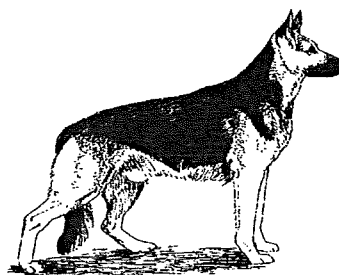
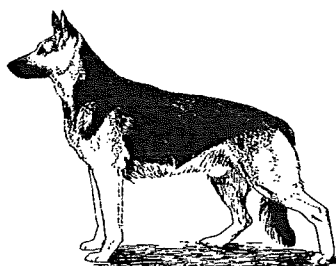
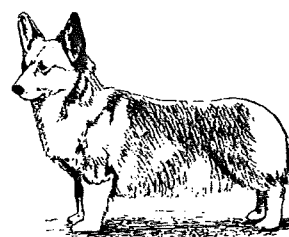
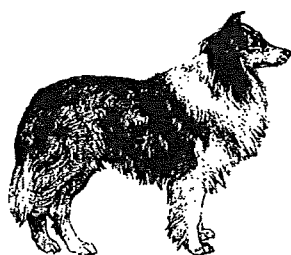
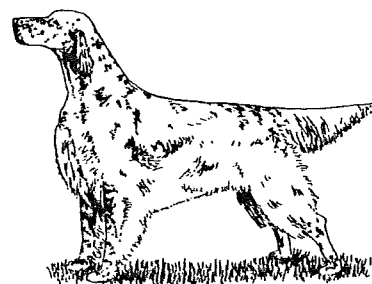
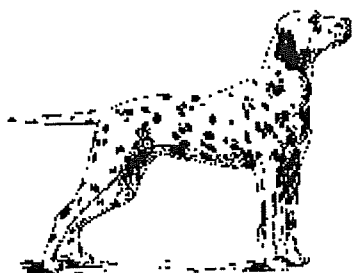


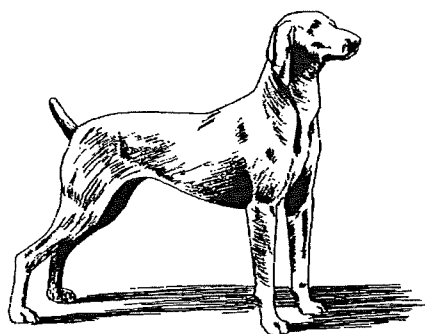
# FAITHFULLY YOURS



**ESTABLISHED 1954**

**Incorporation No A5419H**

**ABN 79 874 613 605**



**Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc**  
**Breakwater Road, Belmont Common**  
**GEE LONG VIC 3220**  
**Phone: 5243 4555**

**March 2008**  
**Issue No**  
**187**

# GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC

Patron – Mr Fred Lehrmann  
Office Bearers for 2007/2008

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Jim Ball	5248 4154	Public Officer
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT (1)</b>	Colin Humphreys	5282 2683	Training
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT (2)</b>	Leonie Kelleher	5243 1277	Administration
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Pam Convery	5241 4786	
<b>TREASURER</b>	Stephen Eldridge	5261 2820	Property Officer
<b>TRIAL SECRETARY</b>	Janelle Convery	5241 4786	
<b>GENERAL COMMITTEE</b>	Jim Broadbent	5275 4458	Canteen Manager
	Peter Baker	5221 1524	Equipment Manager
	Victor Douglas	5241 5401	Grounds Manager
	Kathy Stones	5243 1819	Hall Manager
	Wendy Ganly	5278 1800	Publicity Officer
	Karen Millard	5267 2618	Social Secretary
<b>NON-COMMITTEE</b>	David Gravalin	5248 5480	Training Supervisor
	Jenni Keeping	0413 011 822	Membership Officer
	Elaine Longshaw	5255 4603	Minutes Officer
	Alex Shackleton		Shop Manager
	Barbara Thorogood	5244 1819	Training Manager
	Vacant		Bar Manager
	Robyn Youl	5367 6415	Librarian
	Vacant		Assistant Librarian
	Pam Convery	5241 4786	Newsletter Editor
	Alan Pescott	5263 3290	Webmaster
	Bernie Thomas	0438 068 202	Raffle Steward

*The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy of the Editor or the Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc. All Committee and Sub-Committee reports bear the name of the respective Club Officers. The Editor and/or Committee reserves the right to correct, alter, re-arrange or refuse, without prejudice, any copy submitted for publication.*

Weekday Office Hours:- Thursdays, 2.00pm to 6.30pm

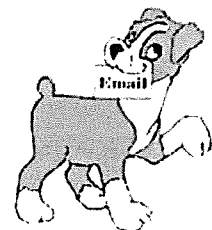
All correspondence should be addressed to:-

**THE SECRETARY**  
**PO BOX 186**  
**GEELONG VIC 3220**

If you would like to contribute articles etc. for publication in "Faithfully Yours", please forward them to The Editor, c/- the above address, hand in at the Office or email to [jcgret@ozemail.com.au](mailto:jcgret@ozemail.com.au)

Please remember the closing date for all Newsletter items is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month

**Club website – [www.godc.org.au](http://www.godc.org.au)**



## CLUB CALENDAR

### April

**Tuesday**      **1 April**

**General Meeting – 8.00 pm unless otherwise advised.**

**Saturday**      **5 April**

Agility Trial entries close

**Sunday**      **6 April**

Trial working bee. To be advised

**Friday**      **11 April**

Normal training. Class 1 Intake. Puppy Intake for fully vaccinated puppies under 6 months

**Saturday**      **12 April**

Trial working bee. To be advised

**Sunday**      **13 April**

**BACK-TO-BACK AGILITY TRIALS**

**Monday**      **14 April**

**BACK-TO-BACK AGILITY TRIALS. NO TRAINING**

**Sunday**      **20 April**

Instructor's Meeting – 7.30 pm

**Sunday**      **27 April**

Normal training. Newsletter available

**ANZAC DAY WEEKEND. NO TRAINING**

### May

**Sunday**      **4 May**

**PROMOTION DAY.**

**Sunday**      **11 May**

Normal training.

**Thursday**      **15 May**

Newsletter closes for articles, reports, etc

**Sunday**      **18 May**

Normal training.

