

# SCRAPS

AUTUMN 2016

Official Newsletter of the Western Province Boxer Club



Image Tana Swanepoel

# WHO'S WHO

## 2016

### WPBC Committee



Roy Joynt	Patron	e-mail: <a href="mailto:royjoynt@gmail.com">royjoynt@gmail.com</a>
Doreen Powell	President	Tel: 021 715 9758 e-mail: <a href="mailto:drn.pwl@gmail.com">drn.pwl@gmail.com</a>
Ken Hull	Chairman	Cell: 082 570 7802 e-mail: <a href="mailto:ken@3cubed.co.za">ken@3cubed.co.za</a>
Jacqui Verrinder	Vice Chairman Show Secretary	Cell: 082 789 2919 e-mail: <a href="mailto:cptjav@cathaypacific.com">cptjav@cathaypacific.com</a> Fax: 086 460 6570
Marlien Heystek	Secretary Scraps	Cell: 083 717 4120 e-mail: <a href="mailto:secretary@wpbc.co.za">secretary@wpbc.co.za</a> Fax: 086 245 0824
Lucian Rolleston	Treasurer	Cell: 083 313 1230 e-mail: <a href="mailto:treasurer@wpbc.co.za">treasurer@wpbc.co.za</a>
Michelle Martin	Rescue	Cell: 082 738 5926 e-mail: <a href="mailto:shampooched@mweb.co.za">shampooched@mweb.co.za</a>
Monique Hodgkinson	Website	Cell: 082 570 3410 e-mail: <a href="mailto:treasurer@wpbc.co.za">treasurer@wpbc.co.za</a> Website: <a href="http://www.wpbc.co.za">www.wpbc.co.za</a>
René Erasmus	Committee Member	Cell: 082 787 4740 e-mail: <a href="mailto:renee@absa.co.za">renee@absa.co.za</a>
Dawn Hull	Committee Member	Cell: 082 824 1422 e-mail: <a href="mailto:boxers@iafrica.com">boxers@iafrica.com</a>
Jennifer Neish	Committee Member	Cell: 082 260 0185 e-mail: <a href="mailto:j.neish@mweb.co.za">j.neish@mweb.co.za</a>
Renate Vorster	Committee Member	Cell: 072 202 4834 e-mail: <a href="mailto:renate@capeag.co.za">renate@capeag.co.za</a>
Noeleen Billingham	Auditor	e-mail: <a href="mailto:billingham@gmail.com">billingham@gmail.com</a>



## From the Editor

Hello Everybody

In this issue of Scraps you will find the names of the committee elected at the AGM held on 6 March. WPBC is so very fortunate that, unlike many other dog clubs, we again had two additional young and enthusiastic club members who were willing to serve on the committee. This is truly heart warming, because the old fogeys of course won't be able to do the job forever.

We are also very happy that the club has gained quite a number of new members, including litter members from several litters. We would like to welcome all of you, together with your Boxers, as part of Boxer Fanatics Inc and hope to have you in our midst for many years to come.

On page 5 we feature Casey Ward, our talented and very committed trainer, and some of the handlers having fun training their dogs and puppies every Sunday morning at our Pinelands venue.

The annual Aptitude and Dog Mentality Tests are being run on 7/8 May. Boxers really shine at these tests—do come and watch one or two of the dogs in action. Details p 8.

Boxers are notorious jumpers who find it very hard to keep four paws on the floor. In this issue we offer two possible methods of teaching your dog not to jump up against people..

And if you haven't yet paid your club subs for 2016—remember we really value your membership....

Marlien Heystek, Editor

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# WHAT'S ON?

## calendar of events

DATE	CLUB	TYPE	EVENTS	CONTACT
<b>MAY</b>				
1	Cape Working & Herding	CH	BR, DJ, AG, FLY	076 170 7218
7/8	WPBC, DCC, CBC, WPRC	APT	APTITUDE & DMA	082 789 2919
<b>JUNE</b>				
5	Hottentots Holland KC	Open	BR, HCL, DJ	082 521 4374
5	Western Province KC	Open	BR, HL	083 253 0266
11	George KC	CH	BR, HCL	082 925 0561
12	Outeniqua KC	CH	BR, HCL	082 925 0561
18	Swartland KC	CH	BR. HCL	083 925 4350
19	West Coast KC	CH	BR. HCL	083 925 4350
<b>JULY</b>				
10	Kennel Association	Open	BR, HCL, OB, DJ, AG, FLY	021 715 9758
31	WPBC	Club	Annual Walk & Brunch	083 717 4120

