

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

## Training Course Notes

### Upcoming Sunday Courses:-

#### Commencing 1 February 2026

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

#### Commencing 1 March 2026

Basic Obedience — 7 week course—FULLY BOOKED  
Puppy Preschool - 4 week course - starting at 10.00 am

#### Commencing 8 March 2026

Introduction to Tracking—4 week course—starting 9.30 am

#### Commencing 12 April 2026

Puppy Preschool - 3 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.

### COMMITTEE 2025-2026

President: Lyn Deitch  
Vice President: Chris Pontin  
Secretary: Nicquel Walker  
Assist. Secretary: Keryn Mahoney  
Treasurer: Yvonne Tomkinson

#### Members:

Norm Deitch  
Jayne Stickler Victoria Barker  
Nicola Kingdon

### CLASSES CONDUCTED

SUNDAYS AT

CHURCHILL PARK, INVERMAY

#### Obedience:

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

#### Other:

Rally  
Tracking  
Scent Work

**Enquire at office for times and dates**

### UPCOMING TRIALS

**Feb 21 Obedience /Rally  
Feb22 Rally**

**Mar 14/15 Scentwork**

**You are welcome to come and watch but please keep your dog away from the trial area.**

### Patron

**Rosemary Armitage MLC**

Suggestions and contributions to Dog Tales in any form are most welcome. Please see Victoria 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.

## PRESIDENTS WAFFLE – February/March 2026

Welcome back everyone, I truly hope you have all had a wonderful Xmas and the commencement of your new year has been great.

I am really looking forward to seeing all our club members, new and regular, return to training with our club instructors, who work tirelessly every Sunday volunteering their time to help you all truly enjoy your dogs. The weather lately has been unpredictable and very hot at times, please make sure your dogs have plenty of shade and cool water.

Remember the club is your club, make yourselves known, come into club anytime on a Sunday for a cup of tea, coffee or a cool drink or even just a chat.

We are always looking for volunteer members that would like to try out being an instructor, you will buddy up with one of our experienced knowledgeable instructors who will teach you all you need to know to help you become an excellent instructor.

Looking forward to another successful year ahead.

*Lyn*



## Welcome to our new August and September members

### Puppies – October '25 Class

Aiden & Fable, Caroline/Peter & Ether, Christine/Greg & Bonnie,  
Leah & Cocoa

### Puppies - November '25 Class

Debbie & Morgan, Brendan/Elizabeth/Archer & Viss, Aleena & Hazel,  
Val & Scratch, Karen/James/Katelyn & Teddy, Georgie/Belinda & Chewie, Georgie/Belinda  
& Stella, Shane & Winnie, Mikaela/Ryan & Frosty,  
Jen & Hannah, Anna & Rose, Charlie & Morgan

### Puppies – January Class

Carolyn & Mylo, Nettle/Juniper/Willow & Skadi, Kathy & Ernie

### Basic – October '25 Classes

Holly/Thomas & Sassafras, Patsy & Shep, Rosemary & Lucy, Ian/Hannah & Chase,  
Darren & Brandi, Lauren & Moose, Anthea & Matilda, Angela & Ollie, Reece & Buster

### Basic - November '25 Classes

Merry & Alfie, Marion & Katie, Fred/Kate & Poppy, Aiden & Fable,  
Caroline/Peter & Ether, Christine/Greg & Bonnie, Leah & Cocoa,  
Josh & Niamh, Mark & Suki, Davina & Penny, Chris/Chris & Mary

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.**

January Puppies



Kenan Alemdar



# TDTC ANNUAL TITLE ROSETTES PRESENTATION



TDTC Annual Title Rosettes presentation & sausage sizzle was held on the 23rd of November, and congratulations to all the dogs who received a Rosette. Well done on the hard work required to achieve a title. Thanks to all who attended.

The fund raising raffle & \$50 Lucky Dog Number were also drawn. First prize in raffle: \$150 Beauty Hand & Foot Spa voucher, kindly donated by Lyn Deitch, was won by Norma Higgins, Second prize: \$100 garden landscape voucher kindly donated by Abel Landscaping was won by Keryn Mahoney. The \$50 lucky dog number went to me, Chris - how lucky was I.