**Monday**      **19 May**

**Instructor's Meeting – 7.30 pm.**

**Sunday**      **25 May**

Spirit of the West proposed date. Newsletter available

## CLUB INSTRUCTORS

*Vice President (Training)*

Colin Humphreys

*Training Supervisor*

David Gravalin

*Assistant Training Supervisors*

Sandy Malady

John Shields

### Obedience

Joan Brophy

Leonie Kelleher

Moiria McNair

Fred Lehrmann

Victor Douglas

Val Moeller

Sandy Malady

Kim Ciezarek

John Shields

Kath Devlin

Ray Millard

Desma Dickeson

Andrew Wallace

Tina Button

### Agility

Trish Gavaghan

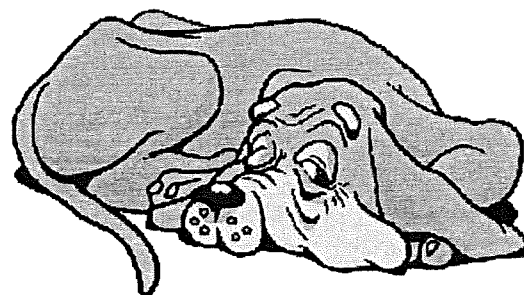
Peter Baker

Glenys Murray

Jenny Chase

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*A powerful woman gives as much to herself as she does of herself"*



**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Well another month has passed us by. The GAWS Dog Day out seemed to go off ok. My thanks to all of you who volunteered to assist this organization on the day.

Easter has passed us by again. A few of us attended a "Fish BBQ" on Good Friday. I'm hoping it was a good day and a few turned up. As you know March was a very disrupted month for those of you attending Class. I guess that means you have to work a little harder at home but remember if you are having problems see your Instructor. They are there to help you.

In April we have our back-to-back Agility Trials, so we will be looking for some help on both days. If you can put in a couple of hours it makes it a lot easier for everyone. Please help out if you can. Well that is enough from me. Good luck for the rest of the year and please remember," IF IT IS HOT, DON'T LEAVE YOUR DOG IN THE CAR".

**Jim Ball -President**

**PUBLICITY OFFICERS REPORT****Red Cross Collection Day**

A total of \$362 was collected by those who, with their dogs, gave up their free time to hang around the shops at the Waurm Ponds Shopping Centre.

It appears that puppies can drag money out of anyone. It was a Rookie day as people couldn't resist him. I was told that as soon as someone bent down to pat Rookie, a Red Cross Collection container was put between the pup and the handler's hand. Nice work, Rookies owners. Two young girls did a great job too.

**Anglesea Nursing Home**

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2008, Alan Pescott and Ruby, Alan's son and their Agility dog and Gambit and I visited the Anglesea Nursing Home.

The clients were so happy to see the dogs, many of them telling us of their own animals that they had. Pats were the order of the afternoon as well as one lady wanting to know how old the dogs were.

Alan and I did some basic obedience work like sits, drops, stands, sit stay, down stay etc. The clients were most impressed with the ability of the dogs. The sit and down stays were a winner. We left our dogs on a down stay and walked around the outside of the client's chairs. The dogs were very good but kept their eyes on us the whole time.

All Gambit wanted to do was hump Ruby, it was so embarrassing, I was constantly pulling Gambit off her. Alan said that normally Ruby will sit down or have a go at the dog but I think it was "love at first sight", as she was teasing him in the finish.

We have been asked if we could come back again later on in the year.

I was told that the people just wanted to see obedient dogs, but the Ohhh's and Arhhh's came thick and fast when the dogs did some tricks, so that needs to be added to the demonstration.

Alan and I left feeling good about ourselves and our dogs as we gave them something different to see and do.

***IF YOU HAVE SOME FREE TIME - then I'd love to hear from you.***

Is your dog well behaved, can it do some tricks, is the dog just beginning it's training, if so then you might be interested in becoming part of a Demonstration Team that if needed can visit Nursing Homes, Schools, Kindergartens, fairs, etc that shows the public what a well trained dog can do.

**Contact Wendy on 52781800 or [wendyscanga@yahoo.com.au](mailto:wendyscanga@yahoo.com.au)**

### **GEELONG ANIMAL WELFARE – DOGS DAY OUT - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

What a day it was, so many people, so many different dogs, and a delightful young girl who's golden Lab worked so good for her going over the Agility equipment.

A few dogs were so overweight and the normal answer was "they don't eat much; they get table scraps and then their normal food"

The microchipping did a great trade with a lot of dogs having to be microchipped due to the new dog regulations.

Quite few willing GODC Members gave up their time helping keep the microchipping line in order, cooking sausages, serving drinks in the canteen and keeping an eye on the people who wanted to let their dogs try Agility for the first time.

The GODC members wore the new Vests that let the public see exactly who we were. Thanks to Jim Ball for setting up the logo for the vests.

Marquees were put up in the chain ring and around the outside; there was a jumping castle that kept the children entertained and Katrina Warren judged the best-dressed dog, and gave answers to questions put to her by the public.

**Wendy Ganly – Publicity Officer**



## **ADVERTISING RATES FOR "FAITHFULLY YOURS"**

Advertisements are restricted to a maximum of 12 half pages per issue.

### **RATES**

Up to 1/8 page Line Advertisement	1 Edition	\$ 2.00
Half page Advertisement	1 Edition	\$10.00
Half page Advertisement	12 Months      6 issues (bi-monthly)	\$50.00

Half page "Title" and "Vale" notices are provided free to all Members. Copy must be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. If you would like photos etc returned, please provide a suitably sized SSAE.

*Please note that we do not advertise puppy litters.*

## **TRAINING SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

Hi and welcome to our new Members. Consistency and repetition are the keys to a well behaved dog.

There is only a month to the next Promotion Day, 4<sup>th</sup> May, so get in that practice, concentrating on the areas that need improving. It is often worthwhile reducing the level of behavior so that the dog can be rewarded and then increase the requirement bit by bit, rewarding as you go. Initially reward each time but quickly go to rewarding the best out of 2 or 3.

Finally please set a good example when your out in public with your dog. Don't let them rush or lunge at people or dogs, even if they are being friendly. Do give others the room to walk on the footpath, etc and of course, clean up after your dog.

**David Gravolin – Training Supervisor**

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Hi everyone. Well here we are at the end of what has been a very busy month with almost as many holidays as there were training days.

Firstly, thank you to the Members for their support with the Cadburys Fundraiser. Most of the boxes have been returned with only a few odd bags to be sold through the Office. Hopefully our next venture will be a few social functions.

And now a huge thank you to the Members who worked at the Animal Welfare Dog's Day Out. We had Members working in the Agility ring, cooking up a storm on the BBQ, keeping the public flowing through the Microchipping area and the Canteen was also kept busy. There was also other Members taking on all the 100 and 1 jobs that kept surfacing. On the Thursday prior to Easter a bouquet of flowers was delivered to the Club as a Thank You from Animal Welfare, unfortunately because of the holiday the workers didn't get to enjoy them so I have included a photo for you all to see.

