



# Puppy Tales

*Ballaarat Dog Obedience Club -  
Promoting responsible dog ownership.*

## February 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
<b>5 New Member Sign Ups</b> Tricks 9 – 9.30  <b>Obedience</b> 9.30 & 10.30  <b>Flyball</b> 9.30 - onwards	<b>6</b>  Committee Meeting  7pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  Puppy Pre-school - 6.30pm  Tricks - 7.45pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Tricks 9 – 9.30  <b>Obedience</b> 9.30 & 10.30  <b>Flyball</b> 9.30 - onwards	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  Puppy Pre-school - 6.30pm  Tricks - 7.45pm	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Tricks 9 – 9.30  <b>Obedience</b> 9.30 & 10.30  <b>Flyball</b> 9.30 - onwards	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  Puppy Pre-school - 6.30pm  Tricks - 7.45pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Tricks 9 – 9.30  <b>Obedience</b> 9.30 & 10.30  <b>Flyball</b> 9.30 - onwards	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>				



# 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](http://www.bdoc.com.au)

**PATRON: Dr. Richard Lawrence**

### **Committee of Management 2021/2022:**

#### **Office Bearers**

**PRESIDENT:** LIZ BANDY

**VICE PRESIDENT:** YVONNE ROSS

**SECRETARY:** LISA STASZEK

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY:**

**TREASURER:** PAT MANN

**ASSISTANT TREASURER:** KAREN BRERETON

#### **COMMITTEE:**

JAY LAMONT, ELLEN MUCHA, STACEY DACIW, DAVID POLLARD, DEE GARBUTT, RACHEL CHENERY, JEN VANDROMME

**GRIEVANCE OFFICER:** TRACY BENDA

#### **Email:**

[secretary@bdoc.com.au](mailto:secretary@bdoc.com.au)

*To contact the BDOC Secretary.*

[info@bdoc.com.au](mailto:info@bdoc.com.au)

*To ask questions or get information on club activities.*

[puppypreschool@bdoc.com.au](mailto:puppypreschool@bdoc.com.au)

*To apply to Puppy Preschool & get information.*

[pwithell@gmail.com](mailto:pwithell@gmail.com)

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

[trial@bdoc.com.au](mailto:trial@bdoc.com.au)

*To contact the Trial Secretary.*

### **Discipline Coordinators and Assistant Coordinators**

**OBEDIENCE:** CAROL HODGES

NORM BAKER

**R.D.O:**

**PUPPY PRESCHOOL:** NORM BAKER

0417678382

**AGILITY:** TRACY BENDA

**FLYBALL:** JEN VANDROMME

0438362909

**TRICKS:** GRACE CALDWELL

YVONNE ROSS

**TRACKING:** LISA STASZEK

PAT MANN

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# 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 the volunteers at BDOC are always more than happy to impart their knowledge, provide guidance, and be a pillar of support to members. Please be prompt to, and attentive in, class so all members gain the most from their class each week. If there is something you are unsure of, just ask the instructor to explain. Each instructor is only too keen to help you.
- 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.

***Don't forget, you can access a copy of this edition, and past Puppy Tales, on the BDOC website.***

## Obedience Training Times

Training times for obedience have returned to two sessions:

**9.30** – Classes: Puppies, 1, 3 and 4

**10.30** – Classes, Puppies + and 2

## Agility Training Times

**From March 18th**

Please remember that to participate in Agility you must be available to either set up or pack up equipment. Many hands make light work (and instructors happy)

Set up at 9.30am

Advanced class: 10.00am

Beginners: 11.15am

Pack up: 12.15pm

## 2022 President's Report BDOC



I have much pleasure in presenting the 2022 President's Annual Report for the Ballarat Dog Obedience Club and I begin by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land, the Wathawurrung People, and pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

After being surprised at the last AMG with a nomination for the role of president, I was even more surprised when I heard myself saying yes! However, it is a role that I have taken on with enthusiasm and dedication as this club has played an important part of my life since 1986.

