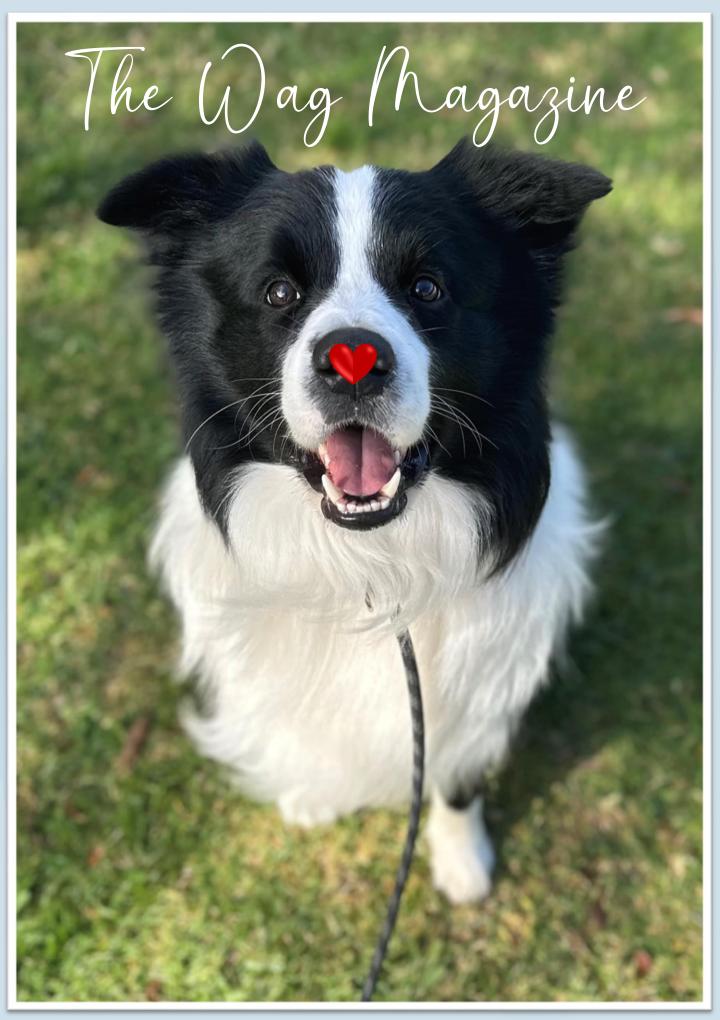
# The Sutherland Shire Dog Training Club Inc

ABN: 85 904 409 654



October 2025 – November 2025

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## ▶Our Committee

#### **President**

Brian Jarrett

#### **Vice President**

Shanelle Corben

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John McGrath

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(contact:secretary@ssdtc.com.au)

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Iris Jezierski

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#### **Assistant Treasurer**

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#### **Assistant Ground Secretary**

Rochelle Luke

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(contact:editor@ssdtc.com.au)

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All contributions for THE WAG must be emailed to 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.



## ▶Editor's Note



## Lee Collett

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 <a href="mailto:editor@ssdtc.com.au">editor@ssdtc.com.au</a> 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

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the almost 40 new members that joined in August and September. I hope that you and your dog have a rewarding experience with our club and our volunteers. Please, come up and say hello when you see myself and Riley doing the rounds.

We had a few disruptions over the months with wet weather and the council closing the fields for change of season maintenance. We should be back to normal operations for the remainder of the year.

Thank you to all that attended our AGM on 14 September. It was great to have most of our Committee re-stand for another term and continue with the work we have in front of us.

I would like, especially to thank Pam Ryan and Iris Jezierski for their dedication and hard work over the past two years as Club Secretary and Member Trustee respectively.

With that, we welcome Heather McMillan as Club Secretary and Fiona Dell'oro as Member Trustee to the Committee. I am looking forward to working with you both and are certain you will both add your own personalities to our future.

With Daylight Saving now with us, remember we now start Sunday classes at 8:00am sharp. This is to limit our and our dogs' exposure to the higher summer temperatures. It's worth noting to bring a bottle or two of water with you to share with your dog as it warms up.

