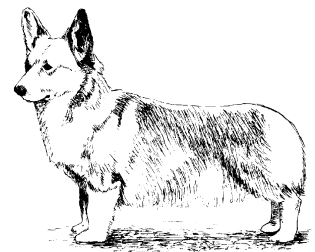
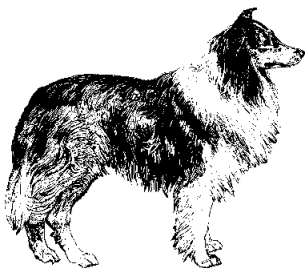
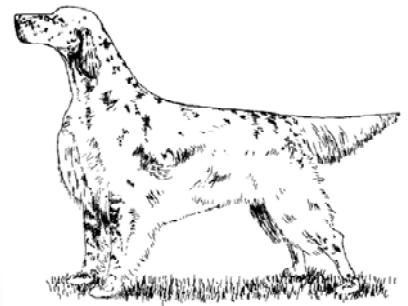


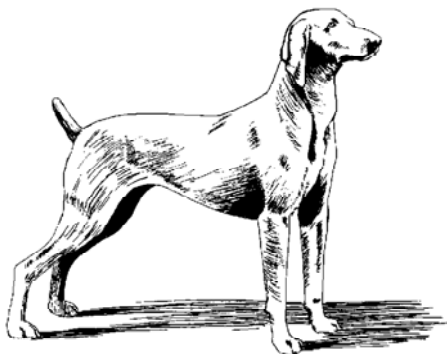
# FAITHFULLY YOURS



**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**

**April 2012**  
**Issue No**  
**230**

# GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC

**Patron – Mr Fred Lehrmann**

**Office Bearers for 2011/2012**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Leonie Kelleher	0417358149	Public Officer
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT (1)</b>	Colin Humphreys	52 822 683	Training
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT (2)</b>	Stephen Eldridge		Administration
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Pam Convery	52 414 786	
<b>TREASURER</b>	Vacant		Property Officer
<b>TRIAL SECRETARY</b>	Janelle Convery	52 414 786	
<b>GENERAL COMMITTEE</b>	Kathy Taylor	52 411 886	Canteen Manager
	Roland Linford		Equipment Manager
	Victor Douglas	0448415401	Grounds Manager
	John Taylor	52 411 886	Hall Manager
	Rebecca Kearney		Social Secretary/Publicity Officer
	Alex Shackleton		Shop Manager
<b>NON-COMMITTEE</b>	John Shields	52 641 002	Training Supervisor
	Christine Jagtenberg	0438 414 917	Membership Officer
	Vacant		Minutes Officer
	Robyn Youl		Librarian
	Stephen Eldridge		Assistant Librarian
	Pam Convery	52 414 786	Newsletter Editor
	Brendan Jagtenberg	0410 261 393	Webmaster

*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:- Monday, 3.00pm to 7.00pm**

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 Pam Convery at [janelle.convery@bigpond.com](mailto:janelle.convery@bigpond.com)**

**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

Sunday	1 April	Normal Training. Newsletter Available
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>3 April</b>	<b>General Meeting – 8.00 pm unless otherwise advised.</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8 April</b>	<b>Easter Weekend – NO TRAINING</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>14 April</b>	<b>BACK-TO-BACK AGILITY TRIALS</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>15 April</b>	<b>BACK-TO-BACK AGILITY TRIALS. NO TRAINING</b>
Sunday	15 April	Newsletter closes for articles, reports etc
<b>Monday</b>	<b>16 April</b>	<b>Instructor's Meeting – 7.30 pm</b>
Sunday	22 April	Fun Day including presentations. Also Induction for New Members for Beginners Class and Fully Vaccinated Puppies Under 6 months
Sunday	29 April	Normal Training for current Members. New Members Commence Training

