

Dogs ACT newsletter

K9 Capers



From Dogs ACT

Canberra went into lockdown commencing Thursday 12 August at 5pm, as we had had our first positive case of Covid-19 for many months. Several days later the lockdown was increased another two weeks as positive numbers increased & it finishes on Thursday 02 September (at time of publishing).

Dogs ACT would like to advise its members that while the office within the EPIC precincts is closed, the office staff will continue to work remotely. They can do most everything they can usually at the office except printing documents & receipting monies. Items such as membership cards, registration papers, litter registrations etc will be printed once the office reopens; however, please note that your processing of these items will continue. Monies will need to be deposited directly into the Dogs ACT account – please remember to add your NAME so that staff can identify your payment from those of others.

COVID NEWS - Are you on your own at home during lockdown with the dog/s to keep you company? Did you know that people who live alone can identify one other household that they can visit or from whom they receive visits? This includes single parents who live alone with their children. (*Information from the ACT Health Dept Covid-19 website*)

Since 01 July 2021, all dog owners must register with the ACT Government digital database annually. Owners who fail to sign up may face a \$150 fine. Dog details must be updated every year as at present approximately 95 per cent of dogs found had out of date details listed. This registration is for all pups over 8wks of age & must be updated if you move home. Owners will receive an annual registration reminder at least 14 days before the renewal date & if your dog is already registered, there will be **no cost** to renew their details along with your details.

As a member, you need to be aware of all the ACT Government laws pertaining to dogs & how they affect you & the responsible ownership of your dog/s. If you are a breeder, there is an article in this month's newsletter which relates to breeding & the ACT Government. If not, then you can skip to the next article. Several members have advised that their vets have been telling them that if their bitch has to have a caesarean to deliver the puppies then the bitch will automatically be desexed as the law tells them to do this. You should be aware of this law & the information is in the article. Each newsletter we will endeavour to bring you a section of ACT legislation which members must be aware of in order not to unknowingly cause an offence.

From the Office

The Office would like to advise Members that they are working remotely & will continue to be of service. Email the office with your enquiries, telephone the office (only during our normal business hours) & staff will assist you. Once you email them with your request, they will reply that the request was received & advise of any fees due & bank account information. If you have puppy registrations, while the papers will not be printed immediately, they can let you know registration numbers etc.

Is this your last newsletter?

It seems that there are some members who have not renewed their membership. A reminder has been sent to those whose membership is due but if you have not received it are you at home waiting for it before you renew? do you remember when is renewal date? Please contact the office asap to verify that you are financial. It may be that while we are in lockdown the reminder has fallen behind other notes & you have just not got round to renewing. The office is open normal hours via email (admin@dogsact.org.au) or telephone (02-6241 4404) hours 9.30am to 2.30pm Tue/Wed & Thu each week. We may be working remotely but we are here to assist YOU!

Of course, if you have changed your address email or telephone number, then it could be that we are sending a reminder to someone else. When contacting the office please give them your current details so that we can help you.

Training Classes – These restarted on Sundays at 12 noon on days when there are no shows in the local area. Entry remains at \$5 a class which must be prepaid via Show Manager under ACT Events. If classes are cancelled or not happening a note will be placed on the Dogs ACT Facebook page. Come along, have fun as well as help socialise your dog.

NOTE: There are no training classes while Canberra is in lockdown. Once these recommence Dogs ACT will advise everyone via facebook, website & our Dogs ACT app (download from google play or apply play).

Dogs ACT has an ever-increasing **library** & if you want to know about a breed or thinking of getting a dog, then why not come in & have a browse. Dogs ACT are implementing a come, look & relax days, following the training classes, once recommenced. Come along, look at the books, have a coffee & cake & see how Dogs ACT can help you learn more about your breed & dogs in general.

ACT Government News – Animal Welfare (Breeding Standard) Determination 2015 (No 1)

[Article for **Breeders** only]

This standard is made under the *Animal Welfare Act 1992* s 15B (intensive breeding of cats or dogs) & has been enforced since September 2015.