## TRAINING - ALL BREEDS

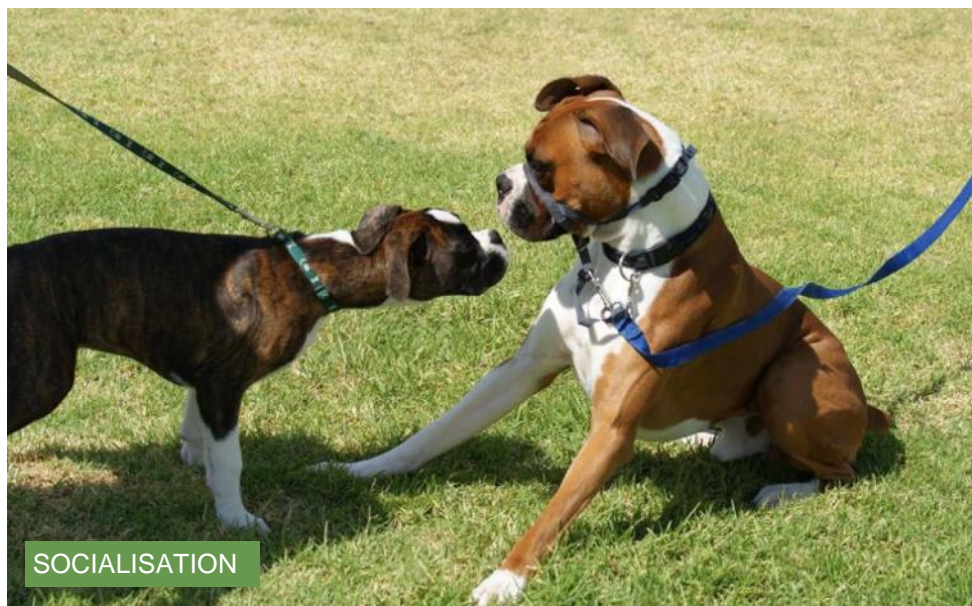
### adults and puppies



Held at 09:00 on Sundays at  
Cannon's Creek Hobbies Hall  
Nursery Way, off Princess Path,  
Pinelands

For more information contact  
CASEY WARD - 082 824 7589 or  
[csassey@live.co.za](mailto:csassey@live.co.za)  
MICHELLE MARTIN - 082 738 5926  
or [shampooched@mweb.co.za](mailto:shampooched@mweb.co.za)





SOCIALISATION

All images by Tana Swanepoel and Rene Erasmus



HEELWORK

# Training

# CASEY'S CORNER

CASEY



RECALL

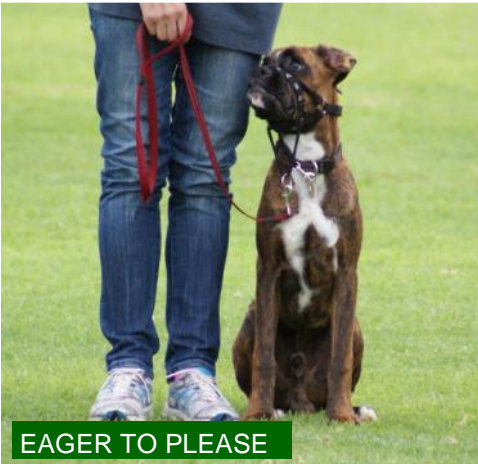




RECALL



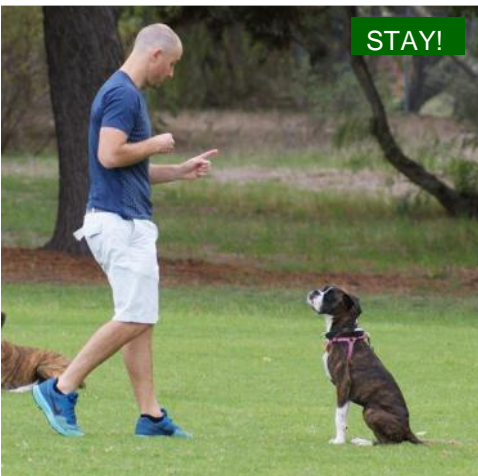
FOCUS



EAGER TO PLEASE



HEELWORK



STAY!



HEELWORK

*Come and watch!*  
**APTITUDE TEST**

**7 & 8 MAY 2016 - Bellevue Farm, Bottelary Road,  
Stellenbosch**

Aptitude testing provides dog owners with an effective tool to determine the inherent natural mental potential of dogs used for breeding. It assesses, inter alia, drive to hunt, approachability, nervous stability, defensive behaviour, aggression and - very important - the ability of the dog to work off and calm down quickly after being exposed to stressful situations. Dogs are not trained for these test - it is aimed at evaluating the inborn instincts and drives of the dog. During the test the dog must solve a number of problems and cope with stressful situations by himself, without any assistance or commands from his handler.

Minimum age for the Aptitude Test is 22 months, but it is better to wait until a Boxer is about 3 years old. Minimum age for the young dog assessment (DMA) is 12 months.  
Enquiries: 082 789 2919

Herewith some images of a few of the many WPBC Boxers who demonstrated the Boxer's outstanding inherent working ability when they passed these tests with flying colours over the years.



Rogan navigates through the Soldiers to find Michelle, (concealed in dense bush), nimbly dodging, in full flight , the one that popped-up suddenly in front of him. This demonstrated his attachment to his pack leader



# APTITUDE TIME SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 7 May		
TIME	BREED	TEST
08:30	GSD	APT
09:30	Boxer	APT
10:30	Giant Schnauzer	APT
11:30	Boxer	DMA
12:30	LUNCH	
13:00	Flat Coat Retriever	APT
14:00	Rottweiler	APT
15:00	Rottweiler	APT
16:00	Dobermann	APT

SUNDAY 8 May		
TIME	BREED	TEST
08:00	Dobermann	APT
09:00	Dobermann	DMA
10:00	Bull Mastiff	DMA
11:00	Giant Schnauzer	DMA
12:00	LUNCH	
12:30	Boxer	DMA
13:30	Boxer	DMA
14:30	Rottweiler	APT
15:30	Rottweiler	APT



Abby challenges the steadily approaching Sledge, then works off and investigates when it stops.



