

# Frankston Dog Obedience Club

Affiliated with the Victorian Canine Association INC. A0024447E



## President's Report

I hope you are all safe and well as we see ourselves in lock down once again.

We all had a taste of club life again for a short period, all be it very different and ridged. I would like to

say how impressed I was that you all took the new rules and regulations on board to keep one another safe whilst having fun with your dogs. A big

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thankyou to all that helped get us up and running again. You all play a part in your club and together we will all get through this difficult time.

Frankston Dog Obedience Club is a big part of many members life, and I for one am missing it. Just remember if you need someone to talk to, the clubs committee and myself are only a phone

call or email away.

To all our newest members, keep practicing at home what you have managed to learn from club so far.

I would like as many new members as possible to email me a picture of your dog doing something that you have trained it to do whilst away from the club. My top 10 pictures will be posted on our face book page. Email

your pictures to [kim@fdoc.org](mailto:kim@fdoc.org) .au and don't forget to add your dog's name and what you have taught it. The best picture will win a prize when club resumes.

Remember to stay safe everyone and look I forward to seeing you all soon.

Kim Dearden  
President



# News from Flyball

It was very exciting to get back to flyball training for a few weeks and very sad to stop again.

In our few short weeks it was wonderful to see the hard work our beginners have put in over lock down pay off as they returned with ease to their training.

With all competitions cancelled it's seen very quiet on the organizing front as well as the training and competing fronts. The 2020 flyball nationals to be hosted by Frankston, Berwick and Vic Weiners has been postponed the East 2021. We are very much looking forward to getting stuck into the organisation of these once it is safe to do so.

In the meantime enjoy some photos from the vault.



# Welcome to our new Members

Tamara & Carl Reid - Faulks with Winston

Kelvin & Angela Bennell with Dash

Anthony Hanna with Tidda

Alice Breedon with Billie

Michael Dickerson with Rex

Joel & Carly Furneaux - Burton with Astrid

Nicola Silk with Lola

Rachel & Colin Crowe with Luna

Sharon Halliday with Cooper

Claire & Nick McAvoy with Maui

Tamara & Brett Percival with Luna

Colleen & Scott Horsnell with Ruby

Belinda & Neil McCoy - Baxter with Gertrude (Gertie )

Adrian & Amanda Runco - Adey with Hapi

Milena & Heath Burrige with Jersey

Rachel & Daniel Lamb - Andrew with Grim

Ange Kelly with Luna

It was incredibly exciting to open again to new members and we look forward to reopening to more new members when it is safe to do so.

# Survey Results

Members past and present had the opportunity to complete a survey about the club over the month of May. 124 people responded, with 88% of them completing more than the first page - THANK YOU! A snapshot of the results are available in this edition, while the full data and many excellent suggestions arising will be presented at the next committee meeting and shared following that.

- 70% of members regularly read the newsletter
- The most common reason to belong to a dog club was the wellbeing of your dog (75%), followed by a desire for community engagement (38%).
- 56% of us could offer an hour of their time at least once a month to help out at club. As a volunteer-run organisation, this is our lifeblood, so thank you to everyone who helps!

- Almost a third of the respondents want to compete at Trials, but only half of those felt trophies and ribbons were important.
- As a club, we most valued:
  - Having fun with our dogs
  - The safety of equipment
  - Space for our dogs in training
  - Consistency in instructions for training
  - Clarity of training requirements
  - Ease of access to training grounds (including car parking)

To the couple of members who wanted us to "Get rid of corona" or the like, good news: No infections at FDOC (as yet)! We appreciate everyone who has followed the rules to ensure this and send a huge 'Thank you' to Kim and Peter for their efforts to bring us safely back to training while we could.



# Obesity in Dogs

## Things You Need To Know About Obesity In Dogs

We hear all the time about the dangers of obesity in humans, but have you ever stopped to think about how those same dangers apply to your dog? You may love how happy your dog becomes when you give him a treat, or maybe you're a sucker for hungry eyes, but either way, you may be shortening your dog's life by giving in.

Here are 8 things you should know about obesity in dogs – you may be loving your dog to death

### 1. Obesity Can Cause Permanent Damage...

...That can never be fixed, even with a change in diet and exercise. Extra weight can cause lasting damage to your pet's internal organs, bones, and joints. While some damage is reversible, some isn't. The sooner you can reverse your dog's bad habits, the less likely it is they will suffer permanent consequences.

### 2. You Should Be Able To Feel Your Dog's Ribs

In most dog breeds, you shouldn't necessarily be able to see the dog's ribs, but you should always be able to feel them and the spine when your dog is standing. On most pets, there should be a tucked in hourglass shape to the waist. If you can't feel your dog's ribs, it's time for him to lose some weight.

### 3. Obesity Shortens Your Dog's Life Span

A large study of Labrador Retrievers found that being even moderately overweight can reduce canine life expectancy by nearly two years compared to leaner dogs. That is a significant amount of time you could lose with your beloved pet, especially when you consider that the average dog's life span is only 10-13 years to begin with.