The other photo included is dog Refreshment Time at the Good Friday BBQ.

**Pam Convery – Secretary**

## **TRIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Just a quick report, again asking for your help with our Agility Trials next month.

There are How you can help at the Trials forms out now, so please do what you can and there will be working bees coming up soon so watch the Gossip Sheet for further information..

Best wishes to all Members Trialling at the moment.

**Janelle Convery – Trial Secretary**



## NEW MEMBERS

The Committee, Instructors and Members would like to welcome the following new Members who have joined the Club recently. We hope you enjoy your training.

2/03/2008

Bushell Tammie  
Snell Sandy/Anderson Tom  
Hyde Andrew  
Roberts Amanda/Danielle  
Kelly Jason  
Pownall Barbara  
Malone Andrew/Fisher Dale  
Vines Shane/Sharyn  
Talarild Tony  
Hayes Christopher  
Brown Margaret Anne  
Moore Geoff

Grayer Jennifer/John  
Mackenzie Rebecca/Mackenzie Palmer  
Riley Stephen  
Robertson Paul  
Griff Garrson/Drenovac Rachael  
Henderson Jamie  
Mancor Audrey  
Tunnicliffe Robert (Bob)/Nanette  
Ollis Amanda  
Glatthor Theo/Manolis Patti  
Bravo Donna

Petstas Sarah  
Robertson Matt  
Major Steve  
Deans Glenda



## APPLICATION FOR TRAINEE INSTRUCTORS

Members are invited to apply to enter the Instructors Course, which will commence in the near future. Members applying will receive education in

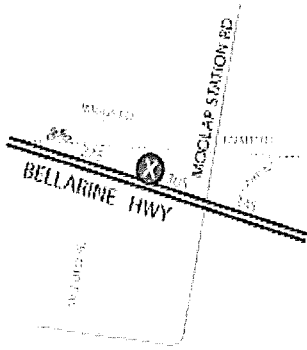
- The Club – how it works and its history
- What makes a good Instructor?
  - Understanding how dogs and people learn
  - Be familiar with the difficulties people have in learning
  - Recognise these difficulties when they occur in Class
  - How to overcome these difficulties
  - Understand how dogs learn
  - How to be a successful Instructor
- Advances in dog training – what the public expect
- Positive training – what it is and how it works
  - Scientific research results on which positive training is based
  - Learn training theory
  - Learn training methods

In return the Trainee must guarantee to give the Club 12 months of their time as an Instructor after completing the course.

Course time frame 12 weeks plus apprentice time with a qualified Instructor. A Certificate will be issued after completing the course

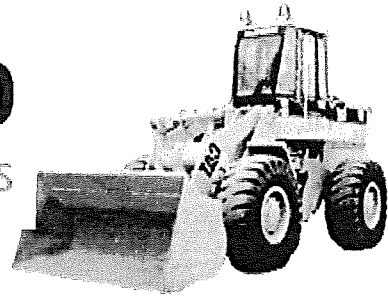
Merit Certificate pass to commence as Trainee. Graduate Certificate pass required before you commence instructing.





# Newcomb

## Sand and Soil Supplies



FOR ALL YOUR GARDEN SUPPLIES

Screened Loams · Mixed Garden Soil · All Sands · Various Mulches

Earthmoving equipment and tip trucks for hire

295 Bellarine Hwy

Moolap Victoria 3221

Telephone 5248 2632

Open 7 Days a Week

### PORUSE DIAMOND DEALER TD CCD



"GAMBIT" gained his Title of CCD (Community Companion Dog) at the Warrnambool Obedience Dog Training School trial on Sunday 9th March.

He would have received a score of at least 92 if I had kept my mouth shut (how can I possibly do that???), but 82 was a pretty good score as well as second in the ring was a good way to end a weekend of Trialing both in obedience & Agility.

Gambit was attacked at his first Obedience Trial and I have had to work to get him to understand that the "Boogy Dog" is not going to get him. His training has changed a number of times over the past couple of years by working through his and my nervousness in the ring, being too reliant of food, loosing focus in the ring etc.

Now I place the food in a container outside the ring and when Gambit has completed the exercises he is given the command of "go get it" where he races out of the training area to his reward.

We nearly lost all his points as he was on his way out of the ring by himself without being attached to me by his lead. The judge reminded me that "he has to be on lead Wendy."

I wish to thank all of you who have put Gambit and I through the training sessions on Sunday & Tuesday evenings, given advice during a trial, your companionship and sharing my pain when we failed miserably in a trial ring as well as allowing Gambit to enjoy his most enjoyable past time of playing with his four footed friends

On Tuesday, 11 March Gambit and I will be celebrating gaining his title with Pizza and champagne at the GODC grounds with my trialing two and four footed friends. After that, Gambit and I 'might' practice our first night of Novice exercises?

**Wendy Ganly - The proud owner of Gambit**



## **"Attention Training – (Part 1)"**

From [www.doglogic.com](http://www.doglogic.com)



Attention trained dogs are great to watch and fun to work with. Obedience work is the most obvious beneficiary of Attention Training. But, Breed Handling also benefits greatly from an Attention Trained dog. Imagine not having to toss bait onto the ring floor, but quietly asking your dog for a stack? People are greatly impressed by a dog who watches its trainer and the overall impression you create as a team in the ring can make a difference between a good score and a Win! I can tell you a bit about the mechanics involved and what the training should do for you in the long run.

This article will deal with the concept of Attention. What we are looking for from our training is anticipation and excitement on the dog's part. A willingness to be right where you expect him to be and happiness about the whole process. On our part, we must pay TOTAL attention to our dog when we are working, and handle him properly. It is our responsibility to use our feet, hands and body language correctly so that our dog clearly understands our intentions.

### **Objects of Attention**

Attention training begins with finding an "Object of Attraction" that will make your dog watch you. This object may be food, a squeaky toy or some other small item your dog will flip over. By this I mean, that short of a locomotive running him over, he'll keep this item in his sight at all times because he WANTS it.

The next step is finding a method of getting your dog UP, or excited. I use a rope toy of sufficient size to be able to play roughly with my boy without losing fingers. A tug of war game or fetch and shake game will usually get him going and make his tail wag.

### **Stationary Attention**

Since your dog won't have a clue what you are up to at this point, it is best to start Attention training ONLY while stationary. Not until you have his unwavering attention for three minutes with various distractions should you consider doing any heelwork. If you are already doing heelwork lay off for a while and concentrate on other training such as downs, sits and other non-heeling exercises.

Begin your training sessions in a distraction free environment. The best way is several times a day for 5-minute sessions. Use new words for this exercise. "Dog's name", "Ready" or "Watch". For heeling in motion, if you now use "Heel", use another word for this type of Head Up heeling. We want no association with the old head down heeling at this point.