Vanilla and Bennett  
both show good social fighting spirit  
when confronted by the Ugly Man



Vanilla investigates the Headless Man  
who jumped up in front of her



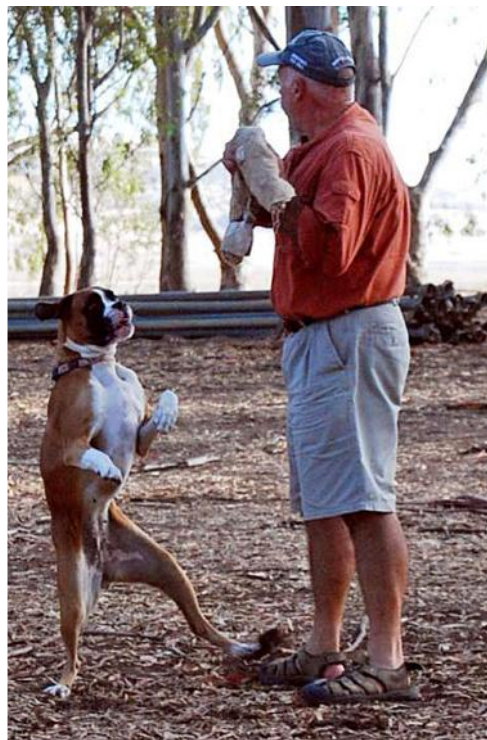
Abby sets off to catch the Little Rabbit  
and bring it back for supper





Mike - the ULTIMATE Ugly Man.....

Abby shows the ideal response 🐾 from a dog (apparently not seen all that often) for this DMA test. The dog is invited to go forward and play with a stranger 40 - 50 meters away



Rogan shows strong defense by warning first one and then the other of the two Ghosts slowly approaching from opposite directions



Meeting and playing with the Test Leader at the start of the test

Images by Monique Hodgkinson

# BREED ASSESSMENT

6 March 2016

Hosted by Western Province Boxer Club

Assessors: Monique Hodgkinson & Ken Hull



Image: Jennifer Neish

SABOX Breed Assessments and Breed Surveys are breeding suitability evaluations, devised to determine whether a Boxer is free of physical and mental weaknesses or faults which could have a negative influence on its soundness, type, working ability and by implication, its suitability for breeding purposes. The evaluation of the dogs entered is based on the overall requirements stipulated in the Boxer Breed Standard accepted by KUSA and SABOX.

A Breed Assessment includes inter alia

- Detailed assessment of conformation and type, including eye colour and shape, placement of teeth in jaws, head type and proportions, body measurements (height at withers, length of body, depth of chest), musculature and angulation of front and rear limbs
- Evaluation of movement
- Test for steadiness to gunshot
- Disposition evaluation



A Breed Survey is identical to the above, but also includes an evaluation of the guard and defence attributes of the dog.

These evaluations are not competitions and participating Boxers will be graded (Excellent, Very Good, Good, Insufficient or Not Gradable) but will not be placed in order of merit, nor will any prizes be awarded.

A Boxer graded Excellent in both conformation and disposition will be awarded a BA(Ex) or BS(Ex) and will be highly recommended for breeding. A grade of Very Good in both conformation and disposition will be rewarded with a BA or BS and such a Boxer will be recommended for breeding. The qualification is also subject to a hip score of C1-C1 or better.

The BA and BS qualifications are recognised by KUSA.



Images: Marlien Heystek

A new way of showing teeth.....

# THIS IS WHY DOGS NEVER DIE

Some of you, particularly those who think they have recently lost a dog to "death", don't really understand this. I've had no desire to explain, but I won't be around forever and must.

Dogs never die. They don't know how to. They get tired, and very old, and their bones hurt. Of course they don't die. If they did they would not always want to go for a walk, even long after their old bones say: "No, no, not a good idea. Let's not go for a walk." Nope, dogs always want to go for a walk. They might get one step before their aging tendons collapse them into a heap on the floor, but that's what dogs are. They walk.

It's not that they dislike your company. On the contrary, a walk with you is all there is. Their boss and the cacophonous symphony of odour that the world is. Cat poop, another dog's mark, a rotting chicken bone (exultation), and you. That's what makes their world perfect, and in a perfect world death has no place.

However, dogs get very very sleepy. That's the thing, you see. They don't teach you that at the fancy university where they explain about quarks, gluons, and Keynesian economics. They know so much that they forget that dogs never die. It's a shame, really. Dogs have so much to offer and people just talk a lot.

When you think your dog has died, it has just fallen asleep in your heart. And by the way it is wagging its tail madly, you see, and that's why your chest hurts so much and you cry all the time. Who would not cry with a happy dog wagging its tail in their chest. Ouch! Wap wap wap wap, that hurts. But they only wag when they wake up. That's when they say: "Thanks Boss! Thanks for a warm place to sleep and always next to your heart, the best place."

When they first fall asleep, they wake up all the time, and that's why, of course, you cry all the time. Wap, wap, wap. After a while they sleep more (remember, a human while is not a dog while. You take your dog for a walk; it's a day full of adventure in an hour. Then you come home and it's a week, well one of your days, really, but a week before the dog gets another walk. No WONDER they love walks).