Raffle Draw



Presentation

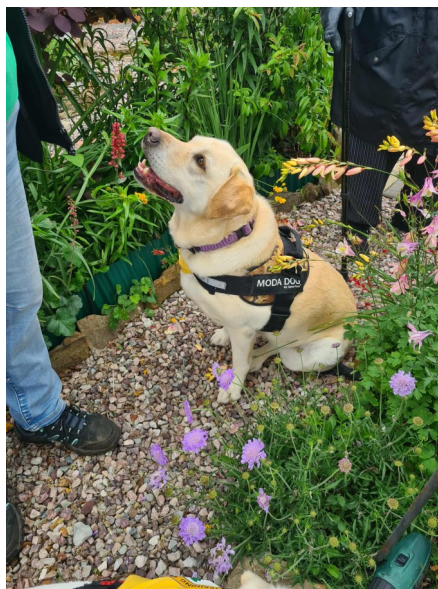


Some of our Title Achievers

## OPEN GARDEN FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported our Open Garden fundraiser held in November. We raised nearly \$700 to go towards purchasing resources to assist in maintaining the Puppy training area. The fund raising raffle & \$50 Lucky Dog Number were drawn at our Title Presentation Day. First prize in the raffle was a \$150 Beauty Hand & Foot Spa voucher, kindly donated by Lyn Deitch and was won by Norma Higgins, Second prize: \$100 garden landscape voucher kindly donated by Abel Landscaping was won by Keryn Mahoney, and the \$50 lucky dog number was won by Chris Pontin The lucky gate prize was won by Lois Bracken, Guess the Weight was won by Nicola Kingdon and Guess the breed was won by Monissa Whiteley. Thank you to Sandra Whiteley for allowing us take over your house and garden. Thank you also to Abel Landscape Supplies for the Raffle prize and "Charlie's Pupcakes" for the doggy treat gift bags. Finally thank you to the TDTC committee members and my family for all your hard work, leading up to the event and on the day.

- NICQUEL -



# BLOAT IN DOGS

## What Is Bloat in Dogs?

Bloat in dogs is a condition in which food or gas stretches a pup's stomach, causing abdominal pain. While it's more common in large breed or deep-chested dogs, any breed can develop bloat. When bloat occurs, a dog's stomach begins to expand, or distend, and cuts off blood flow to the abdomen as well as the stomach itself.

This may cause injury or death of the stomach wall and without treatment, other organs. Bloat can also put pressure on the diaphragm, a thin muscle that separates the chest from the abdomen. This can cause difficulty breathing in dogs.

In severe cases of bloat, a dog's stomach flips, or twists, and fills with gas. This is called gastric dilatation and volvulus (GDV).

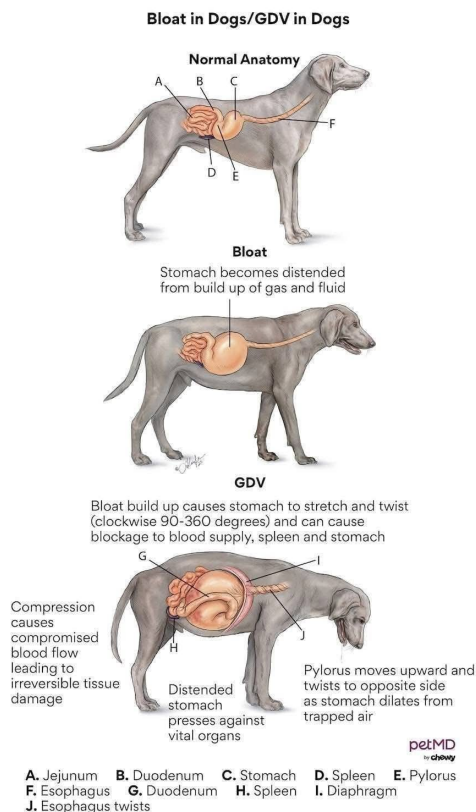
Bloat with GDV cuts off blood flow to a pup's stomach and the lower half of their body, making it impossible for food to pass into the intestine. In extreme cases of GDV, a dog's stomach can rupture, and the spleen can also be injured.

All cases of bloat are medical emergencies, and require veterinary intervention to determine the severity. If untreated, a dog with GDV will die within hours. If bloat and GDV are treated immediately, they are often curable.

## Symptoms of Bloat in Dogs

Bloat is an uncomfortable and painful condition. Symptoms of bloat in dogs include:

- Dry-heaving (also called retching) without vomiting any food. Sometimes a dog might spit out white foam when trying to vomit, which is usually mucus from the esophagus or stomach.
- Abdominal swelling (this might not be visible in the early stages of bloat)
- Sudden anxiety, pacing, an inability to get comfortable or constantly moving around the room/house.
- Positioning the body in a downward-facing pose, where the dog's back half is up, and upper half is down
- Panting and drooling
- Collapse
- Rapid heart rate (tachycardia)
- Pale gums



## Causes of Bloat in Dogs

It's unknown why bloat and GDV occurs in dogs. While these conditions can affect in any pup, there are suspected risk factors that can increase the chance of bloat in dogs. These include:

- Dogs that ingest large amounts of food or water too quickly
- Dogs that weigh more than 99 pounds
- Dogs that are male
- Dogs that are older
- Dogs that are of large breeds and deep-chested
- Dogs that exercise immediately after eating
- Dogs that eat from an elevated food bowl
- Dogs with a family history of bloat
- Dogs that eat dry food with fat or oil listed in the first four ingredients

Continued on page 7

### How Veterinarians Diagnose Bloat in Dogs

A veterinarian may suspect bloat and/or GDV by simply seeing a dog's distressed behavior and physical appearance, but they usually perform tests to confirm the diagnosis.