So, start each training session by playing with your dog for a good 5 minutes or so to get him excited. Then gently break away from playing and go to heel position next to your dog and ask him to sit. Keep your body straight when doing any Attention training work. This means that your shoulders are square and you are facing the same direction as your dog. The only part of you that should be looking at your dog is your face.

### **Positioning of Leash Handling**

Hold your leash (1-2 foot length) in your right hand close to your waist, above the dog's head. Hook your fingers in your waistband if need until you get used to not moving your hand. Keep the leash taut, not tight and if your dog is tall, under his chin with the left hand on the leash.

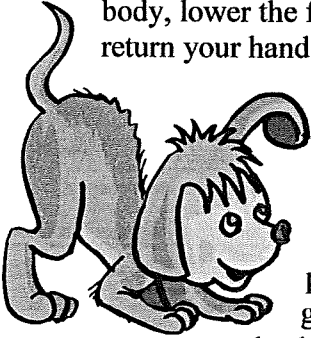
Now that you are in the correct position, your goal is to GET and KEEP your dog's attention as long as you are in this position. From now on, you must never assume the heel position without expecting and GIVING complete attention. If you plan to gab or party while in the middle of working, release your dog, or place him in a down out of heel position.

## Attention Training – Part 1 (continued)

### Eye contact

OK, lets get your dog to look you in the eyes. Sound simple? NOT! But with a little help from a toy or food, the going gets lots easier. I like thinly sliced hot dogs, well roasted in the Microwave, paper towel dried and frozen. A handful of these doesn't smell much or leave greasy marks on your clothes, but a mighty tasty to your dog and fit nicely in your mouth for storage. If you choose a toy, use a small squeaky that you can conceal easily in your hand. Let him see it and squeak it as his reward, then hide it when you want him to watch.... Remember make this a fun GAME!

Standing in the correct heel position, hold a small handful of the tidbits in your left hand (right hand if your dog is really tall). Let him see one piece held between your thumb and index finger. Turn the palm of your hand out toward your dog and hold it at your eye level (so that he must look at your eyes to see the food) and keep it CLOSE TO YOUR BODY. (Remember to keep your body straight, shoulders in line with your dogs'). Say "Ready", "Watch" or whatever your word for attention will be. This will be your cue word later during your competitions, to get him up and ready to work, so get comfortable with it. Pass the food by your dog's nose to get his attention if necessary, and bring it back to eye level. Keeping your hand close to your body, lower the food just enough so that he has to REACH for it, release the food into his mouth and return your hand immediately to the starting position. The minute his eyes track back up to your face or immediately if they never left, praise him with a really happy voice!! Practice moving the food in your hand from your palm to finger tips quickly, with no breaks so that you can keep him on tiptoes at this point.



Repeat the ready, food, praise routine until you are down to the last piece of food in your hand. Separate the food rewards by a few seconds when you start. As you progress you will be able to stretch the time between showing him the treat and giving it to him longer and longer. You will be able to tell when your pushing it, so back off. The goal here is to keep his eyes on you. If you start to lose him, get his attention back then give him a reward immediately.

Praising him each time he looks at your eyes is CRUCIAL! At the beginning (for the first few weeks) do not correct for looking away. Just bring the food by his nose and back to your face. Keep up a running conversation with him at this point. Use a happy light tone of voice, and lots of smiles. Praise with a very HAPPY voice when he looks you in the eye again. The last piece of food should be given with much praise, a then a release word such as "Okay" or "Great". Use this word as a release word from now on. Play again at the end of each session for a short time and then let him go be a dog for a while.

Work with this until your dog will keep his eyes on yours for at least 20 seconds with requiring a piece of food to get his attention. Do not rush this stage please. Any mistakes we make here will cost you points and attention later.

### Moving Attention

The next step (in a few weeks) once your are sure he is watching you with FULL ATTENTION is to rotate out in front of him toe to toe, while keeping his eyes on yours. Reward him when you are directly in front, keeping his attention. Feed him a few more bits keeping your hand close to your body, and then rotate back, still keeping his attention. If at any time your feel that you are losing attention, fall back a step or two, get him back where you want him, then move forward some more. Again, it is crucial you do not rush, this is the basis for everything you will teach from now on.

Don't rush it for now, just concentrate on maximising the time between pieces of food, and keeping his eyes on you when you move. Keep those training sessions SHORT and HAPPY!

## LIBRARY NEWS

Designer Dogs - Well, let's look at them.  
The Poo dogs - aptly named.

### **COMPANION DESIGNER DOGS.**

Labradoodles - Labrador Retrievers + Poodles.

Goldendoodles - Golden Retrievers + Poodles.

Cockapoos - Cocker Spaniels + Poodles.

Peekapoos - Pekingese + Poodles

Schnoodles - Schnauzers + Poodles

Yorkipoos - Yorkshire Terrier + Poodles

Maltipoos - Maltese + Poodles.

Shipoos or Pooshihs - Shih Tzus + Poodles

Poochons - Poodles + Bichon Frises

Bassadoodles - Basset Hounds + Poodles

Sheltipoos - Shetland Sheepdogs + Poodles.

### **OTHER CROSSES**

Dorgis - Dachshunds + Corgis [Both Varieties.]

Bagels - Beagles + Bassett Hounds.

Chihchons - Chihuahuas + Bichon Frises

Shihchons [or Bi-Tzus] - Shih Tzus +

Bichons Frises

*NOW WE ALSO HAVE: PERFORMANCE DESIGNER DOGS FOR THE AGILITY & FLYBALL ENTHUSIASTS. BRED IN THE QUEST TO WIN.*

Border Collie Terriers - Border Collies + Jack Russell Terriers.

Border Retrievers - Border Collies + Labrador Retrievers.

### **CHOOSING THE DESIGNER DOG. WHAT YOU HAVE TO CONSIDER.**

Genetic problems of both breeds combined? So what do you get with a designer dog? What really happens if you score 2<sup>nd</sup> rate parents of your pup.

Who are the ethical breeders of Designer Dogs? How are they controlled and subject to the strict rules of an organisation like the V.C.A. to ensure ethical breeding and best practice?

### **DESIGNER DOGS MAY SUFFER FROM:**

Progressive Retinal Atrophy

Patella Luxation

Hip Dysplasia

Elbow Dysplasia

Hypothyroidism

Allergies

Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease

Liver Shunts.

Epilepsy

Deafness

### **THE AGE - FEBRUARY 27<sup>th</sup> 2008 - ODD SPOT.**

Police dogs in the Western German city of Duesseldorf will soon be wearing blue plastic fibre shoes due to the many paw injuries they suffer at work - usually from beer bottle glass shards. "I'm not sure they like them, but they will have to get used to it." said a spokesman.