Anyway, like I was saying, they fall asleep in your heart, and when they wake up, they wag their tail. After a few dog years, they sleep for longer naps, and you would too. They were a GOOD DOG all their life, and you both know it. It gets tiring being a good dog all the time, particularly when you get old and your bones hurt and you fall on your face and don't want to go outside to pee when it is raining but do anyway, because you are a good dog. So understand, after they have been sleeping in your heart, they will sleep longer and longer.

But don't get fooled. They are not "dead". There's no such thing really. They are sleeping in your heart, and they will wake up, usually when you're not expecting it. It's just who they are.

I feel sorry for people who don't have dogs sleeping in their heart. You've missed so much. Excuse me, I have to go cry now.

SOURCE: [Reddit.baww](#)

## Viola and owl cottages



### Pet Friendly - Self Catering Cottages - Cape Town Blouberg/Tableview

**Viola and Owl Cottages** are not just **Pet Friendly** but **Pet Safe**. Your four legged family members are always welcome in our tastefully furnished / equipped **Self Catering Cottages in Cape Town**. Situated in the quiet residential area of Tableview, just 5 mins from the beach overlooking Table Mountain and Robben Island, it is ideal for **exploring Cape Town** and its beautiful surrounds.



Pet Friendly



Viola Cottage



Owl Cottage

#### FOR MORE INFO:

Mobile : +27 82 698 1244

Tel: +27 21 557 2899

Email : [helen@violacottage.co.za](mailto:helen@violacottage.co.za)

<http://www.pet-friendly-accommodation.co.za/index.html/>



# WPBC CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT for 2015

**PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 06 MARCH, 2016**

To the Chairman of the Western Province Provincial Council, and the President of the Western Province Boxer Club, Mrs Doreen Powell, members of the Western Province Boxer club & to our visitors, welcome and thank you for attending our Annual General Meeting.

As always, it has been a very busy year for the club, with many activities held throughout the year

## **Activities 2015**

### **Social**

Our annual August walk was a walk along the Pinelands Canal followed by a champagne breakfast back at the clubhouse. Following the success of the 2014 walk along the Canal, we decided to repeat this walk in 2015 and again it was exceptionally popular, as it is not too strenuous, and people can walk as long or as short as they wish, if they felt they, or their Boxers, had walked far enough! There always has to be a couple of committee members who are not able to enjoy the walk as they have been given the title of chef and sous chef and this year it was Ken and Renate who held these positions. They did an absolutely amazing job, the breakfast was all beautifully set out, piping hot and delicious when the walkers arrived back.

The Christmas party and annual awards were held at the beginning of December under the trees at Cannon's Creek. Unfortunately this wasn't as well attended as some years, it being a busy time of the year, but those who did attend had a wonderfully relaxing afternoon.

### **Aptitude**

In May, we once again held an aptitude weekend in conjunction with the Dobermann Club and the Bullmastiff Club of the Cape. A new venue had to be found this year as the farm where it has been held for many years was not available to us. The new grounds were difficult to find, and held its own challenges, but it ended up being a successful weekend.

### **Shows**

In 2015, we held 4 shows.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of March we held our Breed Trophy Show, which was judged by Natalie Nissen. She awarded Best in Show to Ch Manitoka Aphrodite - Zara. Natalie is a learner judge who has shown keen interest in Boxers and she had a very good entry.

And on the 8th of March we held a separate Disciplines Open Show which included all the non-breed events such as obedience, agility, dog jumping, flyball and CGC.



On the 4<sup>th</sup> October 2015 we held our Championship Disciplines Show for obedience, agility, dog jumping, flyball and CGC. This is a very well attended show requiring a lot of hard work from the committee, but is always enjoyable and exciting.

We held our Championship Breed Show on the 18<sup>th</sup> October. This year we were very fortunate to have had an extremely well respected Boxer Specialist judge from Australia, Mr Mark Johnston, officiate. He attracted an extremely good entry and he awarded Best in Show to Ch Manitoka Aphrodite - Zara.

### **Breed Seminar**

We took advantage of having Mark in Cape Town and we organised a Breed Seminar. These events are invaluable for people to learn a little more about the breed. From experienced and learner judges to general Boxer enthusiast, these events are great learning experiences. It was an interesting evening as the Pinelands hall we used had a power cut, so it had to be conducted by candlelight and Mark did not have the use of his PowerPoint presentation. However, he coped fantastically well in the circumstances and it was a very enjoyable evening.

### **Training**

The club owes a very big thank you to Casey Ward who has been running very successful training classes in the Cannon Creek grounds each Sunday. Everyone who attends Casey's classes is full of praise for her method of training and her commitment. Thank you Casey

### **Committee**

Running a specialist club, with all the events I have just mentioned is very hard work and it is only due to the fact that your club has an extremely dedicated and hard working committee that we are able to do this.

Along with these events there are many other things that go on during the year, such as the production of Scraps, Rescue, numerous puppy enquiries, calendars, websites and the committee members just get down and get these jobs done!

We had 3 new committee members this year and I want to commend Renate, Jennifer and Marelize for coming forward, learning the ropes and getting involved. – Thank you.

Also a big thank you – to the committee stalwarts - Ken, Monique, Marlien, Michelle, Dawn – without you guys, we would not be the successful club we are.

### **In Closing**

What I would like to say in closing is this..... This is your club, these are your Boxers and we need your help to keep this club running, to make the events we hold successful and to protect the future of this wonderful Breed.

I would really like to encourage you all to help the committee or, even better, to come onto the committee to help with this task.

