

# WERRIBEE OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC.



INFORMATION BOOK FOR NEW MEMBERS  
& FUTURE REFERENCE

**PLEASE READ THIS BOOKLET BEFORE YOU START TRAINING NEXT WEEK**



Version dated  
23/2/2022



The Werribee Obedience Dog Club Inc. would like to welcome you and your dog to our Club and hope you enjoy your stay with us. As a club we would like to educate our members about responsible dog ownership as well as how to train your dog in the basics of dog obedience so that you have a well-behaved, well-socialised, obedient member of your family.

Included in this booklet is a copy of the Club Rules, Training Directives, Funday Information and other guidelines.

We will endeavour to do our best in helping you train your dog so if you have come to the club with a doggy problem please make your instructor is aware of it and don't leave with the same problem. Our instructors are always approachable and they don't bite!!

There are a few things you need to be aware of whilst at the club, which are:

- Every member will be provided with a name tag with their name and their dog's name listed on the tag, after they have supplied the dogs vaccination certificate and completed an induction session. If a member has multiple dogs, they will receive a name tag for each dog and they must wear the right name tag in each class. If members have joined as a family and have only one dog there will be a name tag for each family member listed as training the dog on the membership form. When it comes to promotion it is only the person handling the dog on the day who gets the promotion. So sometimes one family member may get promoted ahead of other family members with the same dog.
- Remember to wear your name tag. It is a club rule. If you forget it or leave it at home you will have to obtain a day pass which costs \$1 which is refundable when you return the day pass. Day passes are available at the canteen counter.

- Wyndham City Council Local Laws require you to carry a device to remove your animal's waste from public land. Members are responsible for picking up and disposing of dog waste from the training ground. Disposable Plastic doggy bags are available for your use and are located just in front of the clubrooms on a post in a green dispenser. It is a good idea to get into the habit of providing your own and keeping them with you. When you've picked up your dog's waste please put it in the specific dog poo bin which is located on the garden side of the Clubrooms near the path. Please don't put dog poo in the general rubbish bins. It's a good idea to put a couple of disposal bags in your pocket before you go out to class, that way you can pick up your dog's waste straight away.
- We ask that while waiting around under the veranda that you keep your dog on a short lead to avoid any potential trouble with other dogs. Remember all dogs are different so some dogs are friendly and some are not so friendly. Always ask if it is OK for your dog to say hello first when you approach another dog. Do not assume all dogs are friendly just because yours is. With many dogs congregating in this area please watch your dog and its behaviour. We will ask troublesome dogs and their handlers to move away from the area if required.
- No dogs are permitted in the Clubrooms unless being used for education purposes or when legislation permits.
- No dogs to be tethered to any part of the veranda or its furnishing. No dogs will be tethered to rings, equipment or trees.
- It would be greatly appreciated if you do not let your male dog urinate on the Clubroom walls, veranda posts, orange witches hats or any other equipment on the ground. It's not a pleasant task when a committee member has to handle equipment with urine on it!!!
- There are 'pig hooks' on every 2<sup>nd</sup> bollard near the car park where you can peg your dog for a short time only. E.g. While you come inside and pick up your training card. If you wish to peg your dog for a longer period, we suggest you purchase a dog stake or a dog crate or securely restrain/contain your dog in your car. Do not tether your dog to the trees surrounding the training ground – this is **not** a secure, safe way to tether your dog and can damage the tree.
- If you are successful and get promoted to the next class, your instructor will send you to the Club rooms to get a class pass ribbon and the instructor will input your details in the Promotions book. Your promotion will then be noted in the next Club newsletter.
- We love having children at the club, **but**, it is your responsibility to maintain full supervision of your children at all times and not allow them to wander on to the grounds unsupervised whilst training is being conducted. Children cannot go on the training ground unless they are financial members of the club. Children are not allowed to play on any of the training equipment or trolley. No bikes, scooters, or skateboards are to be ridden along the paths or under the veranda whilst training is being conducted. No balls are to be thrown or kicked around the training facility. Children must not approach dogs that are tethered or crated. Care of your Children is your responsibility not the Dog Club.
- There is no training conducted on long week-ends, Labour Day, Easter Saturday, Anzac Day, Queen's Birthday and Melbourne Cup long week-end.

