

# The Sutherland Shire Dog Training Club Inc

ABN: 85 904 409 654



February 2026 – March 2026

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## The Wag Magazine



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Our very reasonable advertising rates include an initial introduction/bio of your company along with your advertisement.

Contact the editor for details.

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All contributions for THE WAG  
must be emailed to  
[editor@ssdtc.com.au](mailto:editor@ssdtc.com.au)

Contributions must be received  
at least two weeks prior to  
distribution otherwise inclusion  
cannot be guaranteed

Opinions expressed in THE WAG  
are not necessarily those of the  
Sutherland Shire Dog Training  
Club Inc. or its committee.

Any veterinary advice printed  
in THE WAG should be checked  
with your own vet.



[Find us on Facebook](#)

# ►Editor's Note

Lee Collett



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Welcome to this bi-monthly edition of The Wag Magazine. As always, it's a joy to bring you the latest happenings in our vibrant dog-loving community. Whether you're here for training tips, event updates, or just a few heartwarming pup stories, we hope this issue brings a smile

to your face and keeps you connected to our club. A big thank you to everyone who contributes photos, articles, and ideas!

When your human is the editor of the magazine, you get to be on the front page ;) but if you want your dog featured in the magazine drop me a line at [editor@ssdtc.com.au](mailto:editor@ssdtc.com.au) You'll also see me at training and trials hovering and taking pictures, so look out for your furry friend in future editions.

# ►President's Report

Brian Jarrett



We closed out 2025 on December 7 with another fantastic Christmas Party. Big thank you to Anne and the team, all of whom spent many hours pulling this together with great activities and a load of prizes, and, all our members that attended and added to the fun.

We will be busy again in 2026 with our club run trials, Sunday classes and midweek training. A lot of work needs to be done for these trials and activities, so, it would be great to see some of our newer members volunteer to help out and gain a valuable insight on how the club operates and what we have to offer.

We have 3 new Instructors starting out this year. They will be joining our already dedicated and experienced team. We usually have an influx of new memberships at the start of the year, so having these instructors on board will make for a smooth startup. I want to thank them for stepping up, and I am certain they will find it very rewarding.

With the hot weather all around us now, please remember to have water for yourself and your dog handy and refresh regularly.

Looking forward to catching up with everyone on Sunday 1st and getting back into training.



## Kylie's K9 Country Retreat

**ANAKY  
SAMOYEDS**

**HYDRO &  
REHAB**

Kylie Hill : 0408 207 162  
EMAIL : info@k9countryretreat.com.au  
WEBSITE : <http://www.anakysamoyeds.com>

Kylie's is the ultimate Farm Stay for your four-legged family member. Offering peace of mind so you can enjoy your time away. Rest assured your dog is having the best time playing and getting cuddles in the open space and fresh air. Drop off your dog for doggy daycare, offering the same optional outdoor extra's as our retreat stays, such as bushwalks and paddock plays, for your dog's fulfillment and enjoyment.

At the Retreat, we also offer Hydrotherapy, a form of resistance training and rehabilitation using our specialised underwater treadmill. These treatment plans provided by our trained hydrotherapists work to relieve pain and inflammation, and promote wellbeing. Proven to stimulate blood flow and relax tight muscles, hydrotherapy is being used as beneficial pre and post operative treatment, as well as an effective form of weight management, fitness training and conditioning.