Happy Heeling  
Robyn.

The Library will be closed 30<sup>th</sup> March and the 6<sup>th</sup> April as Robyn our Librarian will be in Hong Kong. It will also be closed on 13<sup>th</sup> April due to the Agility Trial.

## Getting to know your Instructors & Committee Members

**David Gravolin**  
**Training Supervisor**



**What type of dog/dog's do you own?**

Crosses

**How many dogs have you trained?**

1 ½

**Do you have any other pets at home?**

Cat and bird

**How long have you been involved with the Club?**

6 ½ years

**What is the most memorable time you have had with your dog?**

How Zeppo looked after Isaac, about 10 years old, decided to cut the burrs out after a trip to the park.

**Describe yourself in three words**

Quiet, casual, hairy

**Who are your heroes?**

Jim Hendrix

**What makes you laugh?**

Just about everything

**If you had unlimited money, what car would you drive?**

None, I would be driven around

**Again, unlimited money, where would you go on holiday?**

Antartica

**What is your favourite food?**

Apple Sponge

**What is your favourite music?**

Metal/Hard Rock

**What is your favourite sport?**

None

**What are three wishes you have for Geelong Obedience Dog Club?**

Another 50 plus years

More Members

More involvement for General Members

**FOR SALE**

**Nissan X-Trail 2003**

**73,000km, one owner, Manual, C Control,**

**A/C, Towbar, roof racks, nudge bar,**

**Driving lights.**

**Very economical!!!!**

**\$21,600**

**See Alex Shackleton in the Equipment Shop**

**OBEDIENCE SCHOOL WINNER**



# Getting to know your Instructors & Committee Members

## Val Moeller Instructor



### What type of dog/dog's do you own?

Rottweilers

### How many dogs have you trained?

6 at the Club

### Do you have any other pets at home?

No

### How long have you been involved with the Club?

About 22 years

### What is the most memorable time you have had with your dog?

Winning the 1<sup>st</sup> National Rottweiler Trial with Sula. Helen dragged me there. Lisa and David Blackwell prevented my escape. Sula trailed me very well.

### Describe yourself in three words

An independent person

### Who are your heroes?

Today's young mothers. They face pressures we couldn't imagine.

### What makes you laugh?

Politicians

### If you had unlimited money, what car would you drive?

A medium size Mercedes. Forest Green with pig skin upholstery

### Again, unlimited money, where would you go on holiday?

A train journey from Sicily to Lapland. It can be done, I once planned it.

### What is your favourite food?

All fruit

### What is your favourite music?

Mostly Classical and some Jazz

### What is your favourite sport?

Cricket

### What are three wishes you have for Geelong Obedience Dog Club?

Enough water to keep our grounds in good order.

Enough young people coming into keep the Club flourishing

A return to single Trials.

---

## THE LESSON.

I learnt a lesson not too long ago,  
When I took my dog to an All Breeds show.  
As I watched him standing in the ring,  
I overheard a comment which hurt with a sting.  
'Twas then I realised there in a trice,  
Don't say anything if it isn't nice.  
Each dog may have his faults in your eyes,  
You may not like his colour, movement or size.  
But to the person who loves him he's the most

perfect thing,  
That's why he's showing him there in the ring!  
We'd all like to win, but there aren't many blues,  
The judge may not give one to your dog and you.  
So remember, each dog is a winner in his own master's heart,  
So please don't stand there and pick him apart.  
Anon.

## Better Heeling

Greg Barker

When we think of heeling we usually picture the exercise we need to do for tests and competitions. Test heeling actually involves many parts; the dog walking with you, the dog looking at you, sitting, left turns, right turns, left about turns, right about turns, drops, stands, fast pace, slow pace and the higher the class the more you can add to this list. To get really good attentive heeling it helps to break the teaching of heeling into its simplest parts and the best place to start is with walking along with you.

### YOU GET WHAT YOU REINFORCE

A history of reinforcement increases a behaviour. To get really pretty heeling you need to start with a picture in your head of what you want the heeling to look like and reinforce it. This means that when the dog gets into the position you want reinforce it. It is important you are aware of exactly what you are reinforcing; if your timing is slow or you are not attentive you may be reinforcing something other than what you think you are.

### REINFORCE DON'T BRIBE

There is a significant difference between reinforcing a behaviour and bribing a dog to get a behaviour. If you continue to rely on the dog following the food in your hand (or the pretend food in your hand) after the initial teaching you are bribing the dog and setting yourself up for problems. Bribed behaviours are only sustained for a short period, until the dog thinks it is not really going to get the food any time soon. Bribery does have its place, it can be used at the very start to get the behaviour you want to reinforce but it should not be relied on in the long term. When you are bribing you are saying to the dog "do this behaviour and I might give you some food".

When you bribe you are not using the dogs intelligence and so the exercise becomes boring. I am not making an ethical argument against bribery I am just saying that it doesn't work in the long term.

When you reinforce you change the emphasis, instead of you trying to get the dog to do the behaviour the dog offers the behaviour, the dog is now saying "look at me, I'm next to you". The dog is now using its brain, it is trying to make you reinforce. This is a massive change in emphasis. This offered behaviour is much stronger than any bribed behaviour. You and the dog become more of a team.

The trainer's responsibility is to teach the dog. The responsibility for the learning is actually on the dog. What we want to produce is a dog who wants to learn, one who is really trying to perform reinforceable behaviours. A dog who thinks they are giving you cues to feed them.

### TRAIN ONE THING AT A TIME

Dogs can be trained to do a number of things in a single training session but if you want to have your training move along quickly it is often better to think of training only one thing in a particular training session. In a class we may cover a number of exercises but on your own it is better to concentrate on one thing at a time. Lets take the heeling as an example. A typical heeling training session might include;

- start walking then sit the dog,
- walk a little more,
- do a right about turn,
- drop the dog (reinforce),
- walk a little more,
- do a left turn,
- stand the dog,
- walk a little more,
- sit the dog (reinforce),

- walk a little more,
- do a right turn,
- sit (reinforce),
- finish.

The dog has received 3 reinforcements but it would be hard for the dog to work out exactly what it did to get the food. I have not made it easy for the dog to start offering me behaviours to get reinforced for because I have not made it clear exactly what I am reinforcing.

To help the dog only train one thing at a time (we can easily add a number of behaviours together later). If we want the dog to walk along looking at us that is what we reinforce.