This document contains mandatory standards for the breeding of dogs. There are various offences if breeding is done which contravenes this standard, breeding is done for profit or commercial gain but do not apply if breeding is done in accordance with the written approval of a veterinary surgeon.

The document details that an animal must not be unhealthy, sick, carrying a debilitating genetic fault or carrying a transmissible disease.

The ages listed states a dog can be bred if between 18mths & 6 years of age; have no more than 4 litters & must not breed more than once within 18mths.

“A person must not breed a litter from a female dog or cat that has previously:

- (a) given birth by caesarean section or
- (b) suffered a failure to carry a litter to term more than 42 days after mating.”

This law does not force the veterinary surgeon to desex the bitch “at the time” of its caesarean, as this has an increased risk for the bitch. The vet may judge it is better to wait until the uterus has involuted & it is safer to do the surgery. For clarification you can check [here](#) at the CVES Emergency Services & their policy on caesareans for dogs.

We hope that this clears up this issue that some members have come across lately. If you wish to read the standard cited above you can check on the *Animal Welfare Act 1992* & look at the government’s pages on responsible dog ownership [here](#).

Breed Profile – Shih Tzu (Their name is pronounced as SHEED ZOO)



The Shih Tzu is an Asian toy dog breed originating from Tibet. It is well known for their short nose & large round eyes, as well as their long coat, floppy ears & are a small breed getting no taller than 27cms (11ins) in height. They have a lifespan of roughly 10-15 years.

Their name comes from the Chinese word for 'lion'. They were believed to have originated in Tibet but

were occasionally given to Chinese emperors & one theory is that they descended from a cross between a Pekingese & Lhasa Apso given by the Dalai Lama to Chinese emperors near the end of the 17th century.

The Shih Tzu comes in a variety of colours including gold, silver, grey, black, red, beige & brindle, with all of them having white with these colours.

They are intelligent little dogs but can be also independent. They like to learn & please their owners. They do require exercise but are also happy to stay at home & play content with short walks.



Their long coat is soft & dense with a good amount of undercoat. They do require a fair amount of grooming if you are going to keep it in show condition so it's best to get them started knowing how to be groomed at an early age. Their coat must be dried well when washed. You will need to get assistance from the breeder if you intend to buy one & maybe show a Shih Tzu. They are often called chrysanthemum dogs because of the way their hair grows up from the nose & around the face in all directions.

They are less demanding & less yappy than some other small breeds. They make a good pet for older people get on well with children, but are polite with strangers.



Many live a long life but some can suffer from kidney or liver diseases, knee problems, eye diseases, & itchy skin allergies.

Food is a great motivator with one of these but not too much or you will have a fat dog & one who only listens when you have food in your hand.

From the ANKC

Dogs West has received approval for the 2023 National Retrieving Trial to be held on 15 to 17 September 2023, location yet to be determined.

This approval is on the proviso that should Dogs Qld be unable to run the 2021 National Retrieving Trials then Dogs Qld will be given the opportunity to conduct the 2022 event & Dogs NSW will conduct trials in 2023 with Dogs West then conducting the trials in 2024.

The National Chihuahua Show due to be hosted by the Chihuahua Club of SA & in South Australia on 31-31 May 2022 has been cancelled due to issues related to the Covid-19 virus.

The German Shorthaired Pointer Club of SA has been approved to conduct the 2022 National Show/Restricted Retrieving Ability test for Gundogs & Obedience Trials from 5th to 7th September 2022. It will be held at the David Roche Park, Adelaide SA with the Trials to be held at a venue to be advised. This National event will not clash with the breed judging at the 2022 Royal Adelaide Show.

This National in SA will take place as a replacement for the GSP National originally to be held in NSW from 6th to 8th April 2022.

Dogs QLD advise that the National Retrieving Trial to be held by the Dogs Qld Retrieving & Field Trial Committee on 17 to 19 September 2021 has been cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

For those wanting to know what happens at an ANKC Board meeting the Minutes summary can be found on their website at this [link](#). All dates are posted on our website.