- We always start training on the first Saturday of February and finish for the year on the last Saturday in November. There is no training over December and January, as it is usually too hot to train and the committee and instructors need a well-deserved break. Everyone's membership expires on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June of each year. Everyone who wishes to continue training must complete a renewal form, pay the renewal fee and provide their dog's current vaccination details.
- There is free tea and coffee for members available inside the clubrooms, so feel free to have a cuppa before or after class, come to think of it you'll probably need it after class!
- We have a canteen with basics like soft drinks, chips, chocolate bars, hot pies, sausage rolls, dim-sims etc. all at reasonable prices. If we are short-staffed the canteen may at times be closed. The Bar has a limited variety of drinks available. Please remember though, we are a dog club not a restaurant and only supply limited drinks and snacks not meals.
- In regards to drinking alcohol – for service you must go inside the Clubrooms to the Bar Counter to get served and please be aware that our liquor licence only allows alcohol to be drunk inside the clubrooms and under the veranda, but not on the training ground or surrounding areas. Also, no alcohol is to be brought to the club.
- For safety reasons please ensure you have appropriate footwear and make sure it's appropriate to the weather conditions on the day. Definitely No thongs! We prefer that you wear shoes where your feet are fully covered. It's usually best not to wear 'flappy or loose' clothing as this can distract your dog during training.
- Please remember it is your responsibility to slip, slop, slap during the warmer months. A hat and sunscreen will prevent you getting burnt whilst on the training ground particularly if we have a hot windy day.
- Classes will be conducted if it is raining lightly, so bring a waterproof raincoat and appropriate footwear. In cases of heavy rain and depending on the condition of the ground, training can be cancelled at short notice if we deem that the ground has become unsafe. On hot days, we will implement our Heat Policy, therefore classes will be conducted but class times will be shortened. Training will be cancelled if it is deemed to be too hot. Notification of any cancellations will be placed on the Club's Facebook page and website.
- A free monthly newsletter is available to members with details on the current happenings at the club. If you have an email address and you did not enter this on the joining form, please send an email to [info@werribeeobediencedogs.org](mailto:info@werribeeobediencedogs.org) so this can be added to our database.
- You can park in the club's main car park – and you can park behind the clubrooms in the floodway – please observe all signs and the area marked by the orange witches hats which indicates the parking area is only for committee and instructors. Please do not speed in the car-park areas. Do not have your dog off lead in the car park.

- Please make sure you are on time for class.
- The onus is on the handler to ensure that both the handler and their dog is fit and healthy prior to participating in Obedience, Tracking, Agility and/or any other disciplines conducted by this club. Please make sure your dog is not overweight as this can place undue stress on your dog's joints, particularly young dogs.
- There are also other disciplines that you may be interested in as you progress with your training. The club is lucky to have many experienced members who do participate in Showing (conformation), Agility, Rally-O, Tracking, Retrieving, Herding etc. so talk to an Instructor or Committee member if you want more information.
- If you change your name, address, email address or phone number, please inform the Secretary, so we can keep our records up to date.
- There is to be no smoking in the clubrooms, under the veranda or anywhere on the training ground. If you wish to smoke please go out the back or in the car park area.
- The Club gives out Club awards at the end of the year – trophies for both our senior and junior members. For our trialling members who gain titles during the year, we provide trophies and sashes provided they meet the attendance criteria as per our Trophy Policy.
- Remember with what you learn at the club you need to continue that training and practice at home as well. You need to commit to your training and as they say, “it will happen but it won't happen overnight”, so if you put in all the hard work at the start you will end up with a well-behaved, obedient member of your family. With dog training it is Praise, Perseverance and Patience.
- If you have any concerns or problems with your training always feel free to speak to a committee member or your instructor.
- Finally, remember your committee and instructors are **unpaid Volunteers** who give up their Saturdays to help you and your dog and will always do their best to help you in your dog training endeavours.

**GOOD LUCK AND HAPPY TRAINING!**



**SIT**



**DROP**



**COME**



# GIVE ME SPACE

We occasionally have dogs at the club that require some 'space' around them. Like people, all dogs are different and some dogs don't cope very well when their space is encroached upon by handlers or other dogs. These 'Give Me Space' vests are not exclusively for dogs with aggression issues, but also for dogs that may have fear-based behaviours. **To identify these dogs, they wear a yellow vest, similar to the picture below.**



By a dog wearing these space vests the club believes it is a safe way for the dog to still participate in their class and slowly socialise and integrate within their training class. This also makes the class as safe as possible for all handlers and their dogs and instructors too. Remember, we are working with animals, so we need you, our members, to learn to recognise when these dogs are wearing these vests and give them the space that they require. If you are around the clubrooms or in class and see a dog with a vest on, please assist the handler and their dog by keeping your dog well away. You may be asked to move further away by the owner if they feel you are too close, please respect their request.

