

March 2016



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VALE

Miki

Windchill Tammbo Miki

20/03/2007 – 07/01/2016

It is with much sadness and an extremely heavy heart that myself, Melissa, Grace and Lily and all here at Snowpaw had to farewell our beautiful girl Miki.

We were honoured to receive this sweet girl from Ralph & Sandy Koch. She was one of the smaller members of her litter, and hence the name – Miki. In Inuit meaning – “Little One.” She was a very sweet and funny young puppy. A bit of a loner, and always exploring. But there was just something about her. Something very special. At the age of 7 ½ months we found out exactly what that was. It was her first time in a harness, and a short 200 metre run. She hit that harness like nothing else. It was game on.

To say Miki enjoyed running was an understatement. She was focused, driven, hardworking and bloody determined. Always giving everything she had.

She was only campaigned on the sledding circuit for a short period, due to a hiatus period by the owner. But she accomplished much. AMCV One Dog State Cup winner in 2008 and 2009.

AMCV Two Dog State Cup winner in 2010. 2008 ASSA National Championships – fastest Malamute in Open 1 Dog Class and 6th place overall. 2013 ASSA National Championships – member of fastest Malamute team in open 2 Dog class. At A5K she and her father, Timber, took 4th place in Open 2 Dog Class. And many other fastest Malamute awards along the way in Open Class races.

In 2008 Miki was my leader for two back to back treks up into Victoria’s High Country. In 2014 this was repeated, with that trek covering some 20klms of unbroken metre deep snow. Miki thrived on hard work. Obstacles such as fallen trees across trails or washouts were just a challenge to be overcome.

Miki leaves a great hole in our home, our kennels and in our hearts. Sadly, her battle with cancer was one obstacle that she could not overcome.

Her unique howl, her cheeky full teeth “smile”, just like her mum Maddie, and that roll over and cuddle me playfulness will all be missed.

Thank you sweet girl. You gave us so much joy and took us on so many adventures. As a leader you have left a huge hole, but enjoy your next journey wherever that may take you.

Hike up and run free “Little One”.

Justin, Melissa, Grace & Lily and Team Snowpaw





Alaskan Malamute Club Victoria, Inc.

Registered No. A0016353X

PATRON: Mrs Olive Singer

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

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0417 103 615

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Shelley Turner
5978 6001

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Melanie Gray
0404 104 619

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Stuart Vanderpol
0413 118 305

SCALE OF CHARGES

Membership:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Joining fee | \$10.00 |
| Single (VCA Member) | \$30.00 |
| Non VCA | \$36.00 |
| Double/Family (VCA Member) | \$35.00 |
| Non VCA | \$48.00 |
| Special Interstate (Non-voting) | \$25.00 |

Other:

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

Non Members:

All advertising for non-members will be double the standard rates.

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.



WHERE'S WOOFA?

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



And can you find his bone?

Alaskan Malamute Club, Victoria (Inc.)

Incorporations Registration No.: A0016353X

GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 24 March, 2016

to commence at 7.30 pm

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

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of previous General Meeting
(as published in the June 2015 Malamute Mail)
3. Correspondence
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Committee Reports
6. General Business
7. Any other business
8. Show Point Score Award Presentations

President's Message

Welcome to this, the first edition of the Malamute Mail for 2016. And yet, as you're reading this, a quarter of the year has already sailed by. Hopefully, the New Year has found you and yours in good health.

Our Calendar of Events is out and it's a busy year ahead, with some new things being tried. First up, we have a Sledding Boot Camp being ran by Iditarod musher Curt Perano and his wife Fleur. This is, unfortunately, not an event that can be offered to everyone, as the intense nature of the training means we have to limit numbers. However, the entire membership gets to benefit in at least two ways - firstly, we expect to raise over a thousand dollars for the Club, and secondly, as happened nearly ten years ago when Jamie and Ann Stead ran their intensive camp, a number of our members will come away with skills and knowledge they can, and will share with others down the track.

The other new and exciting addition is a second Championship Specialty Show, to be held at Melbourne Royal the same day as Malamutes are judged. This means we will have three specific Malamute shows PLUS the largest all breeds show in the Southern Hemisphere, and all within 3 days. Given the disappointing financial loss made by last year's Show, we have been unable to contract an international judge for our usual show. However, with an International judge sub contracted from the Royal's panel, and an Arctic Specialist contracted for our usual Show, we feel certain this will be a success.

We are still searching for a new sponsor, so please do not hesitate to send in suggestions, they don't even have to be dog related.

We still have one vacancy on the Committee, that being Obedience Co ordinator. Given there seems to be little interest in Obedience amongst the membership, and that we can function with this vacancy, we will not look to fill it unless someone specifically wants to put their hand up and comes with a specific and workable plan for progressing obedience as an activity.

Remember to contact one of our Committee members with anything you'd like to discuss about what the Club is, isn't, or you think could be doing. Please come and join us in our activities, and remember, enjoy your Malamute!

Ian Luke
President

Rainbow Bridge

Miki

Windchill Tamambo Miki

20/03/2007 – 07/01/2016

Owned and sadly missed by

Justin, Melissa, Lily & Grace Celentane

Baloo

Aust Ch Windchill Kaos Snowqueen

WPD WTDX WWPD (AMCV)

31/3/2003 – 28/1/16

Owned and sadly missed by

Stewart Cumming, Linda Hewat,

Ashleigh & Jackson

Leah

Niltaran Manko Supanova

WPD WTD (AMCV)

17/6/2001 – 23/2/2016

Owned and sadly missed by

Di Mitchell

June 2016 ISSUE

Copy Deadline: 1 May 2016

If you have any letters, photos, or items of general interest to the members please email them to the

Newsletter Editor at amvinc@gmail.com

or mail to:

PO Box 41, Hurstbridge VIC 3099

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Blast from the Past...

How many of these people and dogs do you recognise?

See page 18 for the answers to "Blast from the Past"



2016 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 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--|---------------------|
| MARCH | Sunday | 20 | Activities | Activities Intro Day | Mt Macedon |
| | Thursday | 24 | Meeting | General & Show Point score presentation | Bulla |
| APRIL | Sunday | 3 | Backpacking | Picnic Fun walk | Yarra Bend Park |
| | Sunday | 10 | Weight Pull | Weight Pull Introduction & Training Day | KCC Park |
| | Saturday | 16 | Backpacking | 1-day hike | Mt Macedon |
| | Sunday | 17 | Weight Pull* | Weight Pull Competition | KCC Park |
| | Sunday | 24 | Sledding | Sledding Introduction & Training Day | You Yangs |
| MAY | Sunday | 1 | Weight Pull* | Weight Pull Competition | KCC Park |
| | Saturday | 7 | Backpacking | Day Hike 2 | Smiths Gully |
| | Saturday | 14 | Sledding | Sled Dog Race - Event 1 | You Yangs |
| | Sunday | 15 | Sledding | Sled Dog Race - Event 2 | You Yangs |
| | Sunday | 22 | <i>Weight Pull*</i> | <i>Weight Pull Competition (ASTCV)</i> | KCC Park |
| | Saturday | 28 | Sledding | Sled Dog Race - Event 3 | You Yangs |
| | Sunday | 29 | Sledding | Sled Dog Race -Event 4 | You Yangs |
| JUNE <i>Queens Birthday</i> | Sunday | 12 | <i>Weight Pull</i> | <i>Weight Pull Competition (ASTCV)</i> | KCC Park |
| | <i>Sat - Mon</i> | <i>11-13</i> | <i>Sledding</i> | <i>Northern Victorian Sled Dog Classic</i> | <i>Kialla West</i> |
| | <i>Sat/Sun</i> | <i>25/26</i> | <i>Sledding</i> | <i>Goldseekers</i> | <i>TBA</i> |
| JULY | Saturday | 2 | Sledding | Sled Dog Race - Event 5 | Knowsley |
| | Sunday | 3 | Sledding | Sled Dog Race -Event 6 | Knowsley |
| | <i>Sunday</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>Weight Pull</i> | <i>Weight Pull Competition (ASTCV)</i> | KCC Park |
| | <i>Tuesday</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>Show</i> | <i>Dogs Victoria Judges Training Night</i> | Bulla |
| | <i>Sat / Sun</i> | <i>16/17</i> | <i>Sledding</i> | <i>State Cup Sled dog race – Event 7</i> | You Yangs |
| | <i>Sunday</i> | <i>24</i> | <i>Weight Pull</i> | <i>Weight Pull Competition (ASTCV)</i> | KCC Park |
| | <i>Sat / Sun</i> | <i>30/31</i> | <i>Sledding</i> | <i>Baw Baw Dash Snow Race (TBC)</i> | <i>Mt Baw Baw</i> |
| AUGUST | <i>Tues / Wed</i> | <i>2/3</i> | <i>Sledding</i> | <i>Mt Buller Sled Dog Quest</i> | <i>Mt Buller</i> |
| | <i>Sat / Sun</i> | <i>6/7</i> | <i>Sledding</i> | <i>Falls Snow Race</i> | <i>Falls Creek</i> |
| | <i>Sat / Sun</i> | <i>13/14</i> | <i>Sledding</i> | <i>A5K Snow Race</i> | <i>Dinner Plain</i> |
| | Saturday | 13 | Backpacking | Day Hike 3 | You Yangs |
| | Sunday | 21 | <i>Weight Pull*</i> | <i>Weight Pull Competition (ASTCV)</i> | KCC Park |
| | <i>Sat / Sun</i> | <i>27/28</i> | <i>Sledding</i> | <i>Sledding Intro, Training & Long distance</i> | You Yangs |
| SEPTEMBER | Saturday | 3 | <i>Weight Pull*</i> | <i>Weight Pull Competition (ASTCV)</i> | KCC Park |
| | Saturday | 10 | Backpacking | Day Hike 4 | TBA |
| | Sunday | 18 | <i>Weight Pull*</i> | <i>Weight Pull Event (Tuggy Shield)</i> | KCC Park |
| | Friday | 23 | Show | Championship & Melbourne Royal | Showgrounds |
| | Sunday | 25 | Show | Championship & Open Show | KCC Park |
| OCTOBER | Sunday | 2 | <i>Weight Pull*</i> | <i>Weight Pull Competition</i> | KCC Park |
| | Thursday | 13 | Meeting | Annual General / Committee | Bulla |
| NOVEMBER | <i>Sat -Mon</i> | <i>28 -30 Oct</i> | <i>Backpacking</i> | <i>3-day Hike (Hikers & dogs must qualify and must pre-register)</i> | <i>TBA</i> |
| | Wednesday | 9 | Meeting | Committee | Bulla |
| | Sunday | 27 | Christmas Fun Day | Includes BBQ, Funny classes & Fun Agility Comp | Mt Macedon |

Events not conducted by the AMCV are in italics

* AMCV Weight Pull Point Score Event

School Holidays

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.com

Website: www.amcv.org.au

General Enquiries: Phone (03) 9714 8540

EXTREME WEATHER POLICY & RESTRICTIONS: Please note that temperature restrictions apply to some activities. In addition, events may be cancelled in extreme weather conditions unless otherwise indicated. Please phone or email to confirm.

Sunday 20 March 11am–2pm

Introduction to Activities Day

Mt Macedon – Days Picnic Ground, Lionshead Rd
Melways Map Reference 609 G10



Sledging

Backpacking



Showing



Weight Pulling

The Activities Day is an ideal opportunity for those who would like to find out more about the Malamute, what's involved in sledging, weight-pulling & backpacking and how to get started.

The Malamute is a working breed that loves to get involved in all these activities, and many other breeds will enjoy them too – we welcome everyone and all dogs.

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 and other working-dog and Malamute related items for sale.



ALL BREEDS WELCOME

not just Malamutes!

We also welcome non-members

Cost: \$5.00* per family



*Proceeds will be donated to the Alaskan Malamute Rehoming Aid Australia (AMRAA)



How to get there:

From Melbourne: follow the Calder Highway past Gisborne. Take the Macedon/Mt Macedon turn-off 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.

Facilities at Days picnic ground:

Toilets, Picnic tables

Further information:

Email: amcvinc@gmail.com

Phone: 03 9714 8540 or

0417 103 615

Website: www.amcv.org.au

PLEASE NOTE:

In extreme weather conditions or if forecast temperature on day of activities is equal to or greater than 30 degrees, the event may be cancelled. Please contact us to confirm.

Picnic Fun Walk



Sunday, 3 April – 10.30 am
Yarra Bend Park, Fairfield

Meeting point: Fairlea Road carpark (off Yarra Bend Rd) Melways Map Reference 2D F2 (or 44 H1)

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 3rd (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.