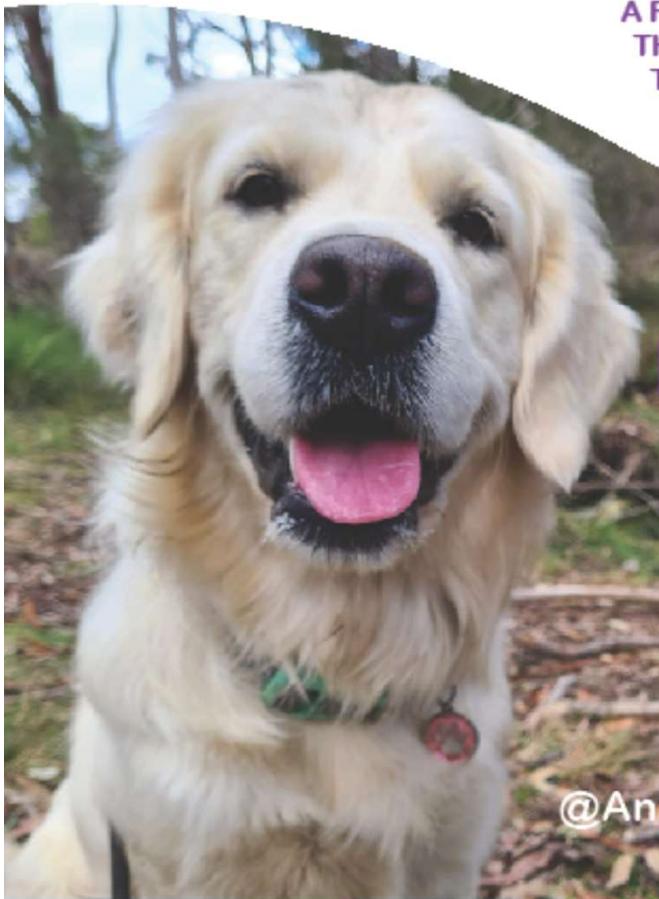
**A FARM STAY  
THATS NOT  
TOO FUR  
AWAY**

**Boarding  
Doggy Daycare  
Training  
Grooming  
Hydrotherapy  
Retail**

**BOOK**



**NOW!**



**@kyliesK9  
@AnakySamoyeds**



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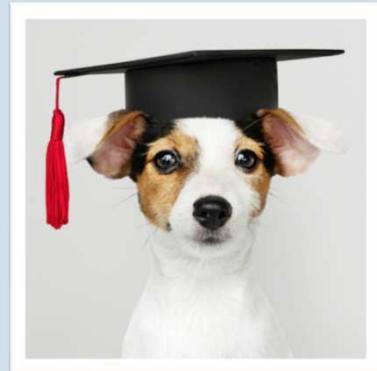


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## ► Agility Round-Up

Robyn Goldsmith takes us through the latest Agility results



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## ► Obedience &

## More Report

Obedience, Rally, Scent Work, Tricks & Dances with Dogs Results from Jenni Gormley

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# iPetStore.com.au

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► iPetStore is a family owned, Sydney based pet supplies store. Starting in 2013 as an on-line only pet supplies business, their warehouse is now open to the public 7 days week and includes Puppy Preschool and a DIY Dog Wash.

► They ship to most places in Australia and offer free shipping to most metro areas. iPetStore can be found at Warehouse 27, 3-11 Flora St, Kirrawee - just down the hill from Woolworths and South Village. There is parking available on the site and they are open Mon-Fri: 9am - 5pm, Sat: 9am-3pm, Sun: 10am-2pm.

► All of their products are distributed from their warehouse in Kirrawee. The team is available to chat via phone 9am-5pm (AEST) or if you would prefer, you can email [sales@ipetstore.com.au](mailto:sales@ipetstore.com.au)



# ►Calendar of Events

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## Club Event Dates

12 April – Dances with Dogs Comp

11 May - Tracking Trial

17 May - Obedience & Rally Trial

14 June - Agility Trial

20 June – Tracking Trial

20 June – Dances with Dogs Comp

18 October – Dances with Dogs Comp

**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS**  
We need your support for both the Obedience/Rally and Agility trials. We require stewards for Obedience & Rally for May, and Agility in June. Please see Shanelle or Jan to put your name down to help out on these days.

## Training Dates

First Sunday for 2026 Training will be Sunday 1 February

Final Sunday for 2026 Training will be Sunday 6 December

The Wag Magazine distribution dates are 1st of February, April, June, August, October & December

## Meeting Dates

Instructors Meetings take place on the first Sunday of every month after general training

Committee Meetings take place on the second Sunday of every month after general training

Annual General Meeting will be held SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

If you can steward, help in the kitchen or are savvy on the computer, please reach out to Shanelle Corben at [ams.corben@bigpond.com](mailto:ams.corben@bigpond.com)

**THERE WILL BE NO TRAINING ON**

**5<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 17<sup>th</sup> MAY  
or 14<sup>th</sup> JUNE**

## Our Agility journey – Robyn Goldsmith

### How I started and how long involved in the agility:

Saffy the Cavoodle started her Agility career in 2015 just before her 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. She got her AD and JD titles quite quickly as in those days you only needed 3 Qs to get a title in Novice. We have had lots of fun travelling around the country side doing trials going to ACT multiple times, Coffs Harbour, Port Macquarie, Tamworth, Newcastle, Raymond Terrace as well as the city trials.