If you believe your dog would benefit from wearing a space vest please discuss it with the Chief Instructor. Please do not get offended if your dog is asked to wear a 'space vest' in class. We have vests for small, medium and large dogs.

If your dog is required to wear a space vest: –

- Enquire/or collect one from the office, at least 10-15 minutes before your class starts.
- We will be required to leave your car keys or driver's licence when you pick up the space vest. The 'Give Me Space' vests are also available to buy. If you would like to buy one please speak to a Committee Member and they will help you out.
- The vest must be returned promptly at the end of your class, so members from the next hour can access it.
- The vest is only for use on the training ground.
- Do not let your dog swim in the lake with the vest on.
- Your car keys or driver's license will be returned to you when you return the vest after class.
- If any vest is returned damaged a \$30.00 replacement fee will be charged.

Please **REMEMBER** to clean up after **YOUR DOG**.

# TRAINING TIMES

PUPPIES & CLASS 1	1.00PM
CLASS 2	3.00PM
CLASS 3	3.00PM
CLASS 4	2.00PM
CLASS 5	2.00PM
CLASS 4 & 5 - (Ring Training only)	2.40PM
CLASS 6 - (Ring Training)	1.30PM
CLASS 7 - (Ring Training)	1.10PM
CLASS 8 - (Ring training)	1.10PM
RALLY OBEDIENCE	1.15PM

## MID-WEEK TRAINING

***FOR EITHER AGILITY OR OBEDIENCE COMMENCES AT 7.30PM***

This night is structured as per Saturday classes. Members are permitted to attend. Inductees can be invited to Wednesday night training at the TCC's discretion

Agility Training is conducted on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday evenings of each month and Obedience Training is conducted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday evenings of each month, commencing at 7.30pm through to 8.30pm.

**Please note:** Classes will only run if instructors are available and weather and ground conditions are suitable.

## HEAT YOU AND YOUR DOG

Please make sure during training on hot days that you slip, slop, slap and your dog is given access to plenty of drinking water. Water is always available for dogs via various buckets in front of the club rooms.

During training if you feel either you or your dog has had enough – always feel free to leave the class at any time. You are responsible for your dog's health so always be aware of any danger signals that may show your dog could be under stress from the heat. Certain breeds e.g. Boxers, Pugs can be especially prone to heat stress.

Your instructors will always advise you if they feel your dog is showing signs of heat stress, so if they ask you to leave a class – it is because they are concerned for you and in particular - your dog's welfare.

The club will invoke its heat policy in extreme hot weather conditions. We have a duty of care towards our instructors, members and especially our dogs.

# W.O.D.C. INC. CLASS EXERCISES

**PUPPY CLASS** Exercises as per Class 1 – plus retrieving and puppy play/socialisation.

**CLASS 1** All exercises are to be on a **LOOSE LEAD**.

Heel on lead including, right/left turns and right/left about turns  
Sit (by voice & lead, dogs to be manually sat)  
Drop (from the sit position)  
Stand – alongside handler  
Sit-Stay (10 seconds, progressing to handler returns around dog)  
Recall (on lead, 4 metres) Progressing to handler returning around dog

**CLASS 2** All Class 1 exercises plus: -

Heel on lead, plus all turns  
Stand Stay (on lead)  
Sit Stay (30 seconds)  
Drop Stay (30 seconds handler returns around dog)  
Slow pace  
Recall (on lead, handler returns around dog)  
Dog Introduction

**CLASS 3** All Class 1 & 2 exercises plus: -

Drop (whilst heeling)  
Figure of Eight  
Fast Pace  
Stand for Examination (Intro: lightly running hand over back & head)  
Sit Stay (1 minute – approx. 5 metres - lead on the ground)  
Drop Stay (as for Sit Stay)  
Recall Off Lead (maximum of 10 metres – lead up on lead)  
Finish on Lead