Weather & Temperature:

The event may be cancelled if the forecast temperature on the day is 28oC 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 amcvinc@gmail.com

Facilities at Yarra Bend Park:

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

We welcome non-members and other breeds

Walk Etiquette:

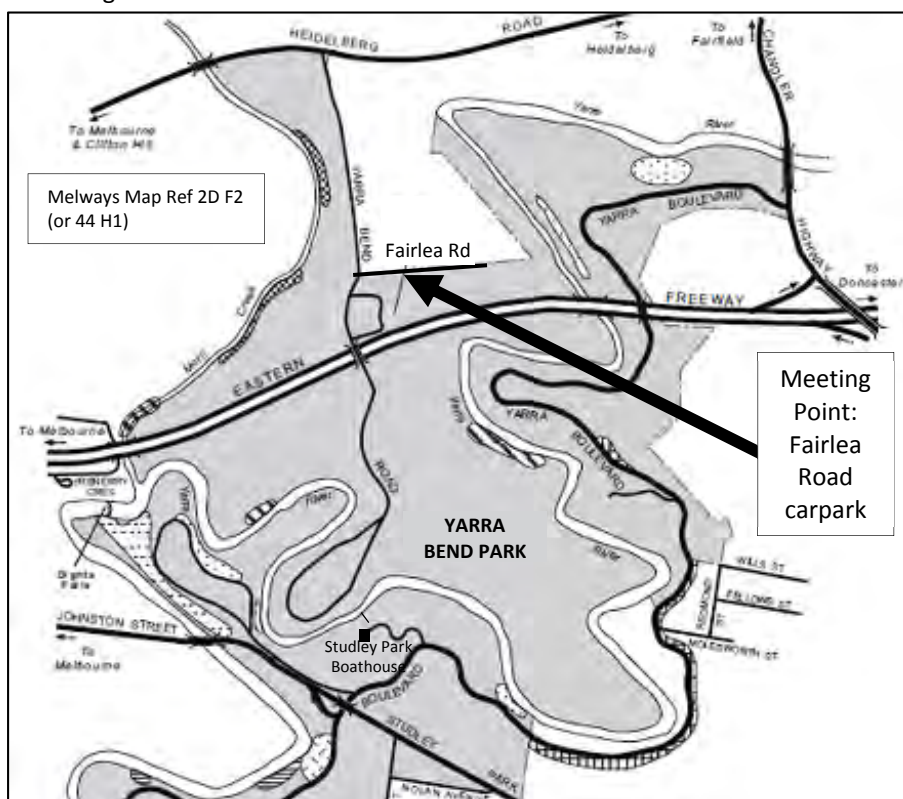
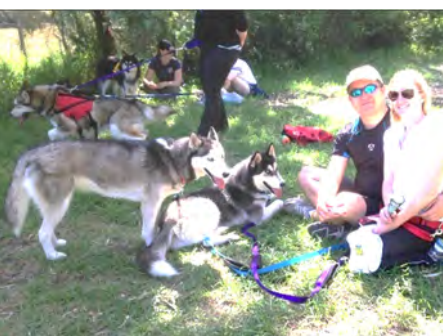
- Please remember that not everyone likes big dogs.
- Dogs on the walk must be kept **on lead at all times**.
- Keep to the left on the paths, and walk off the path where safe to do so.
- Give way to other users and watch out for bikes.
- You must clean up after your dog.
- Be courteous and respectful of other people and their dogs, and keep your dog at a suitable distance.

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:

The walk is 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.



Weight-Pull Training Day

Weight Pull information, demos, training & practice

When: Sunday, 10 April, approx. 10 am – 1 pm

Where: KCC Park, Westernport Highway, Skye
(near Cranbourne) Melways Map Reference 128 H 12

Cost: \$5.00 donation (in aid of the Alaskan Malamute Rehoming Aid Australia)



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

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 Sandy Koch 03 9714 8540
Email: amcvinc@gmail.com Website: www.amcv.org.au



Proceeds to be donated to the Alaskan Malamute Rehoming Aid Australia (AMRAA)



Bring your dog along and try Weight Pulling!

BACKPACKING Day Hikes

Cost: \$3.00 per member or \$5.00 per Family

Backpack Hire: \$5.00 per day – please contact the co-ordinator to per book a club backpack.

Who can participate: **DOGS MUST BE A MINIMUM OF 12 MONTHS OLD TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HIKE.** Dogs must be 18 months old to carry weight to the Working Pack Dog title standard. One dog per handler recommended. You don't have to walk the entire distance, and your dog does not have to have a backpack or carry the entire weight.

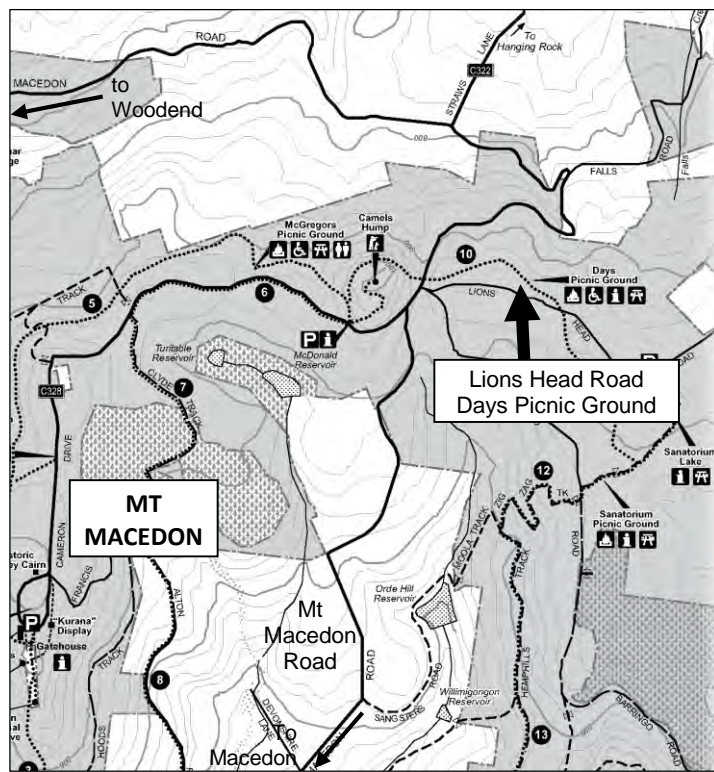
What to bring: Sturdy lead & collar, canine backpack, weight for the backpack (pre-weighed), water & water bowl for your dog, basic first aid items, rubbish bags, sturdy footwear, warm & waterproof clothing (the weather can be unpredictable), human backpack, food, drink, etc.

NOTE: WALKERS MUST CARRY THEIR OWN BASIC FIRST AID ITEMS. **It is important that you arrive early to allow enough time to weigh in your dog and get ready:** Please load and weigh your dog's backpack to roughly the correct weight at home to save time when you arrive.

Temperature restriction: **EVENTS MAY BE CANCELLED IF THE FORECAST TEMPERATURE IS OVER 25°C:** please contact the Backpacking Co-ordinator the day before the hike.

Pre-registration: Please notify Stuart if you are interested in coming in case the event is cancelled or venue is changed due to unforeseen circumstances – call 0413 118 305 or 03 9714 8540, or email amcvinc@gmail.com

NOTE: Places are limited so pre-registration is essential.



Saturday, 16 April MT MACEDON

Days Picnic Ground, Lions Head Road

Please arrive by 8.00 am to register

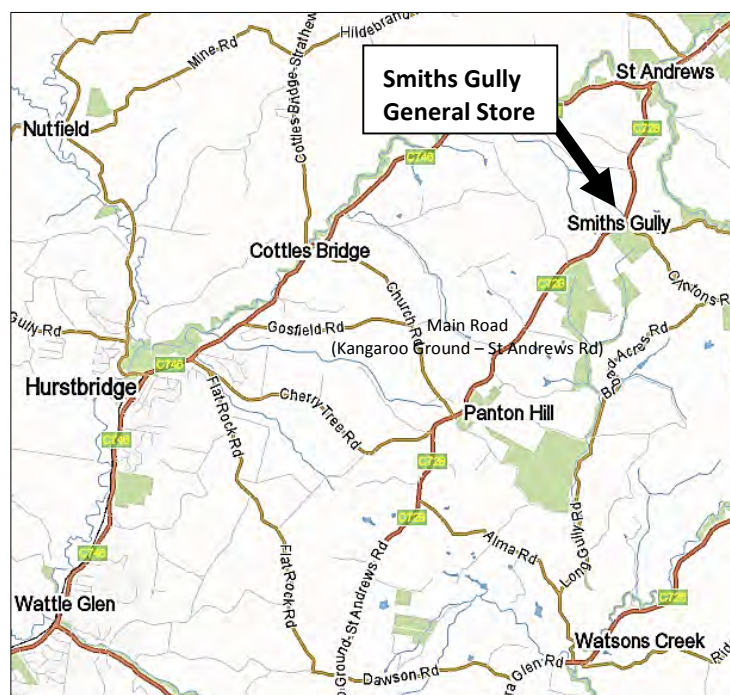
Hike starts at 8.30 am sharp – do not arrive late!

Hike Distance: Approximately 16 km (allow 5-7 hours)

Trail Information: The trails incorporate a number of walking tracks and dirt roads around the Mount Macedon and Camel's Hump area. The trail is generally undulating with some steeper sections.

How to get there: From Melbourne: follow the Calder Highway past Gisborne. Take the Macedon/Mt Macedon turn-off 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.

Facilities at Days picnic ground: Toilets, Picnic tables



Saturday, 7 May SMITHS GULLY

Starting from Smiths Gully General Store
914 Main Road (Kangaroo Ground – St Andrews Road)
Smiths Gully
Melways map reference 264 E3

Please arrive by 8.30 am to register

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

Hike Distance: Approximately 16 km (allow 5-7 hours)

Note: suitable only for fit hikers & dogs.

How to get there: Follow the Main Road (Kangaroo Ground – St Andrews Road) through Panton Hill towards St Andrews. The General Store is located on the corner of Main Road & Clintons Road approximately 3 km after Panton Hill.

Trail Information: The trails incorporate a number of reserves and gravel roads in the Smiths Gully area. The trail is quite hilly, with some steeper sections making it suitable for fit hikers and dogs only.

Facilities at Smiths Gully General Store: Toilets, Café, store

Weight Pull Events



ENTRIES FOR AMCV EVENTS TAKEN ON THE DAY – NO PRE-ENTRY REQUIRED

NOTE: Pre-entry required for ASTCV events only

Venue:

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

AMCV Entry Fees:

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

CHANGES TO ASTCV EVENTS

Please note pre-entry and eligibility requirements, earlier start times and changed entry fees for ASTCV events. ASTCV events comply with requirements for the ANKC Working Weight Pull Dog titles.

| No | Event Details | Date | Venue | Registration / Weigh-in | Start time |
|----|---------------------|--------------|----------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| | AMCV Training Day | 10 April | KCC Park | From 9.45 am | 10.00 am |
| 1 | AMCV Competition | 17 April | KCC Park | 9.45 – 10.15 am | 10.30 am |
| 2 | AMCV Competition | 1 May | KCC Park | 9.45 – 10.15 am | 10.30 am |
| 3 | ASTCV* | 22 May | KCC Park | From 7.00 am | 8.30 am |
| | ASTCV | 12 June | KCC Park | From 7.00 am | 8.30 am |
| | ASTCV | 3 July | KCC Park | From 7.00 am | 8.30 am |
| | ASTCV | 24 July | KCC Park | From 7.00 am | 8.30 am |
| 4 | ASTCV* | 21 August | KCC Park | From 7.00 am | 8.30 am |
| 5 | ASTCV* | 3 September | KCC Park | From 7.00 am | 8.30 am |
| 6 | AMCV – Tuggy Shield | 18 September | KCC Park | 9.45 – 10.15 am | 10.30 am |
| 7 | AMCV | 2 October | KCC Park | 9.15 – 9.45 am | 10.00 am |

*** NOTE – AMCV events may be cancelled if forecast temperature on day of competition is over 25°C or in extreme weather conditions.**

*Events 1-6, including the ASTCV events on 22 May, 21 August & 3 September, are included in the AMCV 2016 Annual Weight Pull Competition.
Event 6 held on 11 October 2015 is also included in the 2016 annual competition.
For ASTCV event updates, please check their website www.astcv.com

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.**

Weight Classes*:

- Up to 36 kg class
- 36 – 45 kg class
- 46 - 55 kg class
- Unlimited class

** extra weight classes are offered at ASTCV events.*

NB: Dog's weight is rounded down to nearest whole kilogram to determine weight class. The handler / owner may nominate a start weight which is based on the dog's weight as follows:

- <36 kg class: maximum start weight 244 kg
- 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 maximum 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.