## New Members

Elizabeth Aggett of HEATHCOTE with English Cocker Spaniel x Kaia Shinae Beevours of ILLAWONG with Golden Retriever Wren Robert Berringer of SUTHERLAND with English Cocker Spaniel x Sunny Natalie Bleasdale of MONTEREY with Italian Sighthound Rui Andrew Clifton of COMO with Australian Terrier x Banx Adam De Michiel of ENGADINE with American Staffordshire Terrier x Mia Vanessa Falaras of MENAI with Australian Kelpie Annie Peter Fifield of KAREELA with Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Ralph Chiree Henderson of COMO with Golden Retriever Millie Maddison Holden of HEATHCOTE with Cavalier King Charles Spaniel x Alfie Ria Hunter of OTFORD with Dachshund x Gizmo Murray Jackson of OYSTER BAY with Golden Retriever Hallie Kyle Jones of SYLVANIA with Australian Shepherd Bear and Australian Shepherd Bear Laura Kennedy of SUTHERLAND with French Bulldog Pixie Vicki Kortum of CARINGBAH SOUTH with Shetland Sheepdog Walter Howard Lee of CARINGBAH SOUTH with Miniature Schnauzer Oreo Melanie Lucas of VOYAGER POINT with Border Collie Bodhi Gaby Meadley of ENGADINE with Keeshond Jurgen Rorey Meadley of ENGADINE with Finnish Lapponian Dog Reyna Melissa Proudfoot of CARINGBAH with Airedale Terrier Trixie Bernadette Rogers of BONNET BAY with Golden Retriever x Larry Hayley Sciberras of CARINGBAH SOUTH with x Mocha Carol Strachan of COMO with Poodle Zappa Darren Strachan of COMO with Poodle Zappa Ben Woodcock of ENGADINE with Australian Kelpie Fennel Lizann Woodin of GYMEA BAY with Staffordshire Bull Terrier x Sonny Sharon Bennett of BARDEN RIDGE with Poodle x Archie Belinda Biggs of HEATHCOTE with Australian Shepherd x Lyla Phoebe Cato of MENAI with Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Ollie Emma Duffy of BONNET BAY with Poodle x Wookie Sabrina Gabrielle of AMBARVALE with Mastiff x Saxon and Golden Retriever Scarlett Belinda Hackett of OYSTER BAY with Poodle x Hilo Angela Karayannis of SYLVANIA WATERS with Miniature Schnauzer Luna Daniel Kritzler of CRONULLA with Labrador Retriever Oscar Sajal Lodhia of WORONORA with Cavalier King Charles Spaniel x Hugo April-maree Mannah of MAROUBRA with Border Collie Molly Bec Molendowski of KIRRAWEE with Australian Kelpie x Chase Brian Rogers of WORONORA HEIGHTS with Jack Russell Terrier Barney Connor Ryan of JANNALI with Labrador Retriever x Millie Evan Ward of CRONULLA with Jack Russell Terrier Marci Netta Ward of CRONULLA with Jack Russell Terrier Marci

Vanessa Ward of OYSTER BAY with English Cocker Spaniel x Todd Brian Zou of KIRRAWEE with Cavalier King Charles Spaniel x Skye



## Kylle's K9 Country Retreat ANAKY HYDRO & SAMOYEDS 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 outdooor 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 specilised 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.





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## ▶Contents



# Agility Round-Up Robyn Goldsmith takes us through the latest Agility results



Encouragement Award:

CONGRATULATIONS TO Maeve & Star; Clarissa & Rusty; Daniel & Lilly



## ► Obedience & More Report

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

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## iPetStore.com.au

- ▶ 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





**Club Event Dates** 

6 April – Trick Dog Test

12 May - Tracking Trial (T&S)

18 May -Obedience & Rally Trial

15 June - Agility Trial

21 June – Track & Search Trial

## Training Dates

First Sunday for 2025 Training will be Sunday 2 February

Final Sunday for 2025 Training will be Sunday 7 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 14 SEPTEMBER

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.

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

THERE WILL BE NO TRAINING ON 6<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 18th MAY

or 15th JUNE

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## ► Canine Life Skills workshop <sub>by Instructor Carol</sub>

I recently had the opportunity to run a Canine Life Skills workshop at the club. Numbers were limited but the available spots filled up very quickly. The workshop was run primarily to teach our dogs and handlers some of the skills they would need to fit in with our human world. As our dogs are from "planet dog" and do not speak our language, this human world can often be very confusing. They are always communicating with us but we need to learn how to listen.



I asked for 100% commitment from everyone and I was not disappointed. The work ethic was outstanding both from the handlers and their dogs. 8 weeks of training in rain hail or shine. And there were a few very rainy and cold days believe me. Two intrepid people and their ever faithful canine companions travelled the long way round from Bundeena when the Audley weir was flooded. One of our handlers even turned up for the last two sessions with his leg in a full brace. Now that is commitment. Hot coffee was the staple beverage as my intrepid teams of handlers, dogs and assistant instructors braved the chilly weather. There was a big orientation night before the workshop began and plenty of homework each week. All of this was done with a sense of fun and the quest for learning.







We covered a lot of skills including those listed below:

- How to build a bond and engagement through play
- How dogs learn
- How to use a long line
- Impulse control
- How to help your dog feel safe and comfortable around novel objects / situations
- How to teach: Loose leash walking, polite greeting, recalls, stays, door manners, settle in place, fun tricks.

