

Frankston Dog Obedience Club Inc

APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER

Affiliated with Victorian Canine Association A0024447E

Welcome to 2023

A word from our President...

Hello to all, and welcome back to a new year of training and competition, and a big welcome to all our new members for 2023.

With another presentation evening well and truly behind us, I would like to congratulate all our members who gained titles in 2022. Again this year, the presentation evening will be held at the club, so clear your calendar for the 9th December.

I hope you all had a lovely Easter break with your families and are looking forward to some great training and competitions.

A quick update on our shade trees for the grounds. They are growing really well since being donated just before Christmas by Livingston Primary School and are nice and healthy. We are hoping they will provide some great shade for training and competitions in the hotter months.

Once again thank you to all those who volunteer their time and effort to make this club successful and happy training.

-Kim Dearden, FDOC President



Editor Introduction

Hello community!

I'm Mailie, you have probably met me at some point around the club. Maybe I have served you in the club canteen, maybe I have instructed your obedience class or Flyball session, maybe I have assisted with your enrolment. I am all over the club and now I'm taking on the newsletter for 2023! Thank you to Lauren for being an inspiration with your dedication, after working on this newsletter for (how many?) years! It is a pleasure & a privilege to be your successor.



I thought I would introduce myself, in case you haven't run into me before. I am a hardcore dog lover (obviously!) and I currently have two senior boys that have given me lots of experience in dog training, and a love for it too. They are both retired from Flyball and that is my true dog sport love, I still dedicate my time to the Flyball team and wider community even without my dogs competing. I work between a nursing home, canine fitness and collar production. It's quite the mixed bag but I enjoy spending my time learning new things and having different experiences.

My hope for this opportunity doing the newsletter is to bring awareness to the amazing volunteers that we have around our club and build up our volunteering team so that our weight is shared. We are a fantastic group and should all support each other, no matter the discipline we train or the level of training our dogs have.

If you have any questions about me or volunteering opportunities, please find me at club or email me directly newsletter@fdoc.org.au



Have you seen the FDOC cleaning roster?

Each month, a different group from FDOC is enlisted to clean our club rooms each week. 2-3 people each week need to clear, sweep and mop floors, change bins, wipe surfaces & clean the toilets. This is a quick and easy job when it is shared among our members. Check our notice board for our roster this year and sign up with your coordinator when it is your discipline's month!

We acknowledge that we train and gather on the land of the Bunurong people of the Kulin Nations. We pay respect to their elders, past and present. And also extend this respect to any elders reading this edition of the FDOC Newsletter.



Important Dates for 2023 & beyond



Frankston Club Competition Days:

3rd June 2023

28th October 2023

2023 Year's End

Last Training Day: 25th November 2023

Breakup Day: 2nd December 2023

Annual General Meeting: 9th December 2023
@ 11:00 am

Presentation Dinner: 9th December 2023

Events being hosted by Frankston Dog Obedience Club 2023

Agility:

Saturday 25th May @ KCC Park

Saturday 2nd September @ KCC Park

Flyball:

Easter Saturday 8th April @ FDOC

Sunday 21st May Co-hosting @ FDOC

Sunday 6th August @ FDOC

Sunday 10th September @ FDOC

Sunday 22nd October Co-hosting @ FDOC

Scent Works:

Sunday 25th June @ FDOC Clubrooms

Sunday 27th August @ FDOC Clubrooms

Newsletter Dates

April 2023

July 2023 - submissions due 30/06

November 2023- submissions due 31/10

VALE Paddy

June 1999 - September 11 2022

You weren't my dog but started with a much loved member of this club, my best friend Ann Marie. When she passed away, I made a promise that Paddy would continue to lead a good life. He lived with Ann Marie's neighbors but I would take him to the dog club to be with his furry friends that he'd grown up with. I always treated him like one of my own dogs. Now he can return to Ann Marie and enjoy their time together. I know Paddy meant a lot to Ann Marie, and he means a lot to me, and I am very grateful to have been able to train him and compete with him. Pictured is a Veterans fun day win that I was so proud of. Ann Marie would be so pleased to see him featured in the newsletter.

-Andre



Trial Obedience Class

Joy is pleased to welcome back Jenny Pepper & Patricia Stewart to the FDOC Trial Obedience Class with their dogs. We are also looking forward to seeing Mark & Willow continue their obedience endeavors with their border collies.

