

Dog Talk News

ISSUE 02/2022

A well trained dog is a happy dog

Bayside Companion
Dog Training
School



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@BCDTS



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Committee:

Committee members 2022:

Marion Bower, Barry Gilbert, Diane
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Helen Musgrave, Claire Aldham,

Office Bearers:

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

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Sally

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.
- 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.
- 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 remember to bring your own treats to training.



Upgrades

How do you get an upgrade?

Your Instructor will determine when you and your dog are ready to tackle the next level. An upgrade is given to the Handler/Dog team, with clear emphasis on the understanding of the handler. If you feel that you are ready, don't hesitate to ask to be considered for an upgrade at the start of class

Special Congratulations to those who graduated to **Blue** class

- Peter Ryan and Rusty
- Daniel and Ollie
- Sarah Cutts and Minnie
- Jospeh Rathner and Piper
- Anne Aloni and Chili
- Max Taylor and Millie

Upcoming Events:

BCDTS Doggy Games:

Yes it's on again. Exact date is to be decided and may be changed due to weather. Be available in August / September for doggie fun.

Sally Hill Photo Competition:

How creative can you be? Start taking photos of your dog(s) now. We will be taking entries soon.

Keep an eye out for announcements at the club and on Facebook

Q: What do these people have in common?

- A financial analyst, a courier, a landscape gardener, a book-keeper, a location scout, a cook, an election manager, a photographer, a doctor, a teacher, a dog groomer, a dog walker, a retiree, a scientific researcher, a childcare worker, an events manager, a retired flying instructor... 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?

All help is greatly appreciated!

Winter is Here.

If it's cold and wet outside what are you going to do to exercise your dog?

Try playing a game:

An easy game to play is hide and seek. Distract your dog with a treat or toy so you have a chance to escape and find a hiding place. Call "come" and see how long it takes for your dog to find you.

Nose games:

Make your own food puzzles. Put some treats in a muffin tray and cover all the holes (including the empty ones) with a ball. See how long it takes your dog to move the balls and find all the treats. Fill a box with cardboard tubes (toilet roll tubes work well) in a box. Drop treats in some of the tubes. Let your dog work out how to get the treats.

With your dog out of the room, place several boxes on the floor and place a treat in one or more of them. Bring your dog in to search for the treat. When they find the box with the treat give plenty of praise.

Tricks:

It's the perfect time to teach some tricks. Challenge yourself to teach one every couple of weeks. Spin, Shake Paw(s), Crawl, Bow, Pray, Weave between your legs, Roll over and more. Ask one of our instructors for help.



Pausing for a break while rolling over

Separation Anxiety

Separation Anxiety in a dog is an unreasonable fear or panic caused by being separated from their favourite people. This can result in vocalizations, destruction of property, pacing, self-mutilation (licking, chewing etc), toileting inside, digging, trying to escape etc.

Prevention is better than the cure so practice strong leadership and hopefully you may not have to deal with separation anxiety in your dog

- Only give your dog your attention and affection when they are calm and not seeking it. If your dog is anxious about something and whines and you then pat them and say "it's alright", you think you are calming the dog, the dog interprets the patting as a reward for doing the right thing and will do it again next time the situation arises so they can get your affection. The affection may work in the short term but in the long term the situation will get worse, not better.
- Don't allow your dog to follow you around the house constantly. If your dog gets attention every time it follows you around the house, you are probably making the problem worse not better. Practice having your dog remain in the room you are leaving for short period. Only invite them to follow you when they are no longer seeking to do so.
- Have your dog sleep in a different room to you.
- If you are home all day ensure your dog has some alone time away from you, either outside or in another room. Practice this several times a day.
- Make sure your dog has a safe place where he/she feels comfortable and safe when you are not there. This could be a crate, bed, kennel etc
- A good dog is a tired dog. Is your dog getting enough exercise? If they are tired they are less likely to react negatively to you leaving.
- When leaving the house use interactive toys to keep them occupied while you leave, such as a Kong, Snuffle matt, etc.
- When leaving the house don't make a fuss of your dog and vary your leaving routine. Upon your return ignore your dog until they have settled down and are not looking for attention.
- Practice leaving the house for short periods at random. Start with a minute, then build up the time you are gone for. Do not re-enter your house if you hear whining. The dog may think his/her whining was the reason you came home and may whine more next time.

If separation anxiety becomes a problem please seek the advice of your vet.

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.
- Repetition, Repetition, Repetition – Do I need to repeat myself? When training repetition is key. If your dog has accomplished a new task once, praise your dog but do not move onto something different. Continue to repeat it until your dog repeats the exercise correctly frequently and not just occasionally.

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

BCDTS supports many worthy local causes through direct donation and sponsorship. The below letter was received from a member whom we sponsored. Congratulations on a great swim Jan.

"This is a very special Thankyou to the whole team at Bayside Companion Dogs Training School - champion supporters of young Aussies in need.

From 1-31 March 2022 I was one of thousands around Australia who joined the annual "Laps for Life" Swim Challenge. This charity event is run every year through ReachOut Member and Patron, our own Olympic champion Ian Thorpe AM.

The target every year is to raise awareness of, and support for, critical mental health services and prevent suicide amongst our young Aussies.



This is the third time I have completed the event and been blown away by the incredible sponsorship offered to me through BCDTS. My stated goals were to complete 8 kms freestyle at the GESAC pool and hopefully raise \$800.

The support and encouragement that rolled in this year far exceeded my expectations. I'm so pleased to let you know that I pushed hard, completed 13.05 kms and raised a whopping \$2,280.

This will go such a long way towards providing invaluable support for our young folk needing assistance, many of whom have been impacted this year by Covid plus the recent devastating floods and personal losses across vast areas of eastern Australia.

I thank the Lack Family and all of you at BCDTS for being such a wonderful support for this swim challenge. You are an inspiration and spurred me on all the way to the final kilometre on 31 March.

The event raised a final total of \$1,936,350.00 this year. I am proud to have been able to participate again. ReachOut, Laps for Life and thousands of young Aussies - our future - thank you all so much.

Jan Barrand, Bentleigh East (club member of Bayside Companion Dog Training School)

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