As all the dogs were doing so well we were able to throw in a few other skills and some fun games before winding up the workshop on the last day with a loose leash challenge. The challenge was to loose leash walk your dog whilst holding a very full cup of water. The handler with the most water left in their cup won the challenge and went home with a very cool prize. Congratulations to Jacob and Rex who were our winners. Everyone's cups were still very full...an amazing achievement and testament to the time and effort put into the training by all.

Lots of heartfelt thanks go out to my two wonderful assistant instructors Lyn M and Vera. These ladies were amazing. I would also like to thank the committee and our awesome chief instructor Lyn W for giving me the opportunity to run the workshop.

Last but not least, all the dogs and handlers who made this workshop a joy to run. It made me very proud to watch you all progress each and every week.

Hopefully, we will be able to run another workshop next year.



### **About You and Your Dog**

- 1. Dog's name(s) Winston
- 2. Breed or mix Cavoodle
- 3. How did you get into agility and how long have you been involved in this dog sport? We first started trialling in July 2022 so just over 3 years now.





#### **Your Agility Journey**

- 4. What got you interested in dog agility? Winston is our first dog and my wife was researching things you could do with your dog. A dog trainer had an introduction to agility course for puppies and it went from there.
- 5. Do you remember your first class or trial? What was it like? Our very first trial was at St Ives in July 2022. It was the very first time Winston and I had run on a full size course with full size equipment. I was worried at the time Winston wouldn't make it over the A Frame as it looked huge!
- 6. Were there any training challenges you had to overcome? My wife had initially trained him to enter the weave poles on his right until we found out it should have been on the left! This took a while to fix but we got there!

#### About your dog

- 7. What's your dog like outside agility? He is a lap dog and just loves sitting on your lap getting stomach rubs.
- 8. What is their favourite obstacle? This is a tough one as I'm not exactly sure. I probably would say the dog walk.
- 9. What is their favourite pastime? He loves chasing his ball, running along the beach and scent work. He also loves his treats.
- 10. Have you trained multiple dogs? How do they differ? We just got a border collie We haven't done any proper training with her as yet given she is still young. Her energy levels are about 3 times higher than that of Winston and I think will be more challenging to train compared to our Cavoodle.

#### **Trials and Highlights**

- 11. Can you share a favourite agility trial moment or highlight? Probably our first time trialing where to our amazement Winston qualified both in AD and JD coming first and second respectively.
- 12. Any funny o unexpected things ever happened in a trial? Winston and Penny the pug had teamed up at a trial to do Novice Strategic Pairs for the first time. As Winston was running, Penny got excited and started chasing Winston around the course which I found amusing. I'm pleased to say we still qualified!

## ► Agility Round Up

## **Trial Results**

## **Spring Fair 31st August**

Darren and Winston ADM Q JDM Q

## State Titles – 5<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> September

- Darren and Winston ADO Q; JDM Q
- Darren and Winston with Patricia and Lacey 1<sup>st</sup> place and Q in Novice Strategic Pairs
- Patricia and Lacey GDX Q

## **Manly DTC 13th September**

- Patricia and Lacey JDO Q
- Darren and Winston ADM Q 2<sup>nd</sup>; JDM Q 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Patricia and Ziggy AD 1<sup>st</sup> (no Q)

## **Northern Suburbs DTC 14th September**

- Darren and Winston JDM Q;
- Patricia and Lacey ADO Q; JDO Q

## **Wollongong DTC 20th September**

Patricia and Ziggy JD 1st Q in only their third trial!

# Grading Fundamentals



## 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

❖ 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

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 of front 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



## Leash Reactivity

Leash reactivity in dogs can stem from various factors that influence their responses to the environment. Understanding these reasons helps owners manage and reduce reactivity effectively. Here are some key factors:

Fear - One major reason for leash reactivity is fear. When dogs are on a leash, their movement is restricted, particularly the ability to retreat from perceived threats. This lack of escape can lead to defensive behaviours such as barking or lunging. Practicing loose leash walking can alleviate fear, as it allows dogs more freedom of movement and helps them feel more secure in their surroundings.

Frustration - Frustration is another common cause of leash reactivity. Dogs often want to interact with other dogs or people, and being unable to do so can lead to behaviours like barking or pulling. To reduce this frustration, start training at a distance from triggers and teach that calm behaviour and a loose leash lead to positive outcomes, such as the chance to greet other dogs.

Antecedent Arrangement - Antecedent arrangement refers to environmental factors that increase the likelihood of specific behaviours. Being mindful of surroundings during walks can help create a positive environment. Shorter walks in low-stimulation areas can prevent emotional overwhelm, making dogs feel more relaxed and less reactive.