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## CLUB INSTRUCTORS

*Vice President (Training)*

Colin Humphreys

*Training Supervisor*

John Shields

*Assistant Training Supervisors*

Kim Ciezarek

Desma Dickeson

### Obedience

Lyn Wills

Colin Humphreys

Val Moeller

Megan Young

John Shields

Kim Ciezarek

Kath Devlin

Desma Dickeson

David Gravolin

Christine Jagtenberg

Victor Douglas

Tony Stewart

Wendy Ganly

### Agility

Trish Gavaghan

Glenys Murray

Alex Shackleton

Bev Petrass

Lyn Wills

Vanessa Bridges

Susan Axe

Carole Sparks

### Rally O

Wendy Ganly

### Flyball

Sally Hunt

Nicole Timms



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A healthy pet for life

# NATURE'S GIFT



Our thanks to Nature's Gift for donating  
the dog treats and a Hamper for the Raffle for our  
recent NADAC Agility Trial

## REPORTS

## REPORTS

## REPORTS

## REPORTS

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Hi everyone ,

Wow here we are in the middle of March, where has the last month gone ? So far this year we have been extremely lucky with the weather, but bear in mind Summer has finished, so now we could get anything so remember to always come to training prepared. For our new Members when training has to change due to weather conditions we will let you know via a special Gossip Sheet and also on the Face book page.

We recently held our first NADAC Trial, and a special thanks must go to Janelle Convery for a smooth running day. The day started rather early and it was great to see so much enthusiasm from Club Members to help set the ring up and get the Trial under way. Thanks to Kathy and her team in the Canteen for keeping everyone fed and watered. It was great to see some of the Members enter their first NADAC Trial, I hope you got the bug and will be back for more! A special thanks to Bev Petress for her support and guidance for our new Members, I am sure Bev that you helped calm the nerves. Our next Trials will be held in April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> so keep some time free and come and help out or come and watch and see what you may achieve with your dog/s .

A special thanks to the Members who have supported the Clubs fund raising efforts your help is as always very much appreciated , if you have ideas or suggestions please come and see a Committee Member. The Club is still in need of a Treasurer so if you would like to know more or would be willing to do the role, please come forward and let us know.

Happy training, enjoy your dogs

**Leonie Kelleher - President**

### **GEELONG TRIAL WRAP UP**

Well Geelong's first NADAC trial has come and gone. The day turned out to be a glorious Autumn day with lots of sunshine and not a drop of rain to be seen. Our Judge's for the day were Malcolm Curley who was supervised by Wendy Napier. They put together some very challenging courses that put a lot of handlers to the test. One highlight for the day was Sandy Stockman and Sam gaining an Elite Q which qualified them for their third NATCH.

Thanks must go to Pam Convery, Rebecca Kearney and Leonie Kelleher who were a great help in the lead up to the Trial and on the Trial day taking a lot of the pressure off me to allow me to run my dogs also in the Trial. Thanks also go to the Geelong Members who came down very early in the morning to help with the setup of the ring and to Kathy Taylor and the workers who volunteered to help and kept the Canteen going all day.

I would also like to thank Shirlene Clark and Vanessa Bridges who were a very big help with answering all my questions with patience. There were lots of emails going back and forth leading up to the Trial date.

Results:

Highest Scoring Novice – Sandy Stockman & Jet

Highest Scoring Geelong Novice – Helen Frawley & Maize

Highest Scoring Open & Highest Score Geelong Open – Janelle Convery & Mason

Highest Scoring Elite – Shirlene Clark & Kansas

Highest Scoring Geelong Elite – Carole Sparks & Lacey

Would love to see you all come back and do it all again in July.

**Cheers - Janelle Convery - Trial Secretary**

# **TRIAL RESULTS**

## **25<sup>th</sup> February - Moorabbin**

K Bell	Lady	Jumpers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
		Regular 1	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
Saturday 25 February 2012				
J Convery	Mason	Elite Regular	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	
		Elite Regular	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
“Highest Scoring Elite in Trial”				

## **VCA Agility Trial**

V Bridges	Bryce	Masters Jumping	5 <sup>th</sup> Place	8 <sup>th</sup> Pass
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## **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Ballarat**