I would like to start by thanking all the instructors in all of the disciplines including puppy preschool for volunteering their time each week to teach owners how to train their dogs. You turn up each week rain, hail or shine to share your knowledge and help others. For many, you don't just instruct in one discipline but several or take back-to-back classes. This has all been very challenging this year with Covid leaving our instructor group depleted, the unrelenting rain, the unusable muddy oval and the Council repeatedly locking us out of Vic Park for other events and not letting us know where we would be moved to until the last minute.

I'd also like to thank Marie who volunteered to clean our clubrooms each week. Thank you for this kindness, it really has been greatly appreciated by all of us.

The Committee have tried to be very proactive this year and we have done our best to follow through with actions. In 2022 we have been able to:

- Purchase new uniforms for instructors.
- Organise a dog first aid course for instructors.
- Pay for a Seminar with Mark Murray for instructors so we can keep up with the latest ideas in dog training.
- Purchase new agility equipment so we will be ready when we run our next agility competition, hopefully in the 2023.
- Paid for the Flyball trailer to be repainted.
- Got scent classes up and running for a short time and hope to again in 2023 with new instructors joining us.
- See the Demonstration team get back up and running.
- Working on getting our renewals online to make it easier for members.
- Finally had our first presentation night dinner since 2019 where we presented well-earned Service Awards.

The club was able to run several successful Tracking trials this year and we even managed to sneak in our Santa Ball Flyball competition at the last moment even though we were locked out of Vic Park due to Spilt Milk and had to relocate to Morshead Park.

Unfortunately, our Obedience, Rally and Tricks Trials were all cancelled or postponed due to the terrible condition of our grounds. This was a blow to our club as we were really looking forward to hosting these after the many cancellations caused by Covid. We look forward to a drier year ahead and successful trials in 2023.

On a positive note, it has been great to see a number of people get back into trialling and having success in obedience, rally, flyball, tracking, agility and tricks this year with many titles gained. It would be wonderful to see more people take the next step and have a go in the trialling arena as it good to challenge yourselves and try something new.

After several frustrating years of very slow progress dealing with the Council, our building subcommittee are finally seeing some real progress in the renovations of our clubrooms. We have submitted our plans and ideas for our needs to the Council and are waiting to hear back to see the final plans. Then we wait for permits to be granted, tenders to be sought and we may even have our new clubrooms by the end of next year which would be very exciting. However, we won't hold our breaths quite yet!

Finally, I would like to thank the 2022 Committee for all their support, hard work and friendship. You have been a pleasure to work with and full of enthusiasm. It has been a very diverse group of people with participants from all disciplines to ensure there has been no bias or favouritism. I would encourage other members to put up their hand and join the Committee for the coming year. Remember, before you complain about anything, have you volunteered yet?

Liz Bandy  
President BDOC  
11/12/22



### **2022 Treasurer's Report BDOC**

This particular report has been a transition between the lows of the COVID-19 lockdown and the recommencement of normal Club activities.

The Club has recorded a \$318.28 loss for this financial year because, despite an increase in income 13.9% (\$2,994.90), there has been an increase in expenses of 65.5% (\$9,809.20).

Membership and Puppy PreSchool income have both contributed positively to the bottom line but we can see the impact of COVID-19 where there is very little income derived from Trial events offered by the Club.

Interest Earnt has had a decrease of \$875 (down by 67.2%). Hopefully the situation will improve now that the interest rates are beginning to rise.

The increase in expenses can be partially explained by the recommencement of Club activities where expenses such as Cleaning and Gas and Electricity have increased by modest amounts. By far the most significant increase in expenses has been caused by the Committee's decision to 'invest' in our volunteer instructor's experience.

During the period the Club has run an instructor workshop and purchased new uniforms for all instructors. The total cost of these two items alone came to \$5,302.80.