**CLASS 4** All Class 1, 2 & 3 exercises plus: - (CCD)

Introduction to off lead heeling  
Heeling on Lead  
Change of Position exercise – drop in front of handler/lead on/return  
Stand for Examination (on lead)  
Recall at least 12 metres – no lead up or finish  
Sit Stay (1 minute – approx. 5 metres off lead)  
Drop Stay (2 minutes – approx. 5 metres off lead)  
Introduction to Retrieve Dumbbell Exercise (time permitting)  
Introduction to Broad Jump (time permitting)

**CLASS 5** All Class 1, 2, 3 & 4 exercises plus: - (NOVICE)

All ANKC Novice Class Exercises including both optional exercises.  
All Stays with Distractions

(To be promoted from Class 5 to 6 you must attain two passes at a club Funday or two passes in the Novice class at a Trial, or a combination of one each).

**CLASS 6** Full Open Routine (OPEN)

All ANKC Open Class Exercises

(To be promoted from Class 6 to 7 you must attain three passes at a club Funday under an aspiring judge or three passes in the Open class at a Trial).

**CLASS 7** Full Utility Routine (UD)

All ANKC Utility Class Exercises

**CLASS 8** Full Utility Dog Excellent Routine (UDX)

All ANKC Utility Dog Excellent Class Exercises

**PLEASE NOTE: -** Do not attempt any of the above exercises without first having been **properly** instructed in them by a club instructor.

**Trialling Members:** Please inform the secretary if you gain a pass or title when trialling so your training card can be updated.





## WHAT IS A FUNDAY?

Fundays replace our normal training day

### Open to all members

This is your chance to demonstrate in a one on one situation your training progression so far. Instructors and aspiring judges will put you and your faithful companion through a series of exercises that have been demonstrated and practiced by you and your dog within your respective class levels.

The judges are usually one of your instructors so don't be put off and you will only do the same exercises that you have been taught in the current class level you are in.

If you gain a qualifying score or better, you will be promoted up to the next class level. Should you win your class or even gain a second or third placing you will be acknowledged by receiving a trophy and ribbon for first place and a ribbon for second or third. BUT, you won't know if you're a grinner unless you stay for presentation.

**To help plan for the day, entry forms & fees are taken at the office counter on the two training Saturdays prior to the day**

**It is your responsibility to enter in your correct class level**

#### **Please note:**

**If you do not enter, you cannot participate on the day. There is no normal training on this day.**

Due to the exercises required for Rally Obedience, you are only eligible to participate if you are in Class 4 or above

Competitors please note that the Rally Obedience and Agility results **WILL NOT** be included in any Club Awards presented at the end of the year.

Voluntary Help from our membership will be required with setting up and pulling down of rings, check-in and general odd jobs throughout the day. We will also have a Raffle on the day to raise funds for the club. Last of all, your committee and your instructors also wish to participate with their dogs so there may be delays / hold-ups within your ring if your judge is competing with their dog on the day. Please be patient. If it's a nice day bring a rug, chairs, dog stake or crate and if wet, bring your wet weather gear and have a great day.



# WERRIBEE OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC.

## CLUB RULES

1. Any Member who misappropriates damages or causes loss or breakage of the Club's property shall forthwith make good any loss or breakage as the Committee may direct.
2. (a) No Member's dog or dogs shall be off lead during official training hours unless being trained and supervised by an Instructor or participating in ring work.

The official training hours for the club are as listed below:

Saturday	8:00am to 5:00pm
Tuesday	6:00pm to 10:00pm
Wednesday	7:00pm to 10:00pm

- (b) Any Member not complying with a request to place their dog back on lead, by a Committee Member or Instructor, shall be disciplined at the Committee's discretion.
3. No alcohol shall be consumed during training on the training ground. No smoking during training on the training ground.
4. Bitches in season are not permitted to attend the club during official training hours.
5. Dogs are not permitted in the Club Pavilion.
6. If a Member's dog fouls the training ground or ring, it is that Member's responsibility to clean up. Doggy Disposal Bags are provided for this purpose.
7. Proper footwear must be worn whilst on the training ground. Minimum footwear requirement - Strap-on Sandals, it is suggested that sensible and appropriate clothing be worn whilst training.
8. Dogs left on stakes are the owner/handler's responsibility. Any dog creating a nuisance may be requested to be removed.
9. Club joining fees and membership fees are non-refundable.
10. All Junior Members 12 years and under must have parental supervision upon joining the club until such time as a Qualified Instructor ascertains the junior members capability of handling their dog.

