





Puppy Tales

Ballaarat Dog Obedience Club -

Promoting responsible dog ownership.

March 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 Agility Daylight Savings training, 6pm-7.30pm Puppy pre-school, 6.30pm Tricks, 7.45pm	4	5
6 Obedience - 9.30 Classes: Puppy, 1,3,4 10.30 Classes: Puppy+, 2	7	8	9	10 Agility Daylight Savings training, 6pm-7.30pm Puppy pre-school, 6.30pm Tricks, 7.45pm	11	12
13 NO TRAINING DUE TO LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND	14 LABOUR DAY	15	16	17 Agility Daylight Savings training, 6pm-7.30pm Puppy pre-school, 6.30pm Tricks, 7.45pm	18	19
20 Obedience - 9.30 Classes - Puppy, 1,3,4 10.30 Classes Puppy+, 2	21	22	23	24 Agility Daylight Savings training, 6pm-7.30pm Puppy pre-school, 6.30pm Tricks, 7.45pm	25	26

27 Obedience - 9.30am Classes: Puppy, 1,3, 4 10.30am Classes: Puppy+, 2	28	29	30	31 Agility Daylight Savings training, 6pm-7.30pm Puppy pre-school, 6.30pm Tricks, 7.45pm		
---	-----------	-----------	-----------	--	---	---

YOUR CLUB MANAGEMENT

Ballaarat Dog Obedience Club Inc.

Registered No A0012427W



P.O. Box 383 Ballarat, 3350

Ph 5334 2750 (clubrooms)

www.bdoc.com.au

PATRON: Dr. Richard Lawrence

Committee of Management 2020/2021:

Office Bearers

PRESIDENT: LIZ BANDY

VICE PRESIDENT: YVONNE ROSS

SECRETARY: LISA STASZEK

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: STACEY DACIW

TREASURER: PAT MANN

ASSISTANT TREASURER: KAREN BRERETON

COMMITTEE:

JAY LAMONT, ZOE WERNER, JENNY VANDROMME, TAMIKA STASZEK, KIM KIPPIN, RACHEL CHENEY, WENDY GANLY.

GRIEVANCE OFFICER: TRACY BENDA

Email:

secretary@bdoc.com.au

info@bdoc.com.au

puppypreschool@bdoc.com.au

puppytales@bdoc.com.au

trial@bdoc.com.au

To contact the BDOC Secretary.

To ask questions or get information on club activities.

To apply to Puppy Preschool & get information.

To contact, or send articles to the Puppy Tales Editor.

To contact the Trial Secretary.

Discipline Coordinators

OBEDIENCE: CAROL HODGES

R.D.O:

PUPPY PRESCHOOL: NORM BAKER 0417678382

AGILITY: TRACY BENDA

FLYBALL: BILL REYNOLDS 0409404859

DISCLAIMER

The Committee of Management of Ballaarat Dog Obedience Club, Inc. (BDOC) and the Editor of the Club's newsletter accept no responsibility for error in the publication of any material. Advertisements published in the newsletter are accepted in goodwill by the Ballaarat Dog Obedience Club and the appearance of these advertisements in the newsletter should not be seen as an endorsement by the club of the companies or their products. Members wishing to avail themselves of these companies and their products are urged to make their own enquiries as to their suitability.

The opinions expressed in any material in this newsletter are not necessarily those of BDOC. The BDOC does not represent or warrant that the information, statements or representations contained in any material are correct, and is not to be held liable or responsible in any way whatsoever for any misstatement or error in the information, statements or representations contained in any material.

President's Report

A warm welcome to all of our new and returning members for 2022. A well-behaved dog is an absolute pleasure to live with and training together can be a great bonding experience and lots of fun. For those of you who watched the recent series 'Muster Dogs' on the ABC, you will understand the importance of developing that 'blue tooth connection' with your dog. Once that connection is made and your dog starts to watch your every move, it makes training so much more enjoyable.

A massive thank you to all of our volunteer instructors from every discipline who turn up each week and give freely of their time and knowledge. Thanks, in particular to the team who turned up over the summer break to ensure that our puppies continued to receive training. If you enjoyed your session today, learnt something new or had success with an exercise that your dog has struggled with, please take the time to thank your instructor. If you are enjoying training your dog, please think about becoming an instructor! We will train and support you through the process so if you are interested, please come and talk with Carol or any of the instructors to learn more.