Most other expenses have not increased or decreased by significant amounts, the exception being the purchase of trophies (\$1,204.50) which were not presented the previous year.

Still other movement in expenses are as a result of Classification change. Examples of this type of change can be seen in printing which was down by \$473.20 but Puppy Tales was up \$448.80.

The mobile phone expenses have risen from \$49.99 in 2020/2021 to \$239.88. This is because we went quite a while with no telephone connection. The Club commenced a mobile plan in March 2021 with an initial subscription of \$10.00 per month introductory offer which then rose to \$19.99 when that trial period finished.

As we emerge from the COVID-19 experience, the Club will see a resumption of Trial Events, which had been curtailed, in tandem with our increasing membership should return us a strong positive outcome for the coming financial year.

Patricia Mann BA B.Bus, Grad Dip Computing

Treasurer

Ballaarat Dog Obedience Club Inc

### **Membership Report 2021/2022**

In the 2021/2022 membership year the Club had 412 members enrolled in 281 memberships.

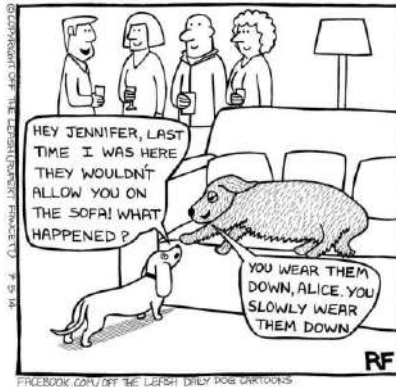
The membership breakdown was:

Associate	1
Dual	100
Family	19
Single	150
Junior	5
Life	6

The memberships to date for the 2022/2023 period are looking robust and we are expecting that the membership numbers for the current period to be exceeded.

Pat Mann

Membership Officer



## 2022 Discipline Reports

### **Agility**

Firstly, a big thank you to Sandy, Peter and Ellen for helping to keep agility running for another 12 months.

Special thanks to Sandy who has again stepped up to be my Assist Coordinator for another 12 months - very much appreciated.

A special thanks to Ellen who has generously offered to be our trial secretary in May 2023. The other unsung heroes of the club, the trial secretaries. Many hours spent making sure we are an active and competitive club in dog sports.

It has been a challenging return to COVID normal, so many volunteers have stepped away, and of course, mother nature thought she'd put herself in the mix this year also. However, we are still here and training strongly with some amazing agility participants.

As instructors we sometimes wonder what keeps us going, always sacrificing our own time with our dogs or indeed, family. Well, the answer is simple, the days we see the penny drop or the smile from ear to ear as a particular manoeuvre works out, gives us that immense pleasure - that someone else has shared the joy of truly being a team with their dog. There is simply nothing that compares.

As instructors we have been so delighted to see many of our members heading out to start their Agility competition journey this year. I'm looking forward to next year's presentation night as we toast their successes, not to mention seeing everyone in clothes that aren't active wear and runners!



Most importantly, a big shout out to all the BDOC committee, I think I can speak for all disciplines that this committee has been a pleasure to work with. It hasn't been an easy task steering the ship out of Covid or through the lack of volunteers. Well done.

My last thing I will mention is this: Our club does not survive without its volunteers. I'd like to ask everyone to think of something small they can contribute each week to assist, something as small as emptying the bins inside to filling the buckets of dog water on a Sunday. These are all tasks that will free up our instructors and committee for them to assist where most needed. It will certainly be appreciated.

Tracy Benda  
Agility Coordinator

## **Flyball**

This year after running in open teams due to lack of people/dogs most of the year, we managed to put a team together for the nationals with the help of Kylie & Gayle from Western Weiners running Lilli & Tilly for us.

