

## 'DOMESTIC REGULATIONS' Albany All Breeds Dog Club Inc.

### Membership.

- All applications for membership shall be in writing on the forms provided.
- Membership Fees shall be reviewed annually by the AABDC Committee prior to the commencement of each financial year.
- Membership fees may only be changed at a General Meeting. Notice to change the current fee shall appear on the Notice of Meeting publication.
- Membership categories will be decided at each AGM.
- General Membership shall be defined as a single member, couple (whether married or not) including dependent children no younger than 12 years of age, and all residing at the same address.
- General Membership will entitle each membership group to one (1) vote
- Associate Membership applies to an individual if, either.
  - a. The membership does not include a dog, or
  - b. The membership includes one or more dogs, but the dog(s) will not participate in training or club members' trials.
- A person granted Associate Membership shall be given all privileges of full membership including voting rights.
- The Committee may, at its discretion, grant Honorary Membership to any person for a period up to but not beyond the next Annual General Meeting.
- A person granted Honorary Membership shall be given all privileges of full membership with the exception of voting rights.
- Membership fees shall be waived in respect of Honorary Members for the period of their honorary membership.
- The Committee may, at its discretion, recommend to a General Meeting the elevation of any person to Life Membership of the Club. Such recommendation shall be made only in recognition of outstanding service to the Club, and if the nominee has been an active financial member for at least 10yrs. The granting of Life Membership shall be at the sole discretion of the majority of Members voting at a General Meeting.
- Membership fees shall be waived in respect of Life Members.
- A life member will be required to submit a membership form by the yearly renewal date.
- Refund of any or all membership fees for the current year is at the discretion of the current committee, depending on the circumstances and on receipt of a letter of resignation.

### Member Conduct.

- A member shall not knowingly or recklessly misrepresent Dogs Australia or the member body.
- All members **must behave** in an **appropriate manner** whilst at any Club gathering or sanctioned event such as, but not limited to Training Days, Championship or Open Shows, Performance Trials, Club Meetings, and Seminars.
- All members shall always act in a manner conducive with the objectives of the AABDC.
- All members shall always show due respect to the volunteer Trainers, committee and other AABDC members during any club gathering and follow instructions/advice as given.
- No member's dog or dogs shall be off lead during official training sessions unless being trained and supervised by an instructor.
- Bitches in season are not permitted at training from three (3) weeks after the onset of oestrous.
- Members must remove any rubbish or dog excreta for which they are responsible from any training grounds or events.

- A member shall display good sportsmanship and conduct at all times so as to reflect credit upon themselves, Dogs Australia and member's Member Body.
- Members shall constantly strive to improve their knowledge of their chosen breed or breeds, and their knowledge of the requirements for the care, welfare, and betterment of dogs.
- Members shall ensure that all dogs under their control are properly controlled, housed, fed, watered, exercised, and receive veterinary care as and when required, in line with requirements of the Dog Act. A member shall not knowingly allow any dogs under their care to roam at large.
- A member who leaves a dog owned by them in the care of another person shall remain ultimately responsible for that dog.
- A member shall positively enhance the reputation of dog breeders and owners by ensuring that the dog's owned by the member are not a danger or nuisance to the community.
- A member shall take all appropriate lawful measures to assist a dog in distress.

#### **Term of Office.**

- Office Bearers shall be elected at the AGM.
- A minimum of two Ordinary committee Members to be elected for a 3-year term: and
- Nominations for the Office Bearers to be submitted on the club's nomination form and received by the Returning Officer 21 days prior to the AGM.

#### **Voting Powers of President.**

- President to have the right to a deliberative vote. The President may also have the casting vote.

#### **Alterations to Domestic Rules**

- No alteration, addition or amendment to these rules shall be made except at the General Meeting of which due notice of intention has been given.

### **ADMINISTRATION - GENERAL**

#### **Intellectual Property**

- Intellectual property included but not limited to written work, manuals/training programs, photographs, charts, diagrams, artwork, computer files, audio, and video recordings, etc, prepared on behalf of or in the name of the club shall remain the property of the club. Notwithstanding this the committee may at its sole discretion recompense the author(s) of such material for expenses necessarily incurred in producing the material.

### **ADMINISTRATION – FINANCIAL**

#### **Surplus Property**

- The term 'surplus property' shall include the balance of any monies that the club has.

#### **Control of Funds**

- The Treasurer has the Committees authority to expend funds on behalf of the Club up to the value of \$200.00, without requiring approval from the Committee for each item on which the funds are expended.

