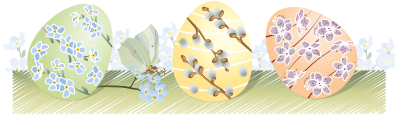

Newsletter



April 2025



YOUR COMMITTEE

Office Bearers

President	Rhonda Cheesman	0408 388 066
Vice President	Brian Arter	9874 1432
Secretary	Liz Bruhn	0410 258 944
Treasurer/Chief instructor	Tamara Taylor	0407 096 261

General Committee

Anne Smith, Andrea Sciberras, Dodo Kelly, Debra Conway

Email esodcmitcham@gmail.com

Website www.esodc.org.au

Facebook [Eastern Suburbs Obedience Dog Club](#)

INTRODUCTION

Our Club was founded in 1969 to cater for those owners of purebred dogs who were interested in training their dogs to Obedience Trial standard. The club was so successful in this regard that it was

granted affiliation with KCC (Kennel Control Council). In 1979 Victorian Canine Association (now Dogs Victoria) accepted all dogs into Obedience trials and the club was then also opened to all dogs.

CLUB RULES

1. Your dog is to be kept on leash at all times. The only exception is when given explicit instruction to work off lead in class.
2. Handlers wishing to leave their dogs tethered on Club grounds should only do so if their dogs are safe with people, especially around children. No dog may be tethered when it can reach another dog.
3. Dogs must be fully immunised before coming to classes which needs to be kept up-to-date.
4. Any sick dog, or one suffering from a communicative illness, are not to come to classes until Vet cleared.
5. Handlers are responsible for removal of their dogs' excreta from the training area.
6. We teach rewards-based training. Physical and excessive verbal abuse of dogs is not allowed. Any observed behaviour of this type will lead to expulsion from the club.
7. Instructors have authority over their classes and may ask a member to take their dog out of class if it is overly disruptive.
8. While at the grounds, before and after classes, please remain in control of your dogs, and respect the space of other dogs and handlers.
9. Dogs in season should not attend training for four weeks. However, this does not mean you should stop attending classes nor cease the training of your dog.
10. If an Instructor considers your dog to be aggressive, the Chief Instructor will evaluate your dog as to its suitability to be trained at ESODC. If required, the dog may be asked to wear a muzzle while at training or private professional instruction / organisations may be recommended. Remember, we are a Community Dog Club, we do not offer specialised behavioural modification training.

President's Report

Welcome to our Autumn edition Newsletter. It is with great pleasure that I very warmly welcome all our new members. Especially those of you in the Foundation classes just beginning your obedience adventures. Plus, we have a few experienced members joining from another club to continue their training in our Intermediate and Advance classes. I trust you will all find our classes satisfying, challenging and rewarding as you build a strong relationship with your beloved pet. Thank you for trusting Eastern Suburbs with your training needs.

We've had a fantastic start to 2025. The weather was kind to us during the hot months, but now that Autumn has set in, our daily walks are definitely much more pleasant. Some mornings have been rather chilly though, maybe a sign for a cold winter to come. Remember, rain/hail/or shine.... our instructors turn up regardless of the weather to teach their classes, so you can make that effort too! With the exception of Easter and King's Birthday, every Sunday is class Sunday. See you there.

Sunday classes are designed to keep you learning and joyously engaging with your dog(s). Our classes offer you exciting training techniques and fun games/challenges, your job is to attend regularly, and commit to a daily practice routine. Most of our instructors train their dogs for trialling sports outside of club activities. Some of our varied sporting interests include Obedience, Rally, Tracking, Track & Search, Retrieving, Fly Ball, Scentworks, Endurance, Herding, Working Pack Dog, and Lure Coursing.



However, competence in obedience work is the foundation all dogs need to be able to venture across into the other sporting codes. Keep up with your training, every dog, and every handler has the opportunity to be great at what you do, and whatever you do depends on which bug bites you first. Personally, for me that bug was Tracking and Track & Search, and watching my dog tracking in the bush still makes my heart sing....! That is my wish for you. To find incredible joy just being with your dog, strengthening the bond you already have, and developing mutual skills in whatever area of obedience/performance you choose. For some of you it will be 'the well-mannered, neighbourhood friendly Fido', who waits patiently whilst you have your morning Latte with friends at the café, for others 'another obedience champion', and the hundreds of options in between. There is nothing more noticeable than a well mannered Fido. It's a goal truly worth achieving!



President's Report (cont)

We pride ourselves on being a small community based dog training club. We are 100% run by a small team of volunteers. Your kindness and appreciation is a generous gesture, please share it around the grounds often. If we can be of any further help, with any doggy matters, please feel free to drop in to the clubrooms for an informal chat anytime. Lastly, the prosperity of every club relies on the many hands helping out, and, if you too would like to offer your time, or can assist with any specialised skills, please reach out, we'd love to hear from you....