K Bell	Lady	Chances		Q
		Jumpers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
S Axe	Hector	Jumpers Elite	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	
		Regular 1 Open	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	
		Touch n Go Open	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	
L Kelleher	Branko	Hoopers	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Q
		Jumpers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
		Regular 1	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	
		Regular 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Q
J Cooke	Jimmy	Hoopers		Q
		Jumpers		Q
		Regular		Q
		Weavers		Q
J Convery	Mason	Open Chances		Q
		Open Hoopers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
		Elite Jumpers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	
		Elite Regular	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	
		Elite Regular	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
		Open Touch n Go	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	
V Bridges	Peyto	Novice Hoopers	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Q
V Benham	Cassie	Regular 1	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
		Regular 2	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Q
	Barkley	Regular 2	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q

## **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Ballarat**

K Bell	Lady	Jumpers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
		Hoopers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
S Axe	Hector	Chances Open		Q
		Hoopers Novice	4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Q
		Jumpers Elite	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	
		Regular 1 Open	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	
		Regular 2 Open	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	
		Weavers Open	4 <sup>th</sup> Place	
L Kelleher	Branko	Regular 1	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	
		Regular 2	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	

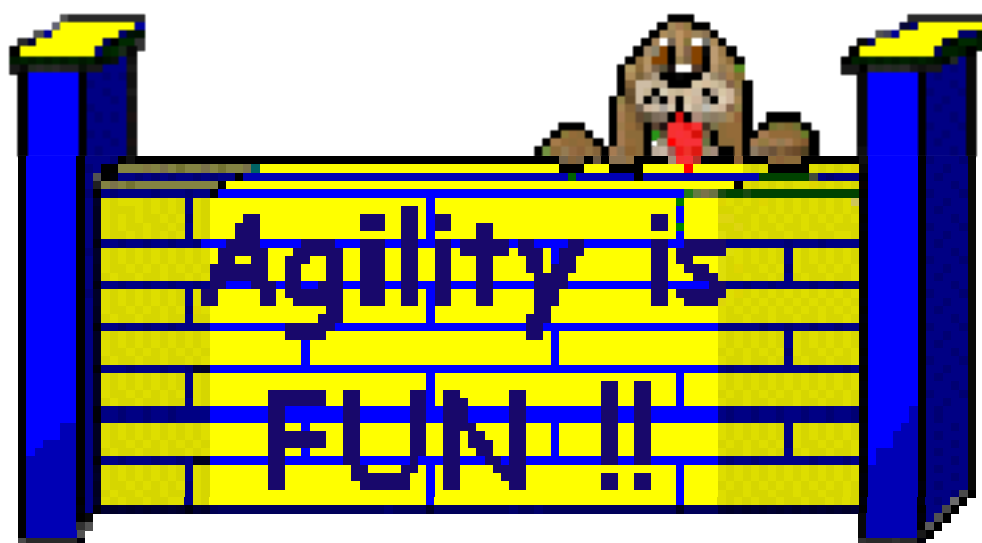
# TRIAL RESULTS

## Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Ballarat

J Convery	Mason	Elite Chances		Q
		Open Hoopers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	
		Elite Jumpers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
		Elite Regular	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
		Open Weavers	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Q
“Highest Scoring Open in Trial”				
V Bridges	Bryce	Elite Hoopers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	5 <sup>th</sup> Pass
		Elite Jumpers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	10 <sup>th</sup> Pass
		O-EJC Title – Outstanding Elite Jumpers Title		
		Open Weavers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	7 <sup>th</sup> Pass
V Benham	Cassie	Hoopers	5 <sup>th</sup> Place	Q
		Jumpers Open	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	
		Regular 1	4 <sup>th</sup> Place	
	Barkley	Hoopers	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Q
		Jumpers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
		Regular 1	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
		Regular 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	
]		Weavers	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Q
		Title		

## Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Ballarat

S Axe	Hector	Extreme chances	89.33
		Extreme gaters	84.50
		Extreme hoopers	56.83
V Bridges	Bryce	Extreme Novice gaters	85
		Extreme Novice Hoopers	114
V Benham	Cassie	Extreme gaters	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
	Barkley	Extreme Hoopers	5 <sup>th</sup> Place



# 1st Victorian Dancing With Dogs Trial Presented by the Ballaarat Dog Obedience Club



On Sunday 18th March, Gambit, Jorja, Pinkie and I headed off to the Ballaarat Dog Obedience Club as we had entered the club's 1<sup>st</sup> and Victoria's 1st ever Victorian Dancing With Dogs Trial for the year. Which I must add was a Huge Success.