11. The Club Rooms are a **NON-SMOKING** area.
12. No dogs to be tethered to any part of the veranda or its furnishing. No dogs will be tethered to rings, equipment or trees.
13. All Children either training or visiting the club are the responsibility of their parent/s or guardians at all times whilst at the club. This means:
  - (a) An adult/guardian (over 18 years of age) must be present with the child at all times whilst at the Club. Any visiting children are not to be left unattended at any time whilst at the club.
  - (b) No visiting child is allowed on the training ground at all whilst training is being conducted. They will be required to stay within the confines of the clubrooms, veranda and carpark area only.
  - (c) Committee members and instructors are not responsible for the supervision of any children at the Club.
14. Name Tags must be worn at Training at all times.
15. An instructor has the authority to remove a member from class in the event of abusive or offensive behaviour or a dog which they consider unfit to be trained.
16. All dogs must have their current vaccination card sighted when joining and when renewing. Exception to this will be dogs 10 years and over.

**(Effective at publication of this document and is subject to change)**

## **COMMITTEE & CLUB INSTRUCTORS**

To help you our members identify who your Committee and Club Instructors are, their photos can be found inside the clubrooms. Your Club Instructors will be wearing blue polo shirts, windcheaters and jackets along with blue sunhats or black beanies.

We hope this will assist you in easily identifying who are the club officials and who to approach if you have any questions.



# TRAINING CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

## TRAINING DIRECTIVES

1. Dogs and handlers joining Werribee Obedience Dog Club Inc. (WODC) from other obedience clubs will be assessed by the Chief Instructor or an experienced instructor, with a minimum of 5 years experience, then passed to train in the appropriate class at WODC.
2. Dogs and handlers from other clubs who have gained an qualifying pass or obedience title are required to attend an induction class. Proof of Title or qualifying pass to be viewed upon joining.
3. Members with an additional dog or taking over the training of another member's dog will be assessed by the Chief Instructor or an experienced instructor, with a minimum of five years experience, at the current class level of either the dog or handler whichever is the lower.
4. Training Equipment:
  - a) The recommended training equipment to be used at WODC is either a correction chain, fixed/buckle collar, martingale, halti or gentle leader, and leather or material lead.
  - b) Spiked/studded/electric collars are not to be worn at WODC. No other forms of collars are allowed unless approved prior to use, by the Chief Instructor and/or an experienced instructor.
  - c) The use of any other types of training equipment at WODC to be approved prior to use, by the Chief Instructor and/or an experienced instructor.
  - d) The Club will not tolerate physical or verbal abuse towards dogs or other members or Committee or Instructors.
5. WODC Instructors and Committee Members who have been involved in instructor or administration work on the day are permitted to train their dogs in Class 5 irrespective of the current level of the team. The Instructor taking this Class will be advised by the handler at which level the team is training at and they will be instructed accordingly.
6. Members may train in a Class lower than they are currently at after consultation with the instructor of that class, providing that they adhere to that particular class exercises. This does not apply to Fundays.

**(Effective at publication of this document and is subject to change)**

# DOG OFF LEAD AREAS

The following areas have been designated as off lead, where pet owners are able to walk their dogs without a lead, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day (unless otherwise stated).

## Werribee:

- Easement South Ring Road between Maltby Bypass and Duncan's Road
- Rear of the Civic Centre
- D1 Drain reserve from Heaths Road to Black Forest Road
- Reserve between Diversion Weir and Redgum Close
- Northern side of Geelong Road between Westleigh drive and Westleigh drive

## Wyndham Vale:

- Presidents Park from the dog obedience building east to the riverbank and north to the park boundary
- Enclosed Off Lead Park east of the obedience pavilion

## Hoppers Crossing:

- Drainage reserve from Eastern side of Mossfiel Drive to Callander Crescent / from the southern boundary of the park to Pannam Drive
- Southern side of Pannam Drive to Morris Road except from 8-9.30am and 2.30pm -4.00pm Monday to Friday
- Eastern side of Morris Road to Western side of Bellbridge Drive
- Stephen Court walkway north along skeleton creek track to Golden Ash Grove
- Cambridge reserve between Heaths Road and terminating at the rear of Sutton Close except from 8-9.30am and 3-4.30pm Monday to Friday
- D1 Drainage reserve between Derrimut Road and Willmott Drive except from 8-9.30am and 3-4.30pm Monday to Friday

## Point Cook:

- Enclosed off lead park at the rear of the Point Cook Road reserve, Saltwater Promenade, Point Cook Road.