Thank you for trusting ESODC, and we look forward to a long and successful training adventure together.

Happy training,
Rhonda Cheesman



BM Animals is committed to providing you and your dog with high quality food and treats for optimum health and vitality. Locally sourced, chemical and preservative free, salt and sugar free, high quality food for your furry family member.

Products available:

- Raw meats
- Raw meaty bones (assorted cow, duck, emu, chicken, kangaroo, turkey, veal)
- Ready made meals (raw and cooked options)
- Treats and chews
- Supplements
- and more

Have a dog with a sensitive tummy or health issues? Chat with John or Maree and they will happily share their knowledge to help you and your dog.

Show your ESODC badge or this flyer to receive 10% off your purchase.

BM Animals
ph: 0488 144 675

1 McLellan Street, Bayswater
w: www.bmanimalscompletenutrition.net

CLUB DATES FOR 2025

Date	Event
8/3 (Labour day Weekend)	No classes
20/4 (Easter Weekend)	No classes
8/6 (Kings Birthday Weekend)	Fun Day (to be confirmed)
5/10	Club Obedience Trial, no classes
30/11	Last formal class of the year
7/12	Fun Day and AGM

Welcome to our New Members

March

Handler	Dog	Breed
Caroline	Georgie	Sealyham (Welsh terrier)
Lalana & Elizabeth	Olive	Murray River Retriever x standard Poodle
Madison	Pepsi	Kelpie
Ali	Monty	Labrador
Jenny	Si Xi	Japanese Akita
Tony	Bella	Border Collie
Draco, John & Brock	Cleo	Border Collie x Kelpie
Ricky & Liliana	Fluffy	Pomeranian cross Shitzu
Yvonne	Ruby	Cavoodle
John, Janet & Maria	Bella	Jack Russell and Patterdale
Helen	Simba	Cavoodle
Katie	Betty & Bonnie	Boston terrier
Isabelle & Lee	Arthur & Dollar	Corgi

April

Handler	Dog	Breed
Sreedar & Vivek	Lola	Groodle
Kris	Russell	Chihuahua
Jil	Blippi	Bichon Frise
Sharon & Kal	Maple	Australian Shepherd
Wendy	Basil	Maltalier
Nick & Andrea	Billie	Dachshund
Elizabeth & Lester	Polly	Saint Benard
Bianca & Sam & Zoe	Ravel	Kelpie Cross
Adam	Iris	German Shorthaired Pointer
Isabella	Betty & Daisy	Cavoodle & Spoodle
Jennie	Tinker	Standard X Miniature Poodle
Eleanor	Hamish	Schnauzer X Maltese
Tertia	Oli	Silky terrier x Maltese
Lachlan	Jack	German Shepherd x Kelpie
Jan	Goldie	Havanese
Melissa	Kieko	Shitzu x toy poodle
Sue	Gus	Cavoodle
Mitch & Vanessa	Luna	Border collie

Training News and Tips

As the weather starts to turn, the leaves start to change colour and we spend less time outdoors, it is wonderful to see members dedicated to training their dogs on a Sunday morning. Your dedication both on and off the field will see you reap wonderful rewards and connection with your dog.

Training tip – short & sweet
Remember to keep your training at home short and sweet.

We recommend spending 2-5 minutes of training 4-5 times a day. That might look like:

1. Two minutes first thing in the morning before breakfast,
2. Two minutes before you leave for work/school,
3. Two minutes when you return home,
4. Five minutes before the pup has their dinner,
5. Four minutes before settling down for the evening



That works out to be 15 minutes a day, and 105 minutes (1hr 45min) a week. Plus, add the training you do when out walking your dog (e.g. be a tree when they pull; sit/stand/drop when waiting to cross the road; reinforcing calm greetings; etc), it adds up to be quite a bit of training. If you can put this short and sweet approach to training in place, your dog will be reaching your goals before you know it.

Remember if you have any questions please let us know. You can reach out to anyone wearing an ESODC t-shirt or jacket, drop us an email or send us a message on Facebook.

Tamara Taylor
(Chief Instructor)

Never give up training your dog, you can do it.

Meet the Committee - Debra Conway

Hi everyone, my name is Debra Conway (not the singer) and I am currently training to become an instructor with the club. I am also a general committee member and have a background in office management and accounting. I have had a variety of dogs throughout my adult life, Australian Terrier, Labradoodle, Greyhound, Husky/German Shepherd and Husky. My dog Cody is only 2 years old and is a beautiful natured and handsome dog. He is a German Shepherd cross with a Rough Collie (Lassie dog). I have grown up surrounded by dogs and cannot see myself without a dog or cat (I love all animals). My husband and I also fostered Greyhounds and prepared them for their forever homes for about 2 years.