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 change of start time, eligibility criteria and pre-entry requirements for ASTCV events

Eligibility for AMCV Events:

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

For ASCTV Events:

Please note that for ASTCV events dogs are also required to be ANKC registered (purebred or Associate registration).

ALL BREEDS WELCOME

Further Information:

AMCV Events:
Ph: Mel Gray
0404 104 619
Email: amcvinc@gmail.com
Website: www.amcv.org.au

ASTCV Events:
Ph: Lincoln Hancock
0409 135 800
Email: amstaff@live.com.au
Website: www.astcv.com

Sledding Training Day

Sunday, 24 April
10 am to 2 pm

You Yangs Western Plantation
 (near Little River)
 Enter from Sandy Creek Road
 Melways – Page 11 – Ref C12

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

The Sledding Training Day is 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 including passing training and short courses, and equipment will be available to borrow.

We'd really love to see lots of people and dogs of all breeds, so put the date in your diary, come and have some fun!

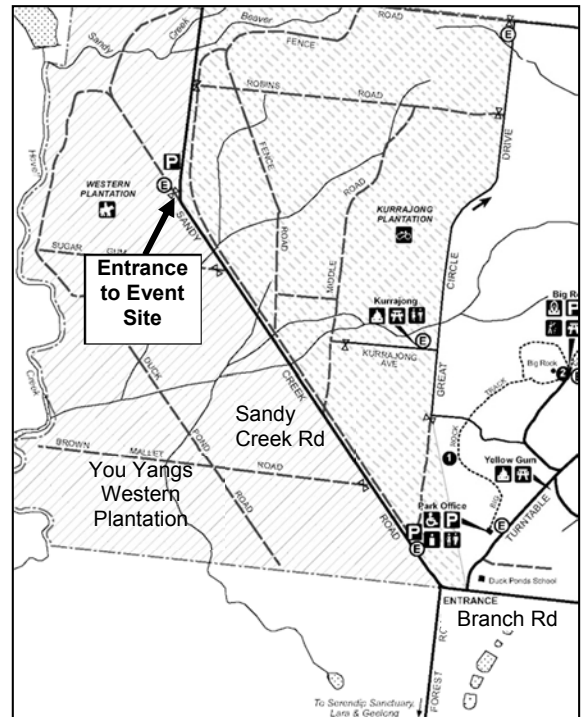


What to bring:

Waterbowl, water and a secure means of tethering your dog. Bring your own equipment if you have it, if not there will be equipment available for you to borrow. There will also be some working-dog and Malamute related items for sale, however if you are interested in purchasing a particular item, please email the AMCV prior to the event.

Directions:

From the Princes Highway, 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. Continue past the main park entrance to the T-intersection at the end of Branch Road. Turn right into Sandy Creek Rd, continue approx. 2 km to the bend in the road, turn left into the Western Plantation and follow the signs.



Further Information:

Phone Ian on 0417 103 615, Ralph & Sandy on 9714 8540 or email amcvinc@gmail.com

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 or 0417 103 615 to confirm.



2016 SLEDDING EVENTS



| Date | Name | Venue | Schedule | Event details / distances |
|--------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Sunday 24 April | SLEDDING TRAINING DAY | You Yangs Western Plantation | 10 am to 2 pm | Introduction to sledding for novice mushers & first timers. |
| 14 May | EVENT 1 1 heat event & training | You Yangs Western Plantation | Check In: 3.00 pm Drivers' Meeting: 3.30 pm Start: from 4.00 pm | 1-dog & Novice - 2-3 km 2-dog - 4-5 km 4-dog - 5-7 km 6-dog - 5-7 km |
| 15 May | EVENT 2 1 heat event | You Yangs Western Plantation | Check In: 7.00 am Drivers' Meeting: 7.15 am *Start: 7.45 am <i>*possible earlier start for 4/6-dog classes</i> | 1-dog & Novice - 2-3 km 2-dog - 4-5 km 4-dog - 5-7 km 6-dog - 5-7 km |
| 28 May | EVENT 3 1 heat event | You Yangs Western Plantation | Check In: 3.00 pm Drivers' Meeting: 3.30 pm Start: from 4.00 pm | 1-dog & Novice - 2.5-3.5 km 2-dog - 4-6 km 4-dog - 5-8 km 6-dog - 5-8 km |
| 29 May | EVENT 4 1 heat event | You Yangs Western Plantation | Check In: 7.15 am Drivers' Meeting: 7.30 am *Start: 8.00 am <i>*possible earlier start for 4/6-dog classes</i> | 1-dog & Novice - 2.5-3.5 km 2-dog - 4-6 km 4-dog - 5-8 km 6-dog - 5-8 km |
| 11-13 June | Northern Victorian Sled Dog Classic | Kialla West <i>Non-AMCV Event – Pre-entry required</i> | Further details available from the Northern Victorian Sled Dog Club www.nvsdc.org.au <i>NB: This event does NOT count towards the 2016 AMCV Sledding Point Score</i> | |
| 25/26 June | Goldseekers | Kingower <i>Non-AMCV Event – Pre-entry required</i> | Further details available from the Goldseekers Sled Dog Club www.nvsdc.org.au <i>NB: This event does NOT count towards the 2016 AMCV Sledding Point Score</i> | |
| 2 July | EVENT 5 1 heat event | Knowsley | Check In: 3.00 pm Drivers' Meeting: 3.30 pm Start: from 4.00 pm | 1-dog & Novice - 2.5-3.5 km 2-dog - 4-6 km 4-dog - 5-8 km 6-dog - 5-8 km |
| 3 July | EVENT 6 1 heat event | Knowsley | Check In: 7.15 am Drivers' Meeting: 7.30 am *Start: 8.00 am <i>*possible earlier start for 4/6-dog classes</i> | 1-dog & Novice - 2.5-3.5 km 2-dog - 4-6 km 4-dog - 5-8 km 6-dog - 5-8 km |
| 16/17 July | EVENT 7 – State Cup Race 2 heat event | You Yangs Western Plantation | Saturday: Check In: 2.30pm Drivers' Meeting: 3.00pm Start: from 3.30pm Sunday: Drivers' Meeting: 7.45 am AM Start*: 8.00 am <i>*possible earlier start for 4/6-dog classes</i> | 1-dog & Novice - 3-4 km 2-dog - 4-6 km 4-dog - 5-8 km 6-dog - 5-8 km |
| 27 & 28 Aug | SLEDDING TRAINING & SOCIAL WEEKEND | You Yangs Western Plantation | Introduction to sledding, short courses and training. <i>Details in the June Malamute Mail</i> | Ideal for newcomers to come and try sledding. |

Please note the following for sledding events*:

**Does not apply to non-AMCV events*

Entries: NOTE: 4-dog & 6-dog classes - pre-entry required for all events. Contact Joedy 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.

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. Excursion events (minimum 16 km): all classes run the same course (not a race).

Lighting: Suitable battery operated bike lighting is **required by all teams in the 1-dog, 2-dog and 4/6 dog classes**. The additional use of a head lamp is also recommended. (Dynamo powered lighting is not suitable).

Entry Fees:

Members: Single heat events: \$8.00,
Multi-heat events: \$12.00
Second entry (same driver, different class): \$6.00 (Single heat event), \$10.00 (multi-heat event)
Season Ticket: \$45.00
Second Season ticket (same Driver): \$35.00 (Members only - covers all AMCV sledding events)
Non-members: Single heat events: \$10.00
Multi-heat events: \$15.00

Novice: \$5.00

Pee Wee, Junior, Touring & Veterans: \$2.00

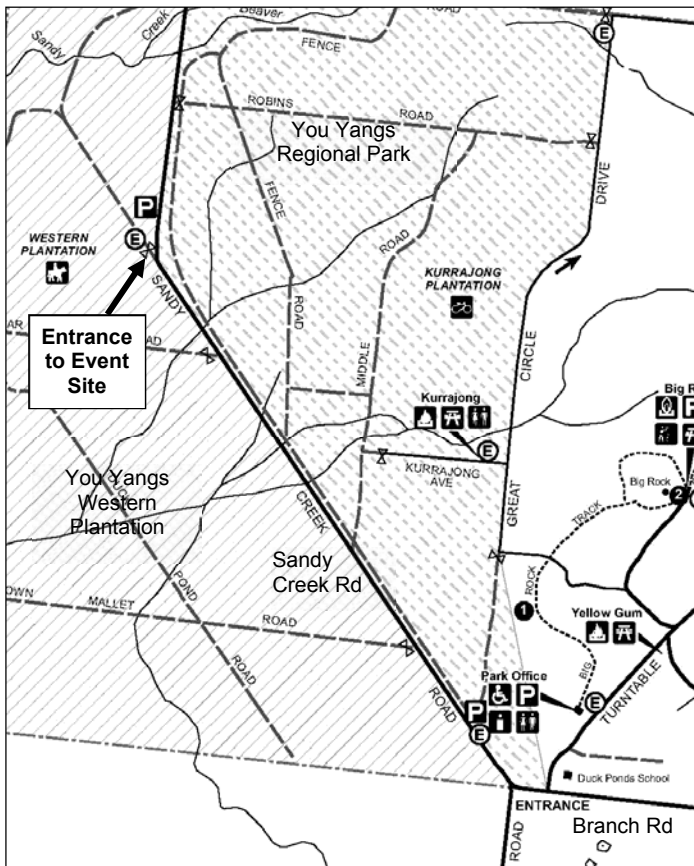
Further Details:

For pre-entry (4- & 6-dog class only) or further information, contact the Sledding Co-ordinator (Joedy) on 0400 965 370, VP Activities (Sandy) on 03 9714 8540 or email: amcvinc@gmail.com, Website: www.amcv.org.au

Directions to Sledding Event Sites:

You Yangs Western Plantation

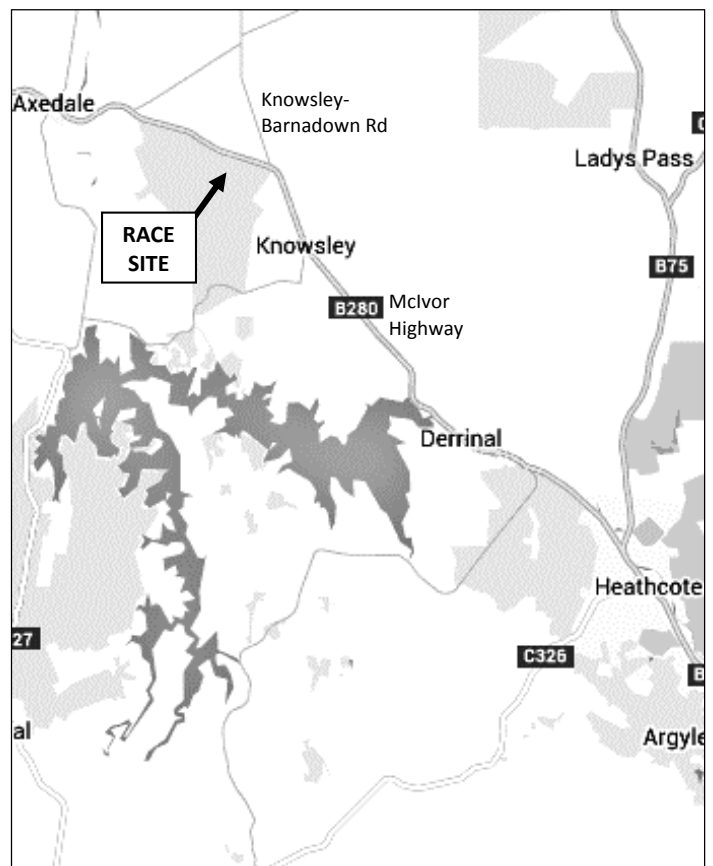
Sandy Creek Road (near Little River)



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.

Knowsley State Forest

Mclvor Highway, north-west of Heathcote.



From Melbourne: Follow the Mclvor Highway through the Heathcote town centre north-west towards Bendigo. Continue along the Mclvor Highway through Derrinal and Knowsley towards Axedale. Not far after the Knowsley-Barnadown Road intersection, turn left into the Knowsley State Forest – watch for AMCV signs along the Mclvor Highway. Follow AMCV signs and diamond markers* to the race site.

CAUTION! SLED DOGS ARE ADDICTIVE!

by Judy Bergemann

I'm not kidding! This is a fact! And it's not a cheap addiction!

If you're one of those people who "sticks" to mushing (or it sticks to you), you can anticipate changing your entire lifestyle. Yes, I know, you're only going to have a couple of dogs for fun. So don't blame me if a few years down the road you've moved three times for more space, have twenty dogs in your yard and you're trying to figure out how to quit working so you can devote more time to training dogs.

