



Metropolitan Dog Obedience Club Inc.

What's new?

Training Tips

September. –We have had a lot of new members starting in the last few months, so welcome to everyone.

Please take the time to Like our Facebook page as we put most of our updates for training on here. www.facebook.com/metrodogclub



Don't forget to visit our website at www.metrodogclub.com

We appreciate any feedback you would like to give.

For any bookings of classes please contact us at metrodogclub@live.com.au

All class placement offers must be confirmed by email.



Events

The Annual General Meeting is also quickly approaching on **Thursday, 27th October 2016 at 7:30pm at Marchant Park.**

If you would like to nominate to hold a position, please have a financial member nominate you, by completing a nomination form which can be found at the bottom of the home page at <http://www.metrodogclub.com> In order to hold a Club position you need to be a financial member of the club prior to the close of nominations.

Nominations close Monday 19th September 2016. Positions include: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Member, Training Co-Ordinator, Publicity Officer, Trial Secretary, Trial Manager, Equipment Officer, Catering Officer, and Trophy Officer. Where a nomination has been made prior to the meeting no further nomination may be made after the closing date. In the case of a position not having a nominee prior to the meeting – nominations will be called for from the floor.

At the Annual General Meeting members will also vote on the nominee selected by the Committee for Life Membership. Nominee details will be released prior to the Annual General Meeting for your consideration.



Dates to Remember

Obedience Trial Metro Dog Club – Saturday 12th November, 2015

All newsletters are now online at <http://www.metrodogclub.com/#!newletters/fzyey>

HANDS OFF DOGS IN PUBLIC

Teach children that dogs in public places should be admired from a distance

Just because a dog is in public does not mean he or she wants to be pet by strangers

Not all dogs are safe with children

Don't trust a stranger to determine if their dog is safe with children

Never rely on breed to predict safe behavior

If you love dogs, respect them from a distance

facebook.com/4PawsUniversity



If a dog owner in public gives permission to pet their dog, does that mean the dog is safe to pet.???

Here is a story:

Someone was doing some training practice with their dog at an outdoor shopping center. Suddenly, the sound of multiple tiny feet coming rapidly closer caught their attention. They looked up to see three children, running at full speed, straight toward them. Stopping about 6 feet away, the children said in unison, "Can we pat your dog?" Fortunately, the dog and owner have done a lot of training around children. The dog doesn't like children and doesn't want to interact with them, but the dogs default is to look at the owner when he gets nervous - this turns the sharp end toward the owner (incompatible with biting) and turns scary children into an opportunity to earn a reward!

Now, if the owner hadn't worked with the dog as much as they have, that approach could have had a very bad outcome. Imagine a snake or a spider charging toward you at full speed! At the very least, the dog could have reacted with a big aggressive display, barking and snarling to communicate, "Get back! Stay away!" Or, if he were a dog who had been punished for those displays, the dog could have just waited until they were close enough and then go in for a bite. Instead, the dog looked at the owner who rewarded him, then the dog showed off a few tricks and everyone was happy. No petting necessary.

Not all dogs are like this dog and the owner knows plenty who genuinely love children. Some dogs are friendly with adults, but don't like children. Some dogs love children only over or under a certain age. Some dogs are comfortable around familiar adults and children, but are fearful of strangers reaching out to touch them. The problem is that the average person can't tell the difference.

Last year, there was a story of a boy who was severely attacked by a man's dog at a hardware store. The boy, with his father, asked if he could pet the man's dog. The man, knowing that the dog had a history of aggression, gave his permission. This has happened to people who tried to socialize their puppies to strange dogs in public, as well.

Most dog owners are NOT a reliable judge of their own dog's behaviour. Some even operate under the assumption that a dog with a history of aggressive behaviour needs more encounters with people to "get used to" being touched by strangers.

We propose an idea:

Parents, teach your children that dogs in public are working or in school, and should be admired and respected from a distance. HANDS OFF Dogs In Public. Why put your child's safety (and possibly the dog's life) at risk based on the judgment of a complete stranger? And please, please, PLEASE, do not make assumptions that a dog is friendly based on its breed. You can NEVER determine a dog's safety based on breed.

If you don't think you or your children can resist the urge to touch dogs you don't know, learn how to read the subtle signals dogs give that predict friendly or aggressive behaviour. Ask the DOG'S permission by waiting for the dog to approach you. If they stay back, they are politely saying "no thank you," and would prefer you keep your hands to yourself.

These tips from friend and colleague, Madeline Gabriel, are great for kids: "How to be a Kid Dogs Feel Safe With"

<http://www.dogsandbabieslearning.com/.../how-to-be-a-kid-dog.../>

Be safe!



The Dangers of Paralysis Ticks

Paralysis ticks (*Ixodes holocyclus*) are among the most dangerous parasites that can affect your pet. It is estimated that over 75,000 dogs and cats are paralysed in Australia each year and unfortunately, many die. We sometimes refer to this paralysis as tick poisoning.

This document is designed to give you a better understanding of paralysis ticks and provide information on how to protect your pet against them.

Where Do We Find Paralysis Ticks?

(Image courtesy MSD)

The paralysis tick is found on the eastern seaboard, from North Queensland to Northern Victoria. It is not always restricted to the immediate coastline but can be found a long way inland in suitable habitats. In the northern parts of Australia, paralysis ticks may be found all year round, while in the southern areas, the season begins in spring and finishes in late autumn.