**What go me interested in Agility?** We used to go to St Ives showground for training with Le Hammer and Keith Edwards of Canine Dog Sports I met a lovely group of people there and we started trialing together.

**Training challenges:** Saffy's main problem was she was quite slow so there were lots of clear runs where we did not make time. Her other problem was she would get up the top of the A frame and stay there looking around. She then often decided she would jump straight off from the top.

**Favourite obstacle/s:** A frame, jumps, tunnels.

**Funny things whilst trialling:** I was doing Strategic Pairs with my friend in an ACT trial when both dogs decided they wanted to chase the birds. They then went off to the equipment shed! We did finish the course but were a bit overtime!



### Have you trained multiple dogs? How do they differ?

My second dog Kobi the toy poodle started Agility in 2022 but unfortunately Kobi suffers from multiple stress problems and can never quite manage to finish the course correctly. He has other skills however and has taught me that life is not all about Agility. A quick summary of signs of stress in your dog follows.

#### *Signs of stress in your Agility dog*

Some of the signs of stress are as follows: panting, yawning, scratching, licking, staring, dilated pupils, blinking, avoiding eye contact, tucked tail, low and slow wagging tail, shaking, salivating, whining, barking, diarrhea, sniffing, increased reactivity, zooming around the ring, general restlessness, or avoidance of handler.

One of the ways to avoid stress is to have a well rehearsed ring entry routine for your dog. This should be from the time you remove your dog from the crate to when you are called into the ring when you can then begin your Start line routine.

Find the activity that he loves the most and associate that with the ring. My dog Kobi loves to pivot on his pivot disc which I can take to the ring with me and have fun playing with this while waiting our turn – with some treat rewards as well.

Agility is hard! The best way to help your dog is to become a dog detective – notice what it is that your dog does that affects his agility ability. If our dogs are over aroused they cannot think clearly. Sometimes the only thing you can do is leave the ring.

# ►Agility Round Up

One of our members attended a workshop over the break. Here is her report.

*Foxy (dog) and I (Kasia Wojcikowska, the handler) recently had the opportunity to attend an agility workshop with Iwona Gołęb, the 2024 Agility World Champion, held at Canine Education Academy. The workshop focused on building a true connection between handler and dog, emphasising timing, clarity, and smooth flow in the course. Iwona's approach showed how small adjustments can make a big difference, helping teams run with confidence and harmony. It was an inspiring and highly valuable experience for anyone passionate about agility."*

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*Photo below with some action shots from video*