### FIND HEEL GAME

Often it is better to go back to the beginning when you want to retrain a behaviour that is not exactly what you want. A good place to start with retraining heeling is with walking around the backyard, walk as you do when you want the dog to heel, don't ask the dog to heel but let them know you have food and there is a chance they may get it, they have to work out how to get you to give it to them. It is important you don't walk around with the food as a bribe, rather let the dog know you have food before you go outside. Walk in a big clockwise circle, you are not training turns here so it is best to not include any. Let the dog try to get into the correct position then reinforce it. Reward the attempts generously. When you reinforce you are telling the dog the behaviour is completed so you stop as you reinforce, don't reinforce and continue moving. Give the dog a moment to eat then start moving again, don't ask the dog to move off with you rather let the dog try to get into position to get reinforced again.

Take 10 pieces of food with you. At this point you need to decide what you are willing to reinforce. If your dog will not walk along looking at you then you need to reinforce the dog for coming close to you. In the next session you reinforce for being even closer, in

the next session you reinforce for being close to you and looking at you.

So when do you reinforce the dog? You reinforce at the moment the dog is doing what you want in that session. Not after a step or two (that comes later), the moment the dog is where you want it to be reinforce it. Timing is everything, if you reinforce late you may be reinforcing the dog for looking away from you. The point here is to make it very clear to the dog what they are being reinforced for. Why only 10 pieces of food? You want to finish while the dog still wants to play the find heel game, you want the dog to really want to keep playing rather than keep going until the dog tells you it has had enough.

When the dog will find heel position by itself you are ready for Week One Training. Week One Training involves reinforcing the dog every time it gets into heeling position.

Reinforce (and stop moving) the moment the dog gets into heel position;  
 Start walking again when the dog finds heel reinforce (and stop);  
 Start walking again when the dog finds heel reinforce (and stop);  
 Start walking again when the dog finds heel reinforce (and stop);  
 Start walking again when the dog finds heel reinforce (and stop);  
 Start walking again when the dog finds heel reinforce (and stop);  
 Start walking again when the dog finds heel reinforce (and stop);  
 Start walking again when the dog finds heel reinforce (and stop);  
 Start walking again when the dog finds heel take 0 steps and reinforce (and stop);  
 Start walking again when the dog finds heel reinforce (and stop).

Each time you start walking don't ask for heel, in fact it is better if you lose the dog for a moment, we want them to learn to try to get into heel position themselves.

## INCREASING THE CRITERION

In week two we reinforce on a two step average. Take the dog outside and start walking;

Reinforce (and stop moving) the moment the dog gets into heel position (that is reinforce on 0 steps);

Start walking again when the dog finds heel continue for 2 steps and reinforce (and stop);

Start walking again when the dog finds heel continue for 1 step and reinforce (and stop);

Start walking again when the dog finds heel take 3 steps and reinforce (and stop);

Start walking again when the dog finds heel take 1 step and reinforce (and stop);

Start walking again when the dog finds heel take 2 steps and reinforce (and stop);

Start walking again when the dog finds heel take 0 steps and reinforce (and stop);

Start walking again when the dog finds heel take 2 steps and reinforce (and stop);

Start walking again when the dog finds heel take 3 steps and reinforce (and stop);

Start walking again when the dog finds heel take 0 steps and reinforce (and stop).

We are now using another very important training principle – **USE A VARIABLE SCHEDULE OF REINFORCEMENT**. Note what we are being variable about, the dog doesn't know when the food is coming but it does know what it is being reinforced for.

In week three we move to a 3 step average. For example we could reinforce on steps;  
1, 3, 2, 5, 1, 4, 5, 2, 3, 1.

In week four we move to a 5 step average. For example we could reinforce on steps;  
2, 3, 7, 5, 1, 8, 2, 5, 7, 1.

In week five we move to a 7 step average. For example we could reinforce on steps;  
2, 4, 2, 8, 3, 12, 3, 5, 10, 2.

In week six we move to a 10 step average. For example we could reinforce on steps;  
1, 6, 3, 13, 3, 11, 14, 9, 1, 12.

In week seven we move to a 12 step average. For example we could reinforce on steps;

8, 2, 13, 17, 5, 11, 14, 4, 15, 2.

In week eight we move to a 15 step average. For example we could reinforce on steps;

4, 12, 20, 7, 14, 9, 12, 6, 20, 2.

In subsequent weeks you can move to 20, 25 or 30 step averages.

If you train in the backyard and then go to a park you will need to think about reducing your average in the new environment until the standard is back to where you want it. For example you may be at a 10 step average in the backyard but use a 5 step average in the park. To the dog walking in heel in the backyard can appear to be a different exercise to walking in heel at the park which can be different to walking in heel at the park with dogs around. When you change the environment you need to consider your reinforcement schedule.

Sometimes when you are on a 10 step average you may like to throw in a 3 step session, you don't want your dog to think things keep getting harder.

You might decide to do this training 3 times in a week (each session should be less than 5 minutes). You can train other exercises on other days or after you have done your heel work but don't do any heeling while working these other exercises.

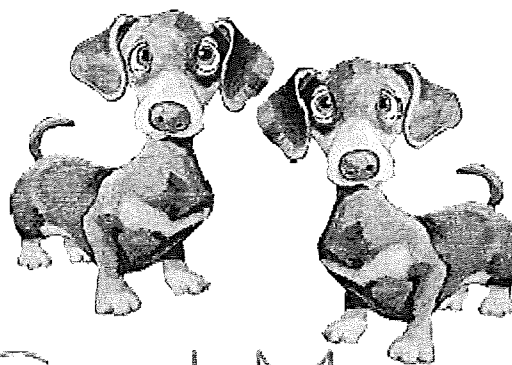
The idea of this program is to help the dog to really understand what it is being reinforced for and what heeling really is. Avoid the temptation of racing through heeling training. Training your dog is not a race, it is best to build strong behaviours through the use of high reinforcement



histories. In this way you won't find you have to retrain again later.

When you get the 7 step average you can introduce the word "heel". Note we haven't used the word till now because the dog was not actually heeling before, now we link the behaviour (walking next to us attentively) with the word "heel".

If the dog moves to offering the heel rather than you trying to bribe the behaviour you will find that lagging will be a thing of the past. You won't need to worry that your dog doesn't "like" heeling because heeling will be a game the dog wants to play.



Good Morning

## Tina's Dog Training & Pet Services

'Bringing out the best in your dog'

0414 363 556



NDTF Cert. 3 Dog Training & Behaviour  
SOA Pet Obedience Trainer  
Trainer on Celebrity Dog School  
Registered Breeder of Border Collies  
20 years experience.