From the FCI

The FCI like most global organisations are holding meetings online. Some Commissions (sub-committee equivalents) are continuing to work & the Standards Commission put forward changes to the following breed standards, which were approved. Numbers in brackets are those standards that can be located on the FCI website ([Fédération Cynologique Internationale \(fci.be\)](https://www.fci.be)) if you want to check out the changes.

American Cocker Spaniel (167)
Field Spaniel (123)
Welsh Corgi Pembroke (39)
Afghan Hound (228)

Collie Smooth (296)
Chinese Crested Dog (288)
Airedale Terrier (7)
King Charles Spaniel (128)

Other items approved are changes to the International Sighthound Races & Lure Coursing Events, which come into effect on 01 January 2022.

New Members

Dogs ACT would like to welcome the following new Members:

Natalie Davis & her Dalmatian
Penelope Campbell & her Australian Cattle Dog
Jacqueline Lillian & David Lynch with their Belgian Shepherd
John Darby with his Border Collie &
Sam & Lucy Hollins with their Australian Shepherd
Adam & Adele Lind with their Pomeranian

Please check out all our communication channels from the website, facebook, instagram, our app and this newsletter. We hope that you enjoy your dogs and please contact us via email on admin@dogsact.org.au or telephone (02) 62424404 between 9.30am & 2.30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays. Dogs ACT is only open on those days. Our other communication channels such as Facebook will have the latest news & information for you on events, training, education sessions & lots more. Our website contains an event calendar & information for Members on their own page, which would be of interest to you all.

Welcome to Dogs ACT!

News Dots

DID YOU KNOW? That all bitches in season are prohibited from a public place in Canberra? This has been in place since at least 2000, & is included in the *Domestic Animals Act 2000*. If you have a female dog on heat, please be aware of this rule & don't take her to a dog park or outside the home into a public place. Also, anyone selling an entire puppy over 6 months must inform the Registrar of Domestic Animal Services of the contact details of its new owner.

DID YOU KNOW? When Dogs ACT first began in 1944 it was known as the Canberra Kennel Association. It was years before this changed to what it is now – the ACT Canine Association Inc - which trades as Dogs ACT. This brings us in line with other canine controls which makes it easier for everyone to identify us as being the one place in the ACT for all matters DOGS.

A snippet of history - Canberra Dogs & their owners

Cyril Lancaster started breeding Australian Silky Terriers in the 1950's with his wife Kate & their first two dogs were 'Teconoa Prince' & 'Peggy of Cambridge'. In 1959 Les & Edna Horan (Tulyns Kennels) arrived in Canberra & purchased their first silky 'Kabakaul Karmel' which was from Cyril's two dogs. This bitch produced their first litter of silkies under the 'Delbrae' prefix.

George Grendon became a name known amongst silky enthusiasts, although he moved across the border to near Bungendore, also Mrs Anne Reeves bred silkies under her 'Demilo' prefix. Both had many show successes & bred for numerous years.

Are you aware that many garden plants can make your dog ill? Spring & summer are on the way & we thought you should know that some are highly poisonous while others may only cause a mild stomach upset. Common plants that are poisonous to dogs include daffodil bulbs, bluebells, ivy, foxglove, delphinium & yew. Seems that up to 70% of dogs regularly eat plants & there are many websites which can assist you with the ones that make your dog ill so it's a good time to check them out before doing your spring planting.

Are you a Club Secretary? Dogs ACT are seeking historical information & pictures from your Club for a future project. If you would like to participate, please contact the office via email & you will be contacted.

Seems that even with the Covid pandemic across the world there are still those wanting to make money from dogs. Due to the constant smuggling of puppies too young to be moved from their mother (some as young as 4 weeks) into countries, the UK has now put welfare standards on the importation of dogs on the urgency track. They are working on legislation to raise the minimum age for imported puppies from 15 weeks to 6 months & banning the importation of dogs with cropped ears or docked tails. Bringing heavily pregnant bitches into the UK would also be banned.