Veterinarians diagnose bloat in dogs with:

- Abdominal X-rays—These are taken to confirm the diagnosis and to determine the severity of bloat.
- An X-ray can indicate if a dog has simple bloat, where the stomach appears very distended and round and is usually full of food or gas. X-rays also show if bloat has progressed to GDV. They will show if the stomach is distended and has a “bubble” on top of the swollen stomach (sometimes referred to as a “double bubble”).
- Blood work—Your vet may perform blood tests to get an understanding of your dog's overall health.

### Treatment of Bloat in Dogs

If caught in time, bloat is curable. However, treatment of bloat in dogs depends on the severity.

There are no home remedies for bloat in dogs. Dogs with simple bloat are usually hospitalized to receive

of

intravenous (IV) fluids and medication for pain or nausea as needed. They're also walked often to stimulate

late

movement of the gastrointestinal tract to help move the gas and food quickly through the body.

A dog with GDV requires more intense care. This typically includes:

- IV fluids with electrolytes to aggressively treat shock and improve circulation to vital organs.
- Pain medications and antibiotics to treat discomfort, shock, and any death of tissues from the loss of circulation.
- Trocharization, a procedure often used to decompress the air out of the stomach to restore the blood flow.
- Electrocardiogram (ECG) to monitor for any heart abnormalities.
- Surgery, which is performed as soon as the dog is stable. Depending on the severity of bloat, a vet may have to untwist the dog's stomach and/or spleen. They may also remove any part of the stomach wall that has died due to loss of blood flow. The vet will also stitch the stomach to the body wall in a procedure called a gastropexy. This significantly reduces the risk of rotation of the stomach in the future.

### Recovery and Management of Bloat in Dogs

After diagnosis, dogs with simple bloat tend to bounce back into their normal lives and routines one to two days after receiving fluids and taking frequent walks.

Following a gastropexy procedure, a dog will remain in the hospital until their pain is controlled and the dog is eating and drinking normally on their own.

The duration of a pup's hospital stay depends on their health history and severity of bloat. Their stay may be anywhere from one to two days, to up to seven or more.

Follow your vet's discharge instructions regarding surgical aftercare. This includes typically 10 to 14 days of rest, monitoring the incision, and giving oral medications. It may be useful to purchase a cone or recovery suit to help keep your pup from licking/chewing at their surgical incision during recovery.

### Prevention of Bloat in Dogs

You can lower the risk of your dog developing bloat by doing the following:

- Never leave large bags or bins of food accessible to your dog to avoid overeating.
- Do not use raised food bowls unless advised by your veterinarian (some pets require a raised food bowl due to a medical condition).
- Have your dog wait at least one hour after a meal or drinking a large amount of water for any exercise or playtime.
- Feed your pup small meals a few times throughout the day instead of one or two large meals.
- Don't allow your dog to gorge on water when drinking.
- Discuss preventative surgery with your veterinarian for breeds at higher risk of bloat. This can often be performed during your pet's spay or neuter procedure.
- If purchasing a pup from a breeder, be sure to ask if there is any family history of bloat or GDV.

WRITTEN BY

Katie Grzyb, DVM

Veterinarian

Courtesy of PetMD



## BREED OF THE MONTH CURLY COATED RETRIEVER



Curly-Coated Retrievers are loyal, ready for almost anything, tenacious and, “wickedly smart”. They seem ready to go when you need it, but can also sack out on the sofa with you in a heartbeat.

They don't respond well to repetition, so you have to keep training fresh and varied. Due to their intelligence, they can get bored with excessive repetition. You also have to accept that they may have their own way of doing things. They will get the job done, but it may not be precisely what you were expecting.

Our standard also says that they might be aloof, but that is because they think, clearly, they are the best thing around. Just ask them! Curly Coat Retrievers are gentle and tolerant with children and they enjoy being part of the family and, if well-exercised, will be calm and gentle inside the home.

They are active, versatile working dogs that thrive on exercise, swimming, and mental stimulation, making them ideal for active households. While loyal to their family, they can be reserved or aloof with strangers, acting as keen, protective watchdogs.

Our Instructor Jayne Stickler and her Curly Coated Retriever, Eucy can be seen at TDTC grounds on most club Sundays. Eucy and Jayne have trialled in Tracking, Track and Search and Scentwork.



**Thank you to the following Contributors to the Newsletter:-**  
Chris Pontin, Nicquel Walker, Jayne Stickler and Victoria Barker

Printing done with compliments of  
the office of

**HON. ROSEMARY ARMITAGE MLC**  
Independent Member  
for Launceston

T: 03 63242001 F: 03 63242008  
M: 0419 341 178

Ground floor, Cornwall Square  
Transit Centre,  
Corner St. John & Cimitiere St  
Launceston Tas 7250