Are you interested in trial obedience? Talk to Instructor Joy about her 12:30pm Trial Class.

Trial level obedience run-throughs are available to Dogs Victoria members Tuesday evenings from 5pm. These Obedience & Rally O run-throughs are \$5 per run. Sausage sizzle, tea & coffee available on site for participants.

Dates for upcoming sessions - April 4, October 24, October 31, November 14, November 21.



Volunteer Spotlight

Enrolment Officer

What's involved? Assisting our newest members with finalising their enrolment. We have an online booking system for enrolments so there are no "walk-ins". Officers double check that information provided on the online system is correct with the member, take their membership payment & explain when their First Day Class is.

When: usually, we only take one intake of enrolments per week. Enrolment officers would need to be ready for enrolments between 12.30pm-1.15pm, so their First Day Class can start promptly at 1.30pm.

How can I help? Talk to our Secretary, Peter, at anytime on Saturdays about learning the ropes. We utilise 1-2 volunteers per week for this role.

Canteen Assistant

What's involved? The canteen is a busy place, volunteers can assist in any or all of the following tasks- customer service & payment, food handling, barista services. These tasks are fairly simple when they are spread across 2-3 people, but they can be overwhelming if they are not shared.

When: the canteen is open from 9am- 2:30pm and any assistance is welcome! The busiest times are 11-11:30am & 1-1:30pm during our pre-obedience class rushes. Extra assistance during these times would be much appreciated.

How can I help? Talk to our President, Kim, in the kiosk for more information! No experience in these fields are required.

Editor's Podcast Recommendation



Training Without Conflict: Episode 17 - Susan Garrett

Ivan Balabonov hosts Susan Garrett on his podcast to discuss reinforcement based training methods vs balanced training methods. It's quite the long listen but very insightful for us as a positive reinforcement training club.

Flyball News

The flyballers have had a busy summer, training and competing, but most importantly, spending quality time with their dogs & teammates. We have welcomed Molly kelpie & Raffles into the competitive teams and they are both doing a fantastic job learning the lanes with their handlers. We would also like to congratulate the dogs that have joined the first run club since our last edition - Picklez & Sheilah, Oscar & Jess, Jesse & Romaine, Luna & Pagan, Millie & Bernie, Mylo & Ash.

Recent Competition Results

Aussie Frank N Weiner Party

Lightning Bolts - 4th in Div 1

Blizzards - 3rd in Div 2

Hurricanes - 4th in Div 2

Frank N Weans - 1st in Open

Antinol Berwick Bonanza

Lightning Bolts - 1st in Div 2

Hurricanes - 2nd in Div 2

Frank N Weans - 1st in Open



VALE Jet

October 15 2013 - March 2 2023

We only had you for a few short, but lovely years, after being rehomed with us with another shepherd, Goya. You two adored each other as you grew up together in your past home, and blended in with our other dogs well. I'm so happy Jet & Goya get to run free together again over the rainbow bridge. We will miss you, and all the love you gave us in the short time we got to spend with you.

- Andre & Hubby.



Bunnings BBQ Fundraisers 2023

Frankston Dog Obedience Club Inc & Bunnings Carrum Downs have a long term connection and commitment to each other. This is another way for our club to get our name out in the public domain, encourage positive reinforcement methods as stated in our club's Statement of Intentions, and raise money for our club.

FDOC has three more locked in dates for barbecuing this year- **April 23, June 25 & October 29**. We are also on Bunnings' cancellation list, and can pick up cancellations if we have the manpower to do it on short notice.

How do you get involved? Talk to our sponsorship coordinators, Lauren & Zach, or any of the management committee to point you in the right direction. Calls for volunteers will usually be posted about a month in advance so you have an opportunity to pop your name down for a two hour shift in the morning, midday or afternoon. We have up to 5 people assisting at any given time slot and jobs range from money handling to sausage cooking



Thank you

Since our last Newsletter one of our members suffered a medical incident whilst on the training grounds. Though an ambulance was needed, we understand that our member is making a full recovery.

This is an opportunity to thank those who stepped up, (or wheeled up), to the plate when needed.

