# March 2015



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## AMCV Christmas Fun Day-Mt Macedon



#### Alaskan Malamute Club Victoria, Inc.

Registered No. A0016353X

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PATRON: Mrs Olive Singer

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS: Mrs Dulcie Sullivan, Mrs Sandy Koch & Mr Ian Luke

Postal Address: PO Box 41, Hurstbridge VIC 3099

General Enquiries: Ralph & Sandy Koch 9714 8540 Email: amcvinc@gmail.com

#### 2014/2015 Committee

President: Sandy Koch (03) 9714 8540

Vice President (Breed Welfare): Shelley Turner 5978 6001

Vice President (Activities): Colin McPhan 0438 347 513

Secretary Sharen McPhan 0410 192 210

**Treasurer**: Ralph Koch (03) 9714 8540

Show Secretary: Dale Green 0418 350 641

Puppy Registrar/Referral: Michele Nimmo 0422 338 779

Publicity/Education: Dayna Manser 0433 061 655

**Fundraising:** Matthew Hutton 0438 550 531

Malamute Health: Shelley Turner 5978 6001

Newsletter Editor: E'vette Levett 0427 301 043

**Obedience:** Kellie-Ann Bryson 0422 286 486

**Sledding:** Ian Luke 0417 103 615

Weight pull: Melanie Gray 0404 104 619

Backpacking: Stuart Vanderpol 0413 118 305

# Alaskan Malamute Club, Victoria Inc.

#### Thursday, 26 March 2015

to commence at 7.30 pm Bulla Exhibition Centre, 5 Uniting Lane, Bulla - Meeting Room 3 Melways Map Reference 177 G 8

#### AGENDA

- 1. Apologies
- 2. Minutes of previous General Meeting (as published in the Autumn 2014 Malamute Mail)
- 3. Correspondence
- 4. Treasurer's Report
- 5. Committee Reports
- 6. General Business
- 7. Any other business
- 8. Show Point Score Award Presentations

#### SCALE OF CHARGES

#### Membership:

\$10.00
\$30.00
\$36.00
\$35.00
\$48.00
\$25.00

#### Other:

"A" Suffix Application	\$5.00
Ch'd Certification	\$10.00
Working Dog Title Application	\$30.00

#### Non Members:

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All advertising for non-members are double the standard rates.

Welcome New Members!

Francis Muscat Welcome back Paul Baggio

#### Malamute Mail Advertising:

Members' rates:				
Inside front cover – colour	\$50.00			
Full page	\$30.00			
Full Page - copy ready	\$20.00			
Half Page	\$20.00			
Half Page - copy ready	\$15.00			
Quarter page	\$10.00			
Eighth Page: per issue	\$5.00			
or per year (4 issues)	\$15.00			
Stud Dog Register (1 year)	\$50.00			
Breeders Directory (1 Year)	\$25.00			
Puppy Register	\$25.00			
Vale Notice (quarter page) Free.				
Normal rates apply for full and ½ pages.				

All Advertisers who pay for a year's advertising will also have their ad placed onto the AMCV website at no extra cost.

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## JOIN US ON **facebook**.





## **President's Message**

Happy New Year and welcome to the first issue of the Malamute Mail for 2015, which comes to you after many hours of slaving over a hot computer by our new Newsletter Editor, E'vette Levett.

We hope everyone has had a good break over the Christmas period and that you are all looking forward to getting out with your dogs when the weather cools down, and joining in some of the many activities we have on offer over the coming year.

It was good to see so many members, non-members and new faces at our Christmas Fun Day on 30 November. The weather was perfect and there were plenty of fun games, fundraising activities, prizes and Malamutes looking embarrassed in their fancy dress costumes, so have a look at the photos elsewhere in this issue. Thanks to E'vette, Mel, Alex, Ian, master chefs Stuart & Col, Shaz and everyone who helped out for the effort they put into making this a very enjoyable and fun day, and to all those who joined in the activities and supported the fundraising. It was also good to see quite a few adopted dogs in attendance.

Our activities calendar is on the website and Facebook, and once again we have a large number and variety of activities for everyone to come along to. It doesn't matter if your dog has never done an activity before, bring your dog(s) along and there will be plenty of people there to help and lend you equipment to get you started. We also welcome non-members and other breeds of dog, so please encourage your friends and puppy buyers to join in.

Our Championship Show this year reverts back to the September date and will be held in conjunction with our Open Show on the same day to hopefully get an increase in open show exhibits. Our judge for this year's Championship Show is US breed specialist, Mrs Patricia Putman.

The ANKC has introduced "Sledding Titles" which are very similar (if not the same) as the AMCV working dog titles. Ian Luke has been nominated as the Victorian Representative on the ANKC National Sledding Committee, a role which he has experience in having been involved in the ANKC's working party, and for which he is more than well qualified. The AMCV has also provided Dogs Victoria with a list of members who are experienced and have titled dogs in the areas of sledding, backpacking &/or weight pulling to act as officials at qualifying events for the ANKC titles. The Sled Sports rules can be downloaded from the ANKC website "Rules" page at www.ankc.org.au/Rules.aspx, but this stage we do not have any further information about the titles or qualifying events.

Our attention has been drawn to a pet store which advertises shaving of dogs, which disturbingly pictures a shaved Husky, as part of the grooming options on offer. An article on the effects and outcomes of shaving or close-clipping a Malamute was published in the last issue of the Malamute Mail, and we hope our members are well aware that shaving a Malamute (or Husky) is of no benefit in coping with heat, and in fact has completely the opposite effect as well as a number of other negative consequences. If you see similar advertising or hear of someone asking about shaving their Malamute, please take the time to explain why shaving a double coated artic breed is not at all good for their dog, unless of course it is required for medical reasons.

Any questions or suggestions? Please feel free to contact myself or the relevant coordinator, or drop us a line to amcvinc@gmail.com.

We hope to see many of you at our events this year and wish you and your dogs a safe, healthy and good year in 2015.

Sandy

#### Working Dog Titles

Please note that a \$30.00 application fee is payable upon submission of Working Dog Title applications. Applications must be submitted one month prior to the Annual General Meeting in order for awards to be presented at the AGM. Application forms for AMCV Working Dog Titles can be obtained from the Secretary or can be downloaded from the AMCV website Documents & Forms page at www.amcv.org.au.

#### **New Champions**

Members whose Alaskan Malamutes have gained an Obedience Title, Australian Champion Title, Grand Champion Title or have become a 500 point Champion are eligible for a medallion from the Alaskan Malamute Club, Victoria Inc. in recognition of their Malamutes achievement.

To receive a medallion, members must send a copy of the relevant certificates to the Show Secretary, Dale Green, PO Box 386, Kilmore, Victoria, 3764 or email to amcv@bigpond.com.au.

The medallions will be presented at the next Annual General Meeting. Notifications must be received prior to the 31st of August to enable the medallion to be engraved. If you need further details please contact the Show Secretary on 5784 1849.

#### **2015 Show Point Score Competition**

To enter in the 2015 Show Point Score Competition, please send a marked and signed catalogue (Malamute results & cover pages only) to the Show Secretary, Dale Green at PO Box 386, Kilmore VIC 3764, or hand your catalogue to Nicole or Dale Green.

Rainbow Bridge

CH Kemulvak Anuri Tedra WTD ROA Snowsteeds Bring n the Harvest Snowsteeds Double Jeopardy



#### 3 bags of ice= \$12 1 kiddie pool= \$10 happy dog= priceless

#### This is the official organ of The Alaskan Malamute Club, Victoria Inc. (Incorporations Registration No. A0016353X). Subscription is by membership only. The Editor and Publisher reserve the right to edit all copy including advertisements. The club and the committee assume no responsibility for false claims or articles submitted by the public or individual members or persons. Any views submitted may not necessarily be those of the club or committee

## **MOVING?**

Change of address notifications must be made in writing to the Secretary at PO Box 41, Hurstbridge VIC 3099 or by email to amcv@bigpond.com.au

## WHERE'S WOOFA?

See if you can find naughty Woofa wo is hiding somewhere in this newsletter...



#### Alaskan Malamute Club, Victoria Inc.

# **2015 Activities Calendar**

Please note that this calendar is subject to amendment at the discretion of the AMCV Committee and that scheduling of some events may be altered due to temperature restrictions. Please contact the AMCV or check the website to confirm event schedule & venues