Except for those few born into "doggy" families, we've all gone down this road. It all seems so innocent to begin with but before you know it your life becomes "dog centred." You will always need just "one more" dog (probably a very expensive leader); a newer sled (one of the high tech ones); a few more harnesses (that new style, ya know); a set of dress Carharts, a new truck, a new dog box, a few more pans and houses, chain, snaps, lines, food, food, food...and don't forget a nice little used ATV (which just happens to need an engine overhaul and new tires).

My advice is don't do it! Don't get that first sled dog! Even if you are blessed with a family who encourages you, they will change their minds in a few years when you no longer appear at family gatherings because you have one dog thing or another to attend to. Worse yet, they stop inviting you because all you do is talk about your dogs!

Consider yourself warned! Now that you've been warned, I must tell you that I've thoroughly enjoyed every minute of my 40+ years with sled dogs. It's a marvellous sport with wonderful people...and best of all, the dogs. They are magnificent creatures that you will come to love and respect for their honesty, commitment, heart, unconditional trust and love, and unwavering loyalty. They will teach you things you cannot learn any other way except by living in the company of dogs.

Reprinted from the Sled Dog Central website: www.sleddogcentral.com



Understanding Your Pet's Blood, Tissue & Urine Laboratory Results

~ W. Jean Dodds, DVM

Blood and urine tests help determine causes of illness accurately, safely, and quickly allow us to monitor the progress of case management and medical treatments.

This guide can help you understand your pet's laboratory diagnostic test results. Proper communication with your veterinarian is essential regarding interpretation of any lab results. Normal reference laboratory ranges are not provided here, as these may vary depending upon the type of instrumentation and reagents used. Each veterinary diagnostic laboratory or in-clinic diagnostic test machine comes with its own normal reference ranges.

Complete Blood Count (CBC)

A CBC gives information on hydration status, anemia, infection, the blood's clotting ability (platelet count), and the ability of the immune system (white blood cells) to respond to a stress or other disease event. This test is important for pets with fevers, vomiting, weakness, pale gums, or loss of appetite. If your pet needs surgery, a CBC may detect a potential bleeding disorder or other unseen abnormalities.

Hematocrit (HCT, PCV) measures the percentage of red blood cells in the sample to detect conditions such as anemia and dehydration.

Hemoglobin (HGB) and mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration (MCHC) measures the oxygen-carrying pigments of red blood cells.

White blood cell (WBC) or leukocyte count measures the body's ability to respond to stress or a variety of conditions. Increases or decreases indicate certain diseases or infections.

Granulocytes (neutrophils; PMNs), lymphocytes and monocytes are specific types of white blood cells.

Eosinophils are another specific type of white blood cell that may indicate allergic or parasitic conditions.

Platelet count measures the tiny cells that help form blood clots.

Reticulocytes and nucleated red blood cells are immature red blood cells. High levels indicate a regenerative anemia.

Serum Blood Chemistries

These tests evaluate organ function, electrolyte status, and hormone levels. They also give barometers of adrenal function and other diseases. We use these tests for base lines as pets age, pre-anesthetic evaluation, monitoring long term medications, as well as evaluating sick animals.

Albumin (ALB) is an important serum protein that helps evaluate hydration, presence of blood loss from hemorrhage, and

intestinal, liver, and kidney disease. It maintains the oncotic pressure that keeps the fluid within the blood vessels rather than allowing it to leak out into the tissues,

Alkaline phosphatase (ALK P) elevations may indicate liver damage, Cushing's disease (overactive adrenal function), and active bone growth in young pets. Levels rise slightly as animals age. This test is especially significant in cats as even slight elevations may indicate of liver disease.

Alanine aminotransferase (ALT, SGPT) is an indicator of active liver cell damage but does not identify the underlying cause. Liver cleansing herbs such as milk thistle or SAME are used along with a grain-free liver sparing diet, once more definitive diagnostics are completed.

Amylase (AMYL) elevations show pancreatitis, when the serum lipase is also high, or become increased in the presence of kidney disease.

Aspartate aminotransferase (AST, SGOT) increases may indicate liver, heart, or skeletal muscle damage, but this is an enzyme released from many injured cells.

Blood urea nitrogen (BUN) indicates the amount of protein nitrogen in the blood and usually reflects kidney function. An increased blood level is called azotemia and may be caused by kidney, liver, heart disease, urethral obstruction, shock, dehydration, impaired intestinal food absorption, or an intestinal or stomach foreign body. A low BUN may indicate a cirrhotic liver or portal caval liver shunt. It can be elevated normally as a result of eating a raw diet.

Calcium (CA) deviations may indicate a variety of diseases. Cancers, kidney disease, hyperparathyroidism, and anal gland tumor, are just a few of the diseases that alter calcium levels. In dogs, but not cats, the calcium concentration is corrected upwards when the albumin level is below 3.5 mg/dl. The result is the corrected calcium.

Cholesterol (CHOL) may be altered in hypothyroidism, liver disease, Cushing's disease, high fat diets, and diabetes mellitus.

Chloride (CL) is an electrolyte often lost with vomiting and in Addison's disease (underactive adrenal function). Elevations may indicate dehydration.

Cortisol is a hormone released in pulsatile fashion from the adrenal glands in response to stress or certain adrenal diseases. More specific, dynamic diagnostic tests of adrenal function (ACTH stimulation test, low-dose dexamethasone suppression test, and urine cortisol-creatinine ratio).

Creatinine level reflects kidney function. This test helps distinguish between kidney (renal) and non-renal causes of an elevated BUN.

Gamma glutamyl transferase (GGPT) is an enzyme that specifically measures bile flow through the liver. Stasis of bile flow is seen in liver or gall bladder disease and in corticosteroid excess.

Globulin level reflects all the blood proteins other than albumin, and typically increases with chronic inflammation and certain diseases such as feline infectious peritonitis (FIP). Low levels are seen in the very young and in immune deficiency states.

Glucose is a blood sugar. Elevated levels may indicate diabetes mellitus (cats, dogs). Low levels can cause fainting, collapse, seizures, or coma.

Potassium (K) is an electrolyte lost with vomiting, diarrhea, or excessive urination. Increased levels may indicate kidney failure, Addison’s disease, dehydration, and urethral obstruction. High levels are normal in the Japanese dog breeds because of their unique red blood cell membrane. In disease states, high levels can lead to cardiac arrest. Low levels may occur with loss of appetite especially in cats.

Lipase is an enzyme that may indicate pancreatitis, when the serum amylase is also elevated.

Sodium (NA) is an electrolyte lost with vomiting, diarrhea, kidney disorders, and Addison’s disease. This test helps indicate hydration status.

Phosphorus (Phos) elevations are often associated with kidney disease, hyperthyroidism, and some bleeding disorders.

Bilirubin elevations may indicate liver, gall bladder, or hemolytic diseases.

Total protein indicates hydration status and provides additional information about the liver, intestine, kidney, and presence of infection.

Thyroid tests (T4, FreeT4, T3, FreeT3, TSH, and TgAA) are performed to measure thyroid function. A complete thyroid antibody profile is much preferred over a simple total T4 test, which can be misleading. Age- and breed-specific normal ranges should be taken into account. Genetic screening of dogs intended for breeding is important, as up to 90% of canine thyroid disease is due to heritable autoimmune thyroiditis. Dogs testing positive for this heritable disorder need to be treated with thyroid hormone and should not be used for breeding purposes. Decreased levels may signal hypothyroidism, non-thyroidal illness or use of certain drugs, while high levels indicate hyperthyroidism

in older cats, may also occur from eating the throat or gullet part of red raw meat and in thyroid tumors. .

TLI, B12, Folate are intestinal tests to indicate malfunction of the digestive tract of cats and dogs.

Bile Acids are measured as a specific test for liver function, including congenital liver shunts (portacaval shunts, microvascular dysplasia), cirrhosis, and active liver disease. They can also be measured in urine.

Fecal exams analyze for intestinal parasites of various types.

Urinalysis (UA)

Evaluates kidney function, bladder pathology including tumors, urinary tract infections, urine concentration, presence of bladder stones and crystals.

Urine-Cortisol Creatinine Ratio (UCCR) is a simple screening test for Cushing’s disease. Must be performed on urine collected at home, first thing in the morning and before exercise.

Urine-Protein Creatinine Ratio (UPCR) measures kidney function and is abnormal in kidney failure.

Cytology is performed by a pathologist looking at a tissue or body fluid sample for evidence of any abnormality.

Culture and Sensitivity is measured on a body discharge or urine sample to determine the type of bacteria or fungus present, and the best antibiotic or antifungal drug to treat the condition.

Biopsy is a sample of tissue sent to a pathology laboratory for analysis. Histopathology is performed on specially prepared stained or frozen sections of the tissue to identify any abnormality.

Reprinted from Dr. Jean Dodds' Pet Health Resource Blog <http://drjeandoddspehealthresource.tumblr.com/>



Doggy Logic Problem



The five dogs (Max, Bandit, Daisy, Lucky, and Zoe) at the Doggie Day Care were all dogs of a different breed (Labrador, Shepherd, Rottweiler, Malamute, and Staffordshire Terrier). Each brought their own dog toy (ball, Kong, rope toy, Nylabone, and puzzle toy) and each went to a different part of the Doggie Day Care play area (one stayed in the dog house, one in the swimming pool, one under a tree, one in the dog bed, and one stayed indoors). Can you tell which dog was which breed had which toy and went where?

1. Max, who wasn’t the Labrador or the Malamute, went to the dog house with his toy, which wasn’t the rope toy.
2. Lucky didn’t have the rope toy and he wasn’t the Labrador with the ball.
3. The dog with the Nylabone is the dog who spent time on the dog bed.
4. Daisy, who didn’t stay indoors, was the Staffordshire Terrier dog breed.
5. Bandit had the puzzle dog toy but he didn’t stay under the tree or go indoors.
6. Bandit was neither the Rottweiler nor the Malamute.

Answers elsewhere in this newsletter

| | Max | Lucky | Daisy | Bandit | Zoe |
|---------------|-----|-------|-------|--------|-----|
| Labrador | | | | | |
| Shepherd | | | | | |
| Malamute | | | | | |
| Rottweiler | | | | | |
| Staffy | | | | | |
| Rope | | | | | |
| Kong | | | | | |
| Ball | | | | | |
| Nylabone | | | | | |
| Puzzle | | | | | |
| Dog house | | | | | |
| Swimming pool | | | | | |
| Tree | | | | | |
| Bed | | | | | |
| Indoors | | | | | |

AMCV Annual Weightpull Competition



Classes: < 36kg, 36kg – 45kg, 45kg - 55kg, Unlimited

Eligibility 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.

Class Awards: Class awards will be determined on the basis of a dog's highest four (4)* weights pulled in that weight class out of the maximum seven (7) eligible events*. A dog that has competed in less than four (4) events is not excluded from eligibility for class awards. Annual awards will be provided for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each eligible weight class. In the event of a tie, a joint award will be provided.

Top Weightpull Dog of the Year Award: 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 four (4) results* achieved in any of the weight classes from the seven (7) 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 if the event schedule changes.

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.

Please note that pre-entry is essential for ASTCV events



Can you unscramble the dog breeds?



RANGEM SPEEDHRH
KJCA SLURSLE RETRIER
DEMOSYA
PREGRINS ELAPSIN
LOLAPPIN
MERRIEWAAN
TOILETWERR
SKANAAL TAULEMMA

PITHPEW
KEEPPINGS
DRABROAL VETERRIER
BRAINIES KYSHU
HABIS UNI
BEATTIN STAFMIF
NOMDROOK
ETRAINIU CRISPEN

Answers on page 21

Malamutes required for Judges Training Night

7.30 pm Tuesday, 12 July
Bulla Exhibition Centre

At least 6 show-trained Malamutes are required for the Judges Training night for Alaskan Malamutes on 12 July.

The training session will commence promptly at 7.30pm sharp when the dogs will be examined by the trainees, and they should be finished no later than 9 pm.

We have been assured that all exhibits will be handled with respect by the trainee judges and they will NOT be criticised or discussed in public.

If you are able to bring a dog or dogs along to the Judges training night, please contact Shelley Turner 5978 6001 or email amcvinc@gmail.com



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Coauthored with Diana R. Laverdure

***Dedicated to the memory of our dear friend and trailblazer, Joanne Carson, PhD,
Founder of Canine Epilepsy Guardian Angels***

Seizures are the most common neurological disorder in dogs (Wong, 2013). Witnessing a beloved dog in the throes of a seizure is terrifying; the fear that he will injure himself, that he shouldn't be left alone or that his quality of life will suffer so much that you will be forced to make a dire decision regarding his future are all enough to cause feelings of helplessness and constant stress in even the most resilient dog parent. But the good news is that seizures do not necessarily get worse over time, and there are proactive steps that can help reduce both their intensity and frequency (Canine Epilepsy Guardian Angels, 2011).