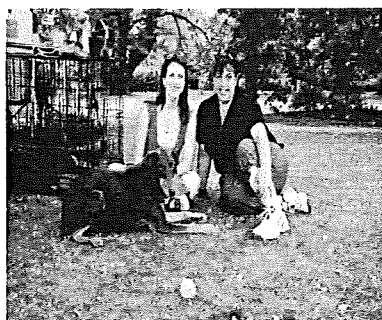
Member of:

- Dogs Victoria (Formerly Vic. Canine Assoc)
- Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc
- South Australian Canine Assoc.
- Border Collie Club of Vic
- National Dog Trainers Federation.



Services avail:

- Behaviour training
- Pet/Competition Obedience
- Agility
- Puppy Class
- Showing
- Complex Skills
- Dog Selection consultant
- Grooming



Private In- Home Training.  
Boarding & Training  
Workshops/Seminars

Training Classes held at Elcho Park  
Pet Hotel, Lara (Comm. June 08)

For Bookings call Tina on  
Ph: 0414 363 556.

Located in Geelong Region

## **"Please label me competition"**

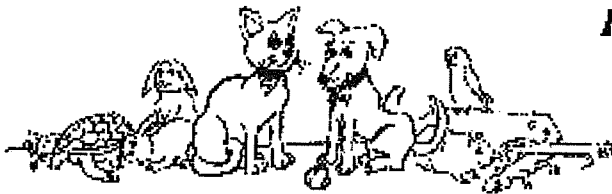
There were 3 correct entries, and each Member has won a \$20.00 voucher at the Club's Equipment Shop. Congratulations to -

Wendy McCraw - Judy Wong - Peter Baker



## **CADBURY'S FUNDRAISER**

Thank you to all the Members who helped with the Cadbury's Fundraiser. Congratulations to Vicki Giblin who did an amazing job selling 4 boxes. Vicki has won a \$30.00 voucher at the Club's Equipment Shop.



### ***Highton Veterinary Clinic***

88 Barrabool Road Highton 3216

Tel: (03) 5243 0077

Fax: (03) 5241 1666

Email: [hightonvet@ava.com.au](mailto:hightonvet@ava.com.au)

**For your pet we provide:**

**All Veterinary services, plus acupuncture, chiropractic,  
bird & pocket pet medicine, grooming, basic &  
advanced puppy classes**

**Highton Vet Clinic and Animal Attraction Grooming  
Providing "Total Pet Care"**

**Dr Ulrike Wurth and Associates**

# HOW TO STAY YOUNG

1. Throw out nonessential numbers. This includes age, weight and height. Let the doctors worry about them. That is why you pay 'them.'

2. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.

3. Keep learning. Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle. 'An idle mind is the devil's workshop.' And the devil's name is Alzheimer's.



4. Enjoy the simple things.

5. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.

6. The tears happen. Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person, who is with us our entire life, is ourselves< /SPAN>. Be ALIVE while you are alive.

7. Surround yourself with what you love, whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, and whatever.

Your home is your refuge.

8. Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.

9 Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county; to a foreign country but NOT to where the guilt is.

10. Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity.

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER:

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

# M

oorabool  
Street

Fish & Chips  
5222 3927

## Special Offer

Kids Happy Meal - \$ 5-50



Fries

2 Fish Bites

3 Chicken Neg



Free drink

Meal for Two - \$ 13.50



Fries

2 Fish

2 Potato Cakes

2 Dim Sims



Free drink

Family Pack - \$ 22.99



Fries

3 Flakes

3 Potato Cakes

3 Dim sim

3 Chicken Neg

2 Serve of onion Rings



Free 1.25ml drink

## HELPFUL HINTS FOR RECALL PROBLEMS

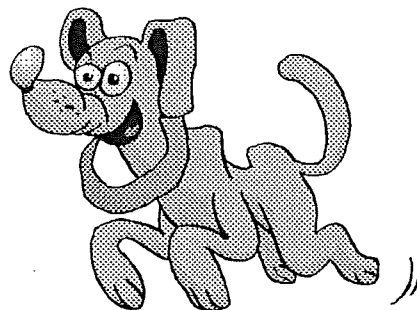
Reprinted with permission of Ron Lawrence

### Dog breaks the Stay

1. Leave your dog, walk a few paces and about turn. Return, praise and release.
2. Leave your dog and go full distance. About turn, count to ten, return. Praise and release.
3. Leave your dog at fast pace to the full distance. About turn, run back, praise and release.
4. Carry out a normal recall, but count to at least five before calling your dog.
5. There are heaps more thing you can make up, the main thing is to keep the dog guessing and interested, so don't always call him. Sometimes just return and quietly praise and leave again, then call.
6. Consider using "Wait" instead of "Stay" as a command. Possibly in your training "Stay", as in the stay exercises, has always meant to your dog, "I'm returning to you", so to save confusion maybe "Wait" could be used to mean "wait there until I call you".
7. Remember, when you leave the dog, make the "Stay" signal and command very clear. The voice command "Wait" or "Stay" should be given in a firm clear unequivocal tone of voice. If this command is given in a threatening manner, the dog could interpret it as a reprimand causing it to become uncertain and possibly break or not come at all. After the command and signal to "Stay" is given, leave a slight pause before stepping off, don't give the signal and command and step off all at the same time. Remember, the dog has to absorb the command and signal first before you step off.

### Dog does not move on the Recall command

1. Check that your signal and command are clear to your dog. Bright happy tone for "Come". Signal clearly visible and away from the body and not too high.
2. If your dog has been well trained in the stay exercise it may be a help to change the command to "Wait" at the beginning of the Recall.
3. Always wait for eye contact with the dog before giving the Recall signal.
4. Use treats or a squeaky toy to focus your dog's attention.
5. If the above doesn't work, return to the dog slowly without making eye contact, take the dog by the collar (fixed or gently collar only), guide the dog towards the handler and at the same time give the Recall command. Praise and treat the dog only, if and when, he stops resisting the guidance.



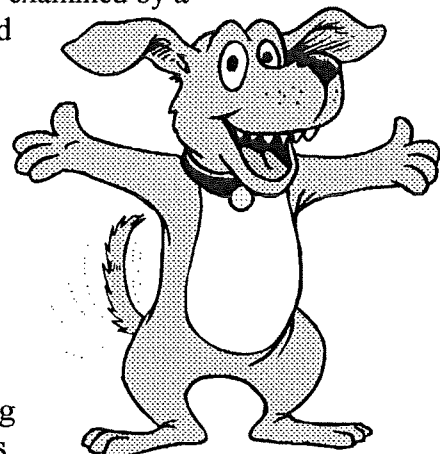
### Dog comes on the Judges (Instructors) order

1. Proof against this problem by the handler giving the Judges orders and/or having friends give loud, forceful Judge's orders during your training.
2. Train in parks where other human voices are just part of the scene.
3. Return to training within the handler's sphere of influence. Reinforce the "Stay" command and give the Judge's orders, ensuring the dog stays before gradually increasing the Recall distance to 25 metres.