All that remains for me to say, is good luck to the incoming committee. Hoping for a wonderful year ahead.

Jacqui Verrinder  
CHAIRMAN

**Boxers are outgoing, convivial, enthusiastic and bouncy. Consequently they very often jump up on guests. Their exuberant greetings are hard on children and elderly people. To a Boxer it is usually inconceivable that the best way to say hello is actually just to sit there and not jump up.**

## **Why Do Dogs Jump Up?**

### **HOW DO I...**

## **Teach my Boxer not to jump up against people?**

A plausible explanation arises from the way dogs communicate with each other. A puppy greeting an adult dog often licks the adult's muzzle -- polite, deferential behaviour. Muzzle-licking is also a calming signal - something to trot out to de-



escalate a fight, like a human might lift up his hands, palms toward a person with whom he is having a disagreement..

So puppies in human households try to lick the weird, flat, bald body part we have instead of a muzzle. When a cute little puppy jumps up to lick a face, most people will just say "Awww!" Hey presto! Jumping up has been rewarded. The puppy's natural inclination is now a learned behaviour. Too bad for the dog when he is nine months old, bigger and not so cute, muddying the pinstripes and knocking Granny to the ground.

Paying attention to a dog only when he has four paws on the floor is an effective strategy *if* jumping isn't well entrenched and *if* everybody who deals with the dog follows the rules. Unfortunately, much of humanity will get busy undermining you. "I don't mind your puppy jumping up," they say, while you tear your hair out. Or they get all disciplinarian, maybe kneeling the dog in the chest. That is not only mean but counterproductive, because dogs often respond by trying to appease. Since humans are usually taller than dogs, reaching our muzzles to lick them involves jumping up.

# Train Your Dog to Stop Jumping Up - Method 1

Fortunately, polite greetings are easily taught – easily, of course, if you start out early so you aren't trying to undo a well-practiced habit. The following tips apply to dogs as well as puppies.

Training your dog to greet politely and stop jumping up, is easiest to achieve with two people. One person will hold the dog's leash. The dog should have plenty of room to sit, stand, or lie down comfortably, and to move within a radius of a meter or so. The second person can be anyone your dog really likes.

1. With the dog's human friend about four paces away, the person holding the leash asks the dog to sit. (This exercise assumes your dog already knows how to "sit.")
2. As soon as the dog does so, the dog's friend starts to approach. Because the dog likes this person, the approach will be the reward for the sit. And, because the dog likes this person, he'll probably get up and move towards her.
3. At that precise moment, the approaching person stops dead, turns away from the dog, and retreats.
4. The person holding the leash cues the dog to sit.
5. As soon as the dog sits, the friend again approaches.
6. If the dog gets up, the friend stops and retreats again.

Usually, after two or three tries, the leash holder can stop giving the cue to sit. Instead, count to 5 slowly, in your head. Given a few moments to think, most dogs will experiment – what was it that got my friend to come closer? Eureka! That is the first step toward a dog who sits spontaneously in order to get people to approach.

## More Jumping Training

However, the self-control problem isn't solved yet -- the more bouncy the dog, the more tries you'll need. Once the dog holds his sit till his human friend has reached him, have a love party. The leash holder can tell the dog it's okay to get up at this point. But if the dog begins to jump, the friend should instantly back away. Notice how simple and clear the communication is. The consequence of sitting politely is that someone you like comes closer. The consequence of jumping up is that she goes away.

Here's a hot tip for bouncy dogs: keep the love party low-key and drop a few treats on the ground – the dog can't troll for smorgasbord and jump at the same time. Speaking of treats, the main reward for your dog in this training scenario is the chance to say hello. Feel free, though, to slip him treats as he holds his sit. You can phase out the treats over time. Also, any dog will find it easier to stay put if he's had plenty of exercise that day. Finally, if your dog's really having trouble, work on a sit-stay without the greeting component first.

See more at:

<http://www.quickanddirtytips.com/pets/dog-behavior/how-to-stop-a-dog-from-jumping-up?page=1#sthash>

# Train Your Dog to Stop Jumping Up - Method 2

(This is best carried out using a clicker)

## FIND YOUR PERSONAL BUBBLE



Do you have a dog that jumps up on you for attention? Conventional wisdom says turn away from the dog, disengage, ignore the jumping, then click and treat when all four feet are on the floor. This works in some early cases before the jumping is very ingrained in a dog. But I have had a run of confirmed, serious, hardcore jumpers — and, for them, this old method just doesn't cut it.

For one thing, some dogs find that you turning away from them is the funniest thing in the world! It elicits play and even more jumping.

Secondly, with a confirmed jumper, it's hard for people to ignore the behaviour consistently until all four feet

are back on the floor. Let's face it — a big dog jumping on you can really hurt.

Worse still, super smart dogs will even start to initiate earning a treat by creating a brand new, ridiculously fun behaviour chain that starts by (a) jumping up on purpose, then (b) self-correcting by putting all four feet on the floor, and (c) happily collecting their reward!

You can't win.