Month	Day	Date	Activity	Event	Venue
FEBRUARY	Wednesday	25	Meeting	Committee	Bulla
MARCH	Sunday	15	Activities	Activities Intro Day	Mt Macedon
	Sunday	22	Backpacking	Picnic Fun walk	Yarra Bend Park
	Thursday	26	Meeting	General & Show Point score presentation	Bulla
	Sunday	29	Weight Pull	Weight Pull Training Day	KCC Park
APRIL	Saturday	18	Backpacking	1-day hike	Mt Macedon
	Sunday	19	Weight Pull*	Weight Pull Competition	KCC Park
	Sat PM / Sun AM	25/26	Sledding	Sledding Training Days	You Yangs
MAY	Sunday	3	Weight Pull*	Weight Pull Competition	KCC Park
	Saturday	9	Backpacking	Day Hike 2	Blackwood
	Saturday	16	Sledding*	Sled Dog Race - Event 1	You Yangs
	Sunday	17	Sledding*	Sled Dog Race - Event 2	You Yangs
	Sunday	24	Weight Pull	Weight Pull Competition (ASTCV)	Bulla
	Saturday	30	Sledding*	Sled Dog Race - Event 3	You Yangs
	Sunday	31	Sledding*	Sled Dog Race -Event 4	You Yangs
JUNE	Sat - Mon	6-8	Sledding	Northern Victorian Sled Dog Classic	Kialla West
	Sunday	7	Weight Pull	Weight Pull Competition (ASTCV)	Bulla
	Sat / Sun	27/28	Sledding	Gold Seekers Sled Dog Race	Kooyoora
	Sunday	28	Weight Pull*	Weight Pull Competition (ASTCV)	Bulla
JULY	Saturday	4	Sledding*	NVSDC (AMCV Point Score event 5)	Kingower
	Sunday	5	Sledding*	NVSDC (AMCV Point Score event 6)	Kingower
	Sat / Sun	18/19	Sledding*	State Cup Sled dog race – Event 7	You Yangs
	Sat / Sun	25/26	Sledding	Baw Baw Dash Snow Race	Mt Baw Baw
	Sunday	26	Weight Pull	Weight Pull Competition (ASTCV)	KCC Park
	Friday	31	Sledding	Falls Snow Race – Heat 1	Falls Creek
AUGUST	Saturday	1	Sledding	Falls Snow Race – Heat 2	Falls Creek
	Sat / Sun	8/9	Sledding	A5K Snow Race	Dinner Plain
	Sunday	23	Weight Pull*	Weight Pull Competition (ASTCV)	Bulla
	Sat / Sun	29/30	Sledding	Long distance & social weekend	You Yangs
SEPTEMBER	Saturday	5	Backpacking	Day Hike 3	You Yangs
	Sunday	13	Weight Pull*	Weight Pull Event (Tuggy Shield)	KCC Park
	Friday	25	Show	Melbourne Royal Malamute judging	Showgrounds
	Sunday	27	Show	Championship & Open Show	KCC Park
OCTOBER	Saturday	3	Backpacking	Day Hike 4	ТВА
	Thursday	8	Meeting	Annual General / Committee	Bulla
	Sunday	11	Weight Pull*	Weight Pull Competition	KCC Park
	Sunday	18	Backpacking	Picnic Fun walk	ТВА
	Sunday	25	Sledding	Sledding training day	You Yangs
NOVEMBER	Sat -Mon	31 Oct - 2 Nov	Backpacking	3-day Hike (Hikers & dogs must qualify and must pre-register)	ТВА
	Wednesday	11	Meeting	Committee	Bulla
	Sunday	29	Christmas Fun Day	Includes BBQ, Funny classes & Fun Agility Comp	Mt Macedon

Events not conducted by the AMCV are in italics

\* AMCV Weight Pull or Sledding Point Score Event

For further details please go to the AMCV Website closer to the event date, or check the next issue of the Malamute Mail.Email: amcvinc@gmail.comWebsite: www.amcv.org.auGeneral Enquiries: Phone (03) 9714 8540

**EXTREME WEATHER POLICY & RESTRICTIONS:** Please note that temperature restrictions apply to some activities. In addition, events may be cancelled if forecast temperature on day of event is equal to or greater than 30°C, or in extreme weather conditions unless otherwise indicated. Please phone or email to confirm.

# **Information & Activities Day**



Backpacking



Showing



Weight Pulling



Sledding



Obedience, Agility & Puppy Socialising

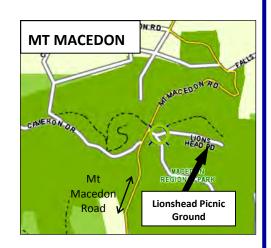
### Sunday, 15 March

#### Mt Macedon – Days Picnic Ground, Lionshead Rd

Melways Map Reference 609 G10

You do not need your own equipment – we will have equipment that you can borrow to try the activities. The Dog Shop will be there with harnesses, dog-lines, collars, backpacks and other working-dog and Malamute related items for sale.

### 11 am – 2 pm



#### PLEASE NOTE:

In extreme weather conditions or if forecast temperature on day of activities

is equal to or greater than 30 degrees, please contact Colin, Ian or Sandy (details below) to confirm if event will be held.

The Malamute is a working breed that loves to get involved in all these activities.

The Activities Day is an ideal opportunity for those who would like to find out more about their Malamute and what's involved in showing, obedience training or working activities, and how to get started.

#### **Further Information:**

Phone Colin on 0438 347 513, lan on 0417 103 615 or Sandy on 9714 8540



#### OBEDIENCE & SHOW PRACTICE & PUPPY SOCIALISING

If you would like some show or obedience practice or to socialise your puppy, the activities day is an ideal opportunity. Please ask about obedience & showing when you register at the event.

## All Welcome - do your dogs a favour and come along!

Non-members, puppies and other breeds of dog are also very welcome

# Picnic Fun Walk

#### Sunday, 22 March – 10.30 am

#### Yarra Bend Park, Fairfield

Meeting point: Fairlea Road carpark (off Yarra Bend Rd)

#### Who Can Join In?

Anyone and their dog(s) are welcome to come along. Please note that young puppies should only walk a short distance and must have had their  $3^{rd}$  (16 week) vaccination at least a week prior to the event.

All breeds and non-members welcome – it will help us if you could let us know if you are thinking of coming along.

*Cost:* Gold coin donation

#### What to bring:

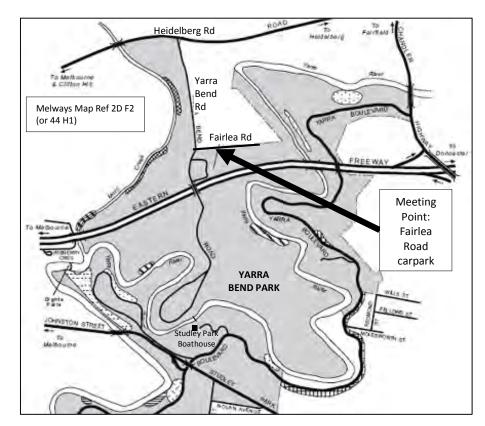
Bring your lunch (or can be purchased from the Boathouse). Your dog will require a sturdy lead & collar, water & water bowl for your dog and bags to clean up after your dog.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Dogs are to be kept **on lead or suitably tethered at all times** and remain the responsibility of their owner/handler.

#### Walk Etiquette:

Please remember that not everyone likes big dogs and some people may be scared of them.

- Dogs on the walk must be kept on lead at all times.
- Keep to the left on the paths, give way to other users and watch out for bikes.
- You must clean up after your dog.
- Be courteous and respectful of other people and their dogs, and keep your dog at a suitable distance.





#### Melways Map Reference 2D F2 (or 44 H1)

#### Weather & Temperature:

The event may be cancelled if the forecast temperature on the day is 30oC or over or in the case of extreme weather conditions – if in doubt please contact the Backpacking coordinator or check the website to confirm.

#### **Registration & Further information:**

Contact the Backpacking Coordinator, Stuart Vanderpol on 0413 118 305 or Sandy Koch on 9714 8540 or send an email to <u>amcvinc@gmail.com</u>

#### Facilities at Yarra Bend Park:

Toilets and picnic tables. Food and drink can be purchased from the Studley Park Boathouse.

#### Please pre-register

Please contact Stuart or email amcvinc@gmail.com if you are planning to come to the fun walk to give us an idea of numbers, and notify Stuart if you wish to hire a backpack (hire fee \$5.00).

#### Walk Distance:

We will be walking approximately 3 km along the Yarra River to the Studley Park Boathouse. You can return to the carpark the same way or take a 1 km shortcut along the road.

This is a fairly easy walk so everyone and their dogs and puppies over 6 months old are welcome.

#### We welcome non-members and other breeds



# Weight-Pull Training Day

Weight Pull information, demos, training & practice

## When: Sunday, 29 March, commencing at 10.00 amWhere: KCC Park, Westernport Highway, Skye (near Cranbourne) Melways Map Reference 128 H 12

**Who can come?** The AMCV Weight Pull Training Day is an ideal opportunity for those who are interested in having a go at weight pulling with their dog to find out what it's all about and give it a try.

We welcome all breeds of dog, those who've never tried weight-pulling before and those who just want to give their dogs some practice.

**Equipment:** You don't need your own equipment, but if you have it please bring it. The club will have harnesses in a range of sizes for participants to borrow for the day as well as other Malamute equipment for sale and provision for dogs to be measured and harnesses to be ordered.

#### **Further Information:**

Ph: Mel Gray 0404 104 619 or Colin & Sharen McPhan 0410 192 210 Email: amcvinc@gmail.com



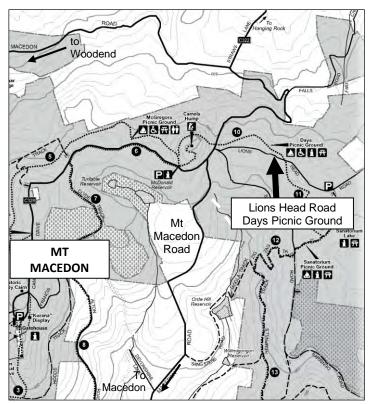
All breeds, newcomers, non-members, and those who just want some weight-pull practice are all welcome.



## Bring your dog along and try Weight Pulling!



# BACKPACKING EVENT Day Hike (~16 km)



What to bring: Sturdy lead & collar, canine backpack, weight for the backpack (pre-weighed), water & water bowl for your dog, basic first aid items, rubbish bags, sensible footwear, warm & waterproof clothing (the weather can be unpredictable), human backpack, food & drink, sunscreen, hat, insect repellent, etc. Please load and weigh your dog's backpack to roughly the correct weight at home, this will save time on the morning of the walk.

