

*Murray Bridge  
Obedience  
Dog Club Inc.*



*New Members  
Guide*

Update October, 2008

## WELCOME

We hope you have a fun and rewarding time with our club.

All trainers are approved by the South Australian Canine Association and like the committee volunteer their time to assist our members

You will find training sometimes frustrating, discouraging, disappointing and even humbling but if you are persistent and patient you will be rewarded over and over again.

Beginners is the stepping stone to all levels and it is extremely important to get you working on a loose lead before you graduate.

Above all it must be fun, so enjoy yourself and please don't take it to heart if things don't go well. We have all been in the same situation at some time. JUST DON'T GIVE UP or IN and don't be afraid to ask questions no matter how silly you think it may be, ultimately the answer may help someone else.

A happy owner and a obedience companion is an achievement that both owner and dog can be very proud of.

Our enjoyment and reward comes from seeing you achieve this.

Insurance is one of the major concern and the excess is a significant amount for our club. It is important that you support the club by following the club rules.

### SUNDAY TRAINING TIMES

Beginners/Grade 1	5pm
Grade 2 and Up	4:30pm
Grade 4	4pm

### DAYLIGHT SAVING

Beginners/Grade 1	7pm
Grade 2 and 3	6:30pm
Grade 4	6pm

### NO TRAINING

- (a) Long Week-Ends
- (b) If temperature is 34° or over in Murray Bridge.  
**2hrs prior to the commencements of the first class**

1st Sunday of December to the 1st Sunday in February.  
(A reminder notice is sent to all financial members)



#### New Member Please Note



**Current** Certificate of Vaccination **must be sighted** and

Membership form completed **before** Free lesson can be given.

**Payment of fees** in full or minimum of \$10 is required prior to the commencement of your **second lesson** and any outstanding balance **within 1 month** of joining.

## MEMBERSHIP PROCESS

A Committee Member (WHITE name tag) will assist you with the following procedures:

- ◆ Complete a Membership Form and advise you of fees.
- ◆ Record Vaccination details
- ◆ Inform you about Discount Card will be issued for use at Bridge Poultry, Daish Fodder and a 10% discount voucher on a C5 vaccination from Murray Bridge Veterinary Centre when fees are paid in full.
- ◆ Put your name into the Attendance Book and explain the process.
- ◆ Location of Grounds fees tin for the \$1.00 each training.
- ◆ Issue you with a Visitors name tag  
(On joining you will be issued with another name tag.)
- ◆ Where to return and collect your name tag.
- ◆ Introduce you to the Head Trainer where possible and Trainer who will take you for your complimentary lesson
- ◆ Assist with correct use and fitting of slip collar and halti if needed.
- ◆ **Graduation** usually occurs 4th Sunday in the month.  
(from time to time this is not possible.) Graduation Certificates are presented to graduates.
- ◆ Fun Day usually occurs when there is a 5th Sunday in the month.
- ◆ Location of poo bags, bins and pee—post.
- ◆ Club Merchandise in various styles and prices is available and can be ordered for you. (Deposit required)

We are happy to answer any queries you may have.

## GUIDE TO CLUB RULES

1. Current Certificate of Vaccination must be sighted before **any training** can be undertaken and **also yearly** when booster is given. C5 is preferable but C3 is acceptable.
2. Only financial members can train either their own or another members dogs.
3. Sign attendance book, pay ground fees, collect name badge before each training session.
4. Children **must be supervised** and are **not permitted to handle dogs** whilst on the grounds, if they wish to play please go to adjacent oval with an adult.
5. If the temperature is 34° or over in Murray Bridge **2hrs prior to the commencement of the first class** there will be no training. Training in the heat must be at the **owner's discretion**.
6. You **MUST** advise the Trainer if your dog has ever attacked or has bitten anyone or any other animals.
7. You are responsible for any damages caused to another dog or person.
8. Dogs must be properly restrained and under control at all times.
9. Lead approximately 1m long either leather or soft material attached firmly to slip collar or halti and all in good condition.
10. The club reserves the right to expel any person for mistreating of their dog in any way or in appropriate behavior.
11. Trainers reserve the right to muzzle any dog they consider to be a threat to them, or any other person or dog.
12. Dogs must be kept on lead at all times, unless an instructor ask you to do otherwise.
13. **Please avoid any dog that is tethered or dogs in the instructed down position.**
14. Appropriate footwear should be worn whilst training eg. Sneakers or similar.
15. Unwell dogs or Bitches in season are not permitted on the training grounds.
16. Puppies under the age of 12 weeks should not be brought onto the grounds for their own protection.
17. Food rewards can be used when training.
18. Equipment not to be used unless supervised.
19. Smoking is prohibited whilst training your dog or in Clubroom.
20. Owners responsibility to clean up after their dogs, poo bags, bins and pee-post are provided. If dog pees on the verandah post or clubroom flush with clean water.
21. Any concerns please speak to a Committee person or Trainer.

