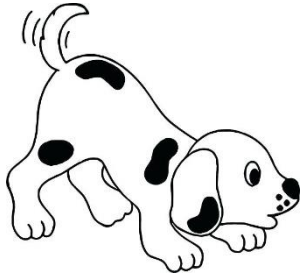


## Information Sheet



Welcome to 'The Toowoomba Dog Obedience Club':

At the club, we operate across 5 levels of obedience training. Puppies are required to be 5 months of age prior to commencing and handlers must be at least 13 years of age. We start at Level 1, where we work on the 'basics' such as gaining focus and getting attention in a busy environment with many other new dogs. We then progress on to more advanced efforts such as 'loose lead' heeling and staying when required.

Importantly, we work with 20 new handlers (and their dogs) each month. Starting on the first Tuesday of each month (from January to November each year), 2 classes of 'beginners' work for approximately 45 minutes with their dogs on focus and behaviour. You do need to book, as the spots in these beginner groups fill extremely quickly.

Bookings are arranged by calling our Club's booking officer on 0435 675 990. They will let you know when we have an opening. Please remember that each training level runs for 1 calendar month. Those booking in for Level 1 are required to pay a training fee of \$40 which covers membership and 1 month of class 1; whereas, Levels 2 to 5 are simply paid weekly (\$5 per night). At the end of each month, Level 1s automatically 'graduate' to Level 2; however, Levels 2, 3 and 4 are assessed by their instructor before being allowed to continue or advance-on to the next or 'higher' level. Once handlers and their dogs reach Level 5, it's entirely up to you if you wish to continue and move on to train your dog in obedience or agility/jumping competitions (offered each Thursday night). You can stop when you reach the level of obedience you and your dog are comfortable with.

Note, when you and your dog are ready, you can also complete the Toowoomba Regional Council Obedience assessment. Once passed, this will provide you with a 50% discount on your registration.

Cost of training is \$5 per night; Membership is \$15 per year for a single or \$20 for a year for family, membership is incorporated into the \$40 class 1 registration fee. Please note that you MUST be a member to attend.

Classes are conducted on Tuesday nights (from January to November each year) at Norman Park, Newtown, at the following times:

Classes 1, 2 and 3:	6:30pm – 7:15pm
Classes 4 and 5:	6.30pm – 8.00pm

We do use positive reinforcement training at the club, however for the safety of all dogs and handlers we require that all dogs be fitted with a martingale collar or check chain, this is to avoid the possibility of your dog slipping its collar or harness. These can be fitted and purchased from the club.

Agility courses are run by Margaret on Monday and Thursday nights for more information on agility training please speak to Margaret at the club.

Thursday night obedience training is for those who wish to go on to compete in various disciplines.

To book please call 0435 675 990 and you will be pencilled in. Once pencilled in you must fill in the class 1 registration form available from our website and drop it in with the \$40 fee to be confirmed. This should be done as soon as practical after you have rung and been pencilled in. Forms and money are to be dropped off at the club house at 6pm on a Tuesday night.

I hope this covers all you wish to know, however, if not, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thanks

**Toowoomba Dog Obedience Club**