Paralysis ticks are found on animals that live in or near thick bushland. Native animals such as marsupials, birds and reptiles are the natural hosts (especially the bandicoot, which has strong immunity against the tick's toxin). Ticks can also become attached to dogs and cats.

How does the tick cause Paralysis?

The tick sucks blood from the host animal and secretes saliva that contains toxins which are absorbed and cause signs of paralysis and poisoning

How to Identify the Paralysis Tick?

Once on the animal, the tick finds a site of attachment where it becomes deeply and firmly embedded in the skin. When an adult tick feeds on blood, it increases in size dramatically.



Adult Tick - <3mm long



Engorged Adult Tick - 3>13mm long



Brown Dog Tick - 2 - 12mm long



When a tick attaches to the skin, the area becomes red and a raised thickening or "crater" may appear. A crater is evidence of a prior tick attachment.

d) Preventatives for paralysis tick control

The symptoms to watch for are:

If your dog or cat lives in or visits a high risk area for paralysis ticks, it is important to watch for symptoms of paralysis. Symptoms of poisoning may occur up to 5 days following the initial tick attachment.

- Loss of coordination in the hind legs
- Change in voice or bark
- Retching, coughing or vomiting
- Loss of appetite
- Progressive paralysis to include the forelegs
- Difficulty breathing or rapid breathing

Not all cases follow a simple progression and the animal can die suddenly in the very early stages of paralysis.

What To Do If Your Pet Shows Symptoms Of Tick Paralysis?

- Keep your pet calm, in a cool, dark place until you take it to your vet.
- Do not offer food or water, as this may lead to pneumonia and breathing difficulties if your pet can't swallow properly.
- Seek veterinary attention as soon as possible.
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At the vet:

Your veterinarian can give your pet an anti-toxin to help in recovery. The antitoxin (or serum) is expensive since it comes from dogs bred for their immunity to ticks. Other specialised procedures such as sedation and treatment for respiratory complications may be vital for your pet's complete recovery. Your pet will probably require hospitalisation for several days.

How to Protect Your Pet from Paralysis Ticks

a) Avoid the tick habitat

During the tick season, don't take your dog walking in bush areas known to harbour large numbers of ticks. Keep lawns and shrubs short and remove compost material from backyards.

b) Search pets every day for ticks

The most essential preventative measure is a thorough search of your pet's skin and coat every day, even if tick control products have been applied. This method gives you 2 or 3 chances of finding a tick before serious tick paralysis occurs, since the tick must generally be attached for at least 3 days before causing paralysis.

Be systematic with your search.

- Use the fingertips to feel through the animal's coat. Ticks or tick craters can be felt as lumps on the skin surface.
- Start at the animal's nose and slowly examine the face, ears, lips and eyes.
- Most ticks are found forward of the front legs, especially on the face, neck and ears, however be careful of skin folds around the lips and ears
- Search around the eyes and on top of the forehead carefully before checking the neck
- Remove collars and search through the skin folds in the neck. Continue down the shoulders to the forelegs; remember to check between the toes and under the armpits. Examine the chest, back, belly, around the tail and anus and the back legs.
- If you find a tick, remove it (see section c) and don't forget to search for more. Some dogs can be infested with many ticks at one time.

c) Remove ticks

As soon as a paralysis tick is found it should be removed as soon as possible.

Quickly remove the tick without squeezing the engorged abdomen. Your vet can do this or show you the best method. A special hook or tweezers may be useful.

In addition to daily searching, application of products specifically intended for tick control can greatly reduce the risk of tick paralysis for your pet.

There are several ways to minimise tick infestations. Firstly, there are specific **tick collars** that are available, such as the Kiltix Tick and Flea Collar for Dogs, Preventic 2 Month Tick Collar for dogs and Scalibor 3 Month Paralysis Tick Collar for Dogs. Not suitable for dogs that swim regularly.

- **Bravecto** (every 3 to 4 months) and **Nexgard** (monthly) chews are very convenient ways to protect your dog from fleas and ticks. These should be given to your dog all year.
- **Permethrin Insecticidal Spray and Rinse** is also effective for ticks on dogs. It should be applied as a rinse every seven days, spongeing carefully around the dog's face to ensure thorough coverage. Can be used as a spray daily for extra protection if exercising in bushy areas.
- **Advantix** for dogs is a spot-on product that both repels and kills paralysis ticks when applied every 2 weeks. It is also effective against brown dog ticks, bush ticks, fleas, lice, mosquitoes and sandflies. Because it is water-safe, it is suitable for dogs that occasionally swim. Do not use on cats and separate your dog and any cats on the day of application.
- For cats and dogs, **Frontline** is a good choice. Frontline Plus Top Spot is effective for ticks on dogs if used every two weeks (not every month). Do not wash your dog 48 hours before or after application.
- **Frontline Spray or Ilium Frontera Spray** is effective for ticks on dogs and cats if used every three weeks at the rate of six millilitres per kilogram of weight. If you find a tick on your pet, you can spray the product directly onto the tick to kill it but it may take some time to die so removal of the tick is preferable.
- **Fido's Fre-Itch Rinse** is also effective for ticks and fleas if the dog or cat is rinsed in it every three days. Fido's is useful when your pet has been in a tick area and you want to bathe it to kill any hitchhiking ticks.

<http://www.macarthurvet.com.au/PetCare/GeneralPetCare/TickParalysis/tabid/24481/Default.aspx#.V996RvE96hc>