



Class preparation

We want you and your dog to have the best chance of learning new skills at our club. Putting both you and your dog in the best frame of mind for learning is the way to achieve this. We have put together this information to help you and all other attendees to get the most out of your class.

The Grounds

Club training takes place at Moehau Park. This is adjacent to Moonshine and Trentham Memorial Park. Access on training days is via 7A Moehau Grove, off Holdsworth Ave. Please respect our neighbours and drive slowly through the Grove in order to get to the club grounds. Car parking is on the shingle car park, past the club house. Do not park in the Grove.

What to bring to class?

1. Bring a hungry dog to training.
2. Bring a dog with enough energy (not too little or too much) to training. Tired or overexcited dogs don't train well.
3. Ample high value food rewards (e.g. Possum, Chunky dog roll, or liver cake cut up into very small portions) in a belt bag OR in a solid plastic container with a lid (NOT in a plastic bag). Do NOT bring cooked chicken (it will fall all over the place) or any form of dried food (not motivational enough).
4. Do not hand out food for free - food has value, and can be used to train our dogs in many different ways which is why we say to "Ditch the Bowl". Don't just pour into a bowl and give hundreds of treats/ kibble for little or no work.
5. A mat which is large enough for you and your dog to lay comfortably on and for CGB class a cardboard box that is appropriate to the size of your dog.
6. Poo bags to dispose of your dog's waste properly.
7. Your dog's favourite toy.
8. A flat dog collar such as the gentle leader and a 1.5 – 2m long lead.
9. The Council's registration tag.
10. Your dog's vaccination record.
11. Torch - for toileting on the grounds so you can see where you are going when it gets dark and pick up dog poo.

Acceptable Dog Collars

- Flat Collars (Buckle or Snap Lock variety)
- Head Collars (e.g. Halti)
- No-Pull Dog Harness (e.g. Gentle Leader, do not use a car harness)
- Do not bring your dog on a choke chain, electric shock collar, or a prong collar

Acceptable Leads

- Nylon or leather lead 1.5 - 2m long. Please do not bring retractable leads or a chain lead

Feeding dogs before class

Dog training classes can be very distracting places for dogs so it is recommended that you do not feed your dog his/her normal meal dog prior to class. This way your dog will be hungry and more inclined to pay attention to you. If you feel it necessary to give your dog some food prior to classes do not give him/her more than HALF their usual meal.

How to dress for class

Please wear comfortable clothes to class. You may be required to get on the ground with your dog. Enclosed, non-slip footwear is essential for safety reasons. Dress warmly in cold weather. In warmer weather be sure to apply sunscreen and wear a hat to training to avoid sun damage.

Before class starts

Please arrive to class 10-15 minutes prior to the start of class to help with setup and get your dog acclimated. Please leave your dog in your car before class starts. Follow the instructions of your instructor and put the required training gear in the area where your class meets.

Next get your dog and put him/ her on a lead and under control for a brief walk around. You should not exhaust your dog but you may want to take him/her for a short walk or play a brief game of fetch. This will help to calm your dog down a little before class starts. Let your dog toilet away from the training areas and NOT on training gear. The dog potty area is generally outside the fenced in area and away from the clubhouse. Your instructors will point out these areas to you. Carry poo bags with you at all times and pick up all dog poo anytime and every time. Dogs are not allowed inside the clubhouse unless permission has been given by the instructor.

Please manage your dog so that he/she cannot get to other dogs who are also on a lead. Leave ample room between your dog and other dogs when entering via gates and doorways or near the clubrooms. Not all dogs like other dogs and when restrained by a lead this can lead to disastrous consequences. Allowing your dog to play with other dogs prior to class will also excite your dog and make him/her less likely to pay attention to you during class.

Be respectful of others

Please be considerate to other students, dogs and the instructor during, before, and after class. Please do not carry on your own conversation while the instructor is talking as this is distracting to everyone present.

Dogs should be on a lead at all times unless your instructor tells you otherwise. Do not let your dog run up to other dogs he does not know. Even if you think your dog is friendly, how much do you know about the other dog? Its thoughts? Its feelings and those of its owner?

Children in class

We are committed to child safety around dogs. Therefore, there are safety considerations that must be followed for the benefit of your child(ren) and the dogs in class:

1. It is impossible to supervise both a dog and a young child. If you are bringing along a young child (less than 10 years of age) please ensure there is another non-training adult (over 18 years old) to supervise the child.
2. Please ensure your child does not approach other dogs in class until requested to do so by the trainer. Some dogs are not used to being around children and can react adversely, causing stress to the child and the dog. For this reason, please ensure that your child does not wander around unattended during class.

Late arrivals

Please allow plenty of time for travelling to avoid traffic delays etc. Please ensure you arrive for each of your classes at least 10-15 minutes early and that you are ready to start on time. Late arrivals can disrupt dogs already in class once they have settled. It can also cause great stress to your dog to have the dogs already in class react to his/her arrival. Of course, we realise that sometimes being late cannot be avoided. If you are running late, please simply take the day/evening off and leave us a message on the Facebook group for the class.

Sick or injured dogs

The safety of your dog and other dogs in the class is important to us. If your dog is sick or injured, please do not bring him/her to class. Also ensure that your dog is treated for worms (especially heartworm), fleas, and ticks. Please do not bring bitches in season (in heat) to class.