## **CLUB OPERATIONS**

### **Children Training Dogs**

- The minimum age for child handlers training dogs in a club training class 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 dog have been assessed as proficient by two instructors, one of whom must be a senior instructor and the following criteria are adhered:
  - a) In obedience the parents have agreed to train the dog in Foundation Classes prior to the child being assessed.
  - b) In obedience the child may begin training their dog once they have been assessed as proficient to do so.
  - d) Children may not attend class without a parent present. The parent must always stay within close vicinity of their child during all training sessions.
- Dogs attending any Club event must be currently vaccinated, or Titre tested. Evidence may be requested at the Discretion of the Head Trainer.

## **MEETINGS**

### **Committee Meetings**

- Meetings of the Committee shall be held at least bi-monthly, or at such times as the President or a majority of the Committee considers necessary.
- Minutes of Committee meetings shall be forwarded in a timely manner to all Committee members and to any relevant members of sub-committee groups.
- Minutes arising from any meetings held by a Sub-Committee group shall be forwarded to the Committee.
- The Constitution, Domestic Rules and **Ground Rules** shall be reviewed by the Committee annually. The review shall be a permanent item on the monthly meeting agenda. with the intention to discuss at the General meeting prior to the AGM.
- Any changes made to the Constitution or Domestic Regulations shall be submitted to Dogs West and the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety.

### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

- The Annual General Meeting of members shall be held each year within 30 days of the end of the Club's previous financial year.

## **DISCIPLINARY**

### **Aggressive Dogs**

- It is the duty of any instructor or member who is witness to a dog displaying any unacceptable aggressive disposition towards another animal or person to report the incident to the Head Trainer or appropriate club official immediately and lodge an incident report with the Club Secretary.
- Any Dogs Australia registered dog who displays any unacceptable aggressive disposition towards another animal or person must be dealt with according to the CAWA regulation and be suspended from training immediately.
- Any non Dogs Australia registered dog who displays any unacceptable aggressive disposition towards another animal or person will be suspended from training immediately and until the completion of a hearing by the clubs' Inquiry Committee. The Inquiry Committee will be convened by the club for this purpose as soon as possible. This committee is to consist of at least three (3) people including the President, Secretary and Head Trainer.
- Attendance at the hearing. The owner and/or the handler of the dog, the complainant and other witnesses will be invited to attend the meeting.

## COMPLAINTS

- Complaints regarding another member, or their dog, must be submitted in writing to the committee within five (5) days of the incident occurring.
- All written complaints will be tabled for discussion at a special meeting (closed) where the required action/outcome will be discussed.
- Any responses to the complaint by either party should be addressed to the committee.
- The Club Secretary will provide a response detailing the outcome of the complaint to all parties within 5 days of the conclusion of the special meeting.
- No discussion will occur between members outside of the committee on the matter.

## CLUB GROUND RULES

- The Committee may set ground and training rules as required.
- New or amendments to ground and training rules shall be communicated in writing to Members and copies made available to Members upon request.
- Setting of training times for classes will be at the discretion of trainers and co-ordinated by the Committee within the overall agreed training times set by the Committee. 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 office and on the playground fencing.
- Parking of vehicles should be in accordance with the by-laws and with consideration of other people and local residents.
- Bitches in season (oestrus) must not come to the training grounds until their cycle is over (approximately 3 weeks from onset), however, 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 (Halti's and gentle leaders), harnesses (walking harness, not a car harness) or a flat collar. Choke/prong/correction collars must be removed.

**Leads:** - we recommend a 4ft - 6ft which should be light and easy to use. Chain leads/choker leads and extender leads are not acceptable.

- It is a member's responsibility to know what their dog is doing at all times.
- We do not allow play between dogs on lead at any time 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 close to them. Please respect these dogs and their owners.
- If you notice your dog is becoming worried get his/her attention by luring and rewarding him/her and then walk away slowly to a place where he/she feels more comfortable. Observe and praise and reward all his/her 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. Any damages caused by members mishandling equipment, may be liable to fund repairs or replacement.
- Some of our club members will have their dogs in a crate. Please never allow a child, dog, or 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.
- Smoking is not permitted on the training grounds.
- Keep all food secure in a 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.
- Dogs must be in good physical condition; the Club reserves the right to exclude dogs from training if it is believed to be in the dog's best interest. Unwell/contagious dogs are not permitted to train until cleared by their Vet.
- Any harsh treatment/hitting of dogs will not be tolerated.
- No squeaker toys unless under the direction of the Trainer.

Approved