Our first time running indoors and on rubber matting but the dogs all did very well. Sadly, one of our dogs arrived at the competition with muscle sprain that added an extra second on his time for the competition (Hint for future competitors: don't go rough hiking before Nationals) with the division breaks being only 0.5 of a second we did not do as well as we hoped. We also almost got washed away in our tents with all the rain, very wet!

We had 3 titles this year with Coco just missing out on the cutoff date.

Hamish	Flyball Master
Sammi	Australian Flyball Champion
Mac	Australian Flyball Champion

We also had a return of Santaball, running our own comp in Ballarat with Keilor Dog Obedience coming to help set up. It was held at Morshead park due to the Spilt Milk festival using our grounds.

Huge shout out to Yvonne, Norm, Jay, Pat Mann, Kyle and Nicole and the other volunteers that stepped into help after the Lions Club had to pull out of doing the BBQ due to illness.

On a positive note we have some very keen beginners so hopefully we will be up and running a Ballarat team more consistently in the future.

Dee Garbut has stepped up and is our new assistant coordinator Thank you, Danielle, for your assistance this year.

Dee & I have been working on video's and DIY instruction documents for the club's web page and Facebook files for flyball at home activities to hopefully encourage more participation.

We are also considering an intake day to instruct beginners on correct usage of our new stations, allowing them to come and use the set up equipment with minimal supervision, going forward.

Jen Vandrome  
Flyball Coordinator



## END OF YEAR BREAK UP



What a great morning to celebrate our year of dog training!  
There were demonstrations of some of things you and your dog could become involved in.

What followed were some great games, a big thank you to the organisers of said games, everyone had a terrific time and lots of laughs as well.  
Some handlers and their dogs really took time and effort to get dressed up, here are a few of them...



## OBEDIENCE REPORT



Welcome back everybody! It was a nice restful break for the instructors and, we hope, for you too. We are having some very hot weather so please no walking your dogs in the heat of the day. If it is hot for you, it's hot for them. Feel the bitumen, if it is hot on your hands imagine what it is like on their pads. You can walk early in the morning or at dusk when the sun goes down.

First day will be a bit hectic but we will want you in the class you were in before the break. Instructors will assess during classes. Puppy plus and Puppy will be on the move into other classes. I would like our members to be aware of new members coming into your class. Please make them feel welcome. They will have dogs that are picking up anxiety from their owners as they are in a new environment, so give them space.

One of our new instructors has to take a leave of absence due to family commitments. I really would like members who are up in higher classes to consider passing their knowledge on to others and becoming instructors. With running two sessions we can work around you so you can still train your dog.

Carol and Norm  
Obedience Coordinators.

This is why we own dogs...



They'd never do this to us! 😊



## It's the Same Thing Every Summer....

We all know that we don't keep dogs in cars on hot days. Either leave your dog at home or get them out of the car and find a shady spot to put them in while you go into the shop for '5 minutes', which it rarely is.

But... what about walking your dog in summer?

Not only do we need to think of the air temperature being too warm but what about the surface your dog is walking on? We wear shoes so it isn't something we have to consider for ourselves. You are a lot further away from the surface, your dog's legs are not nearly as long as yours.

So as the sign says, rather pointedly, consider what it will be like for your bare-pawed, hairy friend. If in doubt, don't. Either have an early start (there's nothing like the early morning walk to sort your head) or wait until the end of the day where it might have cooled down.



Here's a handy graphic from W.A. (and they know about hot weather!)

**Guide Dogs WA**

# Is the ground too hot for my paws?

**Blacktop/asphalt**  
At just 30.6°C, asphalt can heat up to as high as 61.7°C.

**Concrete/cement**  
At 35°C, cement can heat up to as high as 51.6°C.

**Sand**  
At 32°C, sand can get as hot as 49°C to 54.4°C.

**Natural Grass**  
At 35°C, natural grass is about 40.6°C in the sun and 32.8°C in the shade.



# 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



We also have the bright yellow "GIVE ME SPACE" vests for \$20.00

