

Queanbeyan & District Dog Training Club Inc

TRIALLING CLASS SYLLABUS (COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG)

Aim	To progress the standard of obedience exercises up to the ANKC Community Companion Dog (CCD) competition level.										
Objectives	<p>Handler needs to have a very good understanding of -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with their dog as a team; • All five basic commands to 'Heel', 'Stand', 'Drop', 'Stay' & 'Come' and the additional retrieving commands to 'Fetch' & 'Give', and • ANKC Rules and Regulations regarding the conduct of obedience trials. 										
Exercises taught	<p>Heel on Lead – Dog and handler to work as a team with the dog on lead. The heel routine is to consist of halts, drops, stands, turns in all three paces and figure of 8 pattern.</p> <p>Stand for Examination – Dog stands steadily on lead until completion of the exercise and not show any undue resentment or shyness while being examined.</p> <p>Recall – Dog to sit where left off the lead and promptly obey the handler's command to come and sit directly in front of the handler without further command.</p> <p>Sit Stay – The dog to stay off the lead in the sit position for 1 minute with a group of other dogs until the completion of exercise.</p> <p>Down Stay (2 minutes) – The dog to stay off the lead in down position for 2 minutes with a group of other dogs until the completion of exercise.</p> <p><i>Additional exercises introduced in the CCD Class (but not tested) include the Novice Class exercises 'Retrieve on the Flat', which requires the dog to retrieve a dumbbell on command; 'Change of Position' which requires the dog to respond to the handler's command to drop from a stand position given from a distance; and the Finish component of the Recall exercise.</i></p>										
General points	<p>Class work - All general class work should be done with the dog <u>on lead</u> unless specific off lead exercises are being taught.</p> <p>New exercises taught – The 'Figure 8' is introduced as part of Heel on Lead.</p> <p>Returning to the dog – Handler is to return around the back of their dog to the 'Heel' position in the Examination, Recall and Group Stay exercises.</p> <p>ANKC Trials - Handlers need to obtain the official ANKC Rule Book at the commencement of this class. This is because all club assessments from this level onwards will be assessed based on these rules. Handlers who want to eventually trial their dog need to understand the official obedience trialling system used throughout Australia. This includes having an understanding that additional points (<i>misbehaviour and penalties</i>) can be lost if either they or their dog are guilty of breaching any of the Trial rules.</p> <p>Sit & Down Stays need to concentrate on the three individual elements - Stability (<i>no movements</i>), Distance (<i>handler 6 metres away in front of dog</i>) and Duration (<i>time handler is away from dog</i>).</p> <p>Heelwork should be kept interesting. Work over and around broad and high jump boards, weave through cones, change pace on the move and continually try to keep up the handler's enthusiasm whilst stressing the importance of working as a team with their dog.</p>										
Assessment Day Exercises	<p>Exercises and points – Dog and handler are to be assessed in accordance with the Rules specified in the ANKC Rule Book to determine if they have attained the requirements of the following exercises in the Community Companion Class:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">• Heel on Lead (includes Figure 8)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">30 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">• Stand for Examination on lead</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">• Recall</td> <td style="text-align: right;">20 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">• Sit Stay – 1 minute</td> <td style="text-align: right;">20 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">• Down Stay – 2 minutes</td> <td style="text-align: right;">20 points</td> </tr> </table> <p>To obtain a pass at this level the dog must obtain over 50% in each exercise with an overall total score of at least 75% (ie. 75/100).</p>	• Heel on Lead (includes Figure 8)	30 points	• Stand for Examination on lead	10 points	• Recall	20 points	• Sit Stay – 1 minute	20 points	• Down Stay – 2 minutes	20 points
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Points for Misbehaviour	Penalties for misbehaviour and physical guidance will be imposed and points deducted if the handler corrects or reprimands their dog or, if at any time whilst competing, the handler is guilty of any breach of the ANKC Trial Rules.										

Weekly Progression – Community Companion Dog Level

Week 1	Instructor to check the number of repeat and new handlers in the Class to assess the knowledge already obtained by these handlers. Initially review all work based on the Intermediate level. Brief the class on the exercises that they will be expected to obtain during this course.
Week 2	<p>Progress stability in stays. Do lots of static work with the aim of perfecting all positions. Stress importance of co-ordinated hand signals & voice commands.</p> <p>Instructor to introduce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Figure of 8 at normal pace into heelwork routines; • Dogs being examined from a Stand position (<i>handler standing directly beside dog</i>); and • Finish using the Continental method (<i>Nb. The finish is not tested in this Class</i>). <p><u>Note:</u> Advise handlers to bring along their retrieving article with them from next week onwards.</p>
Week 3	<p>Continue refining the heelwork routine placing emphasis on using a loose lead; proper use of signals and voice commands; flowing turns and smooth changes of pace on the move. Introduce Recall as a formal exercise (<i>ie. no extra handler movements with the aim to achieve a distance of 10 metre</i>). Refine stays; work on stability in position and less on distance; but gradually increase the distance <u>only</u> when the dog is stable.</p> <p>Discuss about now using a dumbbell in lieu of the fun article for the retrieve exercise and explain how to select a dumbbell suitable to the dog.</p> <p>Continue to practice dropping the dog from a distance.</p>
Week 4	<p>Increase the intensity of examinations in the Stand position and get handlers to progress to leaving their dog and standing in front. Explain about the use of a dumbbell and explain the proper use of the retrieve commands to ‘fetch’ and to ‘give’. Continue to progress with all the other exercises.</p> <p>Instructor to introduce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish using the Flip method as an alternative to the Continental method; and • Static exercises to sharpen up dropping the dog from either a Sit or Stand position.
Week 5	<p>Advance the standard of achievement in all exercises, including the retrieve and static exercises. This should include sharpening up the heelwork routines using loose leads; drops without excessive body movements; stands on the move; and automatic sits. Increase distances in both the Recall and Stay exercises and work on the handler leaving and returning to their dogs.</p>
Week 6	<p>Continue to progress the standard of achievement in all exercises to bring dogs and handlers up to the CCD competition level. Handlers will need to work on getting their dogs to fetch the retrieve object as well as the dog returning and sitting in front without dropping the article until given the command to ‘give’.</p>
Week 7	<p>Assess progress of each dog against the objectives and exercises as well as discussing Assessment Day procedures. Explain to handlers who want to participate in official ANKC Trials that they need to be members of the Dogs NSW and to have their dog registered with that Control. Conduct a mock assessment of each dog and hand out Assessment Day sheets and procedures that may be available. Assist those handlers who want to enter official ANKC Obedience Trials with their dog at the CCD level</p>
Week 8	Assessment Day.