Cost:	\$3.00 per member or \$5.00 per Family			
Backpack Hire:	\$5.00 per day – please contact the Backpacking Co-ordinator to book a club backpack			
Facilities at Days picnic ground: Toilets, Picnic tables				
Further information:	Phone Stuart (Backpacking Coordinator) on 0413 118 305 or Sandy on 9714 8540, or send an email to amcvinc@gmail.com			

#### SATURDAY, 18 APRIL MT MACEDON

Days Picnic Ground, Lions Head Road

#### Please arrive by 8.00 am to register

Hike starting at 8.30 am sharp – do not arrive late!

Hike Distance:	Approximately 16 km (allow 5-7 hours)
Terrain:	Generally undulating with some steeper sections
you	se notify the Backpacking Coordinator if are interested in coming in case the nt needs to be cancelled or relocated.

**How to get there:** From Melbourne: follow the Calder Highway past Gisborne. Take the Macedon/Mt Macedon turnoff and turn right at the T-intersection, heading under the freeway. Continue straight ahead at the roundabout and stay on the Mount Macedon Road, go through Mt Macedon. Turn right towards Sanatorium Lake/Barringo Road taking the left fork into Lions Head Road (near the Camels Hump). Hike registration will be on your left in the picnic ground.

#### Who can participate:

#### ALL DOGS OVER 12 MONTHS OLD WELCOME.

Please note that dogs must be 18 months old to carry weight to the Working Pack Dog title standard.

**New members & non-members are welcome to come along**. You don't have to walk the entire distance, and your dog does not have to have a backpack or carry the entire weight – it's up to you, and your dog.

**NOTE:** A first aid kit will be on hand, but walkers <u>must carry</u> their own basic first aid items. **Dogs are to be kept on lead at all times** and remain the responsibility of their owner/handler.

#### **Extreme Weather Policy**

Please note that a temperature restriction applies to this activity. In addition, events may be cancelled in extreme weather conditions. If unsure, please phone or email to confirm.

#### NOTE: THE EVENT MAY BE CANCELLED IF THE FORECAST TEMPERATURE IS 25°C OR OVER.

If in doubt please contact the Backpacking Co-ordinator, Stuart Vanderpol, the day before the hike

**AMCV Working Pack Dog Title**<sup>\*</sup> This event will be a qualifying event for the AMCV<sup>\*</sup> Working Pack Dog title and Associate Working Dog Certificate for dogs over 18 months of age only. The rules for the Working Pack Dog title are available from the Backpacking Co-ordinator or website www.amcv.org.au.

You will require a sturdy backpack which is sufficiently large to hold the required weights. The weight should be made up of something that is dense yet can mold to the shape of your dog: bags of damp sand and/or a soft pack of water are suitable.

Your dog must carry 30% of its body weight for a minimum of 16 km for a walk to count towards the title - a dog weighing 40 kg would therefore have to carry 12 kg of weight, which is the equivalent of 12 litres of water. This is too much weight for an untrained and/or unfit dog to be expected to carry. Obviously you will need to train your dog, gradually adding more weight, before you can consider tackling the full load, and your dog will need to be fit and in excellent physical condition.

The only decrease in the weight carried by the dog on a backpacking trip may be by NORMAL consumption of food or water by your dog. What your dog doesn't drink must get poured back into the container he is carrying, and the final pack weight must be no less than 75% of the initial pack weight.

Please watch your dog carefully for signs of stress, and please remove the weight from his pack and shorten your walk if you feel that he is not coping well. You know your dog best, and it is up to you to recognise and act appropriately if he is struggling. \*Please note: This event is <u>not</u> a qualifying event for the ANKC Working Pack Dog title.

# **Sledding Training Weekend**

#### Want to learn more about ...



Sledding



Backpacking



Weight Pulling

#### **Further Information:**

Phone Ian on 0417 103 615 Sharen or Colin on 0410 192 210 or email <u>amcvinc@gmail.com</u>

**To pre-register for Saturday:** Phone Ian on 0417 103 615

Non-members, spectators, puppies and other breeds of dog are also very welcome

### Saturday\* & Sunday, 25 & 26 April

Saturday from 12 pm: Team training, passing training\* \*Please pre-register with lan if you are coming on the Saturday or camping overnight

Sunday, 9 am to 12 pm: Introduction, training & trial race

### You Yangs Western Plantation (near Little River)

Enter from Sandy Creek Road Melways – Page 11 – Ref C12

The Sledding Training days are ideal for newcomers who want to try out the activities or for those who want to come along and do some training. There will be experienced people to help with training sessions and camping is available on site (away from the road). Saturday afternoon is mainly for team practice and pass training and for those who just want to take their team for a training run.

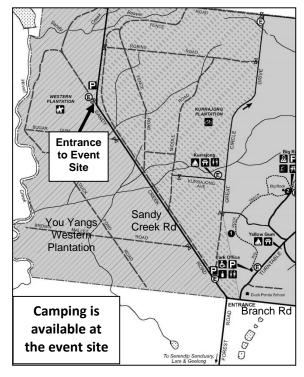
Sunday will be focussing on introducing newcomers to sled dog racing, equipment required, safety & dog care, basic rules, trail etiquette etc., and will include sledding practice and a short, trial sled dog event (temperature permitting). If there is something you want to try or want specific help with, or if you are interested in weight pulling or backpacking, please ask.

Equipment will be available to borrow and the dog shop will be attending on Sunday for those who wish to purchase equipment or get their dog measured up for a sledding harness. If you are interested in purchasing a particular item, please email the AMCV prior to the event so we can have what you want there for you.

#### Directions:

From Melbourne – Take the Princes Highway towards Geelong. Take the Little River turn-off and follow signs to Little River. Cross the railway line in Little River then turn left into You Yangs Rd, then left into Farrars Rd and right into Branch Rd - proceed past the main park entrance. At the end of Branch Road, turn right into Sandy Creek Rd, after approx. 2 km at the bend in the road, turn left into the Western Plantation car park.

What to bring: Waterbowl, water and a secure means of tethering your dog. Bring your own equipment if you have it, if not there will be some equipment available for you to borrow.



PLEASE NOTE: In extreme weather conditions, days of total fire ban or if the local forecast temperature on day of activities is equal to or greater than 30 degrees, event may be cancelled. Please contact the AMCV by email to amcvinc@gmail.com or phone 03 9714 8540, 0410 192 210 or 0417 103 615 to confirm.

# All breeds & non-members welcome.

Do your dog a favour and come along!

# 2015 Weight Pull Events

#### ENTRIES TAKEN ON THE DAY - NO PRE-ENTRY REQUIRED - SPECTATORS & ALL BREEDS WELCOME

Venues: KCC Park - Westernport Highway (Dandenong-Hastings Road),Skye - Melways Map Reference 128 H 12 (Approx. 1.5 km south of Thompsons Road roundabout)

Bulla Exhibition Centre (Calabria Club) – 5 Uniting Lane, Bulla - Melways Map Reference 177 F 8

#### Weightpull Event Format & Schedule:

Events will be conducted as per AMCV Weight-Pulling rules – copies of the rules are available on the AMCV website at www.amcv.org.au or from the Weight-pull Co-ordinator.

Competitors are asked to arrive in plenty of time to register, weigh-in and organise equipment if necessary. There are weight pull harnesses available in a range of sizes that competitors can hire for the event (fees below). \*Note earlier start time for the April & October events & ASTCV events

No.	Event Details	Date	Venue	Registration / Weigh-in	Start time
	AMCV Training Day	29 March	KCC Park	10.00 am	10.15 am
1	AMCV	19 April*	KCC Park	9.15 – 9.45 am	10.00 am
2	AMCV	3 May	KCC Park	9.45 – 10.15 am	10.30 am
3	ASTCV	28 June*	Bulla	7.30 am	
4	ASTCV	23 August*	Bulla	7.30 am	
5	AMCV – Tuggy Shield	13 September	KCC Park	9.45 – 10.15 am	10.30 am
6	AMCV	11 October*	KCC Park	9.15 – 9.45 am	10.00 am

\* NOTE – Events may be cancelled if forecast temperature on day of competition is over 25°C or in extreme weather conditions. Please contact the relevant Weight Pull Coordinator to

confirm

The ASTCV events on 28 June and 23 August are included in the AMCV Annual Weight Pull Competition. Event 6 on 11 October 2015 is included in the 2016 annual competition

Weight Classes\*:

Up to 36 kg class

36 – 45 kg class

46 - 55 kg class

Unlimited class

\* extra weight classes are

NB: Dog's weight is rounded down to nearest whole kilogram

to determine weight class.

offered at ASTCV events.

**Registration, Weigh-in and Practice:** Competitors are asked to arrive in plenty of time to register, weigh-in and hire equipment if necessary. Competitors are welcome to practise in the weight-pull chute prior to commencement of the event. **LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**.

**Eligibility:** Any dog over 18 months of age (but not bitches in season) may compete in an AMCV weight-pull <u>event</u>, however please note that only purebred, ANKC-registered Alaskan Malamutes are eligible to compete for major prizes and annual awards, and the competing Malamute's registered name and registration number <u>must</u> be included on the entry form. Trophies or ribbons awarded to all class winners and placings (all breeds).