### **BEGINNERS**

- \*1. Heel on lead
- \*2. Sit on command
3. Sit stay on lead (close to dog's head)
4. Left & right turns
- \*5. Stand
6. Examine dog in sit position. All work to be done at varying paces.
7. Basic Recall

### **GRADE 1**

- \*1. Heel on loose lead
- \*2. Sit
3. Sit stay (close to dog's head)
- \*4. Stand
- \*5. Stand stay (close to dog's head)
6. Left & right turns
7. Circles to left & right
- \*8. Drop
- \*9. Examine dog in sit position
10. Basis Recall

### **GRADE 2**

- \*1. Automatic sit
- \*2. Stand
- \*3. Drop
4. Stay (sit, stand & drop)
- \*5. Left, right & about turns
6. Left and right turns
7. Circles to left & right
- \*8. Stand for examination
- \*9. All work to be done on loose lead
10. Basic Recall (most important to pass)

### **GRADE 3**

- \*1. Automatic sits
- \*2. Stand
- \*3. Drop
- \*4. Stay (sit, drop & stand)
- \*5. Left & right about turns
- \*6. Left & right turns
- \*7. Stand for examination
- \*8. Recall-short lead-Owner Returns
- \*9. All work to be done on loose lead & at varying paces (most important to pass)
10. Circle left & right
11. Teach Finish
12. Sit stay at distance

**TRAINING LEVELS: *\*Must be able to demonstrate to pass.***

### **GRADE 4**

- \*1. Automatic sits
- \*2. Stand
- \*3. Drop
- \*4. Stay
- \*5. Left & right about turns
- \*6. Left & right turns
- \*7. Stand for examination
- \*8. Recall—Finish (for Certificate) (practice finish separately)
- \*9. Circle left & right
- \*10. 1 minute sit stay —12 metres
- \*11. 3 minute down stay-12 metres
- \*12. Figure 8
- \*13. All on lead work must be done on loose lead (most important to pass)
14. Drop from stand at 3m
15. Dumbbell training

## TRAINING TIPS

### REMEMBER TO PRAISE YOUR DOG QUICKLY

#### Practice footwork **without** your dog

- ◆ Spend time practicing what you have been taught when you have time and not under stress.
- ◆ Focus on the successes no matter how small.
- ◆ Always try to finish on a good note with a bit of fun.
- ◆ Never allow your dog to eyeball another dog, turn and walk away.
- ◆ Barking or any aggression should be discouraged immediately.
- ◆ Don't put yourself in a situation you cannot control or allow your dog to pull you around.
- ◆ Dog should be on your left side.
- ◆ Step off briskly on your left leg using a happy voice saying the word "HEEL".
- ◆ Work towards giving one verbal command only (sit, drop stand etc.) and on loose lead at all times.
- ◆ Work along a fence to get your dog to stay close to you.
- ◆ A combination of slip collar and halti helps with a dog that pulls.
- ◆ Dogs tethered on the grounds must be closely supervised.
- ◆ Ask before allowing your dog to approach another.
- ◆ If your dog is unsettled come early and walk it around.
- ◆ Always carry poo bags in your pocket.

*Slip collars are a training tool and should not be used for any other purpose especially at home when your dog is unsupervised.*

#### FITTING SLIP COLLAR

*Correct use and fitting of slip collar is important.*

- ◆ Lower chain through ring as shown
- ◆ Attach lead to ring A of slip collar

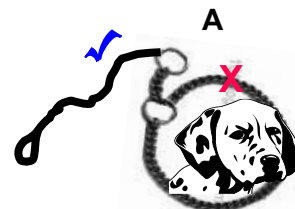


#### DOG FACING YOU

- ◆ Hold lead in left hand (✓) close to the snap catch.
- ◆ Hold slip collar in right hand (✗) after 2nd ring.
- ◆ Slip over the dog's head.

*Slip collar will tighten if dog is pulling or handler pulls on lead and loosen when dog stops pulling or handler releases lead tension (if fitted correctly).*

*Please ask a trainer for assistance if you are unsure.*



2009/10

**COMMITTEE & CONTACT NUMBERS**

**President/ Head Trainer:**

Meredith Baker 85325 397

**Assistant Head Trainer**

Chris Scriven 8532 4591

**Secretary:** Chris Haywood 8532 6766  
P.O. Box 1473,  
MURRAY BRIDGE, 5253

**Treasurer:** Allan Haywood 85326766

**Committee Members**

Sue Pfeiffer	Patricia Moule
Chris Daly	Ian Rick
Chris Scriven	Tracy Mitchell

The Club is affiliated with the South Australian Canine Association and has Approved Trainers who will assist you in the training of your dog.