Dancing With Dogs! What is that I hear you saying. Well it combines some Heelwork and Trick moves done to music.

Heelwork To Music was included as a new event on the VCA club's Calender for 2012 involving dogs and handlers entering either Freestyle or Heelwork to Music. Freestyle is where the dogs show off their tricks

in a routine lasting from 1-4 minutes. HTM is all about heeling with a few tricks thrown in so it's not a boring routine.

If you want to view what DWD is all about go to You Tube and do a search for Mary Ray or Richard Curtis or Carolyn Scott doing their routines. You will be amazed at what you see the dogs do.

I'm pleased to say that Gambit and I got our 2nd Novice Pass as well as being placed 2nd in Novice HTM.

Want to find out more then go to

<http://www.danceswithdogsaustralia.com>



## **Big Three Days of Agility in Ballarat:**

What a great long weekend of agility at the 'Rat'!

Two days of Agility and a day of Extreme games. The weather was fine with an icy wind but thankfully no rain, floods or extreme heat

A huge Geelong contingency, about 16 dogs, displayed some great runs with lots of Q's.

Special mention of Janelle and Mason for achieving their Superior title in ?. Also Caroline and Rupert, in just their second event, achieved numerous Q's

Also congratulations to Janet and Rosie for achieving a NATCH title.

The first day of extreme games competition held in Australia provided a steep learning curve of rules and point deductions seen in this type of agility. An extreme game has no contact or jump equipment and relies on teamwork and path-drawing sequence accuracy in a defined timeframe. We saw some speedy runs by Carol/Lacey and Vanessa/Bryce. Everyone had great fun in this fast moving agility. More days of extreme games will follow where it can be fitted into the schedule.



Tiring but rewarding weekend with some great social moments (Wendy playing the pianola at dinner), laughs and wonderful runs.

Thanks everyone

(Thanks Leonie for the photos)

**Julie C**



Red Cross Collection – Waurin Ponds Shopping Centre  
Thank you to the Members who took part on the day. We collected over  
\$900.00 and the dogs enjoyed themselves.



# LESSONS from the MASTERS:

## Learning About Punishment from Dogs Themselves

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NOTE: *This originally appeared in the April/May 2002 APDT newsletter, written at the request of the newsletter editor after I had written a Letter to the Editor noting that there was a lot we could learn about an appropriate & fair use of punishment from dogs themselves. This is NOT a defence of punitive training methodology - and "punishment" is defined as all students of operant conditioning understand it to be defined: one of the four possible consequences of a behaviour.*

There's an old lady I know who has been training puppies for years. And she does a very good job of it. Funny thing, though, she routinely uses positive punishment as part of her approach. Always has, always will. She's completely unaware of learning theories, has never attended a conference or seminar, and never once read a book about dogs. Yet the puppies she's trained are happy, respectful, and well mannered, and calmly attentive to her subtlest gesture.



How is it that she uses positive punishment to such good effect, without creating desensitisation or panic or resentment in her pupils? And how does she do it without collar, leash, head halter, treats or clickers? Because this old lady is a dog. This experienced trainer of puppies is my retired brood bitch Carson.

There's a growing tendency among many dog trainers to denounce the use of positive punishment (P+), though properly defined it means only this: "the presentation of an undesirable consequence." For many trainers, P+ is a bit of jargon heavily laden with ugly images of pain, fear and outright cruelty. And there's no denying that historically, dog training has leaned heavily on punitive methodology, much of which is thinly disguised abuse in the name of training. But when we mistakenly equate P+ with abuse, we are ignoring what dogs themselves can tell us about the value of P+.

Whether we like it or not, P+ is quite natural in animal-to-animal interactions. For example, Carson is resting on a sofa. The puppy Ruby approaches, thinking about jumping up to share the space. Hardening her eyes and holding her head very still, Carson growls softly, her message clear: "Leave me alone." Ruby ignores this. Carson escalates the warning to a loud, scary air snap, and the puppy dances back a step but returns almost immediately, clearly thinking this may be a new game. Carson's next move is a threatening lunge that ends in grabbing the offending puppy by the muzzle for a few beats. Now Ruby gets the message and wisely retreats.