Conditioned Associations - Conditioned associations significantly impact how dogs respond on a leash. Negative experiences, such as corrections when encountering triggers, can lead to anxiety about the leash. Creating positive associations—like asking for a sit and rewarding calm behaviour—can transform triggers into positive experiences, encouraging focus on the owner.

Subtle Cues - Dogs are highly sensitive to their owners' emotions and body language. Signs of anxiety can alert dogs, increasing reactivity. Owners should aim to remain calm and relaxed, using techniques like deep breathing and easing tension on the leash. Controlling the environment—by avoiding high-stress situations—can also help reduce the impact of triggers.

In summary, leash reactivity in dogs can arise from emotional responses like fear and frustration, as well as environmental factors and conditioned associations. By understanding these causes and implementing strategies to manage them, owners can create a more positive experience for both themselves and their pets.

## Western Sydney Scent Work Club Winter Evening Trial, 30 July

Jaxon & Christie, Advanced Interiors, 48.97s, 3rd place, Q

### **Shoalhaven DTC Obedience and Rally Trial, 2 August**

Tex & Rob, Novice Obedience, 84/100

## Border Collie Scent Work Trial, 15 August

Kadie & Shanelle, Novice Exteriors, Q (Scent Work Novice Title gained)

Jaxon & Christie, - Advanced Containers 10.75s, 1st place, Q

Roman & Christie, Advanced Exteriors, Q.

Magic & Christie, Novice Exteriors, 8.99s, 2nd place, Q. Novice Vehicles, Q. Novice Scent Work Title gained

Clancy & Linda, Advanced Exteriors, Q.

## Northern Suburbs Double Trick Dog Trial, 17 August

Tex & Rob, Intermediate Tricks, 72/80

Jaxon & Christie, Tricks Starters, AM 59.3/60, PM 3rd Place Q. Title gained.

Kobi & Robyn, Internediate Tricks AM 74/80. Title gained.









Jaxon gained his Tricks Starters Title at the grand age of 11.5 years old -- proving it is never too late to do fun things with your dog!

## ▶ Obedience, Rally, Herding, Scent Work, Tricks & DWD Report



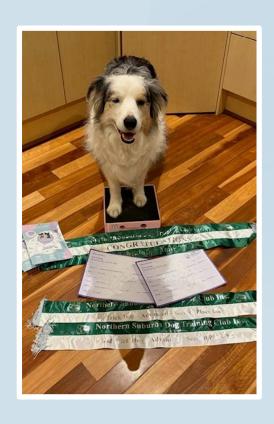
## Northern Suburbs Double Trick Dog Trial, 17 August (cont'd)

Gypsy & Lyn, Advanced Tricks (AM & PM, 2 x 2nd place, title gained)

## Crookwell and District Ladies Dog Sports Club Inaugural Scent Work Trial, 7 September

Jaxon & Christie, Advanced Exteriors, Q. Advanced Scent Work Title gained.

Roman & Christie, Advanced Interiors, Q.





## Hills Dog Club Scent Work Trial, 14 September

Magic & Christie, Novice Exteriors, Q; Novice Interiors, Q. (Magic was awarded Judges Choice for his Novice Exteriors search.)

Jaxon & Christie, Advanced Vehicles, Q.

Saffy & Robyn, Novice Vehicles Q





## Metropolitan Midweek DTC at Lindfield, 17 September

Tex & Rob, Intermediate Tricks, 72.5/80

Casey & Judy, Advanced Tricks, 98, 2nd place (title gained)

Artemis & Pam, Tricks Novice, 78.75 (title gained)

## Blacktown Kennel & Training Club, Rally Trial, 20 September

Lumi & Flore-Anne, Rally Novice, Title gained
Tex & Rob, Rally Novice, 90/100
Billy & Heather, Rally Novice, Q.
Gypsy & Lyn, Rally Masters, 94/100
Sasha, Missy & Carol, Rally Excellent, Qs
Jessica & Barbara, Rally Masters, Q

## The Dobermann Club of NSW Scent Work Trial, 21 September

Jaxon & Christie, Advanced Exteriors, Q.



# Encouragement Award

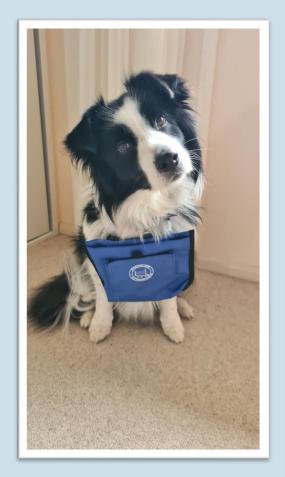
## Congratulations to our recipients of the Encouragement Award

Encouragement awards are given by instructors who have noticed that handlers are being persistent with dogs that might be a little more challenging than most. At Sutherland Shire Dog Training Club, your instructors notice your efforts and reward for a job well done under difficult circumstances!

















## 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)



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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**

- 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.