Thank you to Elisabeth Gleeson for putting your chair into overdrive and alerting us to the incident, Kim and Peter for assisting our member off the ground. Thank you to Bill Upston for taking control of the patient and ensuring the ambulance service had all the relevant information with the use of Lauren Monohan's blood pressure machine.

Ambulance Victoria, despite all the bad press they appear to get, were prompt and attended in quick sharp time.

It is great to know that when the need arises, we have great members who are willing to put themselves out to help each other.

Thank you!



FDOC Cleaning Roster 2023

Thank you to all those that have volunteered their time to assist with cleaning so far this year. **As a reminder, all roles in our club are volunteer roles and will remain that way.**

April - Flyball

May - Obedience

June - Agility

July - Agility

August - Flyball

September - Obedience

October - Flyball

November - Agility

2023 FDOC Management Committee

President - Kim Dearden

Vice President - Lauren Dolley

Treasurer - Tammy Beattie

Secretary - Peter Gibson

General Committee - Zach Day

Janice James

Lisa Retford

Charles Mouton

Jessica Thompson

Mailie Gibson

Lauren Monohan

Bruce Saunders

A new FDOC 2023 Instructors Course will be held soon

These are just a few of the reasons why someone might choose to become a FDOC Obedience Instructor. It can be fulfilling and rewarding for those who have a genuine love for dogs and a passion by helping them become well-behaved and happy companions.

1. Passion for dogs: Many people have a deep love and appreciation for dogs, and becoming a dog trainer allows them to work closely with these animals on a daily basis. They enjoy spending time with dogs, understanding their behaviours, and helping them become well-behaved pets.

2. Desire to make a difference: FDOC Instructors have the opportunity to positively impact the lives of both dogs and their owners. They can help dogs overcome behaviour issues, improve their obedience skills, and strengthen the bond between dogs and their human companions. This sense of making a difference in the lives of animals and their owners can be highly rewarding.

3. Love for teaching: Dog training is essentially teaching dogs new skills and behaviours, and some individuals have a natural knack for teaching. They enjoy the process of breaking down complex behaviours into smaller, manageable steps, and helping dogs learn and progress.

4. Personal experience with dogs: Some people may have had personal experiences with their own dogs or other dogs that sparked their interest in becoming a FDOC Instructor. They may have successfully trained their own dog and this positive experience motivated them to pursue a position of FDOC Obedience Instructor.

5. Continual learning opportunities: Dog training is a field that is constantly evolving, and there is always something new to learn. Many dog trainers enjoy the process of ongoing education and staying up-to-date with the latest training techniques, behaviour theories, and advancements in the field of dog training.

If interested, please contact.

Bruce Saunders M.Edu.

FDOC Head Instructor

Dogs Victoria Certified Obedience Instructor

0414 612 888

bruce@scorpion.asn.au



Welcome to our newest Club Members

We are very pleased to be welcoming our first intakes for 2023. Thank you all for choosing Frankston Dog Obedience Club. We are looking forward to seeing what you can all achieve together in your chosen discipline.

