

CLUB GROUND RULES

Punctuality is expected. If you are late for class, please see your instructor before joining the group.

Pick up after your dog (excreta) – plastic bags are available at the caravan. There is also a bucket with sand in it for those difficult ones.

Please park your car in accordance with the by-laws and consider other people and local residents.

Bitches in season (oestrus) must not come to the training grounds until their cycle is over (approximately 4 weeks from onset), but owners are welcome to observe the class.

All dogs must be on a lead at all times, unless indicated otherwise by an instructor of the club. **Collars:-** we recommend soft ½ check (martingales), head collars (haltis and gentle leaders), harness (walking harness, not a car harness) or a flat collar. Choke/correction collars must be removed or attached to a soft collar. **Leads:-** we recommend a 4ft - 6ft which should be light and easy to use. No chain leads. Extender leads are not to be used in class.

Know what your dog is doing at all times.

We do not allow play between dogs on lead at anytime, before, during or after class.

If you want your dog to meet another dog, keep your distance until you ask the other person. The meeting should then be kept short (about 3 seconds) before the dogs separate. There are dogs who do not like long hellos, while others are uncomfortable with dogs coming right up to them. Please respect these dogs and their owners.

If you notice your dog is becoming worried get his attention by luring and rewarding him and then walk away slowly to a place where he feels more comfortable. Observe and praise and reward all his good behaviour in order to focus his attention on you.

Club equipment is only to be used at the direction and under the supervision of an instructor.

Some of the club instructors will have their own dogs tethered, or in a crate, while taking class. Please never allow a child or dog, or even yourself, to approach these dogs. It is unfair and can cause some dogs distress as they feel a need to defend their territory.

Please wear appropriate clothing, including closed in shoes. Sunscreen is available at the van for members' use.

Smoking is not permitted on the training grounds. Dogs can be burnt quite badly if they step on a cigarette butt, or walk into a cigarette held in your hand.

Keep all food secure in a bumbag, treat pouch, pockets or sealed container and wash carefully after use. **NO TREATS TO BE KEPT IN PLASTIC BAGS, PLEASE** as they can be dropped and ingested by another dog, or blow away with the same results.

NEVER FEED ANOTHER PERSON'S DOG

If your dog is possessive of his toys, take care around other dogs. Do not throw the ball for your dog during class.

Please have consideration for other handlers and their dogs.

Children training dogs.

No Child under the age of 12 years old can be registered as a member of this club. No Child is to handle a dog until the dog has been promoted from class 1B, with the exception of Puppy class where with the approval of a Senior Instructor the child may with the assistance of a parent participate in the class instruction, whatever their age.

Below is an extract from NST & ODC Domestic Rules.

6.1a The minimum age for child handlers training dogs is 16 years of age, however children between the age of 12 and 16 years may handle a dog in class provided both the child and the dog have been assessed as proficient by two obedience instructors one of whom must be a Senior Instructor and the following criteria is adhered.

6.1b The parents have agreed to train the dog in Class 1A and 1B prior to the child being assessed.

6.1c The child may begin training their dog in Class 1C once he/she has been assessed as proficient to do so.

6.1d The will be issued with a proficiency badge when he/she is deemed capable of training his/her dog.

6.1e Children may not attend class without a parent present.

6.1f A parent must always stay with the close vicinity of his/her child during all training sessions.