#### **Entry Fees:**

<u>AMCV / ASTCV Members</u>: First entry \$8.00, subsequent entries \$6.00. <u>Non-members</u>:

First entry \$12.00, subsequent entries \$10.00

Harness Hire Fees: A fee of \$5.00 per harness, plus \$15.00 bond may be charged (bond is refundable upon return of harness)

#### **ALL BREEDS WELCOME**

#### **Further Information:**

AMCV Events: Ph: Mel Gray 0404 104 619 Email: amcvinc@gmail.com ASTCV Events: Ph: Lincoln Hancock 0409 135 800 Email amstaff@live.com.au

#### Please note:

#### CHANGE TO WEIGHT PULL EVENT FORMAT

The AMCV is trialling a new format for the weight pull events in which the handler / owner can opt to nominate a start weight which is based on the dog's weight as follows:

<36 kg class: maximum start weight 244 kg</li>
36-45 kg class: maximum start weight 286 kg
45-55 kg class: maximum start weight 328 kg
Open Class: maximum start weight 328 kg

The maximum start weights are based on the rules of the IWPA (International Weight Pull Association).

Note that these weights are <u>maximum</u> starting weights. Each dog may enter any round at or below the maximum weight in that class. If poor pulling conditions exist, the Chief Judge may adjust the starting weights lower to match the conditions.

#### **Annual Weightpull Competition**

Classes: < 36kg, 36kg – 45kg, 45kg - 55kg, Unlimited <u>Eligibility</u> For a dog to be eligible for the Annual Weightpull Competition awards, the following applies:

- the owner/handler of the dog must be a current financial member at the time of the event for that result to be eligible, and must be a member at the conclusion of the annual competition.
- the dog must be a purebred ANKC registered Alaskan Malamute and the dog's registered name and registration number must be included on the entry form.

In addition, to constitute an event in a class there must be a minimum of two (2) eligible competitors in that class. If there are less than two (2) eligible competitors in a weight category, no class award will be given, however that dog may still be eligible for the Top Weightpull Dog of the Year award.

<u>Class Awards</u>: Class awards will be determined on the basis of a dog's highest three (3)\* weights pulled in that weight class out of the maximum five (5) eligible events\*. A dog that has competed in less than three (3) events is <u>not</u> excluded from eligibility for class awards. Annual awards will be provided for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in each eligible weight class. In the event of a tie, a joint award will be provided.

<u>Top Weightpull Dog of the Year Award</u>: The Top Weightpull Dog of the Year title will be awarded to that dog that has achieved the highest combined weight/weight ratio calculated from that dog's best three (3) results\* achieved in any of the weight classes from the five (5) eligible events\*.

Results will be calculated to 2 (two) decimal places.

In the event of a tie, a joint award will be provided. \*Subject to amendment in the event of changes to the event schedule.

Nominated Events: The events in which results are eligible towards the end of the year awards are listed above and in the Activities Calendar on the AMCV website www.amcv.org.au.



# 2015 SLEDDING EVENTS

Date	Name	Venue	Schedule			Event details	
25/26 April	SLEDDING	You Yangs	Saturday - from 12 pm onwar	urday - from 12 pm onwards Saturday			
	TRAINING	Western Plantation	(pre-registration re	quired)	pre-register		
	WEEKEND		Sunday - 9 am to 12 pm		Sunday: Introdu	ction to sledding,	
			All welcome		equipment, trial	race etc.	
16 May	EVENT 1	You Yangs	Check In: 3.	00 pm	Approximate	Novice – 1-2 km	
	1 heat event	Western Plantation	Drivers' Meeting: 3.	30 pm	Distances:	1-dog – 2-3 km	
		*Lighting required	Start: from 4.	00 pm		2-dog – 4-5 km	
						4 & 6-dog – 5-7 km	
17 May	EVENT 2	You Yangs	Check In: 7.	.00 am	Approximate	Novice – 1-2 km	
	1 heat event	Western Plantation	Drivers' Meeting: 7.	.15 am	Distances:	1-dog – 2-3 km	
			*Start: 7.	.45 am		2-dog – 4-5 km	
			*possible earlier start for 4/6	-dog classes		4 & 6-dog – 5-7 km	
30 May	EVENT 3	You Yangs		00 pm	Approximate	Novice – 1-2 km	
	1 heat event	Western Plantation	Drivers' Meeting: 3.	30 pm	Distances:	1-dog – 2.5-3.5 km	
		*Lighting required	Start: from 4.	00 pm		2-dog – 4-5 km	
						4 & 6-dog – 5-8 km	
31 May	EVENT 4	You Yangs	Check In: 7.	.15 am	Approximate	Novice – 1-2 km	
	1 heat event	Western Plantation	Drivers' Meeting: 7.	.30 am	Distances:	1-dog – 2.5-3.5 km	
			*Start: 8.	.00 am		2-dog – 4-5 km	
			*possible earlier start for 4/6-dog classes 4 &			4 & 6-dog – 5-8 km	
6-8 June	Northern Victorian Sle	ed Dog Classic	Further details are available	from the Northern	Victorian Sled Dog	Club (NVSDC).	
	Non-AMCV Event – Pre	e-entry required	NB: This event does NOT cou	int towards the 201	5 AMCV Sledding Point Score		
27/28 June	Gold Seekers Sled Dog	g Race	Further details are available from the Goldseekers Sled Dog Club.				
	Non-AMCV Event – Pre	e-entry required	NB: this event does NOT cour	nt towards the 201	5 AMCV Sledding Point Score.		
4 July	Event 5 – NVSDC	Kingower State Forest	Further details are available	from the Northern	Victorian Sled Dog	Club.	
	1-heat event	(AMCV Point Score)	NB: This event counts towar	ds the 2015 AMCV	Sledding Point Sco	re	
5 July	Event 6 - NVSDC	Kingower State Forest	Further details are available	from the Northern	Victorian Sled Dog	Club.	
	1-heat event	(AMCV Point Score)	NB: This event counts towar	ds the 2015 AMCV	Sledding Point Sco	re	
18/ 19 July	EVENT 7 – State Cup	You Yangs	Saturday: Check In:	2.30pm	Approximate	Novice – 1-2 km	
	Race	Western Plantation	PM Drivers' Meeting:	3.00pm	Distances:	1-dog – 3-4 km	
	2 heat event	*Lighting required	Start:	from 3.30pm		2-dog – 4.5-6 km	
			Sunday: Drivers' Meeting:	7.45 am		4 & 6-dog – 5-8 km	
			AM Start*:	8.00 am			
			*possible earlier start for 4/6	-dog classes			
29 & 30 Aug	LONG DISTANCE & SO	TANCE & SOCIAL WEEKEND – You Yangs Western Plantation				inter Malamute Mail	

#### Please note the following for sledding events\*:

\*Does not apply to non-AMCV events

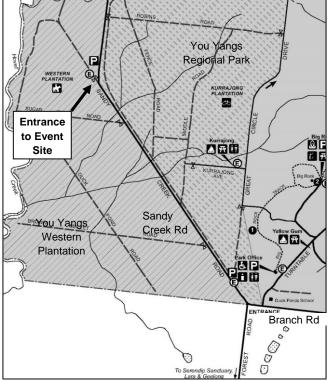
Entries: NOTE: 4-dog & 6-dog classes - pre-entry & lighting required for all events. Contact lan to pre-register (details below). Entries will be accepted on the day for all other classes. Entries will not be accepted after the commencement of the Drivers' Meeting. Camping: Camping will available on-site at the You Yangs Western Plantation. **Rules:** AMCV Gig & Sled Race Rules. Drivers must wear safety helmets and carry sidecutters. Non-AMCV events: rules available from race organisers. NOTE: these rules may differ from AMCV rules. Classes\*: Race Events: 1-dog, Limited 2-dog, Limited 4-dog, Limited 6-dog, Pee Wee, Junior, Veterans, Touring. Suitable battery operated bike lighting is required. The Lighting: additional use of a head lamp is also recommended. (Dynamo powered lighting is not suitable). You Yangs Entry Fees: **Regional Park** Single heat events: \$8.00, Multi-heat events: \$12.00, Members: Second entry (same driver, different class): \$6.00 (Single heat event), \$10.00 (multi-heat event) Season Ticket: \$35.00, Second Season ticket (same Driver): \$30.00 Entrance (Members only - covers all AMCV sledding events) to Event Non-members: Single heat events: \$10.00, Multi-heat events: \$15.00 Site Novice: \$5.00. Pee Wee, Junior, Touring & Veterans: \$2.00

#### Directions to Sledding Event Site:

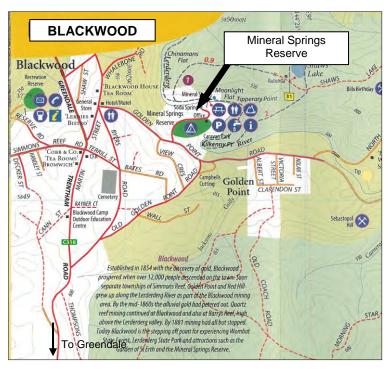
You Yangs Western Plantation, Sandy Creek Road (near Little River) From Melbourne: Take the Princes Highway towards Geelong. Take the Little River turn-off and follow signs to Little River. Cross the railway line in Little River then turn left into You Yangs Road, then left into Farrars Road and right into Branch Road. At the end of Branch Road turn right into Sandy Creek Road, watch for AMCV signs on your left (approx. 2 km along Sandy Creek Road), turn left through the gate and follow signs and diamond markers\* to the race site.

#### **Further Details:**

For pre-entry (4- & 6-dog class only) or further information, contact the Sledding Co-ordinator (Ian) on 0417 103 615 or VP Activities (Colin) on 0438 347 513 or Email: amcvinc@gmail.com Website: www.amcv.org.au



# **BACKPACKING EVENT**



#### What to bring:

Sturdy lead & collar, canine backpack, weight for the backpack (preweighed), water & water bowl for your dog, basic first aid items, rubbish bags, sensible footwear, warm & waterproof clothing (the weather can be unpredictable), human backpack, food & drink, sunscreen, hat, insect repellent, etc. Please load and weigh your dog's backpack to roughly the correct weight at home, this will save time on the morning of the walk.