As classically defined, Carson's intent in meting out this punishment is to "decrease the likelihood of the behaviour in the future." P+ adds something unpleasant as a consequence for a behaviour. Being no fool, Ruby learns that jumping on top of her grandmother has unpleasant consequences; an unoccupied sofa is a better choice. P+ is employed by dogs among themselves all the time.

Dire warnings about the effects of using P+ have their basis in fact. Improperly applied, P+ *can* undermine the relationship, can lead to desensitisation, abuse, cruelty, panic. Though these unhappy results are often presented as an inevitable outcome of employing P+, the truth is that these result from the use of poorly applied or extreme P+. If P+ was destructive to relationships, there would be no cohesive pack structure possible among canids. But dogs and wolves do use P+ and still have strong, affectionate, trusting relationships. Clearly then, the problem lies not with P+ itself, but in our application of it. Learning how to effectively use P+ requires that we look to our dogs for clues.

## **Learning about Punishment from Dogs Themselves – Suzanne Clothier**

Properly applied with good timing, clarity and appropriateness of scale (something any socially skilled dog does with an ease that leaves human trainers in awe), P+ makes increasing subtlety of gesture possible. Having used P+ to convince Ruby to nap elsewhere, Carson will not have to escalate the punishment the next time. In fact, she will be able to use less to make the same point. As Ruby learns to read Carson more accurately, the stillness coupled with a hardening eye will be sufficient warning. Dog language is built around nuance and subtlety.

But it is in nuance and subtlety where we often fail in our application of P+. We do not start with stillness and shifts in our eyes and breathing. Often, we begin where Carson ended – grabbing for Ruby and "correcting" her. The puppy has no chance to learn that there are subtleties that should be heeded. From the dog's perspective, we rocket from completely unconcerned to furious action without warning – a scary situation for a dog that can and does erode the relationship. There's no appropriate beginning to our scale of warnings, and no way to back up from there; we are crude, unsophisticated communicators who do not observe proper canine protocol of escalating warnings.

We can become better trainers through careful study of the nuances of how dogs do what they do, and employing the same subtlety in our own communications. Here's an example – Ruby approaches while I'm eating lunch. My first response is to stop chewing, hold my head very still and harden my eyes a bit. If ignored, I then very slowly turn my head toward Ruby, hardening my eyes further. Ignored, I lift a lip – just a bit – while still pointedly staring at the offender. Ignored, I growl and escalate the lip lift. Still ignored, I growl louder, longer, and finally, lunge toward her with a threat bark and an air snap. This effective and very "canine" approach does not ruin our relationship in any way. Ruby understands this because it matches what other dogs are also teaching her. Like the other dogs, eventually, I can just offer the stillness and hardened eyes as warning. No equipment or treats or clickers needed – just the power of natural interaction shaped in a way the dog can easily understand, without the emotional overtones often present in human/dog interactions.

When Ruby retreats and sits, I quickly switch to offer positive reinforcement for this desirable behaviour. Like all social creatures, dogs need two kinds of information from others. They need to know when they are right, and when they are wrong. Though some trainers refuse to give anything but positive responses, nothing in the dog's culture that supports that lopsided approach. A socially sophisticated dog becomes just that because other dogs told him both when he was right ("I'll keep playing with you since you're behaving nicely") and when he was wrong ("don't bump into me again!"). With a clear understanding of what is right and what is wrong, Ruby can make a choice.

Though we may pride ourselves on being positive trainers, we may be surprised to recognize that we do use punishment, however mildly, from time to time. "Timeouts," disengaging from too rough play, or simply withdrawing our attention from a dog – all are punishment, and all may be used as part of a humane approach. The use of punishment (+ or -) doesn't mean we are bad trainers. P+ is merely an "undesirable consequence"; we have the full responsibility for deciding how unpleasant that consequence will be. As with any consequence for a behaviour, we will be most successful as trainers when we employ P+ appropriately with awareness, and when we can move past our emotional response to the mere mention of punishment.

As dogs and other social animals show us, P+ may be used effectively without destroying the relationship. They also show us that timing, subtlety, appropriateness of scale, and clarity is the critical ingredients in influencing another's behaviour. When we learn from dogs, we learn from the best.



