

**ACT CANINE ASSOCIATION Inc.**

# ***Dog Ownership***

## **Facts About**

❖ **Training**

❖ **Showing**

❖ **Breeding**

❖ **Registration**

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**Office Hours 9.30am - 2.30pm (Mon-Fri)**

**THE ACT CANINE ASSOC. INC. (TRADING AS DOGS ACT) IS THE CONTROLLING BODY FOR PUREBRED, PEDIGREED REGISTERED DOGS IN THE ACT.**

The ACTCA Is administered by a Council of 12, elected bi-annually by the general membership.

In the ACT all Championship Dog Shows, Parades, Obedience, Tracking and Gundog Trials are authorised by, and conducted under the Rules & Regulations of Dogs ACT.

Members are entitled to participate in officially approved events and courses, hold committee positions with an Affiliated Dog Club, and receive a tri-monthly magazine. - which publishes information about showing, trialling and breeding dogs.

If you require further information about the shows, trials, breeding etc phone the Dogs ACT Office between 9.30 and 2.30 Monday to Friday.

### **REGISTERING YOUR DOG WITH DOGS ACT**

If you have purchased a pedigreed dog from a breeder you will have received the dog's registration papers. The Breeder or Owner will sign the back of the Registration form and, in order for you to show, trial or breed the dog, you must transfer the papers to your name.

Complete the back of the Registration form and send to the ACTCA Office with the appropriate fee and the dog's ownership will be transferred to you.

### **UNREGISTERED DOGS (ASSOCIATES)**

A dog, whether purebred or not, which is ineligible for pedigreed registration, may be registered in the Associate Dog Register. Associate Dogs must be desexed. An Associated Dog, once registered with the ACTCA can trial in Obedience and Agility competitions. Registering your dog in the Associate Register also entitles you to substantial discounts with the ACT Government when you register your dog with the Dog Control.

## SHOWING YOUR DOG

Shows under the ACTCA Rules & Regulations are organised by Affiliated Clubs and held throughout the year. Schedules (details) are published in each issue of the ACTCA Journal and on the Dogs ACT web site, together with name, address and telephone number of the Secretary of the Club conducting the Show.

The following general points may be of assistance:

Entry Forms - applications to enter dogs at a recognised event may only be made on the official ACTCA entry forms. Books of entry forms (computer forms also) are available for purchase from the ACTCA Office. The completed entry forms should be sent to the Secretary of the Affiliate conducting the Show. The entry form must be in the hands of the Secretary by the closing date listed.

If you require some preliminary advice on how to prepare and present a dog in the ring contact the Affiliated Dog Club that your breed belongs to. The Affiliated Clubs are listed:

### BREEDING FROM YOUR DOG

- Breeding dogs involves more than deciding upon a partner; the following main administrative conditions must be met to register your litter with the ACTCA.
- The breeder (owner of the bitch) must be a financial Member of the ACTCA and hold a ACTCA Breeders Prefix (Kennel name), available on application with the appropriate fee
- The owner of the dog must be a member of the ACTCA or the Controlling Body of the state that their owner resides in
- The mated dogs must be the same breed (both registered)
- The litter must be whelped in the ACT
- The application for litter registration (which incorporates a Service or Mating Certificate) must be lodged by the Breeder within 18 months of birth with the ACTCA. (Applications received more than 30 days after birth are subject to a higher registration fee).
- Application forms for Breeders Prefix and Litter Registrations are available from the ACTCA Office.

### CODE OF ETHICS

All Members of the ACTCA shall abide by the Code of Ethics relating to responsible dog ownership, breeding and the sale of puppies etc.

## TRAINING YOUR DOG

There are Obedience Clubs in the ACT which teach owners to train their dogs. Courses last approx. eight weeks. No dog, however intelligent, will reach its full potential as a companion without proper training. This training may be confined to a knowledge of the basic commands, or, may be continued over a period of years through performance in obedience, retrieving or other Trials. The rewards, whatever degree of training is undertaken, well outweigh the time and effort expended.

For further information on Dog Obedience contact one of the following Clubs:

ACT Companion Dog Club Inc. Ph. 02 6295 7764  
Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Ph. 02 6241 7999  
Tuggeranong Dog Training Club Ph. 02 6293 4122  
ACT German Shepherd Dog Assoc. 02 6241 4523  
Doberman Club of ACT Ph. 02 6238 1132

### COMPETING IN OBEDIENCE TRIALS

Entries for Dog Obedience Trials are made on the same form used for Shows. Both registered breeds and partbred dogs (if registered with the ACTCA Associate Register) may compete in Obedience and Agility Trials.

### TRACKING

Obedience training and other qualifications are required before tracking can be entered. For further information on tracking work, contact any of the Canberra Obedience Clubs.

### GUN DOG WORK

The ACT Gun Dog Society conducts Championship Shows, Non Slip Retrieving Trials, Field Trials and Obedience Trials throughout the year. A monthly newsletter is also produced for Members. Further details can be obtained from the ACT Gundog Society.

## **.RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP**

### *Owners should*

- **Register your dog with the ACT Dog Control - the current Dog Act requires that your dog wears a registration tag or is tattooed with its official registration number.**
- **Keep your dog healthy by maintaining an efficient immunisation and worming program**
- **Groom your dog regularly, keep his coat knot and flea free, his teeth and ears clean and his toenails trimmed**
- **If you feed your dog offal (liver etc), then as a health precaution **ALWAYS COOK IT FIRST****
- **Exercise your dog regularly**
- **Train your dog to respond to basic commands**
- **Keep your dog under control and on a lead in public places**
- **Keep bitches in season confined**
- **If you don't want to breed from your bitch or dog, and you don't want to show it, consider having it neutered (forget the tale about bitches needing to have a litter before being neutered; or that neutered bitches become fat - these ideas aren't correct)**
- **Stay on side with your neighbours; keep only as many dogs as you can efficiently manage**
- **If your dog stays behind while you are away be sure that he is adequately cared for**
  
- **If you have to confine your dog to the car when away from home, keep checking he is not overheating; a car parked under a shady tree in the morning can become a hot box in the afternoon**
- **If you want to know more about your dog's breed characteristics, consider joining one of the Dog Clubs available.**