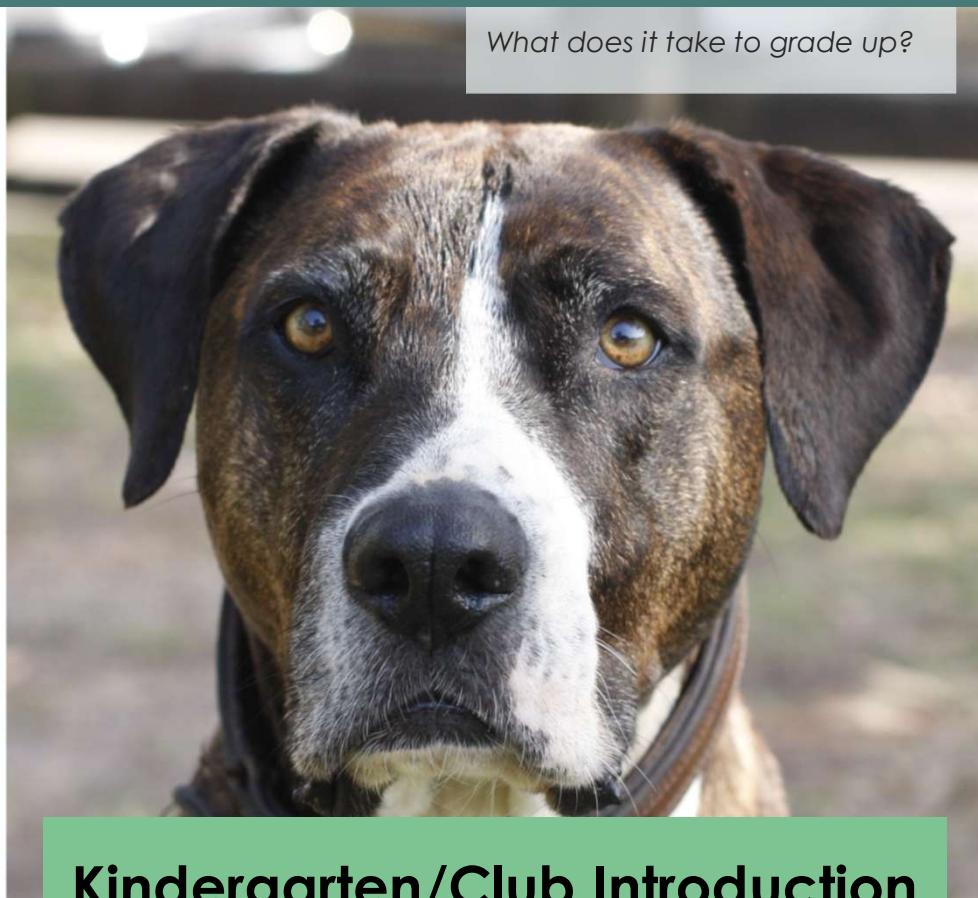


No trial results this time. December trial was cancelled due to heat.

# ►Grading Fundamentals

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What does it take to grade up?



## Kindergarten/Club Introduction

❖ Grading takes place each week at end of class

Handlers are introduced to the club, informed on basic dog to handler communication and shown basic commands. Handlers and their dog are in this class for one week only

## Class 1 to 2

❖ Grading takes place every Sunday at end of class

Handlers are allowed to encourage their dogs verbally and repeat commands. Checking a dog is not penalised. Clicker & food rewards (luring) are permitted.

### Core Elements

- ❖ Handler is to demonstrate a level of communication between them and their dog is being established
- ❖ Handler may touch, encourage and direct the dog during all heeling patterns
- ❖ Heeling with a loose lead (as much as possible), execution of left and right turns, sits and basic handling
- ❖ Handler is to demonstrate a knowledge/ability to communicate commands to the dog

# Class 2 to 3

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- ❖ Grading takes place 2nd Sunday of each month

Handlers are allowed to encourage their dogs verbally, but only occasionally repeat commands. Checking a dog is penalised, consistent checking of the dog will result in a failure. No clicker, food rewards (luring) permitted. Canine Bridle, Halti permitted.

## Core Elements

- ❖ Loose Lead (leash) all paces. Sit stay and drop (or down) stays, Handler beside dog
- ❖ Heeling at all paces with a loose lead. Sits and stands using signal and voice only. Downs without force although the dog may be 'guided' down by the lead
- ❖ Stays: (A) Sit, handler beside the dog for 1 minute; (B) Down, handler beside the dog for 1 minute
- ❖ Handling: based on the handler's ability to communicate command



# Class 3 to 4

- ❖ Grading takes place 3rd Sunday of each Month

► Handlers are allowed to encourage their dogs verbally but only issue one command. Handling the dog or checking the dog will earn a penalty. Consistent checking must be failed. No clicker, food rewards (luring) permitted. No Canine Bridles or Haltis permitted.

## Core Elements

- ❖ Loose Lead (leash) all paces, automatic sit, stand for examination, sit stay and drop (or down) stays with handler in front of dog (1.5 m minimum)
- ❖ Heeling: at all paces with a loose lead. Sits to be automatic. Stands and Downs using signal and voice only. Handler is not to touch or guide the dog into any directed position.
- ❖ Stand For Examination: with dog beside handler. (Dogs' paws movement will earn minor deductions as per CCD judging). If dogs all four paws move, it is a fail.
- ❖ Stays: (A) sit, handler in front of dog for 1 minute; (B) down, handler in front of dog for 2 minutes
- ❖ Handling: based on the handler's ability to communicate command

# Class 4 to Club Medal

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- ❖ Grading takes place Sunday as per Judges Ring schedule