Minimizing the total number of seizures and decreasing their frequency is critical, since it's theorized that every time the brain has a seizure, it "learns" how to have the next seizure. This phenomenon is called "kindling," and essentially it means that the more seizures a dog has, the more likely he will continue to have them. It is a vicious cycle that becomes harder to break with each episode (Canine Epilepsy Guardian Angels, 2011).

Seizures result from abnormal bursts of electrical activity in the brain. *There are three main types:*

- **Extracranial**, which are caused by outside factors that affect the brain, such as a poison or low blood sugar. Diagnosis is made via blood and urine tests.
- **Intracranial**, or structural, result when there is something wrong inside of the brain, such as a brain tumor. These are more worrisome and are diagnosed via MRI and spinal tap.
- **Idiopathic**, which are the most common type, result from a functional problem in the brain in which the neurons over-fire, causing the brain to become excessively excitable. Idiopathic seizures typically appear in dogs between one and five years of age and most commonly affect Cocker Spaniels, Labrador Retrievers and German Shepherds, although any breed can suffer from them (Wong, 2013).

Specific causes of seizures include:

- Brain tumors
- Certain medications
- Environmental toxins
- Fever
- Food toxins
- Hypoxia (inadequate levels of oxygen in the blood or tissues)
- Infection
- Inflammation
- Inherited structural problems in the skull or brain (e.g., Syringomyelia, where a cyst forms in the spinal cord, damaging the spinal cord and injuring nerve fibers that carry information from the brain to the extremities. This is especially prevalent in Cavalier King Charles Spaniels.)
- Liver problems
- Low blood sugar
- Meningitis
- Metabolic diseases (e.g., diabetes mellitus, thyroid disease)
- Parasites
- Sinus or ear infections
- Strokes or clots
- Stress
- Systemic diseases (e.g., kidney or liver failure)
- Tick-borne diseases
- Traumatic injuries
- Vaccinosis (adverse effects of vaccines)
- Viruses (e.g., distemper, rabies)

(Canine Epilepsy Guardian Angels, 2011; Wong, 2013)

Be aware of the following signs that indicate the dog is having a seizure:

- Falling over onto side
- "Star gazing" or "fly snapping"
- Convulsions

- Loss of consciousness
- Salivation
- Stiffening and paddling motion of the legs
- Uncontrolled urination and/or defecation
- Vocalization

While one usually cannot stop a seizure once it's started, steps to help reduce the severity and frequency include the following listed below.

Eliminate Environmental Toxins and Other Exposures

Resistance to all disease involves an optimally functioning immune system, which can be damaged by environmental and food toxins. Many other types of toxins have been linked to neurological issues.

Certain flea and tick treatments are unsuitable for dogs with seizures.

The topical spot-on flea and tick control products continue to raise concerns about their safety. In particular, products containing organophosphates and carbamates pose severe health risks and should not be used on pets. Organophosphates are neurotoxins that kill insects by interfering with the transmission of nerve signals in their brains and nervous systems. Like organophosphates, carbamates are toxic to the brain and nervous system. If the product label lists atropine as an antidote to poisoning, the product most likely contains carbamates.

Spot-on flea and tick products containing pyrethroids have gained popularity over the last decade, as they are considered to be less acutely toxic to birds and mammals than organophosphates and carbamates. However, these insecticides carry their own potential toxicity risks. Pyrethrins are botanical insecticides derived from certain species of chrysanthemums. They work by penetrating the nerve system and causing paralysis and eventual death of the target pests and have been linked with dizziness, headache, nausea, muscle twitching, reduced energy, changes in awareness, convulsions, loss of consciousness, hyperexcitability, tremors, profuse salivation and seizures in companion animals. Other flea and tick control products that are contraindicated for dogs prone to seizures are those containing spinosad (Comfortis[®], Trifexis[®]), afoxolaner (NexGard[™]), or fluralaner (Bravecto[™]).

Vaccines are linked to seizures. Distemper, parvovirus, rabies and, presumably, other vaccines have been linked with polyneuropathy, a nerve disease that involves inflammation of several nerves. Symptoms of polyneuropathy include muscular atrophy (wasting away of the muscle), the inhibition or interruption of neuronal control of tissue and organ function, muscular excitation (stimulation of muscle fibers), incoordination (poor muscle control or coordination), weakness, and seizures. In addition, MLV (modified live virus) vaccines are associated with the development of temporary seizures in both puppies and adult dogs that belong to susceptible breeds or crossbreeds (Dodds, 2001).

Check Thyroid Function

Low thyroid function, known as hypothyroidism, can precipitate or aggravate existing seizure disorders. While the exact mechanism of how this works is unknown, it may relate to the important role thyroid hormones play in cellular metabolism of the central nervous system. In some cases, simply giving a hypothyroid dog the appropriate levels of

thyroid medication reduces the severity and frequency of the seizures, and may even stop them altogether. If a dog has seizures, it's important that he has a full thyroid antibody test profile run including Total T4, Free T4, Total T3, Free T3, and Canine Thyroglobulin Autoantibody (TgAA). T3 Autoantibody (T3AA) and T4 Autoantibody (T4AA) can also be added. Since many veterinarians do not fully understand how to properly test for canine thyroid dysfunction, the condition often goes undiagnosed or misdiagnosed, and the dog unfortunately suffers unnecessarily. For this reason, it's critical to carry out the testing at a lab specializing in interpreting thyroid dysfunction in dogs, such as Hemolife's diagnostics lab. For more information on canine thyroid disorders, the most common endocrine dysfunction in dogs, please refer to our book, *The Canine Thyroid Epidemic*, DogWise Publishing, 2011.

Avoid Certain Dietary Ingredients

Dogs prone to seizures should not eat the following:

Foods that promote inflammation. Inflammation affects every organ in the body, including the brain, so it probably comes as no surprise that inflammation can cause seizures. Dogs prone to seizures should not consume any potentially inflammatory ingredients, including foods that trigger allergies or intolerances/sensitivities, such as chemical additives, wheat, corn, soy, beef or cow's milk products—but remember that it can also include any food that causes a problem for an individual dog. For dogs with seizures, we advise testing with NutriScan to identify any problematic food ingredients. In particular, never give products containing gluten to dogs with seizures, since gluten is specifically linked with neurological disorders, including epilepsy, and promotes autoimmune thyroiditis (Kresser, 2010; Hyman, 2013).

Foods that cause fluctuations in blood sugar. Sugars can disrupt the body's equilibrium or homeostasis, possibly leading to seizures (Wilson, 2013). Avoid giving seizure-prone dogs carbohydrates with a high glycemic index (GI), including honey, sugars, white rice, wheat, corn, white potatoes, carrots, and peas.

Foods containing glutamate and aspartate. Glutamate and aspartate are two excitatory non-essential amino acids (Stafstrom, 2004; Wilson, 2013). Foods high in these amino acids include: grains, especially wheat, barley and oats; all cow's milk products (opt instead for goat's milk, which is much lower); beans, especially soy, pinto, lima, black, navy and lentils; nuts, especially peanuts, cashews and pistachios; seeds, including sunflower and pumpkin; any food sweetened with aspartame, such as NutraSweet and Equal; rabbit; turkey; and monosodium glutamate (MSG), a glutamine salt. MSG is used in many prepared foods and can appear on pet food labels under a number of pseudonyms, including "hydrolyzed vegetable protein", "soy protein extract" and "textured vegetable protein" (Wilson, 2013). These foods should also be avoided in dogs with liver disease.

Rosemary and oregano. Rosemary is commonly added as an antioxidant and anti-inflammatory to commercial pet foods. While likely fine for most dogs, it is a neurotoxin that can promote seizures in vulnerable dogs. Oregano is also a powerful neurotoxin and should not be fed to epileptics.

Vitamin/mineral deficiencies and seizures. Many vitamins and minerals are important for normal functioning of the nervous system. Deficiencies in the minerals calcium, magnesium and sodium, for example, can affect electrical activity of brain cells and result in seizures (Schachter, 2006). Calcium and magnesium, as well as zinc, are also referred to as sedative minerals because they are calming for the nervous system (Wilson, 2013). Antioxidant vitamins (A, C and E) help boost the immune system and fight inflammation. Perhaps the most important vitamins to protect against seizures are the B vitamins.

DNA Methylation: an Explanation for the “Kindling” Effect?

Kindling is a phenomenon whereby the more seizures an individual has, the more he will tend to have. Recently, scientists have uncovered a possible reason for this phenomenon; which, not surprisingly, lies within the purview of epigenetics. Epigenetics affects how DNA methylation impacts upon gene expression; and scientists are now recognizing that DNA methylation also regulates processes that lead to neurologic disorders. A recent “methylation hypothesis” suggests that seizures themselves induce epigenetic modification of chromatin (the combination of DNA and proteins that make up the contents of a cell’s nucleus) in a manner that aggravates an existing epileptic condition (Kobow, 2011). This means that, quite literally, seizures “teach” cells how to have more seizures and that we can and need to interrupt this genomic “lesson” by reducing the frequency of attacks. This hypothesis certainly provides a plausible explanation for the kindling effect, since everything that happens in the body originates at the cellular level. Since vitamin B-12 and folate promote optimum functioning of the DNA methylation cycle, deficiencies can lead to seizures. Deficiency in biotin, another B-vitamin that modulates chromatin regulation, can also cause epilepsy. In people, a rare inherited form of seizures known as pyridoxine-dependent epilepsy results from mutations in the ALDH7A1 gene, which leads to impairment of normal vitamin B-6 function. Pyridoxine is involved in the breakdown of amino acids and the production neurotransmitters, chemicals that transmit signals in the brain. Pyridoxine-dependent epilepsy does not respond to traditional medical therapy and is treated with high daily doses of pyridoxine (National Library of Medicine, 2013).

Thus, consuming a diet rich in B vitamins may help lower the susceptibility to seizures through their epigenetic ability to regulate gene expression (Foti & Roskams, 2011).

Omega-3 Fatty Acids: Too Important to Ignore

Research on the effects of omega-3 fatty acids and epilepsy are still in the early stages, however, we believe that this important nutrient makes perfect sense to help combat seizures. Omega-3s contain potent anti-inflammatory properties, and inflammatory mediators are increased in epileptic patients. Omega-3s also increase seizure thresholds, promote optimal brain development and modulate neuronal excitability (Stafstrom, 2004; Yuen et al., 2005).

Ketogenic Diet: Proven Effective for People, but not for Dogs

A ketogenic diet contains high amounts of fat, low carbohydrates and moderate protein. Under normal circumstances, glucose broken down from carbohydrates is the primary form of dietary energy. By severely limiting carbohydrates (and thus glucose), the ketogenic diet mimics a constant state of starvation, forcing the body to burn fat for energy. The diet gets its name because the fat is converted to ketones that are utilized as energy in place of carbohydrates. Ketogenic diets are often used in people who do not respond to seizure medications, especially children. While it’s uncertain why they work, about two-thirds of people on a ketogenic diet show significant improvement. But the diet can cause serious health problems, including GI tract upset, hyperlipidemia, renal calculi, stunted growth and pancreatitis (Carr, 2013).

Ketogenic diets have never been proven effective, or safe, in dogs (Thomas, 2011.) In a 2005 study, researchers compared the effects of a ketogenic diet containing 57% crude fat, 5.8% NFE (carbohydrates) and 28% crude protein to a control diet containing 16% crude fat, 25% crude protein and 54% NFE (carbohydrates) in dogs diagnosed with idiopathic seizures. The objective of the study was to determine if the ketogenic diet resulted in a significant reduction in seizure frequency. The dogs were all receiving phenobarbital and/or potassium bromide and had experienced at least three seizures in the three months prior to the study. All of the dogs were fed the control diet for a monitoring period of three to six months while their seizure frequency was established. Dogs that had suffered five or more seizures during that time were randomly divided into two groups; one group continued to receive the control diet, while the other group received the ketogenic diet. The dogs were evaluated at 0, 0.5, three and six months. Of the 12 dogs that completed the trial, there was no difference in seizure frequency between the group fed the ketogenic diet and the control diet (Carr, 2013; Coates, 2013).

The fact that dogs can naturally tolerate longer periods without eating likely accounts for their lack of response to the ketogenic diet. A high fat/low carbohydrate diet apparently just does not create the same biochemical changes in canines as it does in people (Coates, 2013). Moreover, ketogenic diets may create adverse health effects in dogs. Pancreatitis is a serious condition that often results from an excess of dietary fat. Due to a lack of proven efficacy and safety, we do not recommend a ketogenic diet for dogs with seizures.