## Werribee South

Campbell's Cove Beach foreshore from the eastern edge of the car park at the end of the boat sheds to the boundary fence of the Point Cook RAAF base.

## **Truganina**

- Purpose built enclosed dog park on the corner Forsyth Road and Perennial Drive

## **Laverton North**

- Lawrie Emmins Reserve immediately adjacent to the Archery Range bounded by the southern tree line west to the vehicle track

## **Conditions of Use of Off-Lead Areas:**

The following conditions of use must be observed when using the off lead areas.

- Handler must have a dog lead in their possession and put their dog back on lead when leaving the off lead area.
- The dog's registration tag must be on the dog or with the handler at all times.
- Dogs must remain in visual and audible range of their handler to allow it to be effectively recalled at any time.
- The handler must have a means to pick up / remove and dispose of dogs droppings.
- When encountering others using the area, the dog must be recalled/restrained until both parties have moved on to a safe distance.
- Dogs must not enter water habitats that contain wildlife or chase wildlife in these areas.
- Dogs attracted to the motion of wheels must be controlled at all times.
- All handlers must immediately comply with any directions given by an authorised officer.

An authorised officer may issue an Infringement or Prohibition Notice for a breach of any of the above conditions.

**Please be aware that it is now mandatory that you register your dog with the Council at 3 months of age. You must also have your dog micro-chipped. If it hasn't been done, Council usually run 2 micro-chipping days a year or consult your Vet.**

**For more information regarding owning dogs in the City of Wyndham look up their website [www.wyndham.vic.gov.au](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au) or contact the Council on 9742-0921.**



# Dog Poo Fact Sheet

Dog poo can be a major worry for local communities and councils because of the potential health, environmental and amenity impacts. Concern about the presence of dog poo in public places such as streets, parks and on beaches often rates highly in public opinion surveys.

## **The problem with dog poo**

Some dog droppings contain harmful bacteria and nutrients. They can be washed through the stormwater system into natural waterways and Port Phillip Bay, which may contribute to excessive E. coli pollution readings on beaches following heavy rainfalls. Faeces of infected puppies or adult dogs may contain the roundworm, *Toxocara Canis*, which can be passed onto humans. Children, people with compromised immune systems and field sports players are most at risk of infection. Some experts argue that in addition to problems arising from dogs off-leash behaving badly, dog poo is one of the main reasons why dogs are banned from certain public places, e.g., beaches. Also dog poo in our streets, parks and on our beaches is smelly, unsightly, and very unpleasant to step in!

## **How much poo is there?**

Around 900,000 dogs in Victoria produce 90 tonnes of dog poo each day!

## **Why don't owners pick up?**

Jackson (2000) cites a number of reasons why dog owners **may not pick up** after their pet. These include:

- Distaste and/or embarrassment about picking up and carrying around a bag of dog poo. Distaste includes the smell, the sensation of handling dog poo and the possibility of coming into direct contact with it.
- Forgetting to take an appropriate device, such as a bag or pooper scooper.
- Inconvenience associated with having to take bags/devices on walks, and carrying them once full, particularly if no bins are available.
- Not being aware of the need to pick up after their dog, or not caring about it (e.g. believing dog poo is natural and will 'break down over time').
- Believing there is a low likelihood of being caught and/or fined by council for not picking up dog poo.

**Situational factors** existing in the public place may influence an owner's decision to pick up. For instance, as many people are now aware that picking up dog poo is the responsible thing to do, peer pressure may mean they are more likely to pick up if other people are around. Dog owners are more likely to pick up dog poo if:

- they see other owners doing the same thing
- the area is already fairly clean
- bag dispensers and bins are in close proximity
- owners see the dogs defecating while off leash (however, owners may decide it is too much effort to go over to where the dog has defecated).