Emily & David Storey with Queenie

Christie Viney with Ziggy

Brook & Michael Hartley - Ford with Daisy

Stacey & Mauricio Ferrando with Bowie

Emily & Dylan Coates - Sloan with Melo

Kylie & Julian Moore - Thursky - Moore with Juno

Leanne OSullivan with Cherry

Haylie & Jordon McCluskey - King with Lyla

Cameron & Chloe Frazer with Winnie

Marisol Calvert with Holly & Rosco

Cassandra Bruce with Baby

Janice Blomberg with Humphrey

Rebekah & John Stockdale - Netherwood with Dax

Kylie Baines with Charlie

Sarah & Bennett Clark with Ruby

Michael & Catherine Bromley with Louie

Hayley Smith with Raffie & Archie

Holli McDowall with Harley

Karen Leigh with Emi

Laura Carlson with Bruno

Kaysie Cunningham with Riley

Jennie & Rob Forster with Cleo

Chris & Jayden Nichols with Benji

Erin & Benjamin McLennan with Mackie

Allison & Madison Waterhouse with Boslev

Pierre-Philip Zumkley with Brunhilde

Cat & Greg Graham - Reichelt with Lucy

Chloe & Brodi May - Densely with Yogi

Casey & Sandro Olori with Chase

Amelia & Robert Sheridan with Oreo

Rachael & Julie Peake with Alfie

Lisa & Shane Niven - Black with Nala

Catherine & Peter Fisher with Alfie

Griz & Natasha Thomson - Grant with Bear & Kai

Belinda & Shane Connolly with Milo & Cleo

Julie Chapman with Image, Rocky & Star

Sarah & Abbie Hoggart - Kenny with Luna

CHRISTINE RODGERS with MERLIN

Colleen & Brendan Fennelly - Palmer with Miley

Kathryn Seirls with Cora & Zaff

Anabelle Gaskell with Theodore

Wayne & Ella Braganza with Roxy
christopher & Trudy Czajka - Baker with Roy
Emily & David Storey with Queenie
Sharnee & Jason Kingsbury with Ziggy & Dash
Kim, Simon & Bianca De Marco with Jaxon & Marley
Trish & Andrew Stewart with Raffi
Denise Medo with Skve
Rosy & Dennis Skantzios with Choppa & Vinny
Vanessa & PAUL Weaver with Book & Bonnie
Kimberley & Mathew Thomas Perry with Duke
Michael Vourdoumpas with Gracie
Stacey Beere with Ruggy
Lacey Egan with Bruno
Julie & Mark Van Drie with Morgan
Sarah Walton with Daisy
Taylor & Andrew Haddad with Ted
Debbie Dexter with Banio
Alex & Alena Derzekos with Archie
Minpreet, Scarlett & Arjan Jongkees with Phoenix
Patricia & Tyler Scott - Cyprian with Malcolm
Yasmin Lacy with Annie Yan & John Cross with Bobbie
Tracy & Colin PEACOCK with Titan
Kirsten & Ben Marks - Xuereb with Lucy & Kira
Kristie & Tom Minogue with Torvi
Darrell & Rebecca Wyatt with Mando & Bolt

Emily Taylor with Mia Kim Benning with Pippi
Isabella & Ricci Baker - Smith with Spud
Samantha Wells with Teddy Wells
Dean Williams with Alfie
Gerd & Nathalie Kurz - Keur with Addy & Autumn
Jennifer Johnson with Bear
Veronica Holland with Flossie & Alfie
Brodie & Mitchel Poulton with Banio
Rebecca & Christine Rowley with Angus & Hamish
Jorgia Rice with Louie
Elizabeth & Lucia Venegas with Poppy
Judy-Ann Martin with Nala Emily O'Kane with Kylie
Daniel Holland with Chrystal
Kristy & Christopher Marks - Doyle with Koko
Aaron & Jasmine Slater with Murphy
Holly Hinton with Franklin
Paige Bailey with Ollie
Emily & David Storey with Queenie
Michael & Nicole Papettas with Macey & Koko
Jess & Kristen Harrington - Feehan with Sonny & Harper
Maddison & Matthew Witnev with Snoofer & Fozzie Bear
Rachael & Chris Lindley with Snoopy
Cathy, Glen & Leigh Trudinger - Harvie with Fudge

Samantha Stephens with Soots

Susan Brown with Bella

Lisa & Cameron Gray with Teddy

Brynna & Rowan Rafferty-Brown Gould with Dash

Tim & Jacqui Matthews with Fletcher

Melissa & Rohan Guthrie - Andrew with Iza

Hayley Stephenson with Mia & Stew

Umberine & Gareth Williams with Colby & Ruby

Phil Rachael & Noah Scicluna with Lexi

Grant Salomon with River Yvonne Croft with Carnea

Steven Humphrey with Izzy & Bundy

Amanda & Daniel Liu - Smith with Reginald

Adelle & Joel Newton with Zeus Kim & Chris Schroder with Wally

Stuart King with Lucy

Carly & Claudio Wenham - Ganga Munoz with Evie, Rusty & Tempest

Olivia, John & Will Mace with Ted & Loki

Kvla Berends with Koda

Tahnee Milner with Poppy

Lisa Wells with Jerry

Suellen DAVIES with Sarge

Freya Higney with Roxy

Sally Cox with Josie & Pippa

Steph Brennan with Wes

Kathryn Munidasa with Millos



Reminders for all members -

- keep dogs on lead at all training times, unless instructed to do so by your class instructor. This includes inside the pens.
- Wear your name badge each week so we know who you are.
- Scan in your attendance at the kiosk each week.
- Training fees are \$3 per dog, per day.
- Exercise responsible dog ownership.
- Give dogs in yellow “give me space” gear a wide berth when on ground.