Could Seizures Originate in the Gut?

The importance of maintaining gut health and the role played by a compromised gastrointestinal (GI) system in leading to a whole host of medical conditions cannot be overstated. Further, imbalances in intestinal microbial flora can also produce seizures. The condition is known as “abdominal epilepsy” and it occurs due to the gut-brain connection. Abdominal epilepsy occurs when an unhealthy microbial environment in the gut creates toxins that cross into the brain. In addition, sections of the intestine known as Peyer’s Patches, where the gut connects with the lymphatic system, are closely associated with nerve bundles and fibers

Blast from the Past: 2004 Southern Cross Classic, Gumbaya Park
Left to right: Stewy Cumming & Jeddah, Tony Cortese & Nanuk,
Linda Hewat & Maple, Ralph Koch & Oska, Tash Davey & Mishka,
Rob Davey & Neo, Stuart Vanderpol & Panda

directly connected with the brain, so intestinal irritation may result in seizures via this pathway. Many veterinarians misdiagnose and so do not treat this type of seizure because rather than looking in the gut, they only look at the patient "from the neck up." If a dog suffers from seizures in combination with ulcerative colitis, manic itching or GI trouble (e.g., constipation and/or diarrhea) he may have abdominal epilepsy.

Gelatin: Friend to the Dog Brain

Gelatin, a potent anti-inflammatory and brain protective food, is an important supplement for dogs with epilepsy (as well as for arthritis and hip dysplasia). The primary amino acid in gelatin is glycine, which is known to protect against seizures and brain damage (Canine Epilepsy Guardian Angels, 2011). Plain, unflavored gelatin can be added to the diet in many ways, such as sprinkling it on the dog's food or making treats out of it. However, never use Jell-O or other gelatins intended for dessert, as they contain sweeteners (either sugar or artificial) that can potentially worsen the seizure condition (remember that the artificial sweetener, Xylitol, is toxic to dogs).

Suggested Dose: (give twice a day, added to food)

- 10 to 25 lbs: 1 tsp (teaspoons)
- 25 to 50 lbs: 3 tsp
- 50 to 75 lbs: 6 tsp
- 75 to 100 or more: 3 tablespoons

Joanne's Gelatin Dog Treats

This simple recipe for gelatin treats is provided courtesy of the late Joanne Carson, PhD, Founder of The Epi Guardian Angels. They are like Gummy Bears for dogs!

Ingredients:

- 1 cup of unflavored gelatin
- 1 cup of cold, flavored liquid (such as broth)
- 1 cup of boiling liquid (either water or broth)

Put 1 cup of gelatin in a 1-quart bowl. Add 1 cup of the cold liquid and let stand one minute to soften. Pour 1 cup of boiling liquid (water or broth) over the softened gelatin, and stir until the gelatin completely dissolves (about five minutes or less).

For chewier treats, add more gelatin. Pour the mixture into a 9 x 12 inch pan and let harden. Cut into 1 by 3 inch strips or an appropriate size for the dog.



2015 Show Point Score Awards Presentation

The 2015 Show Point Score Awards are to be presented at the General Meeting on 24 March at the Bulla Exhibition Centre.

If you have won an award it would be appreciated if you could be at the meeting, however if you are unable to attend, please nominate someone to accept the award on your behalf.

It's estimated that 20% of dogs on phenobarbital anti-seizure medication develop liver enzyme induction (Canine Epilepsy Guardian Angels, 2011). Liver cleansing herbs such as milk thistle and/or SAME can be helpful.

Case Study Success!

Coal and corn do not mix.

Coal, a two-year-old female black Labrador Retriever, experienced seizures every other month. Hoping to avoid treating her with anti-seizure medication, Coal's guardians weaned her over to a prepared raw diet with lamb as the meat source. After discussing the options, an anti-inflammatory diet was chosen as the primary treatment. Coal was also treated with Western herbs (lime blossom, valerian and chamomile) as well as coconut oil. The seizures stopped. Six months later, however, Coal experienced another seizure after finding some taco shells in the garbage (made from corn). She had yet another seizure one month later, which her guardians attributed to eating leftover popcorn from a slumber party. Three months later, Coal had another seizure and her guardians remembered that she had licked several plates clean after a dinner that included corn-battered meat and frozen corn. Over the next four years, Coal had only three seizures — all of which were connected to an episode of eating corn! Thankfully, she never required anti-seizure medication.

** Adapted from: Dodds, WJ, Laverdure, D R. (2015) Canine Nutrigenomics: The New Science of Feeding Your Dog for Optimum Health, Chapter 11; DogWise Publishing, Wenatchee, WA.*

Reprinted from:

<http://drjeandoddspehealthresource.tumblr.com/>



2015 SHOW POINT SCORE - FINAL RESULTS

| TOP ALASKAN MALAMUTE | Points |
|---|--------|
| CH NILTARAN KARUZR SHIIVA (AI) | 30 |
| SUP CH HAMALEK RUMBLE IN THE JUNGLE | 22 |
| ICEPURE ENCHANTED MAN | 17 |
| CH NILTARAN ERNACE TUNGULRA | 13 |
| CH NILTARAN KARUZR LAYLA (AI) | 12 |
| CH HAMALEK CRUZE CONTROL (AI) | 10 |
| CH KEMULVAK RED RED WINE (AI) | 8 |
| CHIMO WALK THE TALK | 7 |
| SNOWSTEEDS AGAINST ALL ODDS | 6 |
| KATAKU AINT MISBEHAVIN | 4 |
| AM CH ONAK'S BEYOND THE HORIZON (IMP USA) | 3 |
| TOP ALASKAN MALAMUTE DOG | |
| SUP CH HAMALEK RUMBLE IN THE JUNGLE | 18 |
| ICEPURE ENCHANTED MAN | 10 |
| CH NILTARAN ERNACE TUNGULRA | 8 |
| CH HAMALEK CRUZE CONTROL (AI) | 7 |
| SNOWSTEEDS AGAINST ALL ODDS | 4 |
| AM CH ONANS BEYOND THE HORIZON (IMP USA) | 3 |
| TOP ALASKAN MALAMUTE BITCH | |
| CH NILTARAN KARUZR SHIIVA (AI) | 25 |
| CH NILTARAN KARUZR LAYLA (AI) | 9 |
| CHIMO WALK THE TALK | 7 |
| CH KEMULVAK RED RED WINE (AI) | 8 |
| KATAKU AINT MISBEHAVIN | 4 |
| TOP BABY DOG | |
| KATAKU RUMBLE IN THE AIR | 17 |
| SNOWSTEEDS AGAINST ALL ODDS | 6 |
| TOP BABY BITCH | |
| KATAKU AINT MISBEHAVIN | 9 |

| TOP MINOR DOG | Points |
|--|--------|
| KATAKU RUMBLE IN THE AIR | 4 |
| TOP MINOR BITCH | |
| KATAKU AINT MISBEHAVIN | 2 |
| TOP PUPPY DOG | |
| KATAKU RUMBLE IN THE AIR | 7 |
| TOP PUPPY BITCH | |
| KATAKU AINT MISBEHAVIN | 2 |
| TOP JUNIOR DOG | |
| ICEPURE ENCHANTED MAN | 13 |
| SNOWSTEEDS AGAINST ALL ODDS | 12 |
| TOP INTERMEDIATE DOG | |
| KATAKU THE COMPANY YOU KEEP (AI) | 3 |
| TOP INTERMEDIATE BITCH | |
| CHIMO WALK THE TALK | 9 |
| TOP AUSTRALIAN BRED DOG | |
| SNOWSTEEDS AGAINST ALL ODDS | 1 |
| TOP AUSTRALIAN BRED BITCH | |
| CH NILTARAN KARUZR SHIIVA (AI) | 14 |
| CH NILTARAN KARUZR LAYLA (AI) | 5 |
| CH KEMULVAK RED RED WINE (AI) | 5 |
| TOP OPEN DOG | |
| CH NILTARAN ERNACE TUNGULRA | 15 |
| CH HAMALEK CRUZE CONTROL (AI) | 8 |
| SUP CH HAMALEK RUMBLE IN THE JUNGLE | 8 |
| AM CH ONANS BEYOND THE HORIZON (IMP USA) | 3 |
| TOP OPEN BITCH | |
| CH NILTARAN KARUZR LAYLA (AI) | 11 |
| CH NILTARAN KARUZR SHIIVA (AI) | 1 |



Top Alaskan Malamute - Top Bitch
AUST CH NILTARAN KARUZR SHIIVA (AI)
 Owned & Bred by
 Niltaran Knls



Top Alaskan Malamute Dog
SUPREME CH HAMALEK RUMBLE IN THE JUNGLE
 owned by H & R French-Davis & S Turner
 Bred by H & R French-Davis

The following information is downloaded from the AMCA website:

<http://alaskanmalamute.org/health/alopecia-x-coat-funk/alopecia-recruitment-announcement>

The Alaskan Malamute Club of America is beginning recruitment of subjects for a research study on Alopecia/Follicular Arrest in Alaskan Malamutes

We will be working with Dr. Lluís Ferrer, clinical dermatologist at the Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, and canine genetics researcher Dr. Tosso Leeb at the Institute of Genetics, University of Bern, in developing a research study examining potential genetic links with alopecia/follicular arrest in the Alaskan Malamute.

It is important to understand that hair loss can have many causes, including non-genetic issues. These can include infections, parasites and several other diseases (*i.e.* allergic, autoimmune, endocrine). We encourage any owner or breeder of a dog affected with coat issues to consult with a certified veterinary dermatologist and undergo recommended testing.

Eligible participants must:

- 1) Be purebred Alaskan Malamutes
- 2) Have adult onset of alopecia. (Must have developed a normal coat as a puppy which stopped cycling during adulthood, leading to symmetrical coat breakage and exposed/black skin).
- 3) Have undergone the following diagnostic testing:
 - a. Full thyroid panel with normal results
 - b. Full blood panel with results in normal ranges, ruling out Cushing's or other adrenal disorder
 - c. Absence of pruritis (itching)
 - d. Clinical examination by a veterinary dermatologist
 - e. Skin scrapings / trichograms (negative for fungus and mites)
 - f. Skin biopsy (If previously done, Dr. Ferrer will need to review these slides, which should be on file at the histopathology lab the biopsy slides were originally read at).
- 4) Be willing to:
 - a. Complete health history questionnaire
 - b. Provide photographs of the affected animal
 - c. Provide blood sample for banking with the Canine Health Information Center DNA databank. Any available relatives may also be helpful. (assistance with shipping may be provided through AMCA)
 - d. Provide to researchers the pedigree of the affected animal. Rescue dogs without pedigree who are clearly purebred Alaskan Malamutes will be accepted in the study.

PLEASE NOTE: While the current focus of this study is on classic alopecia/follicular arrest as has been seen in the breed over the past few decades, we are also interested in accumulating information, background, and samples (including skin biopsy) on dogs with symptoms that are not consistent with alopecia, but represent clear skin and coat issues which are not explained by physical examination or any of the above diagnostic testing.

These include follicular dysplasia (similar to follicular arrest, only occurring in young puppies who never develop an adult coat), partial haircoat change, and early (non-aging) hair color change. This may give us an idea as to the range and frequency of coat and skin issues in the breed and allow us to reach a better understanding of these conditions, as well as develop a pool of participants and samples for future coat/skin projects.

For further information, please contact:

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Dr. Lluís Ferrer: <http://vetprofiles.tufts.edu/faculty/lluis-ferrer>

Dr. Tosso Leeb: http://www.genetics.unibe.ch/content/staff/leeb/index_eng.html

Answers: Can you
unscramble the dog
breeds?
German Shepherd
Jack Russell Terrier
Samoyed
Springer Spaniel
Papillon
Weimaraner
Rotweiler
Alaskan Malamute
Whippet
Pekingese
Labrador Retriever
Siberian Husky
Shiba Inu
Tibetan Mastiff
Komondor
Miniature Pinscher

Sledding Dog & Driver Point Score Competition Rules

The AMCV conducts a sledding point score competition each sledding season. The purpose of this competition is to encourage participation and promote events. However, the point score competition is more than a reward for attendance and participation, but is intended to determine, and then reward, the best performed teams of the season.

Classes on offer for the Sledding Dog & Driver point score will be:

- Limited 1-Dog Limited 2-Dog
- Limited 4-Dog Limited 6-dog



The "team" consists of both Driver and Dog(s).

A calendar of eligible sledding events, sledding results and point score updates will be printed in the Malamute Mail when they become available.