## **Helpful Hints for Recall Problems – Ron Lawrence (continued)**

### **Dog comes in cautiously and without enthusiasm**

1. The dog is intimidated by someone or something nearby. The dog needs to be socialised with other dogs and humans. Provided the dog is not aggressive, take the dog to the park, supermarket, Classes and let the dog meet other people and dogs.
2. The dog has become hand shy or foot shy. The dog is apprehensive because handling and corrections have been too harsh. The dog is anticipating another harsh hand or foot correction.
3. The dog has an injury, spine or hip problem. Please have the dog examined by a Vet if the dog's method of sitting, downing, walking changes or if the dog appears tender or sensitive or objects to being touched in certain areas.
4. The handler's tone of voice is inappropriate. Use firm, unequivocal, inviting tone of voice in the Recall command.
5. The handler is using inappropriate body language. The handler should try to adopt a neutral or inviting posture and smile.
6. On the Recall command, turn and run away or even fall on the ground.
7. The dog may be used to receiving multiple extra commands during the Recall – slapping sides, clapping, clicking fingers, extra signals, etc. The dog is confused and waiting for these additional cues. The handler needs to stop using these extra commands in training.
8. The dog has been punished after a Recall in the past. Never Recall the dog to be punished; coming to you should always be a happy positive experience.



### **Dog does a curved Recall**

1. The dog is balked by a shadow on the ground. Practise Recalls in a corridor or enclosed space using a strong motivator – food, toy reward. Practice on a path with a long line attached if it is not in an enclosed area.
2. Someone or something at the side of the Recall path intimidates the dog. See socialisation hints above.
3. After leaving the dog don't look at the Judge or Instructor. Move briskly in a straight line.

### **Dog comes to about halfway, slows and then stands**

1. The dog has noticed a subtle change in the handler's body language or eye focus. Remain perfectly still after giving the signal command and maintain appropriate eye focus.
2. The dog is responding to the command of another handler. Proof against this problem by the handler giving the Judge's orders and/or having friends give loud, forceful voice commands during your training. If the dog responds to another voice, give the correction command "Ah!" and repeat the command for the exercise in progress.
3. Also see previous hints on motivation and enthusiasm.

### **Dog shows apprehension on approaching handler (may stand just outside sphere of influence of handler)**

1. The handler may be using rough methods in getting the dog to sit in front. Guide the dog gently. Avoid reaching out towards the dog and pulling him into position by the collar or coat. Harsh corrections are counterproductive.

### Helpful Hints for Recall Problems – Ron Lawrence (continued)

2. The handler may be calling the dog to him at home and then punishing the dog for some misdemeanour. Self explanatory – never Recall the dog to punish him.
3. The handler may be using the Recall for something the dog does not like such as giving medication, nail clipping or a bath. Self explanatory – don't do this, you go to the dog.
4. The dog's demeanour may be indicative of the relationship between dog and handler. For the dog to work well in the team the dog must respect the handler and the handler must treat the dog with respect.
5. The dog may be intimidated by the Judge. Proof the dog by carrying out Recalls in crowded situations

### The dog comes in too fast misjudges the halt running into the handler or goes past the handler.

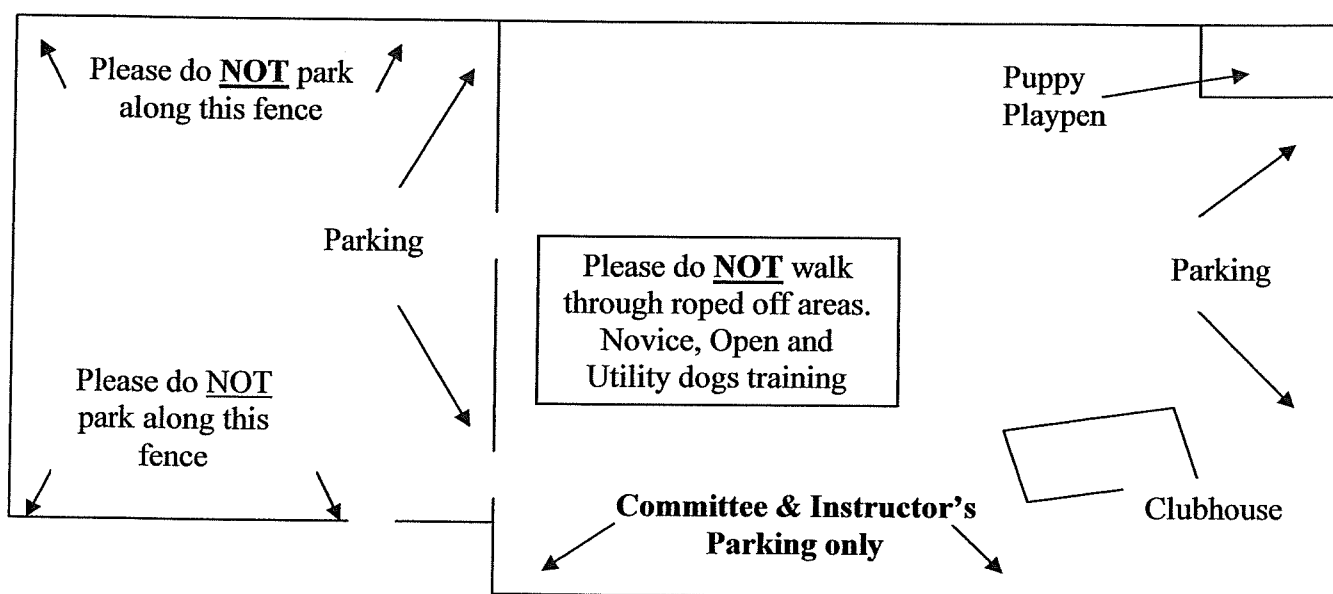
1. Be careful not to turn off the enthusiasm of this dog
2. As the dog approaches in training, firmly command the dog to "Sit".
3. Treat (reward) the dog in front only and only for good Recalls. Never hand the dog a treat as it flies past.
4. Train the "Finish" as a separate exercise and only use occasionally when you Recall.

### Dog does not sit in front, sits slowly or crookedly

1. The dog may not sit in front because the Recall command is used inappropriately in informal situations such as on walks when the handler does not insist on the sit.
2. Go back to the Recall on lead. Do many short Recalls from the heelwork position.

## GROUNDS PARKING AREAS

Please observe all signs



For everyone's safety, there is an 8 kph speed limit in ALL areas of the grounds