## **General Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

**Meeting opened:** 8.05pm

**Apologies:** R Kearney, P Gavaghan, S Hunt, M Brown, S Axe, C Sparks, E Longhaw, B Thorogood, J Hole, G Murray, C Jagtenberg

Accepted: K Devlin

Seconded: J Ball

Carried

Minutes from previous General Meeting as distributed

Accepted: J Convery

Seconded: J Taylor

Carried

### **Business Arising from Minutes**

1. Rally O Times have been finalised and are underway. Proposal as written by Wendy Ganly.

**Correspondence Inward:** S Malady

**Correspondence Outwards:** Nil

### **Business Arising from Correspondence**

1. J Convery moved that a letter of thanks be sent to S Malady.

Seconded: K Taylor

Carried

**Treasurers Report** – Presented by L Kelleher in the absence of the Treasurer

### **Business arising from Treasurer's Report Nil**

Treasurer's Report Accepted: J Taylor

seconded: A Shackleton

Carried

### **Reports**

Canteen Manager

Written report attached to the Minutes Book

Grounds Manager

Written report attached to the Minutes Book

Hall Manager

Written report attached to the Minutes Book

Shop Manager

Written report attached to the Minutes Book

Social Secretary

Nil

Training Supervisor

Written report attached to the Minutes Book

Trial Secretary

Written report attached to the Minutes Book

### **Sub Committee reports**

Instructors Meeting

Nil

Reports Accepted: K Ciezarek

Seconded: C Humphreys

Carried

### **General Business**

1. Motion regarding Obedience Dog of the Year Award. J Convery handed out copies of the proposed changes to the Obedience Dog of the Year Award. After some discussion J Convery moved 'that the changes be accepted and that all previous motions be rescinded'

Seconded: P Convery

Carried

2. Dancing with Dogs Seminar. L Kelleher spoke about the proposed Seminar and Members agreed it was a good idea. Date and price to be finalised
3. Social Class guidelines. Social Class guidelines were read out and agreed to by Members.
4. Red Cross calling. Proposed dates 3<sup>rd</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup> March 9.00am to 2.00pm. Date to be finalised.
5. Solicitor has Constitution completed and is ready for collection. K Millard to collect.

6. J Shields moved “that the position of Training Manager be reinstated”  
Seconded: C Humphreys Carried

7. W Ganly said that the Agility Equipment was blocking access to the Obedience Equipment for Trial training Monday nights. After some discussion J Convery moved “that we sell the Agility Trailer which would leave more room in the storeroom”.

Seconded W Ganly Carried  
A Silent Auction was suggested and agreed to.

Meeting closed 9.15pm



## THE 4 D's – Train for a Reliable Response

Help your dog become reliable in all situations by varying the practice situation. Most trainers call this “proofing” the exercise. Try not to change more than one aspect of an exercise at once. The typical variables for Obedience exercises all start with the letter D. Change only one “D” at a time.

### DELIVERY – of reward

Very early on in the training you will want to randomize the delivery of your reward. Start to reward only the very best of the behaviours. If you're changing another D Criteria, you may want to go back to delivering the rewards on a higher ratio.

### DISTANCE

The “come when called”, if the dog is 3 metres away from you. Now it's time to try moving away a little further.

### DURATION

The dog is steady on her Sit Stay for 15 seconds, now it's time to try extending the exercise a little.

### DIVERSITY - of context

The dog performs well in her usual, calm training environment (home, yard, Obedience Class), now it's time to complicate matters a little by introducing distractions or taking her to a new training site, which is distraction enough in itself. Will she walk as nicely on a slack leash in the park, as in your back yard? Will she sit and stay in your living room if you walk to the closet and put on your overcoat? Will she come if called while the doorbell is ringing?

As you're increasing one criteria, decrease another. For example – If you are working on Diversity, decrease Distance and Duration, but increase rate of the Delivery of the reward

Terry Ryan – Legacy by mail - Pullman, Washington





Julie Hole has a desk available if anyone can make use of it. Free to good home. See Julie or call into the Office.

### CANINE ANATOMY