## **How to clean up after your dog**

Nowadays, it is generally accepted that cleaning up after dogs is part of being a responsible pet owner. Most councils require dog owners to remove and dispose of their dog's poo when in public places. Some councils also require dog owners to carry an appropriate receptacle (e.g., bag or scoop) to remove dog poo, whenever they are walking their dog in a public place. Dog owners can be fined for not complying.

Cleaning up after your dog is easy. You can use plastic or biodegradable bags, trowels or pooper scoopers. Personal bag carriers are available that attach to your dog's leash to store plastic bags for use during walks.

Keep your bags/pouches/pooper scoop products with your leash, as a reminder to take them with you.

If using the plastic bag method for cleaning up, simply put your hand inside the bag, pick up the dog poo, turn the bag inside out, then seal. You can tie the bag to your dog's leash or carry it until you get to an appropriate disposal site.

Dispose of your bags in council-provided dog litter bins, or in your bin at home, but not the recycling bin! You could also compost your dog poo either in composting units or worm farms. Visit Eco Recycle Victoria's website for more information on composting.

**You can be fined for not picking up**

Most council's have local laws relating to dog poo removal, or a requirement to carry an appropriate receptacle for picking up, with fines generally ranging from \$50 to \$200.

**For more information on responsible pet ownership contact your local council.**

# A Dog's Ten Commandments

1. My life is likely to last 10 to 15 years. Any separation from you will be painful remember that before you get me.
2. Give me time to understand what you want of me.
3. Place your trust in me - it is crucial to my well being.
4. Do not be angry at me for long, and do not lock me up as punishment.
5. You have your work, your entertainment, and your friends. I only have you.
6. Talk to me sometimes. Even if I don't understand your words, I understand your voice when it is speaking to me.
7. Be aware that however you treat me, I will never forget.
8. Remember before you hit me that I have teeth that could easily hurt you, but I choose not to bite you because I love you.
9. Before you scold me for being uncooperative, obstinate, or lazy, ask yourself if something might be bothering me. Perhaps I might not be getting the right food, or I have been out too long, or my heart is getting too old and weak.
10. Take care of me when I get old; you too will grow old. Go with me on difficult journeys. Never say: "I cannot bear to watch" or "Let it happen in my absence." Everything is easier for me if you are there, even my death.

Remember that I love you.



# THINGS YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR DOG

To help your new puppy or dog learn and become a loving, obedient family member there are a few things you can do.

- Get your dog used to being touched. Run your hands over your dog's body including its tail, so it gets used to being handled.
- Check your dog's ears and clean them regularly.
- Get your dog used to his nails being clipped. Start off by picking your dog's feet up and touch his toe nails and if you can, clip them regularly.
- Check your dog's teeth regularly, by gently lifting its gums up and check their condition.
- Little things like these tasks can also make visiting the Vet more enjoyable for you, your dog and the Vet. You can also get other members of the family to do these tasks and also friends to help you as well.
- Groom your dog regularly. Try placing your dog on a sturdy table and get it used to being combed and brushed, even clipped or scissored. Of course, this depends on your dog's coat but even short coated dogs should be groomed weekly.
- Always check your dog's feet for grass seeds.
- Get your dog used to travelling in the car. Start off with very short trips and then increase the duration. Also ensure your dog is secure in your car whilst driving either being crated or tethered or in a car-harness. Do not let your dog put its head out of the window – they can suffer serious eye damage if a foreign object gets in their eye.
- If you let your dog inside, set boundaries on where it can go and what it can sit or sleep on and be consistent. If any dog is left outdoors and most are during the day, please ensure you keep your dog occupied by supplying a kennel, water, toys, like Kongs', buster cubes etc. to keep them occupied whilst you are not home. Exercising your dog daily is essential too.
- Make your backyard safe for your dog; do not leave potential chewable items on the ground. Fence off areas of your yard if you do not want plants chewed or holes dug in particular areas.
- Teach your dog the most important basic obedience commands – Sit, Drop, Stand, Stay and Come.
- Socialise your dog with lots of other dogs and people. Always ask first if it is OK to do so, when meeting new people and dogs.
- Remember, Dogs are not well-behaved from the start. It is your job to teach your dog good canine manners. Work with your dog on a regular basis, set the rules, and stick to them, before long, your dog will know what is and what is not acceptable and will become that loving, obedient family pet you always wanted.
- Again, remember Praise, Perseverance and Persistence!

# RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP

1. Feed an adequate balanced diet.
2. Supply clean cool water at all times.
3. Provide a cosy dry sleeping area.
4. Provide the dog with regular exercise and allow the pet regular family contact.
5. Protect the health of the dog particularly – vaccinations, regular worm control including Heartworm, control of fleas and ticks.
6. Register your dog with the local council and ensure the registration tag and the owner's name and address is on the collar when the dog is outside the home. Registration with your local Council is required by law, and also provides the best form of identification should your pet be lost. It is now mandatory for all dogs to be micro chipped..
7. Confine the dog to the property at all times, preferably in the backyard.
8. Train the dog so that it is not a nuisance to neighbours, for example by barking or attacking other people or animals.
9. Dogs that are not used for breeding should be de-sexed,. Female dogs that are not de-sexed require a fully enclosed pen, including a roof. Dogs are “in season” for three weeks, usually twice per year.
10. Ensure the dog is adequately cared for during holidays, preferably at a Council registered boarding kennel.



# OTHER DOG ACTIVITIES

There are many other dog disciplines you can participate in. With a good grounding in Obedience, of course, you and your dog can get great enjoyment in participating in competitive obedience trials, conformation (showing), tracking, agility, jumping and games, retrieving, herding, sledding, lure racing and earth dog tests and endurance tests.

The club has many experienced trialling members here at the club who participate in many of the above disciplines. If you are interested please talk to your instructor or any committee member.

Contact Clubs for:

## **TRACKING**

Tracking Club of Victoria

<http://www.trackingclubvic.org.au>

## **AGILITY**

Agility Dog Club of Victoria

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

## **RETRIEVING / FIELD TRIALS**

Victorian Gundog Club Inc.

<http://www.victoriangundogclub.com>

## **HERDING**

Victorian Herding Association

<http://victorianherdingassociation.com/>

## **LURE RACING / EARTH DOG CLUB**

Lure Racing & Earth Dog Club of Victoria

<http://lureracing.blogspot.com/>

## **SLEDDING**

Siberian Husky Club of Vic. Inc.

<http://www.siberianhuskyvic.org.au>

## **CONFORMATION (SHOWING)**

For Pure Breed dogs only – Contact your Breed Club

Look up the Dogs Victoria (Victorian Canine Association) website:

<http://www.dogsvictoria.org.au>

## **CANINE FREESTYLE**

[www.melbournecaninefreestyle.com.au](http://www.melbournecaninefreestyle.com.au)

## **DANCES WITH DOGS**

Dances with Dogs Club of Vic

<https://dogsvictoria.org.au/members/knowledge-centre/dog-activities/dances-with-dogs.html>



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## **COME INSIDE THE CLUBROOMS**

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### **Did you know another world is inside the clubrooms?**

Inside the clubrooms you will not only find your training cards and the toilets,

But also:

#### **OUR GREAT CANTEEN**

You will find yummy treats such as bags of chips, chocolate bars, hot items like Pies, Pasties, Sausage Rolls, Dim Sims and a variety of cold drinks to wash it all down with.

#### **TRAINING EQUIPMENT**

Not only do we look after the humans, but we also look after your dog, with a range of leads, collars, head collars, dumbbells, dog treats that you need for training with your dog.

#### **MERCHANDISE**

The committee will assist you with your selection of official club merchandise, ranging from polo tops, fleecy tops, vests, jackets and beanies and baseball caps.

You can also buy car stickers and iron on transfers and beer stubby holders for example as a way of supporting the club.

#### **FREE TEA AND COFFEE**

Members are also welcome to help themselves to the free tea and coffee facilities, which are located straight across from the front door. If you like, you can make a donation in the donation tin on the bench.

The club also has a licensed bar, so why not come inside and have a cold beer, wine or soft drink after a hard day of training your dog.

**REMEMBER:** The clubrooms are a dog free zone, no dogs are allowed in the clubroom, humans only. The committee look forward to see you inside.



# CONTACTS

**New Member Enquiries:** 0403 362 373

**Clubrooms:** (Saturday only) 9742 2277  
(Between 1.30-3.30pm)

**Secretary:** (Jo Taylor) 0431 479 618

**Email:** [info@werribeeobediencedogs.org](mailto:info@werribeeobediencedogs.org)

**Website:** <http://www.werribeeobediencedogs.org>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via the above numbers or email.