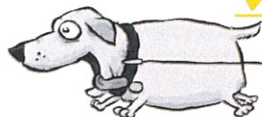


# WAIKATO CANINE OBEDIENCE CLUB INC.

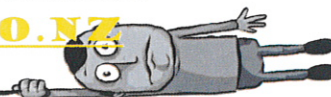
PO BOX 10-255 : TE RAPA : HAMILTON

PHONE 07 849 1502 OR EMAIL

[WAIKATO.K9@XTRA.CO.NZ](mailto:WAIKATO.K9@XTRA.CO.NZ)



September 2009



## Term 3, one week to go!

Term three is nearly all done. Not sure about you but this term has gone exceptionally fast!

Hope the training routine has been firmly cemented and is coming along nicely. If you do have any last minute issues now is the time to ask. Don't be shy!

Last week you should have received an invite for the next 10 weeks. Each term spaces fill fast so your enrolments for Term 4 2009 must be received by Sherie Draper by the end of Assessment night which is the 22nd of September.

You will also receive some instructor and assistant assessment forms. This is your opportunity to give us feedback on how you felt the instructors and assistants helped you and your dog to learn the exercises. These forms are very important to us to identify training issues or places where we can improve to provide a better service.

Please take your time to fill these forms in a return them to us.

### TERM DATES, 2009

Term 4 13<sup>th</sup> October - 15<sup>th</sup> Dec

All handlers that complete these forms on or prior to assessment night will go into a draw for a wonderful dog prize sponsored by Wash World, Te Rapa Rd, drawn on assessment night.

There will be an end of term sausage sizzle as a celebration of your success at the end of assessment night. There will still be the cups of tea and coffee available maybe with a chocolate bickie too.



A reminder to those of you who want Council letters that you need a 100% attendance record. You will need to give your name to either your instructor, or Sherie before the final night of term.

Good Luck for Assessment Night

**Don't take a Mucky Pup home...**

*Did you know...?*

*at Washworld Te Rapa we have two self-serve, coin operated dog wash tubs making bathing your dog a breeze!*

Dog Wash Opening hours: 8am 'til 6pm daily.

Automatic money changer on site.

Attendant to answer your questions on site 9am to 3pm

**WASHWORLD**

550 Te Rapa Road, Hamilton

A dog thinks: Hey, these people I live with feed me, love me, provide me with a nice warm, dry house, pet me, and take good care of me.....they must be gods!!

A cat thinks: Hey, these people I live with feed me, love me, provide me with a nice warm, dry house, pet me, and take good care of me.....  
I must be a god!!

CareVets Chartwell

**855 9072**

CareVets Rotoruna

**855 2306**

CareVets Hamilton South

**843 0090**

OPEN 7 DAYS



Caring for *your* pets **TS**

24 HOUR CARE

*For all your pet's needs*

## Sailor's First Show

Dannie Cameron and Sailor – aged 13 months

We got up early on Saturday morning, and I did a double check of the weather... overcast but otherwise ok. I packed my gear, and made sure I had everything I needed:

- Dog lead... check
- Dumbbell... check
- tasty liver treats... check
- wet weather pants... check
- rain coat... check
- beanie... check
- water bowl... check
- water... check
- ball toy; flying squirrel toy; plaited tug toy; squeaky husky toy, other ball toy, any toy that might be fun... check
- camera... check
- wallet... check
- cellphone... check
- Sailor... CHECK

Load it all into the car, and off we went.

We arrived at the North Shore grounds approx two hours later, I had been really calm when I let home, but seeing all the cars and dogs, I started to get a wee bit excited. After all, it has been 22 months since I last entered a show. I've been to plenty, but only as crew. My nerves were pretty much under control at this point, as I had only planned to play with my dog in the ring, and we were not seriously trying to compete.

I toileted my dog, then went to collect my number, and walked over to the novice course to see how far away I was; I calculated probably two hours before I was required. Plenty of time. Plenty of time to rain too... and rain it did!

I decided that I would also enter elementary for no points, as the purpose of the day was ring experience and, I figured, the more experience the better, right?

Elementary was to be held at the conclusion of the special beginners test, and I thought it would be a good idea to let him walk around the grounds, near the competing rings, and I would do a little bit of close work next to an empty ring so he would be used to ring ropes, as we had never trained with these before.

I took him over to the rings, and his whole body changed. He became slinky, he wouldn't look at me, he didn't want to play with a toy, and he certainly didn't want any liver. I gave him a bit of time to settle, and then took him back to the car, where he just lay in his crate, panting.

About half an hour later, it was time for my elementary test, so I went back to that car and got him out. His behaviour was

the same when we were waiting our turn; I couldn't get him to look at me, and he wasn't interested in anything I had. I decided at that point, then there was no point me taking a toy into the ring as he wasn't interested in it anyway, and I felt like I was just annoying him trying to get him to focus on it. I asked myself... what the hell I thought I was doing at a show with this dog today. A couple of other experienced handlers also were in the same event for no points, and I decided to press on. The only way to get ring experience, is to get in the ring and compete, not pack up and go home!

So, without the benefit of any reward, I took him into elementary, set him up in a sit, and waited for the stewards command. "Are you ready?", I nodded, "forward" and off we went. His heelwork was just lovely, something clicked and he remembered that he knew how to do this. He was happily pacing along, and I was so proud of him. He went off my leg at one stage, so I stopped, set him up again, and carried on. It wasn't as good as our training sessions, but he was trying. And I was so thrilled. His recall was perfect, tighter than usual.

We left the ring and outside he dropped again, he still didn't want to play with me, but I was excited about the effort he had put in. round. Ten minutes later we completed the stays; I wasn't really worried about these, as I don't have a problem with stays, but he has never done them with more than a couple of dogs before, but these were fine.

Due to the weather, and people being tied up in other rings, I was pretty much next in Novice, as about 10 dogs before me were busy or scratched. I hadn't expected to go from one test, straight into another. I had spoken to the judge earlier and asked if I could just train/play with my pup in his test, and he had told me that was not a problem, that I could "do what you like" in his test.



Sailor's first Novice Test - This was a disaster. Too much, too soon, with a dog that was too highly stressed. I did have a toy on the judges table, and went and got that to play with him.

What I plan to do next...

I believe it's all about experience, the new situation freaked him out, and the only way to get past it, is to go through it, so more shows more shows more shows. We are definitely going to the All Breeds ribbon trial next weekend.

**THANKS DANNIE. GOOD  
LUCK FOR NEXT  
WEEKEND**