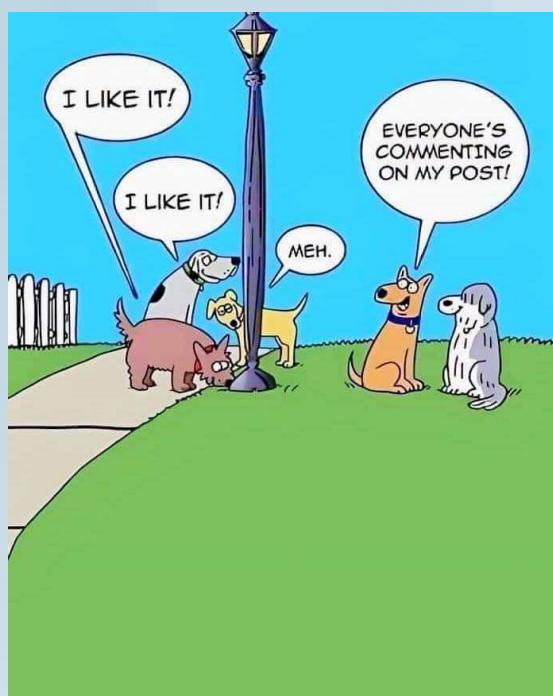
Three qualifying passes to Dogs NSW trial standard -> Community Companion Dog (CCD) Standard

Handlers should not encourage their dog verbally, and only issue one command. Handling the dog or checking the dog will earn a penalty (repeated checking will be failed). No clicker or food rewards (luring) permitted.

## Core Elements

- ❖ Loose Lead (leash) all paces, Automatic sit, stand for examination, Recall, Sit stay and drop (or down) stays. Handler in front of dog
- ❖ Heeling: at all paces to an advanced standard (Automatic sits, stands and downs signal and voice only)
- ❖ Stand for Examination: as in a CCD Trial with the handler in front of the dog to the length of the leash. If dogs all four paws move, it is a fail.
- ❖ Recall: 12 metres off lead (components of exercise as in CCD Trail)
- ❖ Stays: (A) Sit, handler 5 metres in front of dog for 1 minute; (B) Down, handler 5 metres in front of dog for 2 minutes
- ❖ Handling: based on the handler's ability to communicate commands.
- ❖ Note: Pre-requisite is the handler and dog having graded to Class 4

# Club Medal Excellent



- ❖ Grading takes place Sunday as per Judges Ring schedule

Three qualifying passes to Dogs NSW trial standard -> Novice (CD) Standard

Note: Pre-requisites of (1) the handler and dog having graded to Class 4, (2) having gained Club Medal

# ►Training Tips

## A Guide for Travelling with Pets



Caravanning and camping holidays are a great way for families to enjoy the great outdoors together, and that should include the beloved family pet!

It is important to plan when travelling with pets and the following tips will provide you with the knowledge and ideas to make your holiday a pleasant one for all.

### Did you know?

It is illegal to drive in NSW with a pet on your lap. For safety pets must be restrained in a carrier or harness to prevent them moving around the car. (The laws regarding restraint of dogs in or on vehicles can vary between the states/territories).

No dogs, cats, birds and other domestic pets (other than trained assistance animals such as guide dogs) must not be taken into national parks, state conservation areas, nature reserves, historic sites or Aboriginal areas.

### Accommodation

There are many caravan / holiday parks that welcome pets however pet policies may vary. When making your booking, contact the park directly to:

Ensure that there has not been a change of policy; and

Find out whether any conditions apply

During your stay at a caravan / holiday park, make sure you:

Respect the park's regulations and be considerate of your fellow guests – don't allow your pet to dominate the space.

Always pick up any dog droppings.

Keep your pet under control at all times, as much as for their safety as the safety of those around you.

### Travelling

Ensure your pet is comfortable and safe whilst travelling.

For safety, pets must be restrained in a carrier or harness when travelling.

Vehicle restraints for dogs are widely available and include restraints that either attach to existing seat belts or have buckles that clip directly into the seat belt.

Transport containers should enable the animal to lie down comfortably in a natural position, stand and sit erect, turn around and stretch with clearance. Always ensure they are secure so it won't slide or shift in the event of a quick stop.

Do a trial run before your holiday as this will identify if they have a travel phobia. Consider several trial runs, lengthening the duration each time.

A 30-minute drive on various surfaces and corners will be enough to see how they react. Anything that doesn't happen is unlikely to occur during a longer trip.

Full article can be read [here](#)

## Dobermann Club Scent Work Trial – 28 Nov, 2025

**Jaxon and Christie**

Qualified in **Excellent Interiors** and received the **Judge's Encouragement Award**.

**Roman and Christie**

Qualified in **Advanced Containers** with a time of **34.72 seconds**, placing **6th**.