**NOTE:** A first aid kit will be on hand, but walkers <u>must</u> carry their own basic first aid items. **Dogs are to be kept on lead at all times** and remain the responsibility of their owner/handler.

Cost:	\$3.00 per member or \$5.00 per Family and \$2.50 per car for entry to reserve			
Backpack Hire:	\$5.00 per day – please contact co-ordinator t book a club backpack			
Facilities at Mineral Spring	gs Reserve: Toilets, Picnic tables			

Further information:Phone Stuart (Backpacking Coordinator) on<br/>0413 118 305 or Sandy on 9714 8540<br/>Email: amcv@bigpond.com.au

### 1-Day Hike (~16 km)

### SATURDAY, 9 MAY

#### BLACKWOOD

Mineral Springs Reserve, Golden Point Road

#### Please arrive by 8.30 am to register

Hike starting at 9.00 am sharp – do not arrive late!

Hike Distance: Approximately 16 km (allow 5-7 hours) Terrain: Generally undulating with one very steep section

NOTE: Please notify the Backpacking Coordinator if you are interested in coming in case the event needs to be cancelled or rescheduled.

#### How to get there:

From Melbourne: follow the Western Highway past Myrniong. Take the Greendale turn-off and turn right, heading under the freeway. Continue along Greendale Trentham Road to Blackwood, go to Town centre in Blackwood. Turn right at the Motel onto Golden point Road then taking the left turn to the caravan park then proceed straight ahead to Mineral Springs Reserve. Hike registration will be on your right at the far end of the picnic ground.

Who can participate: ALL DOGS OVER 12 MONTHS OLD WELCOME. Please note that dogs must be 18 months old to carry weight to the Working Pack Dog title standard.

**Non-members and other breeds are welcome**. You and your dog need to be reasonably fit, but you don't have to walk the entire distance and your dog does not have to have a backpack or carry any weight - it's up to you and your dog.

#### **Extreme Weather Policy**

Please note that a temperature restriction applies to this activity. In addition, events may be cancelled in extreme weather conditions. If unsure, please phone or email to confirm.

### NOTE: THE EVENT MAY BE CANCELLED IF THE FORECAST TEMPERATURE IS 25°C OR OVER.

If in doubt please contact the Backpacking Co-ordinator, Stuart Vanderpol, the day before the hike

#### AMCV Working Pack Dog Title\*

This event will be a qualifying event for the AMCV\* Working Pack Dog title and Associate Working Dog Certificate for dogs over 18 months of age only. The rules for the Working Pack Dog title are available from the Backpacking Co-ordinator or website www.amcv.org.au.

You will require a sturdy backpack which is sufficiently large to hold the required weights. The weight should be made up of something that is dense yet can mould to the shape of your dog: bags of damp sand and/or a soft pack of water are suitable.

Your dog must carry 30% of its body weight for a minimum of 16 km for a walk to count towards the title - a dog weighing 40 kg would therefore have to carry 12 kg of weight, which is the equivalent of 12 litres of water. This is too much weight for an untrained and/or unfit dog to be expected to carry. Obviously you will need to train your dog, gradually adding more weight, before you can consider tackling the full load, and your dog will need to be fit and in excellent physical condition.

The only decrease in the weight carried by the dog on a backpacking trip may be by NORMAL consumption of food or water by your dog. What your dog doesn't drink must get poured back into the container he is carrying, and the final pack weight must be no less than 75% of the initial pack weight.

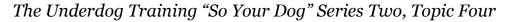
Please watch your dog carefully for signs of stress, and please remove the weight from his pack and shorten your walk if you feel that he is not coping well. You know your dog best, and it is up to you to recognise and act appropriately if he is struggling. \*Please note: This event is not a qualifying event for the ANKC Working Pack Dog title.



**PURE INGREDIENTS. REAL NUTRITION.** Our recipes start with fresh meat or fish as the first ingredient. Then we add whole foods like sweet potatoes, chickpeas, and peas. We keep it simple by using only 7-10 key ingredients in every formula. We mix in natural flavors, and add important vitamins & minerals. Then we finish up by adding guaranteed levels of probiotics, antioxidants, and omega 6&3 to every kibble after cooking. We put this much care into each and every one of our dog and cat foods. Feel good feeding them to your pets, knowing we feed them to ours!

Distributed by Holistic Pet Foods pty ltd

Ph: 1800 231 514





# *So Your Dog....* Is Hyper Excitable with other Dogs

Does your dog get distracted once they look at another dog? Do they lunge, pull or bark instead of simply walking by? Are they over excited and have difficulty settling in busy environments? Many dogs have a value for other dogs that is simply too high. In order to change your **dog's** overly excitable behaviour we need to change **their value for other dogs so that they don't have the** same feelings of frustration and excitement that lead to the poor behaviour.

The following are important points for you to remember prior to starting to resolve this issue-

- While trying to resolve this kind of issue, it may be necessary for you to change your regular routine with your dog. You may need to reduce uncontrolled play with other dogs at the park, change walking routes and be willing to cross the road to increase the distance between your dog and the approaching dog in the early stages. This won't be forever- but it is necessary to begin with.
- If you are struggling to hold or control your dog you may need to consider changing the equipment you are using. A front attaching harness like the SENSIBLE harness may be of benefit.
- If your dog has displayed aggression to other dogs you must consult an experienced professional to ensure your training program is appropriate.
- We recommend using food rewards for this type of training because they are easy to deliver and can be easily restricted at other times. Be prepared to reduce the size of your dog's daily meals as you use food in training. The more your dog works for their daily food intake, the better results you're likely to experience.
- Initially, your dog may not expect the reward and therefore they don't tend to look for it. Don't assume your dog is unmotivated and give up! As you do more repetitions your dog's attitude will change- be patient!
- If your dog wants to get closer to another dogalways ensure they are behaving the way you would like them to before you decrease the distance. ANY time where the dog behaves badly and is allowed even just a couple of steps closer to another dog- this will reinforce the poor behaviour. It's vital to be consistent. Even if you accidentally 'give in' 10% of the time- this will be enough to undo your terrific efforts of the other 90%!!

Our training game **"Who's That' is the perfect solu**tion to truly teach your dog to deal with distractions like other dogs. Traditionally, teaching a dog to focus on the

handler only has been used as a way to stop a dog becoming distracted by dogs or people. However this technique **when used alone** often falls short in practical situations. The reality is that every dog when out on a walk, is going to become distracted and look away from the owner- **we can't keep their attention 100%** of the time.

Looking around at various stimuli like other dogs in the environment is perfectly acceptable behaviour. However, the issue that often develops is that the dog does not simply look at the other dog- they look, then pull or lunge, jump or bark which can be difficult to manage!

So how do we allow the look without getting the resulting **bad behaviour? "Who's That" allows us to interrupt the** dog in a positive manner after they have looked at the approaching dog- but before they bark, lunge, pull or jump. This exercise reduces dependency on corrections or training equipment as **we don't wait until our** dog does the wrong thing!

#### The process of "Who's That"-

#### Interruption WITHOUT Correction

- The number of repetitions of this exercise is crucial to its success. We recommend introducing the cue word of "Who's That" (or any other cue word you would like to use) at home or with low level distractions first. Once the dog has positive association with the cue word, we can gradually increase the level of distraction. You may want to use some of your dog's daily meal for this exercise so that you can increase the number of repetitions.
- To start the exercise simply wait until your dog is looking AWAY from you (initially they may look at anything- a dog, person or even a leaf on the ground) and in a happy tone, say "Who's That". Follow the cue word immediately with a food reward- REGARDLESS of the dog's response. This will mean initially that you are rewarding the dog while they are still looking at the distraction.
- As the dog begins to anticipate that a reward follows your cue word, they will begin to look toward you for the reward before looking back to the distraction. Complete multiple repetitions where the dog continues to look back at the distraction; the cue word is used and followed by a food reward. This creates a situation where it is possible for your dog to look at other dogs without behaving badly.
- If at any point the dog lunges, becomes over excited or pulls on the lead, DON'T use the cue word and instead increase the distance between your dog

and the distraction. Lunging and reacting to the distraction means it is at a level they cannot yet cope with. Don't worry- their threshold will increase over time and allow you to get closer.

In the early stages, as soon as the dog looks at the distraction- the cue word should be used. As the dog improves- the dog will be able to look for longer before the cue word is used to interrupt them. Later down the track- you may of course allow play or interaction with the distraction and interrupt when you want to.

#### **Common Problems and Solutions**

- Wy dog won't take the food on offer. SOLUTION: This usually means that either the dog is too close to the distraction OR that the dog is receiving too much free food at other times, they're simply not hungry enough!
- Wy dog lunges at other dogs or people so it's difficult to do the exercise. SOLUTION: You may need to

work on your loose lead walking separately by first incorporating changes of direction, adjusting your training equipment and increasing your rate of reward for the dog walking well. **In addition, it's** likely that your dog is too close to the distractionincrease the distance to make things easier for both handler and dog to begin with.

- My dog doesn't know what the cue word is. SOLUTION: More repetitions required!! You may need to double or triple the number of repetitions you are doing to build up the required association.
- My dog keeps looking at other things now- is this okay? ANSWER: YES, it is absolutely appropriate for your dog to look at any distraction. You should find however that your dog can now look without lunging or becoming overly excited and is able to exhibit more self-control. Many dogs start to interrupt themselves- they look at the dog or other distraction, look back to you, back to the dog etc. This is absolutely acceptable.