But actually you CAN win! I've found a method to keep a dog from jumping up that is powerful, and extremely effective, but consistent with the principles I use in my training — train for what you WANT, rather than punish what you DON'T. In this case, cure jumping by training a dog to "Find Your Personal Bubble", and stay outside of it! Credit goes to my KPA alum, Helix Fairweather, for this gem.:

Pay attention, and try to catch your dog before he even comes close enough to put paws on you (or anyone). In other words, be pro-active. As he is moving towards you, click and toss the treat in the opposite direction. Repeat. (You can initiate him moving toward you, if he's not already heading your way, by moving away from him.) As soon as he is 2' – 3' away, click and treat! Soon you will see the dog start to hesitate at that location where you have been clicking



him. Good! Now click the hesitation, then treat. Repeat and over time, you will see him start to slow down and pause for you. Perfect! You have just taught him the edge of your “bubble”!

As the dog pauses at this new spot well away from you, you can now ask for a sit, then a click and treat. Repeat repeat repeat repeat. Different times of day, different orientations where you are compared to him, different people (if possible), different rooms. His default behavior will be to approach you to the edge of your bubble, pause and sit or down. THAT is to be interpreted by you as “Please may I have your attention for a moment?” You can then decide to pet him, stand up and take him outside to play, say “Thanks, but I’m going to watch cable right now,” or to toss treats to him in his kennel, or whatever.

Practice in all levels of his excitement (or non-excitement!). When people are over and he is excited, obviously, but also when he is just chilling around the house. When the dog is kind of tired or low-key so we think, “No need to practice Find the Personal Bubble now, he’s not coming in for a jump-up”. HA! That’s the perfect time to be training it!

Good luck with this! Once your dog has the idea, it is an endlessly useful behavior that can be applied to so many situations in which you just need the dog to give something or someone some additional space

[denverdreamdog.com/find-your-personal-bubble/](http://denverdreamdog.com/find-your-personal-bubble/)

## What NOT to Do

- Do not become really excited when you greet your dog. The calmer you are, the calmer your dog will be.
- Do not shout at your dog when she jumps up on you or others. Shouting will just make her more excited and cause more jumping up.
- Do not try to grab your dog or push away. Doing that could just cause more jumping up.
- Do not knee your dog in the chest, step on her back toes, grab or pinch her front toes, or otherwise cause her pain or discomfort. If you do, you’ll frighten and hurt your dog, and she still won’t have learned how to politely greet people.



<http://pets.webmd.com/dogs/guide/dogs-jumping-training-tips-not-do?page=3>

**If Your Dog or Cat Ever Does This,  
Go To the Vet IMMEDIATELY!**



### **PRESSING THE HEAD AGAINST OBJECTS IN DOGS**

Head pressing is a condition characterized by the compulsive act of pressing the head against a wall or other object for no apparent reason. This generally indicates damage to the nervous system, which may result from a number of causes, including prosencephalon disease (in which the forebrain and thalamus parts of the brain are damaged), and some types of toxic poisoning. This condition can affect dogs of any breed or age-range.



## SYMPTOMS AND TYPES

The act of head pressing is just one sign of prosencephalon disease, in which the forebrain and thalamus parts of the brain are affected. Other symptoms that may accompany this include compulsive pacing and circling, changes in learned (trained) behavior, seizures, damaged reflexes, and visual problems. Some of these symptoms may lead to lesions, for example, sores on the feet as a result of compulsive pacing, or injuries to the face and head as a result of pressing the head against a surface for long periods of time.

## CAUSES

There are a number of reasons for why a dog might feel a compulsion to press its head against objects, depending on the primary cause that is leading to this symptom. Possible causes may be a metabolic disorder, such as hyper or hyponatremia (too much, or too little sodium in the body's blood plasma), a primary or secondary tumor (meaning a tumor located in the brain vs. a tumor located elsewhere in the body), or an infection of the nervous system, such as rabies or fungal infection. Other causes can include head trauma, such as from a car accident, or from exposure to toxins, such as lead.

## DIAGNOSIS

One primary diagnostic procedure in cases of head pressing includes a fundic examination of the retina and other structures in the back of the eye, which may indicate infectious or inflammatory diseases, as well as irregularities in the brain. Other likely tests are blood pressure measurements to test for high blood pressure, and computed tomography (CT) or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans of the brain. Your veterinarian will also include a urine analysis (which may reveal a problem with the metabolic system), and tests for blood lead concentration (which can indicate toxins in the system).

You will need to give a thorough history of your dog's health, the onset of symptoms, and possible incidents that might have preceded this condition.



[http://www.petmd.com/dog/conditions/neurological/c\\_multi\\_headpressing](http://www.petmd.com/dog/conditions/neurological/c_multi_headpressing)



# WPBC TROPHY SHOW

Pinelands

6 March 2016 - JUDGE: Sally Young (GAU)

## RESULTS

CLASS	DOGS		OWNER
BABY PUPPY	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tyson Rocky	Rene Erasmus Diana Rodrigues
MINOR PUPPY	1 <sup>st</sup>	Doodle	Ken & Dawn Hull
JUNIOR	1 <sup>st</sup>	Optimus	Lucian Rolleston
GRADUATE	1 <sup>st</sup>	Duke	Renate Vorster
NEUTER DOG	1 <sup>st</sup>	Rogan	Michelle Martin
CLASS	BITCHES		OWNER
PUPPY	1 <sup>st</sup>	Jemma	Wida Ehlers
GRADUATE	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ellie	Sandra Coetzer
Novice	1 <sup>st</sup>	Piper	Casey Ward
VETERAN	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Suzi Tara	Ken & Dawn Hull Michelle Martin
OPEN	1 <sup>st</sup>	Kwezi	Marlien Heystek
CHAMPION	1 <sup>st</sup>	Zara	Alice Rossouw / Jacqui Verrinder
BEST IN SHOW RES BEST IN SHOW	Zara Doodle		Alice / Jacqui Ken & Dawn Hull
BEST CHAMPION	Zara		Alice / Jacqui
BEST VETERAN	Suzi		Ken & Dawn Hull
BEST SENIOR RES BEST SENIOR	Kwezi Ellie		Marlien Heystek Sandra Coetzer
BEST JUNIOR	Optimus		Lucian Rolleston
BEST PUPPY RES BEST PUPPY	Doodle		Ken & Dawn Hull
BEST HEAD	Tyson		Rene Erasmus
BEST MOVEMENT	Rogan		Michelle Martin
BEST RED COAT	Optimus		Lucian Rolleston
BEST BRINDLE COAT	Rocky		Diana Rodrigues
BEST RESCUE	Cooper		Diana Rodrigues







