

Glen Iris Dog Training Club Inc

Code of Conduct

VALUES

The Glen Iris Dog Training Club holds and is guided by the following values:

- We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of people, dogs and the community.
- We respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- We are committed to supporting members in their training and handling of their dogs.
- We aim to be a dog obedience club that promotes current principles and practices of managing dog behaviour and training.
- We strive to develop an atmosphere that is conducive to positive interaction between members and their dogs.
- We value open, honest and polite communication.
- We aim to foster an environment which supports encouragement of others and enjoyment of others' success.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The goals of the Glen Iris Dog Training Club are to:

1. Facilitate the socialisation of dogs of all breeds and ages.
2. Educate dog owners about their responsibilities to their dogs, the dogs of others and to other members of the community.
3. Conduct classes to socialise dogs and to train dogs in both obedience and agility.
4. Advise members when required of the necessity of additional training, beyond what is possible in class-based training.
5. Advise any members who are interested in competing with their dog in social neutrality, obedience and agility trials.
6. Conduct social gatherings of members and their families from time to time.

Code of Conduct — General

1. Handlers are responsible for the actions of their dogs and should be able to restrain their dog.
2. Handlers must ensure that their dogs are registered with their local council and vaccinations are current.
3. Dogs must remain on lead at all times unless directed otherwise by an instructor. If a handler needs to leave their dog for any reasons, they must ensure their dog is securely tethered.
4. Dogs must not be left unattended in motor vehicles if the temperature is above 23° C.
5. Handlers must immediately clean up after their dog.
6. Dogs brought to class must be in good health. Bitches in season should not attend a class.

7. Handlers must use such collars, leads and other gear, including bandanas and muzzles for their dog as directed by the instructor. Gear must be in good working order. No equipment or gear shall be sold or promoted at the club without prior approval of the Committee.
8. Handlers must not give food or treats to another dog without the handler of the other dog giving prior permission.
9. Neither members nor their dogs shall create noise or disruption to neighbours around the training arena. When parking their motor vehicles at the training venue, members should ensure that they are properly parked and do not cause obstruction or inconvenience.
10. Members should endeavour to arrive on time for class and carry out the directions of the instructor.
11. Handlers should be dressed appropriately, wear enclosed shoes and wear their current membership badge in a visible position.
12. Handlers under the age of 18 years must have an associated adult present at training.
13. Any complaint or grievance of a member regarding any other member, their dog, or an instructor, should be reported to a committee member as soon as possible, and be addressed by a member of the Executive.
14. Handlers should behave in a courteous and friendly manner at all times.
15. Members must not use any form of communication or social media to publish material that is offensive, abusive, critical, harassing or detrimental to the Club and its office holders, instructors or members.
16. As a general rule, a handler should train only one dog at time. A handler may train two dogs in a class by agreement with the instructor. No more than two dogs can be trained by the one handler.
17. When using the agility circuit, handlers must follow the directions of the instructor and at all times ensure dogs are kept safely apart.
18. Members are bound by the *Model Rules for an Incorporated Association (Associations Incorporation Reform Regulations 2012, available at <https://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/library/forms/clubs-and-not-for-profits/incorporated-associations/model-rules-for-an-incorporated-association.doc>)*. Breaches have consequences, up to and including expulsion from the Club, under section 19 of the Model Rules.
19. Members will respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, sexual preference or religion. No member may vilify another individual on such grounds, or physically or verbally abuse, harass or bully anyone associated with the Club (member, instructor, committee member), on or off the park, at any time.
20. All members will abide by the rules, regulations and by-laws of the City of Boroondara.

Code of Conduct — Instructors

21. Instructors will be guided by the Training Coordinator in relation to classes taken and instruction given.
22. Instructors will be familiar with and support the approaches to dog obedience and behaviour management established by the Club.
23. Instructors will respect the knowledge and skills of fellow instructors and will not contradict a fellow instructor during a class.
24. Instructors will respect the views of handlers about handling their dogs, while respectfully offering them advice.

25. Instructors will endeavour to participate in any professional development activities organised by the Club.
26. Instructors are encouraged to debrief after classes and discuss issues to further the learning base for all instructors.
27. Instructors will be a positive role model for handlers and their families.
28. Instructors will cancel training in the event the weather may have an adverse effect on dogs or handlers. The Club will be guided by the current Dogs Victoria protocol, in relation to maximum temperature for training.

Code of Conduct — Committee

Committee members will:

29. Avoid any situation that may lead to a conflict of interest.
30. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of other members of the Committee.
31. Behave in a professional manner relating to language use, behaviour and punctuality.
32. Abide by the formal rules of governance and decisions of the Committee.
33. Be aware that committee members are volunteers and respect their private time. Committee and club related emails, phone calls and all other correspondence to the committee should be restricted where possible to business hours Monday to Friday, with the exception of communications to the Club President, Secretary or Treasurer on matters of club business and operations.