What brought you to the club and how long have you been with us?

When I got Cody, I decided that we both needed training. I had trained my previous dog Toby (Shepherd /Husky Cross) up to obedience level and received one pass but that was over 10 years ago, so I needed to brush up on my dog training skills with this new pup. I also believe that training is better if you have to attend weekly classes, socialise with the other dogs and people in a club. We have been coming to the club for over 2 years.



What do you love about being part of the committee and part of the club?

I love training and the social aspect of the club. Cody and I have done all the training levels and now attend the social, obedience and rally training sessions. The variety of opportunities when you have a trained dog are endless. I am enjoying the chance that the committee has given me with becoming a trainer – something I have always wanted to do but lacked confidence in myself. The club is focused on the health and happiness of the dogs, they are so supportive, no question is irrelevant or unanswered. An extremely positive environment!

If you could give your beginning training self-one bit of advice, what would it be?

The day will come when all the training will “Click” and from there on in it’s wonderful to have a well - trained social companion.

Our Amazing Ground Staff

Each week we arrive to a set up ground with rings and training areas ready to go. This doesn't all happen by magic, it is the work of our wonderful grounds crew.

Roger, Matt and Murray set up rings each week, put out coned off areas to tie our dogs safely and check the grounds to be sure they are usable. Through the winter this sometimes means finding the least boggy areas! They are around all the way through training helping people find the right spot to go and supporting our members, explaining to passers-by what is happening and why this is not a time for off leash fun on the oval. Then when the training is all done, they pack it all back down again and put it away. Without them the club would not run as smoothly and we wouldn't have the rings we use for Rally and Obedience each week. On the day of our Trial in October they are the main drivers in setting up rings, equipment, hides and all the other accoutrements of a well-run trial.



As you can see from the images they are also a whizz on the barbecue and a crucial part of both our annual trial and the fun days.

Keep an eye out for them when you come to training and give them a big thank you if you spot them because our Club would not be what it is without their time and effort.



Tethered dogs at ESODC, and the need to give them space

Dog clubs are vibrant hubs where canine enthusiasts gather to train, socialize, and enjoy the companionship of their pets. These communal spaces are designed to cater to the needs of both dogs and their handlers, providing an environment where training and socialization can take place in a structured manner.

In order for our volunteer instructors to have the necessary freedoms to train their classes unencumbered by handling their own dogs while training, a common practice observed at our club is to tether our dogs.

It is essential for our members, and the general public, to understand the significance of giving any dog the space they need while they are tethered.

One of the primary reasons for tethering dogs at dog clubs is to ensure safety and maintain control. ESODC hosts a variety of dogs with different temperaments, sizes, and energy levels. By tethering dogs, owners and trainers can prevent any potential conflicts.

Tethering provides a controlled environment where our dogs can be managed, reducing the risk of unwanted behaviour and ensuring that all dogs and handlers are safe.

Just like humans, dogs have personal boundaries. It is essential to respect these boundaries to ensure their comfort and well-being. Giving dogs space allows them to feel secure and reduces stress. Tethering in a manner that provides ample space for movement and exploration within a controlled radius respects these personal boundaries and helps in building a positive association with the club environment.

There are designated tethering areas at club. A permanent area with “fixed” tethers can be found directly adjacent to the western side of the clubhouse. On-field designated tethering areas are usually indicated by utilising orange (traffic type) cones.

Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES should any club member approach or allow their dogs to approach a tethered dog, even if they know that dog well. Dogs may behave perfectly sociable when with their handlers, or running free off-leash, but may react totally differently, and out-of-character when tethered.

It is our primary aim at ESODC to ensure that all dogs and handlers remain safe overall, in the club environment and the wider community, to have fun together, and to learn and build that special bond with our dogs. We ask that you assist us with this by respecting the designated tethering areas at club, giving plenty of space when in the vicinity of a tethered dog.

So, if you are at club, or anywhere there is a tethered dog please respect their personal space...



Flyball

Flyball is a fast-paced dog sport in which teams of four dogs race against each other to retrieve a tennis ball and return it back to their handler. The sport involves a relay format where each dog must jump over four hurdles, trigger a spring-loaded box to release the ball, and then race back with the ball while the next dog takes over. The first team to have all four dogs return in order with the ball, wins. Flyball is popular in Australia as a competitive and social activity, promoting teamwork, agility, and training for both dogs and their handlers.

Written by Debra Conway

Contact for further information:
Eastside Flyers Flyball Team
Email: eastsideflyball23@gmail.com.
Facebook: Eastside Flyers Flyball Team



Click on here, or scan, to
watch Cody fly!

No classes on Easter Sunday



Enjoy the sleep in

Keep chocolate out
of reach of your
dogs

Classes resume
Sunday 27 April