Tyson



Rocky



Doodle



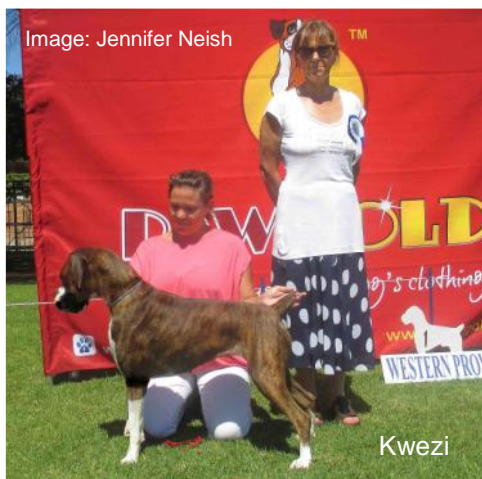
Optimus



Duke



Rogan







# CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW RESULTS

## KENNEL ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 27 FEBRUARY 2016 JUDGE: Mr NEIL KAY (MPUM)

CLASS	DOGS		OWNER
GRADUATE	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ilruca the Duke of Leiaslair	Renate Vorster
CC		Ilruca the Duke of Leiaslair	Renate Vorster
CLASS	BITCHES		OWNER
MINOR PUPPY	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mardusmara Tamarah	Margot Holtrop
S A BRED	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mardusmara Skyes the Limit	Margot Holtrop
CHAMPION		Ch Manitoka Aphrodite	Alice Rossouw / Jacqui Verrinder
CC		Mardusmara Skyes the Limit	Margot Holtrop
RCC		Mardusmara Tamarah	Margot Holtrop
BEST OF BREED WORKING GROUP 2 <sup>nd</sup>		Ch Manitoka Aphrodite	Alice Rossouw / Jacqui Verrinder
RES BEST OF BREED		Mardusmara Skyes the Limit	Margot Holtrop
BEST PUPPY		Mardusmara Tamarah	Margot Holtrop

## LIESBEEK KENNEL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 28 FEBRUARY 2016 JUDGE: Mrs RENÉE FOURIE (GAU)

CLASS	DOGS		OWNER
GRADUATE	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ilruca the Duke of Leiaslair	Renate Vorster
CC		Ilruca the Duke of Leiaslair	Renate Vorster
CLASS	BITCHES		OWNER
MINOR PUPPY	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mardusmara Tamarah	Margot Holtrop
S A BRED	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mardusmara Skyes the Limit	Margot Holtrop
OPEN	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tortuga Accolade by Jakkalsdans Proud Precision of Blackberg	Marlien Heystek Rina Black
CHAMPION		Ch Manitoka Aphrodite	Alice Rossouw / Jacqui Verrinder
CC		Tortuga Accolade by Jakkalsdans	Marlien Heystek
RCC		Proud Precision of Blackberg	Rina Black
BEST OF BREED WORKING GROUP 3 <sup>rd</sup>		Ch Manitoka Aphrodite	Alice Rossouw / Jacqui Verrinder
RES BEST OF BREED		Tortuga Accolade by Jakkalsdans	Marlien Heystek
BEST PUPPY PUPPY GROUP 3 <sup>rd</sup>		Mardusmara Tamarah	Margot Holtrop



# Boxing clever

by Tim Hutchings



## Raising the standard of judging

IT WAS interesting to see recently that the Kennel Club is turning its brainpower towards judges' training but tantalising not to be given too much information about what this will mean in practice. I have always been interested in this topic and I am particularly interested in 2016 since I have already sat through a couple of shows where I, along with many other experienced exhibitors, have felt that newly qualified judges have struggled with our breed. Really struggled.

On both occasions I would genuinely love to have had a sensible follow up conversation with them to understand what it was they were looking for and to talk through some specific points. While judging is subjective, I think we should all be open to this sort of dialogue but it is very difficult to have such conversations since judges can be a tad defensive while exhibitors tend to get quite emotional and all of us must plead guilty to a degree of kennel blindness. With these two occasions

***"I believe that at a very basic level judges need to demonstrate that they have read and can recall the breed Standard in detail."***

convincing me that the current route up the judging ladder doesn't always produce satisfactory end results (and I have a feeling that this might be getting worse) I thought I'd have a go at outlining my own views on how things might be improved. These aren't necessarily radical departures from current practice, but they would be an important evolution.

