

Dog Talk News

ISSUE 01/2023

A well trained dog is a happy dog

Bayside Companion
Dog Training School



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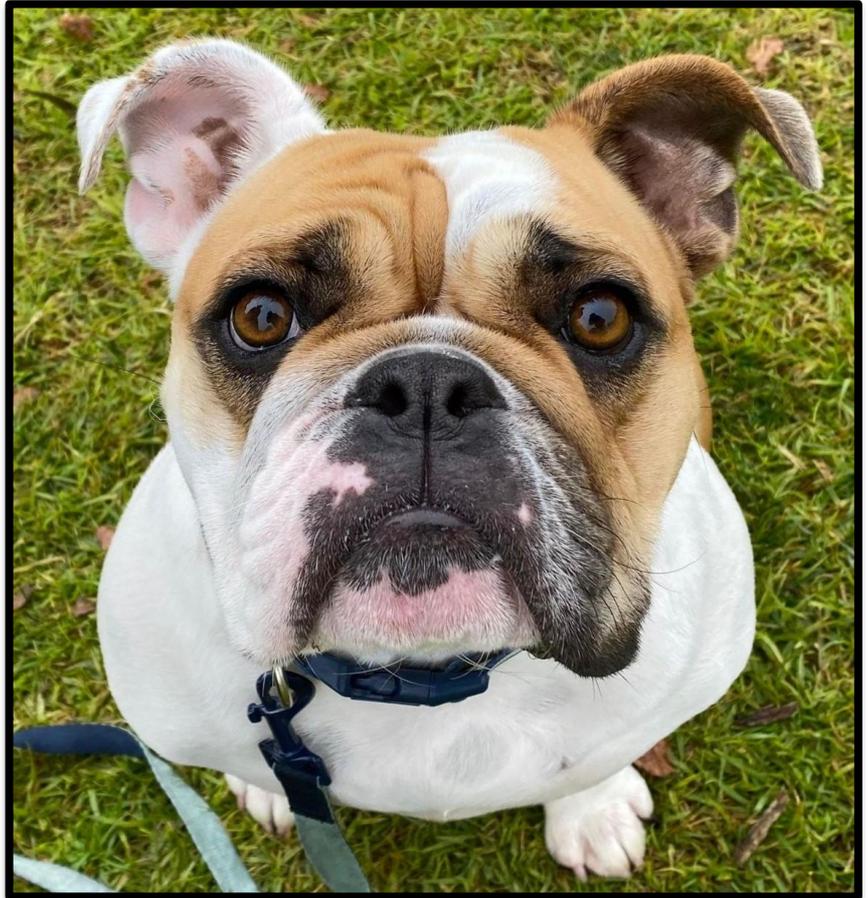
@BCDTS



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We're back for 2023

Welcome back to school to all new and existing members. We look forward to meeting all our new members and seeing the results of all the hard work of existing members over the Christmas / New Year break. What have you achieved?

Committee:

Committee members 2022-3:

Marion Bower, Barry Gilbert, Diane Ishac, Debbie Lack, Terry Lack, Helen Musgrave, Claire Aldham,

Office Bearers:

President: Terry Lack
Vice President: Barry Gilbert
Treasurer: Marion Bower
Secretary: Debbie Lack

OUR TRAINING TIMES & PLACE

Venue: Hodgson Reserve, Higgins Road, Bentleigh

Times: Thursdays 10:45 am

Sundays 9:45 (White & Yellow)

10:45 (Green & above)

New Memberships & Renewals: Registration 30 minutes before class.

Ground Rules

For everyone's comfort and safety we have some useful ground rules and guidelines.

- Do not allow your children to approach any dog/puppy without asking the owner's permission. If permission is given, always supervise your child's interaction with a dog.
- Please keep children off the agility equipment.
- Always ask the owner's permission before interacting with a dog. If patting keep your hand low and pat the dog under the chin, not on top of the head.
- Avoid loose clothing, and bags as these can get in the way when training.
- Enclosed footwear must be worn at all times.
- We welcome multiple family members to participate in class but only one person can be the handler at a time. We ask that any additional family members watch from the side. You are welcome to change handler during class.
- You are required to immediately clean up after your dog. Lined red plastic buckets are provided. White buckets with drinking water are also provided.

- Please understand that no Instructor or Helper is authorised by this club to give veterinary advice. We do not recommend any brand-name products and we advise you to consult your vet for information regarding your dog's health or comfort.
- Please remember to bring your own treats to training.