If you are doing obedience lessons on a Sunday morning and are wondering what else you could do with your dog, then we have lots to offer! You may like to consider obedience trialling and earn some titles and awards for your dog. We offer Rally classes, Tricks, Flyball, Agility and Tracking. All of these sports/activities are lots of fun and it's a great opportunity to meet new people, make new friends and offers you the opportunity to compete in competitions across Victoria and interstate. Once your dog has a title in a discipline, then you can have their photo placed up on the wall in the clubroom.

During February, our instructors were given the opportunity to participate in a workshop with professional dog trainer, Mark Murray. As instructors, it is important for us to continually learn new ideas and grow our knowledge base to provide the best possible lessons for our members. Mark will be returning to Ballarat later this year to offer a training workshop for all interested members. Thanks to Yvonne for organising this visit from Mark. We have some other exciting workshops planned and will let everyone know when we have locked in some dates.

Covid 19 continues to be of concern here in Ballarat. Even though we have seen the relaxing of mask requirements, please continue to socially distance as much as possible while at club and wear a mask if you feel more comfortable to do so. Please be respectful of others and stay at home if you are feeling unwell.

Have fun training your dog.

Liz Bandy

President

Notices

- What a wonderful opportunity we all have to be a part of a club that offers so much to us and our precious dogs! All of the volunteers at BDOC are always more than happy to impart their knowledge, provide guidance, and be a pillar of support to members. Let us all continue to treat the BDOC instructors and volunteers with respect and courtesy. This includes being prompt to class and being attentive in class. Please remember that all advice and guidance is given to members with only the best of intentions.
- Another wonderful opportunity within BDOC is the ability for the Class 4 to participate in Ring Craft, when instructor numbers permit. Exciting and challenging, Ring Craft provides handlers with the chance to experience trial-like conditions in preparation for entering obedience trials. You are welcome to watch the individual and group exercises, it is inspiring stuff!
- As per club policy, it is against our regulations for bitches in season to attend training. Please be considerate of other dogs and their handlers, and do not bring your bitch to training sessions if she is in season. Thank you.

Obedience Training Times:

9.30 am Puppy, Groups 1, 3, 4 and Trial ring

10.30 am Puppy Plus and Group 2

These times are correct at time of printing but please also check our website or Facebook page in case of changes.

Please remember you must **sign in** using the QR code or paper sign in sheet before class commences. Please show your proof of COVID vaccination if you haven't already.

Come down early and walk your dog around the grounds before class to get them ready for training.

Did you know?

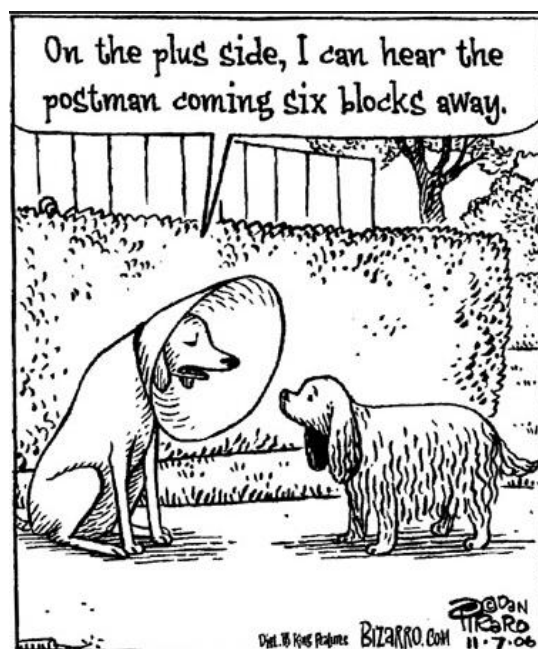
You can access current and past copies of Puppy Tales from our website:

<http://www.bdoc.com.au/>

Or if you are a 'Facebooker', you can join our Facebook group:

'Ballaarat Dog Obedience Club Inc'

You can access your copy from there!



AGILITY TRAINING TIMES

Set up at 9.30am
Advanced class: 10.00am
Beginners: 11.30am
Pack up: 12.30

Although summer is behind us, we are still experiencing some warm weather, so it is important to keep in mind these methods of heat stroke prevention.

Heat stroke prevention

Dogs don't sweat, except to a minor degree through their foot pads, so they can't tolerate high environmental temperatures. Dogs use panting as a way to exchange warm air for cool air. But when the air temperature is close to the dog's body temperature, cooling by panting is not an efficient process. This is when heat stroke can occur.

Heat stroke signs



Symptoms

- Bright red tongue
- Depression
- Diarrhoea
- Dizziness
- Excessive panting
- Increased heart rate
- Increased salivation
- Red or pale gums
- Thick, sticky saliva
- Vomiting
- Weakness

Heat stroke first aid



- **Remove dog from heat immediately** and move preferably into an air-conditioned building or, at the very least, into the shade.
- **Wetting down the area around your dog** can also help to lower the ambient temperature.