Whenever judges' education is debated I get a little bit frustrated since people tend to end up in two very opposite camps. On one side you have the folk who believe that exams and tests should have no part whatsoever to play in judges' qualification. The argument goes that if people are to become good judges they must have a natural eye for a dog and this cannot be taught. You either have it or you don't. These people presumably believe that there are huge numbers of the fabled 'stockmen' that we keep getting told about, just waiting to be unearthed. You then have the camp for whom formal training and strict application of the numbers game is the answer. Of

course, the right answer is much less binary than that.

Personally, I believe that at a very basic level judges need to demonstrate that they have read and can recall the breed Standard in detail. Whenever I do seminars I always chuck in a few questions about what the Standard actually says and it is amazing how many people obviously haven't got a good grasp of it. The Standard is the only formal document we have to go on so it must be important and many parts are pretty unequivocal. In my breed, square is square. Dark brown means just that, so why do we still see so many critiques where judges praise black eyes? While we continue to see too many critiques at championship show level frequently demonstrating a shaky grip on the Standard I would certainly have a formal test of this part of a judge's knowledge. But we all know that simply committing a breed Standard to memory is never going to be enough since words alone are completely inadequate.

## **Breed seminars**

To illustrate the point I checked out the Standard for a breed with which I am entirely unfamiliar and under eyes – such an important contributor to breed type – it simply said 'Small, well set in, dark expression indicative of temperament'. If you gave that description to 20 different people and asked them to draw what it meant, I have no doubt that you would end up with 20 very different pictures. This is where good breed specific seminars come into their own since there is nothing like listening to real experts explain the more subjective parts of the Standard, bringing it to life with examples. And the more you can get to the better, since each one will have a different perspective.

Nothing irritates me more than judges never going to another seminar once they have completed that part of their CV. It's as if they think they have nothing else to learn. I would love to see a way by which access to seminars is made much easier and on this point I am extremely hopeful that the Kennel Club Academy will play a leading and growing role. I was lucky enough to be asked to present the breed specific film on the Boxer late last year and I was very impressed with the professionalism of the production team. As a result of my involvement I was given access to the site so I have been able to see other breed films as they come online and they are quite brilliant. I could certainly listen to Pat Sutton talk about Beagles all day and where else would I have had the opportunity of hearing Stuart Plane and Sheila Jakeman talk so knowledgeably about their breeds in such a readily accessible way.

So I'd like knowledge of the Standard to be formally tested and I'd like to see prospective judges given much greater access to high quality breed specific information both virtually and face to face – obviously supplemented by prospective judges showing a genuine interest, regularly learning from experienced exhibitors around the ring. But of course this is still only a small part of the picture and building up practical experience by judging actual dogs is always going to be vital. However, where we really must see a shift is away from the total fixation on the volume of

judging and towards the quality of that judging. In this regard, I see very little merit in the current assessment model which is shrouded in secrecy and based entirely on one way observation.

It seems quite obvious to me that when a person is completing their final show before elevation to an A list they should be assessed. I believe there should be two suitably qualified assessors who are not exhibiting and who should watch the judge throughout the appointment. The judge should then be required to complete a critique in a timely manner and this should be submitted to the assessors. Armed with their observations on the day and the critique it is then essential that the assessors and the judge have the opportunity to discuss the judge's performance not just in terms of how they went about it but also covering their understanding of breed type and the consistency of their placings.

At the end of the assessment there would be two possible outcomes, communicated to the judge transparently: 1) You pass or 2) You need to complete another assessed show on the B list before you can progress. With this effective checkpoint in place, I would then be very minded to reduce the numbers required for prior criteria quite significantly. In this way people who demonstrated competence could advance quickly while others would stall. The principle is not dissimilar to a driving test. Better drivers tend to pass quicker and so should judges.

## **Continued assessment**

Finally, because the pressures of a championship show are totally different to an open show I would certainly have a similar assessment when someone does their first set of tickets in a breed and here I would have three possible outcomes: 1) You pass 2) You need to be assessed again if you are lucky enough to be invited or 3) Your performance was inadequate and you need to be placed back on the B list to complete part of that lists' criteria again. There also needs to be a mechanism allowing established judges to be reassessed on their next appointment if a sufficient number of exhibitors request it. At the moment judges are effectively passed for life and that cannot be sensible. The amount of angst that is generated at Crufts every year over the performance of a few judges who, by definition, must be very long in the judging tooth demonstrates that some form of continued assessment is occasionally needed. Let's have a bit more power in the exhibitors' hands.

Looking through all of this again I can think of a million and one practical challenges that would need to be overcome to turn this into a reality but I am convinced that we need to do something positive to try and force up the standard of judging. Too often we have to watch someone whose performance is considerably south of borderline and I'm getting a little tired of it. □



# BOXER RESCUE

Two of the gut-wrenching, heart-breaking victims of neglect, far too often only found and rescued just in time before dying of starvation, recently went to their new forever homes.

Mandy (top), severely emaciated, weighing only 14kg, was found tied to a fence at a rubbish dump in Belville.

Olive (below) weighing a shocking 13,5kg when found, had simply been abandoned with some other dogs when their previous owner moved out of rented accommodation in Tulbach.



## WESTERN PROVINCE BOXER RESCUE

Michelle Martin

[shampooched@mweb.co.za](mailto:shampooched@mweb.co.za)

082 738 5926

<https://www.facebook.com/wpboxerrescue>

[www.wpbc.co.za/rescue.html](http://www.wpbc.co.za/rescue.html)