

Where do I start?

New membership each month is a 'Sign-Up' without your dog in which information is given about the club, your registration is submitted and you are to pay your annual membership fee. You can then join First class the following week. Promotion through the classes is then based on instructor assessment of proficiency.

Some breeds learn some exercises more quickly than others and young dogs will have a shorter concentration span. Patience and consistency combined with practice will give you the results.

Homework! 5—10 minutes of productive training a day will ensure your dog's progress through the exercises. Training away from your home yard at times is not only an outing for your dog but further tests your dog's stability in an unfamiliar place. Do remember though that it is against council by-laws to have a dog off its lead in a public place.

Responsibilities. The duty and obligations of owning a dog is now greater than ever before. It is important that your dog is registered with the local council and adequately fenced and vaccinated for its own protection.

Club instructors are not vets and professional advice on your dogs health issues should always be sought. Instructors can however give you advice on training and behavioural questions.

Wet weather. Check the Facebook page for last minute training status and at 4pm Magpies Phone Hot Line - **49656188** - will be updated with information relating to dog training.



Jumpers And Agility



Obedience Stays



Whether obedience training for the basics around the home, a fitness thing for you and your dog or with a view to competition, it is recommended to aim for the advanced class for a solid basis in control and stability.

Once you have reached an appropriate level of control you have a number of exciting directions you can follow. In the obedience discipline the open, and utility exercises expand into scent work, jumping and retrieving. Agility prep and Rally is commenced in training classes however Jumpers/Agility and advanced Obedience work takes place on a separate evening. Tracker dog (Tracking) is also available on request.

This club is an affiliate of Dogs Queensland and conducts official competition in Obedience, Rally, Jumpers & Agility and Track and Search.

Welcome to The M agpies M ackay A nd D istrict O bedience C lub



By coming to MMADOC you have made the first step toward responsible dog ownership.

Magpies Mackay & District Obedience Club is an affiliate of the Dogs Queensland and is bound by its rules and Code of Conduct.

www.mackaydogobedience.com



or Like us on Facebook



Introduction Information

Welcome to the Magpies Mackay & District Obedience Club and congratulations on your decision to train your dog.

We are a non-profit organization. All club officers and instructors are volunteers who do what they do simply because they love dogs.

Your membership with the club includes a social membership at Magpies Sporting Complex. Join our Facebook page to keep up-to-date with what is happening in the club.

Our club uses traditional training methods combined with positive reinforcement and reward incentive which has proven successful over many years. Club instructors have all trained dogs to at least the advanced class and many of them to titles in obedience, rally, agility and tracking.

Individual problems can be discussed with your instructor or one of our senior instructors before or after classes. Your instructor may not have all of the answers, but collectively, the instructor team has many of the answers.

It is our wish for you to be a happy and proud dog owner made possible with obedience training. Because your dog is a pack animal, we ask you to train kindly but firmly and consistently as you assume the role of 'pack leader' to your dog.

Your instructor will show you how to train your dog. It is not their role to teach your dog, as you would not then have the skills to handle or control your pet away from your instructor.

Each training step has to be fully reinforced, one step at a time. So please accept there are no quick fixes in dog training only the strength of your commitment will decide whatever success you achieve.

It is important to remember also that first, your dog learns to learn from you, and the respect and rapport develops as your training expertise improves. Then you can truly say that you have 'mastered' your dog! This is when dog training gets exciting because you can then teach your dog almost anything.


Happy training to you and your dog.


MMADOC





Points to remember ...


As there is much to remember from your first night, these memory joggers may be of some help in the ensuing weeks.


 **Parking** behind the club house and within the Magpies Sporting Club car park.


 **Sign On** at the canteen well before the start each week, pay your training fee and receive your disc which will be collected by your class instructor. Remember to secure your dog away from the canteen area beforehand.


 **Two Metre Policy** Please ensure that your own dog is kept at least one metre away from all other dogs on the training field before, during and after classes. This is club policy and is for the safety of all concerned. In the more advanced classes this distance may at times be closer under instructor supervision.

 **Footwear** Closed in shoes are important for your safety and must always be worn at training.


 **Food** Delay your dog's evening meal until you return home from training nights. Your dog will be more alert without a full stomach.

 **Rewards** Your dog's favourite treats or toy should be brought as an extra reward for great work or a sneaky incentive for a challenge!

 **Poo Bags** The name says it all. If your dog 'goes', before, during or after classes, please bag and dispose of it in the bin near the dog house.

 **Bitches in Season.** Please do not bring bitches in season to training classes. Exclusion is for the full three weeks.

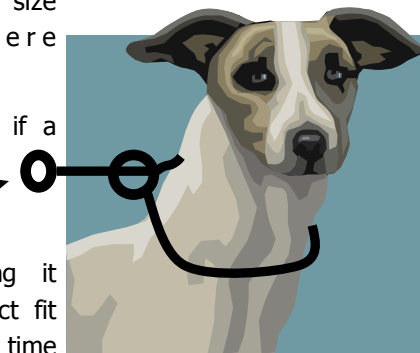


 **Attitude.** Your attitude affects your dog's behaviour. If you are positive towards obedience training, you can expect a positive result from your dog. You and your dog are a team, but you are the team leader—the one in charge. Be Quietly assertive.

Collars and leads. There are a number of collars and leads suitable for training a dog or puppy. Flat collars, half checks or check chains are the most common collars. Leads should be foremost comfortable and suitable to the size and weight of dog at the time of use. Cotton webbing or leather leads are recommended and should be a minimum of 750mm long. Whilst haltis and harnesses are widely used for untrained dogs and outside of training, these devices have limited use for the purpose of obedience training however there may be exceptions. If unsure, please discuss with your instructor.

The Club has various cotton webbing leads, half checks and full check chains on sale. This allows instructors to size collars where necessary.

Please note that if a check chain is used for training it must be a correct fit for the dog at the time of use and be put onto the dog's neck the right way up.



How to fit a check chain Start with your dog at your left side. Drop the chain through one of the circular ends.

Attach the lead to the other circular end. Correctly fitted on the dog, the check chain should run from the ring the lead is attached to, over the top and down the left side of the dogs neck, under chin to the other ring which will slide easily along.