The information provided in the So Your Dog Series is general in nature. We recommend seeing a qualified dog trainer and having a veterinary examination completed for the best results in resolving your dog's problems. For further information or training options, go to <u>www.underdogtraining.com.au</u>

Breeders' Directory					
Kennel Name	Location C	ontact Name	Phone No.	Other Conta	ct Information
BELLTREES	Campbelltown, NSW	Cheryl Harrison	(02) 4631 1920	Email:	belltree@ispdr.net.au
КАТАКИ	Pearcedale, VIC	Merv & Shelley Turner	(03) 5978 6001	Email: Website:	kataku@bigpond.net.au www.dishlickers.com.au



# Can you help Chief?

Please help me. My name is Chief, I am 8 1/2 years old and I am going blind from cataracts.

The lovely ladies from AMRAA took me to the eye specialist today who says that I still have a chance to have surgery. Unfortunately the ladies at AMRAA simply don't have the money to pay the \$4,500 necessary to fix my cataracts so they need your help. They also need a foster carer to look after me while I heal. I would need to be in a home without small children and without other dogs, with someone who could give me drops 4 times a day and lots of cuddles because I love those. Could you please help me by buying a raffle ticket (go to AMRAA's Online Shop on their website at **www.amraa.org.au**) or make a donation. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible and should be marked for Chief - the Alaskan Malamute Rehoming Aid account details are BSB 083451 Acc # 122796078 - please email us so that we can mail you a receipt.

If you would prefer to donate direct to the Vet - Chief is planned to be done at SASH By Dr. Mark Bilson Ph 9889 0289. Please say it is for Chief AMRAA. We simply cannot do this one without help and we only have limited time before irreversible damage occurs once the cataract matures.

Thank you for any assistance you may be able to offer.

Reprinted from National Geographic Magazine, February 2012 - ngm.nationalgeographic.com

# How to Build a Dog

By Evan Ratliff

# Scientists have found the secret recipe behind the spectacular variety of dog shapes and sizes, and it could help unravel the complexity of human genetic disease.

It's an unusually balmy mid-February afternoon in New York City, but the lobby of the Hotel Pennsylvania is teeming with fur coats. The wearers are attendees of what is undoubtedly the world's elite canine mixer, one that takes place each year on the eve of the Westminster Kennel Club dog show. Tomorrow the nation's top dogs from 173 breeds will compete for glory across the street at Madison Square Garden. But today is more akin to a four-legged meet-and-greet, as owners shuffle through the check-in line at the competition's official lodgings. A basset hound aims a droopy eye across a luggage cart at a wired-up terrier. A pair of muscled Rhodesian ridgebacks, with matching leather leashes, pause for a brief hello with a fluffy Pyrenean shepherd. Outside the gift shop a Tibetan mastiff with paws the size of human hands goes nose to nose with a snuffling pug.

The variety on display in the hotel lobby-a dizzying array of body sizes, ear shapes, nose lengths, and barking habits-is what makes dog lovers such obstinate partisans. For reasons both practical and whimsical, man's best friend has been artificially evolved into the most diverse animal on the planet—a staggering achievement, given that most of the 350 to 400 dog breeds in existence have been around for only a couple hundred years. The breeders fast-forwarded the normal pace of evolution by combining traits from disparate dogs and accentuating them by breeding those offspring with the largest hints of the desired attributes. To create a dog well suited for cornering badgers, for instance, it is thought that German hunters in the 18th and 19th centuries brought together some combination of hounds-the basset, a native of France, being the likely suspect-and terriers, producing a new variation on the theme of dog with stubby legs and a rounded body that enabled it to chase its prey into the mouth of a burrow: hence the dachshund, or "badger dog" in German. (A rival, flimsier history of the breed has it dating back, in some form, to ancient Egypt.) Pliable skin served as a defense mechanism, allowing the dog to endure sharp-toothed bites without significant damage. A long and sturdy tail helped hunters to retrieve it from an animal's lair, badger in its mouth.

The breeders gave no thought, of course, to the fact that while coaxing such weird new dogs into existence, they were also tinkering with the genes that determine canine anatomy in the first place. Scientists since have assumed that underneath the morphological diversity of dogs lay an equivalent amount of genetic diversity. A recent explosion in canine genomic research, however, has led to a surprising, and opposite, conclusion: The vast mosaic of dog shapes, colors, and sizes is decided largely by changes in a mere handful of gene regions. The difference between the dachshund's diminutive body and the Rottweiler's massive one hangs on the sequence of a single gene. The disparity between the dachshund's stumpy legs—known officially as disproportionate dwarfism, or chondrodysplasia—and a greyhound's sleek ones is determined by another one.

The same holds true across every breed and almost every physical trait. In a project called CanMap, a collaboration among Cornell University, UCLA, and the National Institutes of Health, researchers gathered DNA from more than 900 dogs representing 80 breeds, as well as from wild canids such as gray wolves and coyotes. They found that body size, hair length, fur type, nose shape, ear positioning, coat color, and the other traits that together define a breed's appearance are controlled by somewhere in the neighborhood of 50 genetic switches. The difference between floppy and erect ears is determined by a single gene region in canine chromosome 10, or CFA10. The wrinkled skin of a Chinese Shar-pei traces to another region, called HAS2. The patch of ridged fur on Rhodesian ridgebacks? That's from a change in CFA18. Flip a few switches, and your dachshund becomes a Doberman, at least in appearance. Flip again, and your Doberman is a Dalmatian.

"The story that is emerging," says Robert Wayne, a biologist at UCLA, "is that the diversity in domestic dogs derives from a small genetic tool kit."

Media reports about *the* gene for red hair, alcoholism, or breast cancer give the false impression that most traits are governed by just one or a few genes. In fact, the Tinkertoy genetics of dog morphology is a complete aberration. In nature, a physical trait or disease state is usually the product of a complex interaction of many genes, each one making a fractional contribution. Height in humans, for instance, is determined by the interaction of some 200 gene regions.

So why are dogs so different? The answer, the researchers say, lies in their unusual evolutionary history. Canines were the earliest domesticated animal, a process that started somewhere between 20,000 and 15,000 years ago, most likely when gray wolves began scavenging around human settlements. Dog experts differ on how active a role humans played in the next step, but eventually the relationship became a mutual one, as we began employing dogs for hunting, guarding, and companionship. Sheltered from the survival-ofthe-fittest wilderness, those semidomesticated dogs thrived even though they harbored deleterious genetic mutations stumpy legs, for instance—that would have been weeded out in smaller wild populations.

Thousands of years later, breeders would seize on that diverse raw material when they began creating modern breeds. They tended to grab traits they desired from across multiple breeds—or tried to rapidly replicate mutations in the same one—in order to get the dog they wanted. They also favored





novelty, since the more distinct a line of dogs appeared, the more likely it was to garner official recognition as a new breed. Such artificial selection tended to favor single genes with a large impact, allowing traits to be fixed more rapidly than groups of smaller-impact genes ever could.

"It's kind of like when you set your remote control to control your TV, your stereo, and your cable," says Carlos Bustamante, a CanMap geneticist now at Stanford University. "You hit the on-off switch, and it does them all."

This revelation has implications the scientists are just beginning to unravel-most important, for the understanding of genetic disorders in humans. Already, more than a hundred dog diseases have been mapped to mutations in particular genes, many of them with human counterparts. Those diseases may have a whole array of mutations leading to a risk of disease in dogs, as they do in us. But because dogs have been genetically segregated into breeds developed from just a few original individuals, each breed has a much smaller set of errant genes-often only one or two-underlying the disease. For instance, Cornell researchers studying the degenerative eye disease retinitis pigmentosa-shared by humans and dogs-found 20 different canine genes causing the disorder. But a different gene was the culprit in schnauzers than in poodles, giving researchers some specific leads for where to start looking in humans. Meanwhile a recent study of a rare type of epilepsy in dachshunds found what appears to be a unique genetic signature, which could shed new light on the disorder in us as well.

In short, while the Victorian breeders were crafting dogs to suit their tastes, they were also creating genetically isolated populations, little knowing how useful they might be to scientists in the future. The possibilities are especially abundant for cancer, certain types of which can show up as often as 60 percent of the time in some dog breeds but only once in every 10,000 humans.

"We are the people who are doing the genetics," says Elaine Ostrander, who studies dog evolution and disease at the National Human Genome Research Institute at NIH. "But breeders are the people who have done all the fieldwork."

One category of trait that has so far proved resistant to the CanMap analysis is behavior. Only a single mutant behavioral gene has been identified to date: the dog version of the gene for obsessive-compulsive disorder in humans, which can cause Doberman pinschers to obsessively suck on their fur to the point of bleeding. More common characteristics such as loyalty, tenaciousness, or the instinct to herd clearly have genetic underpinnings. But they can also be affected by factors ranging from a dog's nutrition to the presence of children in the house, making them difficult to quantify rigorously enough to study. Nevertheless, "we've probably got as good a shot, if not better, of understanding behavior in dogs over other animals," says Stanford's Bustamante. After all, he points out, there are millions of dog lovers out there willing and eager to help with the fieldwork.



Evan Ratliff wrote on the origins of domestication in the March 2011 issue. Brooklyn-based Robert Clark's last dog, a pit bull named Leo, now lives on a farm.



Chip bags and other food packaging pose serious suffocation risks to our pets. When a curious dog puts its head into the bag looking for leftover crumbs, the bag can create a vacuum-like seal around the dog's neck. Too many pets, especially dogs, have died from suffocating in chip bags, cereal boxes, pet treat bag liners, and dog food and cat food bags.