AGILITY FOUNDATION 1 COURSE

A new agility foundation course will commence on 17th June and run for 4 weeks. (**17/6, 24/6, 1/7, 8/7**). Places will be limited and bookings should be made with Sandy via email sandys2@tpg.com.au.

- Dogs must be at least 12 months old and you both need to attend all 4 classes as new skills will be taught each week.
- Whilst formal obedience is not required, dogs need to be able to pay attention, hold a sit stay and recall promptly.
- Your dog needs to be slim and trim, excess weight puts a strain on your dog's body and agility adds further stress .
- Agility is labour intensive. All agility participants help set up or pack up equipment.
- Agility is not a cure for a hyperactive, out of control dog
- On completion of Foundation 1 you can join Foundation 2 which will also run for 4 weeks



So What is Foundation Agility?

Foundation is where you start your agility journey. People often wonder why they cannot start in Beginners, but first you need to learn the foundation skills. Then you can progress to running short courses in beginners. Even experienced agility handlers start new dogs/pups in foundation

Your dog will learn to work equally well on your left and right hand sides, walking and running with you and changing sides fluently. You will learn to position your dog (sit, drop or stand) on either side and to leave him in position while you walk away. We introduce the concept of a release word meaning your dog can break position when cued. Actually you should already be using a release word in obedience to end a behaviour such as a stay. A prompt recall is also necessary.

Your dog training skills will be tested as you learn to move away from luring a behaviour and begin learning to shape the behaviour. Understanding the use of a clicker or bridge word will be important. At this stage your dog should start to focus on the job not on the food or toy. Hopefully this will be an 'ah ha' moment for you and your dog.

You will also learn to send your dog away from you, initially around a cone, then to a jump. We introduce the tunnel which most dogs love and also some jumping exercises – believe it or not, not all dogs jump properly or know how to collect their bodies.

Finally you will learn how to teach your dog to weave through 12 poles and to negotiate the large contact obstacles safely and correctly.

Whilst we use a lot of food rewards, we also like to use toys. Teaching a tug and retrieve to your hand is very useful.

To make any progress you need to put in time at home practicing all these exercises. Very little equipment is required – 4 garden stakes for weaving plus a short plank 30cm wide and as long as your dog. Jumps can be made with a garden stake on some bricks, height is not important at this stage. Traffic cones are useful but anything you can teach your dog to go around such as a chair will do.

⚠ Warning: Agility is addictive 😊



Storm's Story

Storm was born on the 1st April 2016 in the rough Adelaide neighbour of Elizabeth – how's that for an April Fools right? And from the very first moment that we met her she made it clear that she wanted to go home with us. But let's back track a little to how this story started.

Lauren and I were living with a couple of housemates in Adelaide in 2016 and had recently been accepted for our own rental. This meant that we could get a dog! I wasn't all that keen at the time because I knew what a commitment it would be. So Lauren put a post on Gumtree anyway asking if anyone had upcoming litters of Border Collies she received a message back from someone saying that they had just had a litter but had not advertised yet and would we like to come and have a look. I told her "sure we can go look but we're not buying one". How silly of me. So off we went that night to go say hello to some 2 or 3 week old puppies and were greeted by this mob of fluffballs all following mum around and jumping over each other. We chatted to the owner for a while, watching the puppies all racing around and this little oddball came out of the pack and planted herself at my feet. And there she stayed, lying on the ground and closing her eyes. Well of course we had to pick her up and say hello. This little pup was the odd one out from the litter, looking not so much like a border collie with her short fur and spotty legs in contrast to her siblings who were all black and white fluffballs and twice as big as her!

We spent some time having pats and cuddles with this pup before it was time to go. Little did I know that Lauren had a \$50 note in her wallet and as we leave puts down a deposit on this dog!

Needless to say, the deal was sealed. I at least got to choose the name. So Storm she became.

Fast forward a few weeks and Storm was dropped off to our new house, the owner tearing up a little as he said goodbye to his puppy, no doubt hoping that he was giving her away to a good home.

