
TBCOC Newsletter

March-April '06

Welcome everyone to another addition of our club newsletter.
Hope you are settling well into the term, already 5 weeks through it!
Don't forget we have our March Championship show coming up on the 12th.
It's here at the TBCOC grounds, so come along and make the most of what
summer we have left and support your fellow classmates.
Go team!

Important Dates...

March Championship Show	Sunday 12 March Judging starts 9:00am
Next committee meeting	Tuesday 14 March
Graduation Night	Tuesday 28 March (TBC)
Enrolment for Term 2	Tuesday 11 April (TBC)
June Ribbon Trial	Sunday 25 June
October Championship Show	Saturday 14 October





For Sale...

4 x wooden agility practice jumps @ \$10.00 each
2 x plastic travel cages (small dog or puppy) @ \$20.00 each
1 x Hurricane dog run with kennel (standard size) \$100.00

Contact Jenny on 021 431 211

If anyone would like to advertise something for sale in the newsletter, then please contact me on zoecanvin@wnmeds.ac.nz
This could be anything, not just dog and dog training related, clothing, sports gear, cars, collectables, house wares or even houses!

www.tbcoc.co.nz

Our website is still being built. But we are now in the design phases, so don't forget if there is anything you think should be on the site, please forward your ideas and suggestions to macilree@ihug.co.nz

The Club Shop

As always our little shop is open for business!
All items are available for sale on any club night. Cash sales only.
We have lots of great goodies, ranging from leads, correction collars, food treats galore, worming tablets and a massive range a toys.
We are also able to order some goods, so if there's something you can't find in another store, we might be able to get it for you, and at a good rate!

Instructing...

We are always on the look out for new instructors, or anyone that might be able to help out in a few classes.
To start with you would shadow a current instructor and then after a term you can take over your own class, at whatever level you feel comfortable with.
You could do it on your own, or bring along a helper to assist you with your teaching.
They are lots of fun and you learn something new every time.
Talk to your instructor or Lianne Hodges, class coordinator, about taking part.



TBCOC Tip of the month!

“Gaining Your Dogs Respect”

By Jenny Rutherford – Instructor TBCOC

*If your dog comes up to you and wants attention, ignore him, then in your own time call him and pat him.

*Make him do something for you before you do something for him e.g. make him sit before feeding or getting a pat, make him wait before going in or out the door, car, gate, etc.

*Don't let him wander off on his own especially at the park, keep him on the lead until you have gained control - use a long line if need be to teach dog you still have control even at a distance.

*Never walk around your dog. If the dog is in a position that is in the way of where you want to go make it move out of the way.

*Make sure that he always obeys your commands by only giving a command when you can control him e.g. don't call him when he is too far away from you, it is unlikely he will come, wait until he is close to you then call him and praise him when he comes to you and sits. Every time you give a command and cannot enforce it you have taught him disobedience.

*If your dog will not come inside when called close the door and ignore him. If he then comes and scratches at the door continue to ignore him, then when you are ready go and open the door and call him again (even if he is sitting at the door or coming towards you) then praise him for coming. If he does not come again repeat the procedure until he responds to your command. The same applies for going outside.

*In all these exercises the emphasis is on your giving a command and the dog obeying - this is dominance. If the dog dictates when he wants food, attention, to be let in or out he will consider that he is the boss - after all he is giving the commands.

General Points

*Never give your dog a command that you know he will disobey and you cannot re-enforce.

*In most situations you are better to say nothing than yell or discipline your dog, in most cases the dog is trying to get attention from you and quite often it doesn't matter whether that attention is positive or negative as long as it gets a reaction.

*The dog is a social animal. He dislikes being ignored. If he is ignored chances are he will do something to get your attention - sometimes good, and sometimes bad. You must praise the good behaviour and continue to ignore bad behaviour (as was stated before the dog does not always require a positive response; to him any response at all means he is getting your attention).

*Start as you mean to carry on - don't let him get into the habit of doing something that you might not worry about when he's young but don't want him to do when he's full grown.

Fun Spot!

BEWARE! Tissues may be needed on completion of this letter...☺

Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolf Hound named Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife, Lisa, and their little boy, Shane, were all very attached to Belker and they were hoping for a miracle.

I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family there were no miracles left for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home. As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for the four-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience.

The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away. The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion.

We sat together for a while after Belker's death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives. Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why."

Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation...

He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life -- like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?" The four-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