Visit www.preventpetsuffocation.com for more information.

#### SHOW POINT SCORE PRESENTATIONS

Being held in conjunction with the General Meeting. Thursday 26 March, commencing 7.30 pm Bulla Exhibition Centre - Meeting Room 3



Heat strokes can be deadly. In just minutes, your vehicule can turn into a furnace. Don't leave your dog in your car.

#### The AKC Canine Health Foundation Commits \$268,000 to Combat Epilepsy and Hypothyroidism in Dogs 10/16/2014

The AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) today announces the funding of two grants for canine epilepsy and one grant for canine hypothyroidism. These grants, totaling over \$268,000 in funding will ultimately equip veterinarians with more effective treatments and researchers with a better understanding of the underlying mechanisms that cause these diseases.

"With input from breed clubs, dog owners and experts in veterinary medicine, canine epilepsy and hypothyroidism were identified as major health concerns that required further study," said Dr. Shila Nordone, CHF's Chief Scientific Officer. "One Health is an important criterion for the research funding we award. These health concerns not only impact our dogs, but they impact many dog owners as well." The National Institute of Health estimates that epilepsy affects 2 million people in the United States and that hypothyroidism affects nearly 4.6% of people in the United States. "By helping our dogs we potentially unlock better treatments for ourselves as well," said Nordone.

Approximately 30% of all dogs diagnosed with epilepsy are not able to achieve relief from seizures with the current drug therapies available, and current treatment options also carry possible negative sideeffects. Dr. Sam Nicholas Long, PhD, University of Melbourne has been awarded a grant for \$116,000 and Dr. Ned Patterson, DVM, PhD, University of Minnesota has been awarded a grant for \$104,781. These researchers aim to better classify the disease, understand the underlying mechanisms that predispose dogs to epilepsy, and introduce new drugs into the canine epilepsy treatment pipeline.

While hypothyroidism is well understood in humans, it is difficult to accurately diagnose

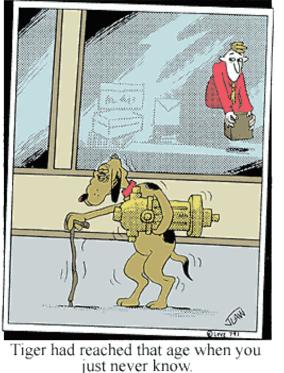
in dogs and remains one of the greatest challenges in veterinary medicine. Dr. Jan A. Mol, PhD of the University of Utrecht has been awarded a grant for \$48,195 to investigate three methods that may provide a more accurate diagnosis for hypothyroidism than the tests currently available for practitioners. Better diagnostic tools give hope for earlier diagnosis and possibly early intervention to prevent progression of thyroid tissue damage.

In addition to the canine health research funding announced today, CHF has funded more than \$600,000 in research grants during 2014. This diverse grant portfolio aims to provide better treatments and more accurate diagnoses for our dogs.

Funding for CHF grants comes from a variety of sources, including corporations, dog clubs and individuals who are committed to our work. Dog lovers are encouraged to make a donation to support canine health research.

- See more at: <u>http://www.akcchf.org/news-events/news/chf-awards-epilepsy-hypothyroidism-grants.html#sthash.cxFDItOK.dpuf</u>

SNAPSHOTS by Jason Love



# AMCV CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 2014

Critiques by Judge, Mr Arie Schwarz (Israel)

In order of exhibit number

#### **Baby Puppy Dog**

#### No 2 Koolrunnings Game Changer (AI)

#### Baby Puppy In Show

Very young promising typical and handsome young Malamute with a very typical and gorgeous expression. Very nice ear set. Good skull proportions, nice deep chest not usually seen at this age. Good bones, straight topline, nice angulation back and front. Good tail set and good tail carriage. Moves very well for his age and I would say he is a very promising dog.

#### Junior Dog

### No 3 Kataku The Company You Keep (AI)

Junior In Show

A young male at 16 months. What a beautiful expression, deep brown eyes, good muscle, good ear size and ear set. Very powerful neck, good size chest and deep good bones. Good proportions length to height. Good topline, very good angulation back and front. Good tail set and tail carriage. Very powerful in movement, parallel, and good quality coat. Excellent dog.

#### Intermediate Dog

#### No 5 Ch Hamlek Cruze Control (AI) - 1st

#### Challenge Dog & Best In Show

A handsome typical powerful very balanced male. Gorgeous expression, deep eyes, nice proportion of skull, excellent size of ear and set. Deep and wide chest. Good bone, very balanced good angulation back and front. Straight topline, excellent tail carriage and tail set. He is very powerful in movement. He moves parallel and very good drive and very good reach. All in all an excellent dog. He shows himself very nicely and is handled very well.

#### No 6 Ch Whitewarrior Red Kloud War (AI) - 2nd

Is a handsome typical balanced dog. Very handsome dog. Good skull. Excellent ear set and size. Deep coloured eyes. Deep and wide chest. Excellent bone. Excellent angulation back and front. Strong and straight topline. His tail carriage is a little bit crooked over his topline. He moves parallel with very powerful drive and very good reach. Excellent.

#### No 7 Ch Kataku Grand Slam - 3rd

Is a 2 year old impressive male. Good type and nice proportions. He has a nice expression but his pigmentation is not good enough around the mouth. He has a good ear set and good, nice deep coloured eyes. Long and arched neck. Chest is not deep enough. He has good angulation back and front. His feet are little too small for me. He has a straight topline. His tail carriage is nice but his tail is a little too short. His gait is excellent and he moves very well. He is powerful with a good drive and good reach. An excellent dog.

#### Australian Bred Dog

**No 9** Sup Ch Kataku For Your Eyes Only - 2<sup>nd</sup> A very powerful looking, balanced good-size proportionate typical male. 7years old. Very nice skull proportions, deep almond eyes, good ear size and good ear set. A little narrow chested. Good angulations back and front. Good topline, good bones. Good tail set and tail carriage. Very powerful movement, parallel and effortless. Excellent dog

#### No 11 Ch Tanome King Of The Mountain - 1st

#### Opposite Australian Bred In Show

Handsome, good proportions, good size typical male. Lovely colour, lovely mask, gorgeous expression. Good skull proportions. Good ear size and ear set. Nice deep chest, a little low on his legs. Straight topline, good tuck up, good tail set and tail carriage. Very strong in movement, moves parallel and has good reach and drive. Excellent dog.

#### No 12 Ch Kataku Mystical Guardian - 3rd

Is a good looking, proportionate, good size masculine dog. Very nice expression, deep colour eye. Nice ears of good size and ear set. A little narrow chested. Good angulation back and front. His feet are a little too small in my opinion. He has good topline and good tail set and carriage. Very nice movement from the side, back and front. Excellent dog.

#### No 14 Ch Darksky Living The Dream

Is a typical balanced handsome dog, with a nice expression. Good skull proportions, very nice ear size and ear set. Wide chest, good bones. Excellent angulation back and front. Very nice straight topline. Good tail set and tail carriage. Very powerful in motion. His coat is a little too soft but all in all he is an excellent dog.

#### Open Dog

#### No 15 Sup Ch Hamalek Rumble in the Jungle - 2nd

Handsome, balanced, masculine 4 year old dog. Nice expression, a little short muzzled. Nice eyes, good ear size and good ear set. Good chest, wide and deep. Good angulation back and front. Straight topline. Nice tuck up, very good tail set and tail carriage. Moves very powerfully, effortless smooth gait. An excellent dog.

#### No 16 Ch Niltaran Ernace Tungulra - 3rd

Is a well-balanced, handsome 6 and half year old dog with nice expression. Eyes are a little bit round. Good ear size and ear set. Nice deep chest. Very good angulation back and front. Nice arched neck. Straight topline, good tail set. Nice carriage of the tail whilst moving. Good bones, moves very well. An excellent dog.

#### No 18 Whitewarrior Southern Blu (AI) - 1st

Reserve Dog Challenge, Runner Up In Show, Best Open in Show Is a big, masculine balanced typical male. Lovely expression, beautiful eye. Good ear size and ear set. Excellent size chest, deep and wide. Excellent bones. Excellent angulations back and front. Muscled, in a very nice condition. Good topline. Excellent tail set and carriage. Lovely movement, very powerful, smooth and effortless. Excellent dog.

#### No 19 Ch Southrnwolf Catch Me If You Can

Is a good size, typical balanced male with nice expression. Good coloured eyes. Good ear size but a little low set. Narrow chested. A little toeing out. Good angulation back and front. Nice topline, good tail set and tail carriage. His coat is a little long and soft and his bite is level instead of scissored. Very nice dog.

#### No 20 Kinuk's Kashmir (Imp Bel)

Well-proportioned, balanced 3 year old male with lovely expression with deep coloured eye. Good ear size and ear set. Nice skull proportions. He is a little narrow-chested and has a barrel-shaped rib cage. His front feet are too straight and has straight pasterns. His topline is straight enough. His tail carriage is nice and his tail set is very good. In movement he moves very nicely, a little bit close in front.

#### **Baby Puppy Bitch**

#### No 22 Koolrunnings Moon Goddess (Al)

Opposite Baby In Show

Is a balanced pretty expressioned little pup. Nice proportions. Excellent ear size and ear set even for her age. Deep coloured eyes. Her chest is a little too narrow and she is a little toeing out, but that might be improved with in time. She has very nice angulation. A straight topline. Good tail carriage and all in she is a lovely puppy.