- **Check rectal temperature** every five minutes using a digital thermometer and continue cooling process until the temperature drops to around 39°.
- **Lower temperature by wetting with cool water** (not chilled) and setting up a circulating fan.
- **Caution:** cooling too quickly can cause complications.

Prevention



- Always give your dog access to drinking water.
- Avoid hot sand, concrete or asphalt areas where heat is reflected and there is no access to shade.
- Don't leave your dog in a car unattended at any time.
- Ensure outside dogs have access to shade.



- Place a circulating fan near your dog to cool him down.
- Restrict exercise activity in hot weather.
- Wetting down your dog with cool water or allowing him to swim can help maintain a normal body temperature.

You should always see a vet



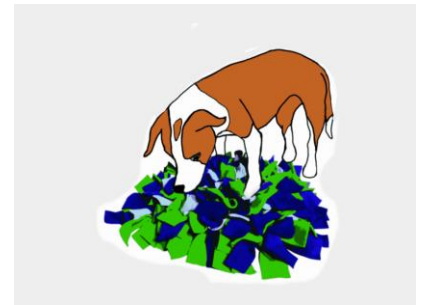
- Even if your dog appears to be recovering, **take him to your vet** as soon as possible. He should still be examined since he may be dehydrated or have other complications.
- **Caution:** if your dog is displaying severe signs of heat distress, get him to the vet as quickly as you can.

In most instances, pet heat stroke is preventable. By using common sense and taking some simple precautions, your dog can enjoy his normal outdoor activities. Please ensure your pet stays cool in hot weather, never leave him in a car alone and always provide him with adequate water and shelter from the sun.



Please note: this fact sheet provides general information and should not act as a substitute for contacting your vet.

From the Dog Shop – Featured Item.



What is a Snuffle Mat?

A snuffle mat is an interactive enrichment puzzle that will engage your dog's mind and body. Snuffle mats are typically in a square format and are made of a rubber mat with holes and fleece material.

If you have a snuffle mat with long fleece strips, the puzzle will be harder for your dog. If the fleece strips are short, the puzzle is easier for your dog. Dog owners often start with shorter strips first and then work their way up to long strips.

How to use a Snuffle Mat?

Snuffle mats are easy to use and they're great for providing mental stimulation to your dog.

The idea of the snuffle mat is to place your dog's kibble in the mat for them to find. If you don't feed kibble to your dog, you can place a few treats in the mat for your dog to find.

As you can imagine, this will slow your dog down quite a bit while they're eating. It also encourages your dog to use their nose, which provides mental stimulation as your dog is trying to find the food hidden in the mat. You can use your snuffle mat instead of a food bowl when you feed your dog, or for a brief moment of enrichment throughout the day, as they are an excellent boredom buster.

Note: Like with all games and toys, dogs should be supervised while engaging with the snuffle mat. Remove it once your dog has found all the food or treats to prevent them from eating the mat or peeing on it.

What do you put in a Snuffle Mat?

Small, dry treats are best to be put in snuffle mats to avoid making an unnecessary mess.

If you feed your dog kibble, you can use some of their daily ration for the snuffle mat.

We know of a few dog owners who's pups didn't care for kibble but are obsessed with Ziwi Peak Air-Dried dog food. In particular the Tripe & Lamb seems to be very popular.

I love snuffle mats for dogs because they make for a great enrichment activity.

Who hasn't got a story about a bored dog who got themselves into mischief?

I mean, we all know that dogs don't ruin our favourite pair of shoes on purpose, but we would still prefer it if they didn't.

The reason dogs get themselves into trouble is often because they're bored.

If a dog is bored and has nothing else to do, they will come up with their own idea of a good time.

In order to prevent accidents from happening, we need to provide our dogs with an outlet for their energy.

Many of us struggle to provide our dogs with an adequate amount of physical exercise, so a great alternative is to provide our dogs with enrichment activities through mental stimulation.

A lot of the time, enrichment activities can make your dog more tired than a jog around the neighbourhood.

This is great, because as we all know: a tired dog is a good dog.

<https://dogsofaustralia.com.au/lifestyle/snuffle-mats-for-dogs/>





Dog Shop

Come in and say hello to Karen and she will be able to advise you and help fit your dog with what they need!

PRICE LIST

Leads:	\$20.00
Martingale collars:	\$20.00
Treat bags:	\$20.00
Snuffle mat:	\$40.00
Tug toys:	\$10.00



Just for a bit of fun, see if you can spot the dog!!