Eligibility:

For a team to compete in the Dog and Driver point score competition the dog team must consist entirely of purebred, ANKC registered Alaskan Malamutes and the driver must be an AMCV member at the time of the nominated event. Team drivers must provide details of the registered name and registration number for each Alaskan Malamute in the team on the event entry form.

Nominated Events:

The sledding events in which points can be scored towards this competition will be listed in "The Malamute Mail". Classes or events which do not attract entries will not be eligible for inclusion in the point score calculation determining end of season standings.

Sledding point score events may be altered at the discretion of the Sledding Co-ordinator with the approval of the Committee at any time during the season in the event of any event being cancelled or class entry being restricted or altered, or should a class receive no entries.

Alterations to point score events will be published in the next available issue of "The Malamute Mail".

Awarding of Points:

- a) Competitors must be current AMCV members at the time of the event to be eligible for awarding of points.
- b) Points will be awarded based on the final results of each of the nominated events. Points are allocated on the basis of 100 points to the first placegetter, 99 points to 2nd place, 98 points to 3rd place and so on.
- c) More than one eligible team must commence the race for points to be allocated for that class, regardless of the number of teams that finish the race.
- d) The number of results that will count towards the sledding point score total will represent as close to two thirds (over 50% and not more than 75%) of the eligible events as possible.

For 2016 there are 7 eligible events of which the best 4 results will count towards the total score.

- e) In the event of a tie for a placing in any point score class/place both entries will receive the award.

Eligible Events:

- a) Eligible sledding events will be published in the AMCV newsletter.
- b) The number of events to count towards the point score competition may be subject to change in the event of a race cancellation or a class not being contested.
- c) An event is not deemed to be an eligible point score event for a class where that class is not contested.

Rookie of the Year Award:

Rookie of the Year will be awarded to the driver who achieves the highest placing in the Dog & Driver Point Score Competition for that year in their first year of competing in sledding events.

Doggy Logic Problem Answers:

Max is the Rotweiler with the Kong toy in the dog house
 Lucky is the Malamute with the Nylabone on the dog bed
 Daisy is the Staffy with the rope toy under the tree
 Bandit is the Shepherd with the Puzzle at the swimming pool
 Zoe is the Labrador with the ball who stayed indoors

Breeders' Directory



| Kennel Name | Location | Contact Name | Phone No. | Other Contact Information |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---|
| BELLTREES | Campbelltown, NSW | Cheryl Harrison | (02) 4631 1920 | Email: belltree@ispdr.net.au |
| KATAKU | Pearcedale, VIC | Merv & Shelley Turner | (03) 5978 6001 | Email: kataku@bigpond.net.au Website: www.dishlickers.com.au |

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Weight Loss for Pets

The last 50 years have seen some radical changes in the way we care for our domestic pets. Gone are the days when the family dog was banished to the back yard or left to roam the neighbourhood streets. It is now rare that cats are left to prowl the night away, wailing on fences and attacking small mammals and birds. Modern pets spend much more time at home, confined to backyards by fencing, or contained in cat enclosures or restricted by night time curfews.

When you combine this sudden decrease in activity and natural predation/scavenging practices, with the massive shift towards processed dry pet foods as the sole source of food it is not surprising we are seeing a decline in the overall health of domestic pets. The current situation dangerously mimics the typical "western" diet and lifestyle – too much processed food and not enough physical exercise. Recent studies have shown that more than 60% of domestic pets are either overweight or obese.

When you combine that with another 70% of dogs and cats over the age of 3 having advanced periodontal disease, 60% of dogs over 8 suffering from arthritis, and a significant increase in the incidence of allergies, diabetes, autoimmune diseases and a vast range of degenerative diseases and cancers, then it is high time we took notice of these growing problems and react accordingly. To solve the problem we need to find, address and deal with the true underlying cause(s). The simple answer to controlling this problem is no different for pets than it is for their owners – a healthy diet, common sense feeding and regular exercise! Not only can a healthy diet and regular exercise correct obesity, but it can also help treat and prevent a large percentage of the disease previously mentioned.

Modern Diets

By far the greatest change in the lifestyle of domestic pets has been the wide-scale introduction and adoption of processed pet foods. The modern dry dog/cat food pellet is far removed from the dog and cats traditional diet of fresh meat, bones, and scraps. Modern processed dry pet foods are much higher in calories because dry foods are made with significantly higher levels of carbohydrate and vegetable protein, and lower levels of meat protein than a natural dog or cat diet.

They often have approximately 8% moisture (compared to 65% in fresh meat diets) and pet owners must feed considerably less in volume than they would if feeding a wet food. Unfortunately this reality is often ignored by caring pet owners, who see such a small bowl of dried food as being "not enough" to keep their pet(s) happy and as a result, over-feeding has become a wide-scale phenomenon, directly relating to the current obesity problem. Dogs and cats have been evolving for millions of years eating raw, unprocessed pet food. They are finely tuned to be able to catch, process, digest and absorb the nutritional content from raw meat diets – just like they still do in the wild.

Modern processed pet foods do not resemble the dog or cats natural diet – pet foods are now cooked, processed, flavoured, coloured and preserved (just like fast food). They are filled with cheap carbohydrates, vegetable protein, and powdered meat meal, complete with synthetic vitamins and chemical preservatives. The fact that they may be labelled "nutritionally complete" does not in any way guarantee the consumer that the product is actually "healthy" for their pet!



Regular Exercise

Regular exercise is extremely important for dogs (much less for cats). Stricter council laws on dogs off leashes and roaming have had a significant impact on the activity levels of today's dogs. As families and working pet owners become busier, time spent walking the dog has decreased dramatically, as has the number of locations where dogs can run free.

Now there is a thriving industry for professional dog walkers and doggy day care centres to cater for loving pet owners who feel guilty that they cannot provide enough exercise or stimulation for their dogs. Given the high level of pet ownership enjoyed in Australia (one of the highest in the world), many suburbs have an "off-leash" dog park available.

Overfeeding

One of the most noticeable changes in the modern pet is "humanization". Pets have "risen in the ranks" in terms of their place in the family hierarchy and are now treated far more as "one of the family". As a result of the lack of external stimulation, food has become a major highlight of a domestic pet's day. The human-animal bond has historically been developed on the simple basis of "I will feed you and care for you – and you will love me" – and/or "work for me", in the case of horses and working dogs. The all-pervading attitude that FOOD = LOVE is highly prevalent. Many Pet owners are far more indulgent with their pets, spoiling them with treats and highly expensive "gourmet" foods – but the truth is, we are "spoiling them to death".

When the cat meows and rubs your legs in the kitchen, or the dog sits drooling at your feet as you prepare tonight's dinner, more than likely they will get the chicken skin you have just trimmed from the fillets. If they seem a bit interested at lunch time, surely you will give them a bit of your sandwich (or a tea biscuit) and perhaps a treat, for being "such a good boy". Most of us then make sure that they also get their full regular quota of breakfast and dinner, forgetting the 200+ calories we have already given them during the day. It's not that hard to see how we have started "killing them with kindness".

Solutions

The answer to today's pet health issues will come from common sense feeding and exercise. Simple things like feeding your pet just once a day, in the morning, and using a healthy natural diet with plenty of fresh meat and bones, can go a long way to improving your pet's overall health and longevity. My experience, gained over 20 years as a practicing vet, has demonstrated to me that dogs and cats fed on a raw food diet will enjoy infinitely superior health and develop far less degenerative diseases than those raised exclusively on processed pet foods.



Dr Bruce's Weight Loss Tips

1. Determine the dogs target weight
2. All Vet clinics have scales and can suggest an appropriate target weight for the dog's ages, breed and lifestyle.
3. Feed once a day, in the morning so they can exercise and work off the calories during the day
4. Feed a natural raw diet free of anything artificial.
5. A natural raw diet ensures the dog or cat feels more "full", is lower in calories, and generally low in fat.
6. Kangaroo meat is most preferred because it is low in fat and high in meat protein
7. Ensure there is plenty of water for your pet at all times
8. Exercise your pet appropriately. Your local vet can advise you on an appropriate amount for your pet.
9. Consider dog walking services or doggy day care.

Show Point Score Competition Rules

The competition shall run from 1st January to 31st December.

1. All Championship shows held in Victoria shall count (except the Melbourne Royal & AMCV Championship Show) and the winners will be awarded from the ten (10) best results submitted. To be eligible for an award in the Show Point Score Competition, all registered owners of the exhibit must be current AMCV Members. Points will only be allocated if all registered owners are financial members of the AMCV at the time of the show for which results are being submitted.
2. The onus is on exhibitors to send their results to the Show Secretary, no later than one (1) month after the event together with a marked catalogue, (front cover and Judge's page along with the Alaskan Malamutes fully marked) including the best of classes in breed marked with a circle or asterisk. The exhibitor submitting the results must also sign on the front of the catalogue.
3. One exhibitor may send in the results for all those at a show, but all exhibitors who wish their results to be submitted for the competition must sign the front of the catalogue as some people may not wish to be included in the Point Score Competition.
4. There is no limit to the number of results that can be submitted, however only a competitor's ten (10) best results submitted will be published as the year progresses. Once a competitor has reached the ten (10) shows the Show Secretary will automatically adjust the points accordingly.
5. A complete record of shows submitted together with catalogues will be kept by the Show Secretary in the event of any dispute arising.
6. Trophies will be awarded to the registered owner/s of the winners at the time of submitting their dog's last results.
7. The competition will consist of Most Successful Alaskan Malamute, Most Successful Dog, Most Successful Bitch and Class awards.
 - 7.1 Most Successful Alaskan Malamute Dog and Bitch Most Successful Dog and Bitch will be awarded to the dog and bitch which has the most points from the ten (10) best shows submitted. Points will be awarded to Challenge winners on the basis of one (1) point for each dog or bitch beaten including one (1) for your dog or bitch, to a maximum of twenty-five (25) points per show
 - 7.2 Most Successful Alaskan Malamute Most Successful Alaskan Malamute will be awarded to the Dog or Bitch which has the highest number of points from their ten (10) best shows submitted. Points will be awarded to Best of Breed and Challenge winners on the basis of one (1) point for every dog or bitch beaten including one (1) for your own dog, to a maximum of twenty-five (25) points per show.
 - 7.3 Class awards

Awards will also be given for:

 - Best Baby Puppy - Dog and Bitch
 - Best Minor Puppy – Dog and Bitch
 - Best Puppy – Dog and Bitch
 - Best Junior – Dog and Bitch
 - Best Intermediate – Dog and Bitch
 - Best Australian Bred - Dog and Bitch
 - Best Open – Dog and Bitch

Class points will be allocated as follows: 1 point for every dog or bitch beaten in your class 1st , 2nd and 3rd placings including one (1) for your exhibit, also one (1) point for every exhibit of the opposite sex if you take your class of breed, to a maximum of twenty-five (25) points per show. Example: If there are 6 exhibits shown in a class, 1st wins six (6) points, 2nd five (5) points, 3rd four (4) points. If this 1st place winner then wins its class of breed and four (4) of the opposite sex were shown, it gains a total of ten (10) points.

10 BEST TECH GADGETS FOR DOGS

Written by Australian Dog Lover

Reprinted from www.australiandoglover.com/



Have you ever pondered what your dog is up to when you're not at home or how the world looks through his eyes when you're hiking together? Feeling guilty because you're often running late from work and your pooch is waiting for his dinner?

With these high-tech devices designed with your pets in mind, help is at hand. Here's in our opinion some of the coolest and most useful technology readily available to Australian dog lovers.

PETCUBE CAMERA 01



Many of us worry about our pets while we're at work or out socialising or just running errands.

The **Petcube Camera** was one of the first products allowing pet owners to watch, talk to and play with their pet from their smartphone, no matter where they are and it has taken the US by storm!

It features a wide-angle (138°) camera along with real time HD video so you can see your pet easily. You can also talk to your pet as the camera has a built-in microphone and speaker. With the unique laser pointer toy you can play with your pet from your smartphone though this feature would mainly appeal to cats.

Through the Petcube App you can share cute photos of your dog taken from your smartphone or Petcube Camera via the social networks and meet fellow dog lovers.

RRP: US\$199 (shipping is US\$30). For more details, visit www.petcube.com

02 MOTOROLA FOCUS 85-B



The **FOCUS 85-B** from **Motorola Pets** is a pan & tilt pet (and home) video camera allowing you to monitor your pet whilst you're away. Offering seamless control of your camera in the comfort of your hands, the FOCUS 85-B has a 200° pan, tilt and zoom camera, giving you more control of the whereabouts of your furry loved ones whilst the infrared night vision allows you to check up on your pooch at night.