#### Minor Puppy Bitch Non-awarded

#### No 24 Alaskamal Sneaky Rendevous

Critique withheld at request of exhibitor

#### No 26 Talakarli The Chosen One

Nice typical and feminine pup of 8 months old with lovely expression. Good ear set and ear size. Deep coloured eyes. Nice arched neck, good size chest, a little straight on her pastern and straight front, lacking shoulder. She is way too heavy for her age. She has a weak topline. Good tail set and tail carriage. She moves happily and I would like to see her much more exercised and in better shape.

#### Junior Bitch

#### No 27 Snowsteeds Harvest Sunrise - 2nd

Good proportions, good size. Lovely young bitch with excellent expression. Ears a little too big and low set. Eyes of nice colour, good skull proportions. Good chest. Good angulations back and front. She is balanced. She has a straight topline and good tail carriage. She moves very well and fluently. She does have an undershot bite which might improve when she grows up and she has a soft coat in good condition. Was handled very well.

#### No 28 Kataku Devil Wears Prada - 1st

#### **Opposite Junior In Show**

Excellent size, very balanced typical young female with lovely expression. Very good skull proportions. Good size ears and ear set. Good arched neck. Very nice chest. Straight topline, excellent angulation back and front, nice tail set and tail carriage. She moves very well for her age. She could be a little stronger but she is an excellent dog.

#### Intermediate Bitch

Opposite Intermediate In Show

#### No 30 Southrnwolf Wild Ice Queen - 1st

A well-balanced, good proportioned, good sized bitch with excellent expression. Very nice skull proportions. Her ears are a little too low set but of good size. She has a nice chest, deep and good, wide. Good arched neck. Powerful front. She has good angulation back and front. She has a straight topline. Good tail carriage. She moves well when she is allowed. She is a little bit too heavy today but with good work and a little diet she would be perfect. Excellent.

#### Australian Bred Bitch

#### No 32 Ch Niltaran Ernace Zuberi - 2nd

Very balanced, typical 7 year old bitch with excellent expression. Very nice eyes with good ear size and ear set. Deep wide chest, nice arched neck. Good angulation back and front. Her topline is weak as she is way too heavy. Her tail carriage is very nice and she moves well enough regarding her over weight. Excellent dog all together.

#### No 33 Ch Niltaran Karuzr Shiiva (AI) - 1st

Reserve Bitch Challenge & Aust Bred In Show

Is a well-balanced, excellent size, proportionate bitch, with a beautiful expression very typical to the breed. Nice ear size and ear set. Deep coloured eyes. Nice arched neck. Excellent size chest, good bones excellent angulation back and front. Straight topline with a nice tuck up. Excellent tail set and tail carriage. Excellent coat of great quality. She moves very, very well with thrust and very nice reach, an effortless and somewhat powerful movement. An excellent bitch.

#### **Open Bitch**

#### No 35 Gr Ch Kataku Mystical Charm - 3rd

Proportionate, balanced, typical and somewhat a little big bitch of 7 years old. Lovely expression but a little round eyes. Good ear set, a little short muzzled, nice arched neck. Well-developed chest, good bones. Well angulated back and front. Straight topline with tuck up. Good tail set and tail carriage. Moves very very well, powerfully, an effortless gait. An excellent dog.

#### No 36 Ch Niltaran Karuzr Layla

A good size, well-proportioned bitch with nice expression. Deep coloured eyes. Good ear size and ear set a little too low. Her chest is way too wide and her elbows turn out. Her feet turn a little in. She has a straight topline and nice tuck up. Very well angulated back and front. Nice tail set and tail carriage. She moved nicely. An excellent bitch.

#### No 37 Ch Sianak Zelkie Aileana - 1st

Bitch challenge and Opposite Open In Show

Is a typical, excellent size, well-proportioned and balanced bitch with excellent expression very typical for the breed. Excellent ear size and ear set. Deep coloured eyes. Very well developed chest. Great angulation back and front, straight topline. She has good bones. She has a good tail set and tail carriage. An excellent gait, free and powerful. Excellent bitch.

#### No 38 Ch Snowsteed Alaskan Holiday - 2nd

Is a beautiful, well-proportioned and typical female with very nice expression. Good ear size, a little low set. Nice eyes, good developed chest, good bones. Excellent angulation back and front. Straight topline, nice tuck up, good set and tail carriage. She moves very, very well. I would like to see her pigmentation around the mouth a little better but all in she is an excellent bitch.

#### No 39 Ch Atupaka Varu Cuddlepot

A nice bitch with very nice expression. Good ear size and ear set. Nice deep coloured eyes. Very wide rib cage and narrow front. She has a weak topline because she is way too heavy. She has good angulations in front but lacks a little angulation on the back. Good tail set and tail carriage. She moves very heavily.

#### No 41 Ch Niltaran Karuzr Blazer (AI)

Is a nice, good-sized balanced bitch with a very nice expression typical to the breed. Good ear size and ear set. Deep coloured eyes, nice. Good angulation back and front. A little long in the loin. Nice tail set and tail carriage, and nice movement. She is an excellent bitch.

### **FINAL SHOW POINT SCORE RESULTS 2014**

Congratulations to all the winners. Awards will be presented at the AMCV General meeting to be held on the 26th March at the Bulla Exhibition Centre.

#### **TOP ALASKAN MALAMUTE** SUP CH SNOWSTEEDS RUSTIC RISING 35



CH NILTARAN ERNACE TUNGULRA
CH NILTARAN KARUZR SHIIVA
CH NILTARAN KARUZR LAYLA
ICEPURE RISING AUSSIE LEGEND
CHIMO WALK THE TALK
SNOWSTEEDS HARVEST SUNRISE

TOP ALASKAN MALAMUTE DOG	
SUP CH SNOWSTEEDS RUSTIC RISING	-
CH NILTARAN ERNACE TUNGULRA	20
TOP ALASKAN MALAMUTE BITCH	
CH NILTARAN KARUZR SHIIVA	24
CH NILTARAN KARUZR LAYLA	6
ICEPURE RISING AUSSIE LEGEND	5
CHIMO WALK THE TALK	4
SNOWSTEEDS HARVEST SUNRISE	2
TOP BABY DOG	
SNOWSTEEDS AGAINST ALL ODDS	1
TOP MINOR DOG	
SNOWSTEEDS GAME BREAKER	7
TOP PUPPY DOG	
SNOWSTEEDS TRAIL BREAKER	1
ТОР РИРРҮ ВІТСН	
ICEPURE RISING AUZZIE LEGEND	4
TOP JUNIOR BITCH	
CHIMO WALK THE TALK	5
SNOWSTEEDS HARVEST SUNRISE	2
TOP INTERMEDIATE BITCH	
NILTARAN KARUZR LAYLA	3
	5
TOP AUSTRALIAN BRED DOG	
SUP CH SNOWSTEEDS RUSTIC RISING	12
SUI CHI SINOW STELLOS RUSTIC RISING	12
TOP AUSTRALIAN BRED BITCH	
CH NILTARAN KARUZR SHIIVA	14
CH NILTARAN KARUZR LAYLA	4
TOP OPEN DOG	10
CH NILTARAN ERNACE TUNGULRA	18
TOP OPEN BITCH	

4 CH NILTARAN KARUZR LAYLA

3

# CANINE CANCER

Dogs have 35 times as much skin cancer as do humans, 4 times as many breast tumors, 8 times as much bone cancer, and twice as high an incidence of leukemia. The only types of cancer that are more frequently seen in humans than in small animals are not surprising: lung cancer is 7 times higher in humans, and stomach/intestinal malignancies are 13 times more frequent in man than in dogs and cats.

It is clear that the higher incidence of lung cancer in man is due to the human habit of smoking - but the cause of the higher incidence of gastrointestinal malignancies in man is not so clear.

(Texas A&M Veterinary School)

#### 10 common signs of cancer in dogs

- 1. Abnormal swellings that persist or continue to grow
- 2. Sores that do not heal
- 3. Weight loss
- 4. Loss of appetite
- 5. Bleeding or discharge from any body opening
- 6. Offensive odor
- 7. Difficulty eating or swallowing
- 8. Hesitation to exercise or loss of stamina
- 9. Persistent lameness or stiffness
- 10. Difficulty breathing, urinating, or defecating

These signs could relate to a number of different illnesses including cancer. If your pet shows any of these signs, they should see a veterinarian without delay.

Taken from the AVMA

For further information and current research in Australia please go to the website: www.caninecancer.org.au



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pick up equipment at an AMCV event





### **1st December, Mt Macedon** Page 27 Fun Agility Competition Results

_	.5	0	1		
Place	Handler	Dog	<u>Time</u> (seconds)	Penalty	Total (seconds)
1	E'vette	Jonah	23	-	23
2	Simon	Kaya	31	-	31
3	Fred	Heidi	33	-	33
3	E'vette	Seven	28	5	33
3	E'vette	Delta	28	5	33
6	Ian	Sugar	34	-	34
7	Ian	Wilfred	32	5	37
8	Ian	Luna	38	-	38
9	Joedy	Rocky	35	5	40
10	Cass	Dakota	45	-	45
11	Ian	Finn	46	-	46
11	Tyler	Cricket	58	5	63
13	Alex	Chardy	28	35	63
14	Alex	Zorro	33	35	68
15	Shaz	Floyd	63	30	93

\*5 second penalty for knocking the hurdle down, 30 second time penalty for not completing an obstacle







If undeliverable please return to: The Newsletter Editor PO Box 41 Hurstbridge 3099 **The Malamute Mail** Print Post Approved Publication No. 0031995100004



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