There has been a huge increase in the commercial import of dogs to the UK & most welfare organisations hope that this will cease once the new laws come into effect.

Are you renting with a pet? Do you know your rights? Information from Legal Aid ACT advises the following.

If your tenancy agreement does not require the lessor's consent to keep a pet, then you can keep a pet. If the lessor requires their consent, then the tenant must make an application to them to keep a pet.

If your lessor changes & they intend to refuse a tenant's request to keep a pet the lessor must apply to the ACT Civil Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) for permission to refuse within 14 days of receiving the tenant's request.

The tenant is responsible for any damage done by their pet to the premises & are responsible for caring for the pets in accordance with ACT laws. The pet must not infringe on neighbours' quiet enjoyment & the tenant must comply with all rules & bylaws of the body corporate if possible.

Assistance animals such as guide/hearing dogs are permitted in all ACT dwellings, including those in body corporate properties. In body corporate apartment complexes where pets are generally banned a tenant may be required to provide documentation showing proof of need of the animal. If your pet damages property whose cost exceeds the bond paid, the tenant is responsible for the excess.

There is no additional bond to be paid for keeping a pet in the premises & the lessor cannot make additional inspections due to a pet being on the premises.

We hope this helps those for whom the above applies.

Show news

Members ~ Affiliates continue to submit dates for approval so that they can bring you shows. While there have been numerous events postponed or cancelled, Dogs ACT wanted you to know that the affiliates are not sitting back waiting for things to come to them but are endeavouring to put together events for you & others to attend. [A list](#) of those events has been put onto the Dogs ACT website for you to check out so that you too can plan ahead. Any event which is postponed or cancelled will be listed there rather than on the website stating the status. We also don't want to remove the events from the calendar of events otherwise it looks as though our Affiliates are not busy but like the

proverbial duck, be assured they are calm on the exterior but paddling like mad behind the scenes, on your behalf.

Sports news

Members ~ Affiliates continue to submit dates for approval so that they can bring you dog sports. While there have been numerous events postponed or cancelled, particularly of late where Canberra has gone into lockdown & we all have to stay at home, Dogs ACT wanted you to know that the affiliates are not sitting back waiting for things to come to them but are endeavouring to put together events for you & others to attend. [A list](#) of those events has been put onto the Dogs ACT website for you to check out so that you too can plan ahead. Dog Sports Affiliates – Belconnen Dog Obedience Club, Companion Dog Club, & the Tuggeranong Dog Training Club are lucky in being able to hold events on their own grounds & in 2021 have held a vast array of events for you. Unfortunately, the German Shepherd Club have their grounds within the EPIC precincts thereby making them as restricted as the conformation show Affiliates.

Please support your sports clubs & make these events a success (once the lockdown is lifted)

Do you run trials at your Club? Would you like others to celebrate your results with you? Then send us your Club trial results and we will put them into our newsletter, so we can congratulate those Dogs ACT Members dogs.

SEPTEMBER Issue – next month we will have another Breed Profile. Would you like to see your breed in our newsletter? Please send all articles & your comments to Dogs ACT office at admin@dogsact.org.au

Rear End Awareness

Your Diary –September/October

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|---------|---|
| 04 Sept | Double Obedience Trials CDC – Cancelled |
| 04 Sept | Hound Club of ACT Lure Coursing Trial - Cancelled |
| 05 Sept | Tracking Trial CDC – 8am start Braidwood area |
| 11 Sept | Agility Trial BDOC – 9am start |
| 14 Sept | Agility Trial – Ribbon Agility CDC – 6pm start |
| 19 Sept | Double Trick Dog Test CDC – 10am start |
| 09 Oct | Double Rally Trials CDC – 6pm start |
| 13 Oct | Agility Trial – Ribbon & Jumping TDTC – 7pm start |
| 23 Oct | Agility Trial Jumping & Games TDTC – Cancelled |