Motorola's Free Hubble App provides remote access wherever you are from your smartphone, tablet or computer. With motion, sound and room temperature notifications to keep you up to date with your pet's day-to-day activities, stay connected with live HD streaming and capture events. Record straight from your device with cloud storage and capture images with a push of a button.

The two-way talk feature and voice activation with an integrated microphone lets you praise or discipline your pet from anywhere and keep an eye on what matters in your home. An easy set up with no complication, simply plug and download the Hubble app and you'll be ready to monitor your pet in just moments.

RRP: \$199.95 from uniden.com.au

EYENIMAL VIDEOCAM 03

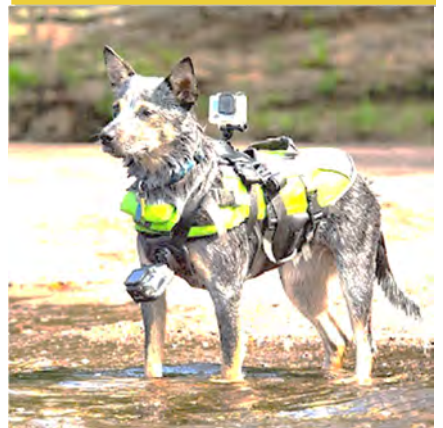


The **Eyenimal Dog Videocam** is an outdoor waterproof video camera to record all your dog's adventures. It is a durable, lightweight (63g) camera, suitable for medium and larger dog breeds that attaches easily to a collar. With three recording modes and a built-in microphone it delivers quality video footage so you can finally experience your dog's world! The built-in flash memory holds 4GB of footage.

RRP:

\$249.95 from petinnovations.com.au

04 GOPRO FETCH



The **GoPro Fetch** dog harness can be used to capture the world from your pooch's point of view.

Its rugged built and the washable, water-friendly material, means that your dog can swim, play and get dirty without a worry. The soft padding will keep your dog comfortable.

This harness features two mounting locations for a variety of perspectives: the chest, for bone-chewing, digging and front-paw action, and the back, for over-the-head shots of running, jumping, fetch and more.

Fully adjustable to fit small, medium and large breed dogs from 7 to 54 kg. The chest mount is removable for smaller dogs.

RRP: \$89 (does not include camera or dog) at jbhifi.com.au

POD 2 GPS PET TRACKER 05



An Australian invention, **The Pod** is the world's smallest and lightest GPS pet tracker. The Pod - which is a size of a cork and weighs just 29 grams, is cylindrical and can be strapped onto your dog or cat to track its movements.

Designed to attach to any size collar it will let you locate your pet on demand, monitor their activity and record their adventures on your smartphone or computer.



The "Locate Now" button on the App allows you to request your pet's current position and displays it on a map in real time, no matter if they're outdoors or indoors. Setting up your "Safe Zone" enables you to protect your pet with a virtual fence that sends you an escape alert when they run away.

The Pod also automatically records your pet's activity level (rest, walk and run), allowing you to monitor their health and fitness.

RRP: \$249 from Petbarn, City Farmers stores.

For more details, visit podtrackers.com

06 FITBARK



FitBark is a colourful bone-shaped health and fitness tracker for your dog that attaches to his collar to monitor his daily activity.

FitBark fetches (or collects) data 24/7 and syncs whenever your dog is within the Bluetooth range of your Smartphone or the optional Wi-Fi Base Station.

Your dog's FitBark is an activity monitor similar to our human Fitbit however it measures activity counts called "BarkPoints".

FitBark Explore is the latest interface and a first-of-its-kind open source data hub for canine health, providing you with both a daily and weekly summary measuring your dog's activity vs dogs of similar age, size and breed worldwide.

Available in Red, Blue, Pink, Green or Grey. Check out our full product review here...

RRP: US \$99.95 (incl. free shipping worldwide) at fitbark.com

AUTOMATIC FEEDERS 07



Your working schedule may be unpredictable however you still should keep your pet on a regular feeding schedule.

This feeder is easy to use and can be programmed to an 8, 12 or 24 hour feeding cycle. At a preset time, the

cover will open for the first feeding and a pre-recorded voice message will be played to let your dog know it is feeding time.

The dish contains 4 large trays (working with wet or dry food), each tray will remain open until the next programmed feeding time. With the 4 separate trays if your pet eats once a day then you can use the feeder for 4 days, if he/she eats twice a day then you can use it for 2 days, or if your pet eats 4 times a day then it will be suitable for 1 day.

You can also remove the cover and use the ice chamber as a water bowl. The easy to use control panel with LCD clock features a built-in microphone and speaker.

This **Model PF-05** measures 32cm in diameter but larger models are also available.

Price: \$84.95 from mammothpetsupplies.com.au



Eyemimal Intelligent Pet Bowl XL is the first pet bowl in the world with integrated scales which enables you to control the food and/or water quantity you give to your pet. It even won the Gold Award for cats and dogs categories at the 2013 Animal Expo in Paris!

You can pour food directly in your pet's bowl and immediately adjust the food quantity recommended for his diet. With up to 45% of dogs and 40% of cats suffering from obesity in Australia, this product can assist you in feeding your pets the right amount each and every time.

The bowl capacity is 1.8 litre (approximately 800 grams of dry food). The LCD screen makes programming both easy and quick.

RRP: \$59.95 from petinnovations.com.au

CERAMIC WATER FOUNTAIN 08



Pet water fountains are recommended by vet urinary specialists as they encourage water intake and proper hydration in healthy dogs and cats. The **Pioneer Ceramic Big Max Pet Fountain** means both dogs and cats can drink from the same bowl without leftover offensive smells and saliva - water is recycled and cleaned by the filter and flows freely into the bowl, ensuring their water retains its freshness and urging your pets to drink water more often. This model holds 3.7 litre and is ideal for multi-pets households. Another great feature is that it completely disassembles for cleaning (even the motor is removable) and all parts (excluding pump) are dishwasher safe. Made from durable black ceramic, this modern design will fit in any home décor.
RRP: \$119.90 at ozpetshop.com.au

09 OSTER'S HYDROBATH



The **Oster's HydroBath** is a revolution in pet bathing. It will save you money on a professional dog wash and you can use it whenever you want! This "all-in-one" wet, wash and rinse dog bathing solution was designed to reduce bathing time. No more filling the tub, no more water everywhere. Thanks to its all-in-one Injectair® technology, you can use the spray nozzle to wet, shampoo and rinse without having to stop to open a

shampoo bottle - saving time, water and money. You can connect it to a bath/laundry or outdoor taps or your showerhead. The long 3m hose makes it easier to reach all areas which is perfect for large dogs. The Oster Rapid Bathing System should ideally be used with the Oster Rapid Bath cartridges however other it works perfectly well with any brand of your preferred shampoo.
RRP:\$75.00 from luckypet.com.au

INTELLIGENT DOG DOOR 10



With its advanced entry and exit technology, **Petsafe Passport™ Intelligent Dog Door** provides freedom and peace of mind. The Passport offers advanced selective entry and exit for up to 20 dogs, multiple access options (such as in-only access and out-only access), and the option to only allow access at specific times of the day. The Dog Door reads the Passport™ Key worn on your dog's collar using RFID technology. When your dog approaches, the door will read the

unique ID of the key and the flaps will unlock, allowing your dog to enter or exit. This allows access to only your programmed dogs while helping keep out other pets, wild animals, pests and strays. It can be installed into wooden doors, brick walls (with Passport™ Wall Entry Kit) and PVC / Metal but is not suitable for installation into glass or patio / sliding doors.



The Passport Intelligent Dog Door is mains powered and if you do not have mains close to the unit, you will need to purchase a battery unit separately (RRP \$87). The flap dimensions are 24.5cm x 33.76cm making the door suitable for medium-sized dogs (up to 23kg and up to 50cm shoulder height).
RRP: \$389.95 from vetnpetdirect.com.au



MOVING?

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

EXTREME WEATHER POLICY & RESTRICTIONS:

Please note that temperature restrictions apply to some activities. In addition, AMCV 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. On days of extreme weather, please phone or email to confirm if an event will be going ahead.

Reprinted from the RSPCA Knowledge Base: <http://kb.rspca.org.au/>

What preparations should I make for my pets in case of an emergency?

Emergency planning for pets is an important part of emergency household preparations and greatly increases the likelihood of evacuating your pets to safety. There are many things pet owners can do to be prepared in the event of emergencies such as floods, cyclones or bushfires. By following this checklist you can help to ensure that you and your pets are well prepared. Pets should be safely evacuated in an emergency.

EMERGENCY CHECKLIST

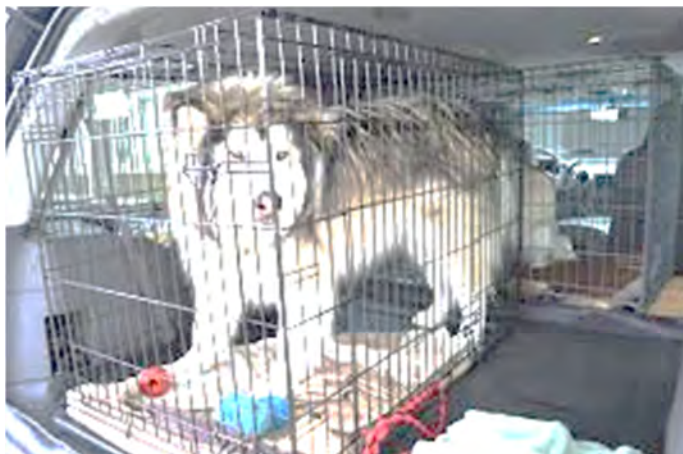
Prepare

- Ensure your pet cat or dog is registered, microchipped and has an identification tag. Make sure your owner contact details are up-to-date on the relevant microchip register.
- Ensure vaccinations are up-to-date.
- Ensure you have a supply of animal medications if needed.
- Research and identify temporary accommodation options for your pets.
- Determine where your animal(s) will be relocated to if evacuated. Keep in mind that the place may have specific requirements e.g. boarding facilities often require that animals are up-to-date with vaccinations.

Late evacuation can be dangerous. To avoid unnecessary risks to you and your pets, move animals to a safer place as soon as possible. If you know an evacuation may be occurring in a few days, consider moving your pets into temporary accommodation in a safe area well before there is any need to evacuate.

Emergency kit

- Registration or licence papers
- Vaccination certificates
- Cages, pet carriers: these need to be available and functional in the case of evacuation
- Ensure your pets are trained to enter and spend time in the crate/carrier
- Poo bags
- Collars, leads, harnesses, etc
- Food and water supplies and bowls
- Medications
- Blankets, bedding, nesting material
- Photograph of your pets - place in plastic bags
- Contact details for your vet, local RSPCA, council and alternative animal accommodation.



FACEBOOK.COM/OFF-THE-LEASH-DAILY-DOG-CARTOONS

🐾 AMCV 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.

For details of the ANKC's Working Title program, visit the ANKC website <http://ankc.org.au/> Rules page.

🐾 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, Anna Paxton at 516 Spratlings Road Ross Creek 3351 or email to amcvinc@gmail.com.

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 0403 758 664.

🐾 2016 Show Point Score Competition

To enter in the 2016 Show Point Score Competition, please post or email a marked and signed catalogue (Malamute results & cover pages only) to the Show Secretary, Anna Paxton at 516 Spratlings Road Ross Creek 3351, email annap@iinet.net.au.

Can anyone help us?



Top left to bottom right: Meeko – 3yo male Malamute X Husky, Max & Ally – 1yo male & female Malamute pair, Taytum – 8yo male Malamute X Husky, Miley – 3yo female Malamute, Tala – 8yo female Malamute X, Axle – 4yo male Malamute, Timba – 6yo male Malamute X Husky

The Alaskan Malamute Rehoming Aid Australia (AMRAA) are in desperate need of new or foster homes for a number of Malamutes and Malamute crosses in their care in Victoria, some that have been held in shelters for a long time.

There are many more dogs in desperate need in NSW, SA and ACT, so AMRAA appreciate assistance in any way.

Even if you are not in a position to foster or adopt, you can still help AMRAA by donating, transporting a dog, supporting their fundraising efforts, making donation of goods (dry food, bedding, bowls, brushes and parasite treatments) and services (desexing, microchipping or vaccination).

If you any questions about adopting, fostering or donating please contact Mel on 0431 906 177 or Mirella on 0478 663 077, or email enquiries@amraa.org.au.



Visit AMRAA's website www.amraa.org.au
or Facebook page for more information.

If undeliverable please return to:
The Newsletter Editor
PO Box 41
Hurstbridge 3099

The Malamute Mail

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**SURFACE
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