Yellow Ribbons

- You may see dogs wearing yellow bandanas or have a yellow ribbon tied at the base of their leash. Please give these dogs space. You may talk to the owner but keep your distance and do not allow your dog to approach.

Upcoming Events

2022 AGM – This will be held at the club rooms after training on 5th March 2023. All club members are welcome.

30th Anniversary Celebrations – Time has flown but Bayside Companion Dog Training School will be 30 this year. From humble beginnings to today....

Q: What do these people have in common?

- A financial analyst, a courier, a retail worker, a cleaner, a book-keeper, a child care worker, a cook, a photographer, a doctor, a teacher, a dog groomer, a dog walker, a retiree, a scientific researcher, a childcare worker, an events manager ... and more!
- **A: They all help out at BCDTS!**

Are you able to help?

- BCDTS is run by volunteers for the benefit of all members and the community. There are many little ways that all members are able to help out. Perhaps you are able to arrive a little early before class to help set up equipment, or to stay a little later to help pack up? Sweep the floor? Contribute to the newsletter? Become an Instructor?



Sally Hill Photo Competition 2022

Once again, our members delighted us (and our panel of independent judges) with the high standard of entries in the Sally Hill Photo Competition. The photos were varied; there were some exciting action shots, cute puppy shots, and photos demonstrating the great bond between owner and dog. And some photos were downright hilarious! We appreciate the love and care all our member photographers took and thank them for their support. Special thanks to our judges who will remain nameless (5 kids, 4 adults, 1 spreadsheet and several disagreements to decide the winner)



Summer Heat and Dogs

Summer is well and truly here with several extremely hot days recently. We need to start being aware of how our dogs are affected by the heat. The worst condition caused by the heat is heatstroke also known as heat stress or hyperthermia. Dogs do not respond to heat and regulate their body temperature like we do. We have sweat glands in our skin that help us keep cool, but dogs only have a few in their feet and rely on panting and external air temperature to lose heat.

Every dog is different but some dogs are more prone to heatstroke than others, these may be:

- Extremely young puppies or elderly dogs
- Brachycephalic breeds, the squashed face breeds (Pugs, Bulldogs, Boxers etc)
- Those with pre-existing medical conditions – breathing difficulties, heart problems etc
- Overweight dogs
- Excessively exercised
- Dehydrated

Signs of Heatstroke:

- Excessive panting, Drooling
- Restlessness
- Bright red gums and tongue
- Increased Heart rate

If it worsens:

- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea
- Lethargy, Weakness
- Disorientation, Confusion
- Dizziness or Staggering
- Muscle Tremors
- Collapse
- Seizures
- Coma

Prevention is better than a cure, it is easier to prevent heatstroke than it is to treat it. Make sure you:

- Keep your dog in a cool, well ventilated space. If an outside dog, make sure they have access to shade.
- Provide access to plenty of clean drinking water.
- Never leave a dog in a car. It can take as little as 6 minutes for a dog to die in a hot car.
- Avoid exercise in hot weather. Walk your dog early in the morning or at night when it is cooler
- Radiant and Reflected heat. Avoid walking on hot concrete, asphalt and sand. (These can also burn the pads of your dog's feet. If unsure check any surface with the back of your hand before going for a walk.)

If you suspect heatstroke in your dog, get them to a cool, shaded, well ventilated location. Use cool, not chilled or ice water, to dampen your dog, use a hose or whatever is available, then use a fan on your dog. This simulates evaporative cooling which is how we humans cool down. Try and get them to drink cool but not cold, chilled water or ice as this can make it worse. Then get them to a vet who can assess the severity of the heatstroke and provide treatment.



Terry's Tips

- Use your dog's name to get their attention then follow it up with a command.
- Give commands once. You don't want to sound like a broken record.
- Don't yell at your dog. You wouldn't like being yelled at so don't do it to your dog.
- Patience - A must have when training a dog. Your dog is just learning, you need to show your dog what you want, keep calm, don't be impatient if they don't understand. If you are becoming frustrated end your training session with something easy and familiar, praise your dog and come back tomorrow and try again.

Remember variety is the spice of life so mix it up and have most importantly **HAVE FUN**

Do you have questions that you would like addressed in our newsletter? Let me know your suggestions – your Instructor or the team in the Office will point me out. We are always looking for interesting stories or photos so let us know your ideas!

Barry Gilbert