

K9 CAPERS



Welcome to your new E-newsletter

The newsletter will provide information on operational & other matters of interest to Members & affiliated Clubs. It will be an adjunct to the General News messages found on the new Dogs ACT app(lication). It is one more way we are keeping you informed & adds to the communications provided on your website & facebook page.

Dogs ACT new App

The new Dogs ACT app for your phone was introduced last week. Why not download it & keep up to date on all Canberra canine news? It will cover the latest news for all our disciplines & alert you to any issues of interest to you. We are currently looking at adding your Membership Card onto the app so that you can see your membership number, the type of membership & your renewal date.

Those people who cannot or do not want the app on their phones will be sent the same information by email, therefore make sure your details are current with Dogs ACT. To make any changes to your information please contact the Dogs ACT office, via email.

Message from Dogs ACT President - Simon Mills

On behalf of Dogs ACT, I would like to thank those involved for organising the canine cluster of shows this past long weekend. They were wonderfully run shows, had a great atmosphere & from all accounts everyone enjoyed themselves. These shows were a huge undertaking; it's a damn complicated weekend at best with so many clubs involved. It is a credit to the great team of workers & clubs with everyone working together!!

Thanks go to all the helpers who stewarded, mentored open show trainees, did judges collection, the entries management (certificates), kitchen duty, dishwasher installers & carpark attendants. A special thanks to the Labrador ladies for your serious cleaning & grounds ability, I was suitably impressed.

I would like to highlight what the weekend accomplished for our dog community!!

- Well run shows for the exhibitors & members.
- Involvement with the dog community getting locals on board with the Canberra Raiders theme!!
- Supporting artists on the grounds & supplying lunch each day; we now have some amazing artwork gracing our storage containers.
- Running & supporting the trainee judges open show operations.
- Running & coordinating over 20 supporting group specialties
- Running an All breeds show with support from the group specialty shows.
- Logistics of running & coordinating judges from here there & everywhere!!
- Reducing costs for all clubs, in regard to catering, cleaning, transport & accommodation ensuring the longevity of this cluster of shows into the future!!

SAVE the Date!

There will be a **Track & Search Workshop** to be held at the Dogs ACT rooms on Sat 28th & Sun 29th March 2020. Put it in your diaries as there will be more information to come.

ORCHID - Health Tests

Health testing is becoming more prevalent for our dogs & after all we want to breed better & healthier dogs. **ORCHID** is the 'Officially Registered Canine Health Information Database' for the ANKC. It allows online recording of health information by health professionals & to make statistical information derived from that data publicly available. A lot of our members have not heard of ORCHID, check them out here & see what results you can identify for your breed. <http://orchid.ankc.org.au/>

Forms & Fees

Dogs ACT has one area on their website which covers all [fees](#) and all [forms](#). We have placed the price list on the same page as the forms & request that you familiarise yourself with the appropriate current fee. Correctly submitted forms will assist with expediting the processing of your request. We are currently going through all of the forms & aim to make them so that members can complete the forms online & download completed forms in one go. Please be patient.

Dogs ACT & the ACT Government

At the last meeting with the ACT Government representatives Dogs ACT was advised the legislation which has amended the *Animal Welfare Act 1992* is now in place. Over the next few weeks more on & off leash areas will be announced in Canberra. There will also be a campaign to introduce 'yellow' dogs; these are dogs which needs space & more news on this is to follow. Communications between the ACT Government & Dogs ACT are going well on your behalf.

Dogs ACT Social Media Policy

Members are reminded that Dogs ACT has a social media policy. Please ensure that you have familiarised yourself with this policy which can be found [here](#).

Sadly, it has come to light that some Members have been making inappropriate comments which breach this policy. Please be aware that there will be consequences for those who make comments on any social media platform that bring the name, reputation of Dogs ACT, its' staff or members into disrepute.

Are your details up to date with the office?

Dogs ACT is currently updating the website. All members & Clubs are asked to ensure that your information is correct. Any errors should be sent to admin@dogsact.org.au so that they can be corrected.

Dates of future events

Have you sent in your dates for all your events in 2020? They have to be sent to the office by the end of October so they can be approved by Council. All approved dates are placed on the website '[Calendar of Events](#)'. If you are uncertain on your Clubs dates make sure you have some timeframe placed on the calendar because when you do decide on a specific date it may be taken up by another Clubs events & you could miss out.

Dogs ACT Grounds

The Grounds Sub-Committee wish to let members know that they are concerned about the state of the grounds & are monitoring the condition of the rings used for conformation shows, particularly those outside the offices of Dogs ACT. Whilst the grounds have been sprayed for bindiis & are being watered, the sub-committee has noted that they are not looking as good as in previous years. After consultation with professional horticulturists, the committee have been assured that the conditions of the ground are consistent with drought affected areas.

Over the long weekend two artists from the south coast came to Canberra & donated their services to paint the two containers sitting on the hill between the upper & lower dog rings. The ACT Government also offered their support by getting them the paint to do the work. The artists have painted dogs on both containers; their work will highlight Dogs ACT to those coming through the gate & it is anticipated they will return soon to paint the other sides for us.

Contact Us - Politely!

We can be contacted by email at admin@dogsact.org.au on telephone (02) 6241 4404 & the office is open Tuesday to Thursday between the hours of 9.30am & 2.30pm.

Please remember that the staff and Council are there to assist you, however it is not possible to action everyone's request immediately. There are many conflicting priorities & whilst we understand your frustration, your request will be dealt with as soon as possible. Unfortunately, there have been several recent incidents of members venting their frustration by abusing & maligning both the staff & Council of Dogs ACT; this behaviour is inappropriate and will **not** be tolerated.