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## DOGS NSW Grounds Development Committee

### SprintDog Trial – 7 Dec, 2025

**Liza and Lynda**

Competed in the **100 m Sprint**, achieving a **pass with 27 points**.

**Magic and Christie**

Qualified with **42 points**, running a PB time of **13.33 seconds** at **27.01 km/h**.

**Roman and Christie**

Qualified with **38 points**, running a time of **9.45 seconds** at **38.1 km/h**.



## Fast Paws Sydney

### SprintDog Trial – 13 Dec, 2025

**Liza and Lynda**

Competed in the **100 m Sprint**, achieving a **pass with 26 points**.

**Novice SprintDog Title gained.**

► Obedience, Rally, Herding,  
Scent Work, Tricks & DWD Report  
Dec 2025, Jan 2026

Jenni Gormley

## Belconnen Dog Obedience Club January Ribbon Trial –

7 Jan, 2026

Nina and Doreen

Competed in **CCD**, scoring **89/100** and gaining her **Community Companion Dog** title.

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## NSDTC Rally Trial – 11 Jan, 2026

Winston and Jenny

Competed in **Rally Masters** (first trial Under the new rules), scoring **85/100**.



## Western Sydney Scent Work – Summer Sizzler Trial –

16 Jan, 2026

Jaxon and Christie

Qualified in **Advanced Containers** with a time of **21.38 seconds**, placing **4th**.



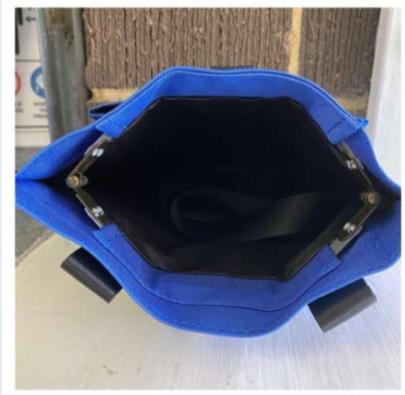
## All Stars Dog Sports Scent Work Trial –

18 Jan, 2026

Magic and Christie

Qualified in **Advanced Containers** with a time of **32 seconds**, placing **4th**.





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## ►Merchandise

Treat pouches  
are now  
available from  
the canteen –  
only \$15.00 each

## TRAINING AND CLASS TIMES

### SUNDAY MORNING

**Kindergarten - 8:30 to 9:30 am**

(During Daylight Saving 8:00 to 9:00 am)

**Classes 1, 2, 3, 4 - 8:30 to 9:30 am**

(During Daylight Saving 8:00 to 9:00 am)

**Beginners Agility - 8:30 to 9:30 am**

(During Daylight Saving 8:00 to 9:00 am)

### MONDAY NIGHT

**The Help Class - 7:00 to 8:30 pm**

(Invitation Only - Enquire at Clubhouse)

**Rally - 7:00 to 9:00pm**

**Obedience Trial Class 7:00 to 9:00pm**

(every fortnight)

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

**(moving to Sunday Mornings soon!)**

**Agility Training - 7:15 to 9:30 pm (Intermediate/Triallers)**

There is no Poop Fairy ...



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Our club enforces a no dog attack policy. This means if your dog has attacked another dog or human you will be asked to purchase from the clubhouse (or elsewhere) a muzzle to use whilst on SSDTC grounds during training sessions.

Please understand that the enforcing of this policy is for the safety of our trainers, members and their dogs

Removal of the muzzle at a future date to be decided by senior instructor(s) assessment on the aggressive dog

# ►General Rules

## Ground Rules

1. Members must be in class by the time specified. Instructors have the right to refuse entry to the class if you are late.
2. All dogs must be vetted by the appointed vetting officers before you proceed to a class. No dogs will be allowed on the field before being vetted.
3. Members without membership cards may be refused admittance to class.
4. All dogs must be immunised against Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus and Para influenza and Kennel Cough.
5. Current inoculation certificates must be produced when renewing membership.
6. No bitch in season will be allowed to attend training.
7. All dogs must be kept on a leash at all times unless under the supervision of an instructor.
8. All handlers of dogs who foul the grounds must immediately clean up and dispose of the matter in the bin/s provided.
9. Classes using the Club jumps and/or agility equipment will be responsible for returning the equipment to the equipment room after use.
10. Members shall behave courteously to other members and officials of the Club at all times.
11. Any disputes should be referred to the chief instructor or a committee member at the time of the dispute.