It didn't take long to work out that Storm was very intelligent and loved to be trained and rewarded. She was also a little terror, always pushing boundaries and giving the sweetest puppy dog eyes when caught that usually got her out of trouble.

As soon as she was old enough, the local dog park down the road became the nightly routine for socialisation. We were lucky and had a good group of people with some great dogs and Storm soon had many dog friends. But this was not to last. By 6 months she started showing signs of reactivity and soon we could not take her to the dog park because she was reacting to every dog in sight.

Add to this a reactivity for humans, in particular men, and this once friendly happy dog was now aggressive and stressed in the outside world. We had no idea what happened or what to do. Daily walks were now stressful because she couldn't walk past a dog or person without barking, lunging and looking deadly.

We received much advice from different people, many advising medication. This was not a path we were yet ready to go down.

Cue the South Australian Border Collie Group. This lovely group of passionate BC owners was the source of many a great walk. Weekly and monthly walks with as many as 80 dogs were one of our favourite pastimes. And it was here that we discovered what would eventually be our saving grace – the muzzle. Negative bias associated with a muzzle stopped us from considering it as a tool for reactivity. But this all changed during our walks with the SABCG because of one owner named Veronica and her dog Eddie. Eddie was a highly reactive rescue, a born and bred sheepdog and he wore a muzzle. Edie would run free with all the other dogs and because he wore a muzzle, he was safe, unable to make contact if triggered. This was the first time we saw the muzzle as a positive tool. He was able to enjoy himself and be free because if triggered he would not cause any harm and the other dogs would simply leave him alone.

The muzzle training began and the result was instantaneous. Suddenly, people and other dogs gave her space and off leash dogs were quickly leashed when owners spotted the terrifying muzzle. Stressful walks became enjoyable and people respected the muzzle that Storm wore which made her more relaxed. It would be 2 more years before the muzzle could come off forever but for now it was a good start.

By now Storm had reached 12 months old and Lauren wanted to try her in this sport that she had heard about but never seen – Flyball.

Living in the Northern Suburbs of Adelaide our closest club was the Paradiistrict Dog Club in Salisbury.

Paradiistrict took Storm under their wing from the moment she arrived. She made visible progress during her training sessions and never was she so happy as when she got out of the car at the dog club and knew that she was there for Flyball. By the time she was 2 years old, Storm was doing full runs, although there was plenty of issues along the way including not wanting to turn on the box properly or jump.

Just as Storm reached the stage where she could join Team training, we made the move back to Victoria. This was a disappointment to Paradiistrict but to their credit they continued to train with

Storm right up until moving day. Our Flyball journey would be very different if not for Para and we will always be grateful to them for taking Storm on that journey.

Now it was time to find a new club and we landed at Frankston Dog Obedience at the beginning of 2018. Storm was still very reactive but in the Flyball environment she learnt to trust her future team mates and handlers.

Frankston Obedience took us on even though I'm sure she gave many people a good warning to keep their distance.

The volunteers were all fantastic and no one gave up on our sweet little girl Storm.

Within only a few weeks Storm found her place on the flyball team. She had to work hard at building her trust with everyone around her. Still not so keen on the men and dogs, she grew over the months to learn that everyone in the ring was safe. September 28th 2018, Storm competed in her very first flyball competition, earning her first flyball dog title. I remember that this sweet anxious little girl didn't give a damn of her surroundings; she was so happy to be playing flyball all day.

We would drive in the gate at Club and her happy bark and wagging tail was all we needed to see that this was her happy place.

Every club volunteer took their time getting to know Storm, never pushing too hard and earned her trust. Storm will never be 100% socialised, there's always going to be a new dog and a new person, but she won't send them running like she used to. All the Volunteers worked with us and Storm and her brother Casper (and what a story he has) when we come to Frankston and we can't thank them enough for training us as handlers and creating a safe space for Storm to be herself. We have learnt that It's not always the dog that needs training but the handler also and to listen to what signs there dog is showing them. Frankston obedience dog club listened to Storm and worked within her comfort zone, fostering an environment where she thrived. And even now, outside of Flyball, Storm is happy to be around her teammates and that is something we thought impossible not so long ago.

Storm, holding up to her name - (unpredictable), is now a Flyball Master, nearly Flyball Master Excellent and at 7 years old still running her little heart out.

Storm's motto is **BALL IS LIFE.**