### 4. Fat Tissue Secretes Inflammatory Hormones

It also creates oxidative stress on the body's tissue. Both of these things contribute to many diseases. So body fat is more than just cushioning – it actively makes your dog sick. Obesity should be considered as a chronic, low-level inflammatory condition.

### 5. Obese Dogs Are At Higher Risk For Multiple Diseases

Most of the preventable conditions listed below are life-threatening. Even those that are not cause pain and decrease your dog's quality of life.

- Cancers of all types
- Diabetes
- Heart disease and hypertension
- Arthritis
- Bladder stones
- Exercise intolerance, decreased stamina
- Breathing difficulty
- Heat intolerance
- Liver disease or dysfunction
- Lowered immune system function

# Obesity in Dogs

## 6. Changing Your Dog's Diet Is Essential

If you decide your dog is obese and that it's time to take action to increase his health and lifespan, you should talk to your veterinarian about changing his diet. Just reducing the amount of food you give your dog can cause malnutrition, so it's important to discuss a high-quality diet and feeding schedule to help your dog lose weight in a healthy way.

## 7. You Don't Have To Give Up The Snacks

As long as your vet approves, fresh or frozen green beans, broccoli, and cauliflower can make excellent snacks that will allow you to reward your dog without thwarting his weight loss attempts.

## 8. Exercise Should Be Increased Gradually

Just like overweight humans, obese dogs who have gotten used to being lazy will not suddenly be willing and able to run laps around the dog park. You should gradually take your dog on longer and more intense walks to build up their endurance.



## VALE Carly Marsh

25<sup>th</sup> June 1983 – 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020

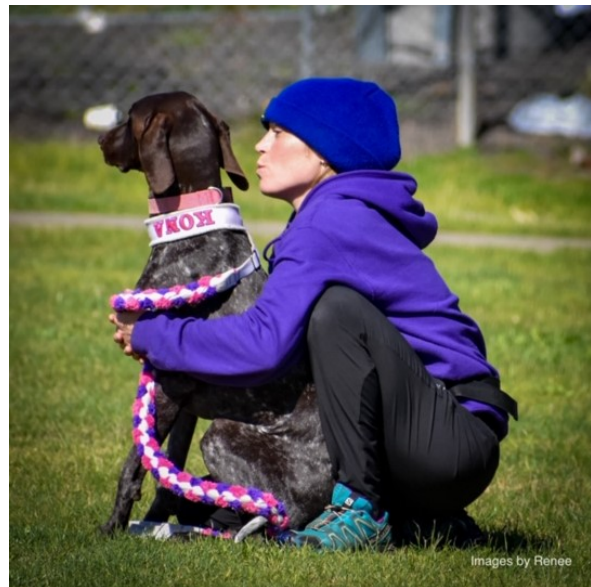
We were devastated when we learnt that Carly had passed away on Tuesday 12th May. In spite of some serious health issues, Carly gave 110% at whatever she tackled to be the best she could be. It was hard to believe that her body had got the better of her.

Carly joined FDOC in late 2016 when she got her first GSP puppy – Kona. She applied herself completely to learn all she could about Dog Training. It paid off. The following April she was placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Puppy Class at the Fun Day and in July 2018 they obtained their CCD Title.

Carly was the perfect student, listened attentively, gave it her best shot, listened again to feedback then went home to practice. She was training Kona in both agility and flyball so her work load was significant, with many challenges. She never gave up and the successes finally came.

In August 2018 Carly competed in her first Agility trial at Hastings & District Obedience Dog Club in Novice Jumping and achieved two passes. After that she moved quickly through Novice and Excellent into Masters level by 2019.

Her first Flyball competition was in February 2019 at Berwick Show where she ran in the Storm Chasers' team. She later went on to gain her Flyball Championship.



Around September last year Carly got another GSP puppy – Sadie. Once again she applied herself fully to training her new pup whilst still running Flyball and Agility with Kona. It seems Covid19 isolation could not stop her, she and Danielle regularly posted videos of her training sessions. She was totally committed to training her dogs.

Carly was always helping out at Flyball or Agility, in fact before she even got Kona she would join her mother and others in the laborious job of setting up at agility. We are going to miss her very much, her gorgeous smile and her can-do attitude to give it a go no matter what. We will remember her smiling in agility as Kona barked at her from the start line to hurry up and run.



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Carly was a beautiful young soul whose quiet smile lit up the flyball ring each week at training. She adored running flyball with Kona and worked tirelessly training at club and at home. It was a pleasure watching the quiet confidence that Kona brought out in her at flyball. Words just don't exist to express the grief of her passing.

## Hands up if you can't wait to be back?

In the meantime consider teaching your dog some tricks at home

You could try...

- High 5
- Wave
- Spin
- Roll Over
- Weave through legs
- Beg

