
MR504/0112

10 January 2012

NEW APPROVED TRAINING COURSE PROVIDES MUZZLE EXEMPTION FOR GREYHOUNDS

Territory and Municipal Services (TAMS) is pleased to announce that the ACT's first dog training course to provide muzzle exemption for greyhounds under the *Domestic Services Act 2000* will commence on Saturday 14 January 2012.

David Bullivant of Naughty Dogs will run the five week socialisation course for greyhounds as part of the dog behaviour training he runs on Saturday mornings at the Domestic Animal Services (DAS) facility in Symonston.

The Registrar of Domestic Animal Services has approved the socialisation course which will exempt greyhounds from the requirement to wear a muzzle in ACT public places as stipulated under the *Domestic Services Act 2000*.

Similar courses are currently on offer in the states of NSW and Queensland, however the course is the first of its kind to be approved within the ACT.

Mr Bullivant is a level 2-obedience instructor and qualified dog training behaviourist, registered to Australian Standards with 14 years experience helping others to train their dogs. He currently runs general dog behavioural courses at DAS on weekends in the exercise yards for members of the public.

Once a greyhound and its keeper have completed the approved course, the keeper can walk their greyhound in a public place without a muzzle, as its level of socialisation has been proven to be acceptable.

The development of this approved course provides greyhound owners with the ability to comply with the Act and will assist with protecting the public against unmuzzled greyhounds.

What: Dog behaviour training
When: Saturday mornings at 9 am commencing 14 January 2012
Duration: One hour a week for five weeks
Where: Domestic Animal Services, Mugga Lane, Symonston
Registration: Contact David Bullivant on 0411 599 949

Please contact 13 22 81 for more information about Domestic Animal Services.

Editor's note: A photo opportunity of David Bullivant and a greyhound will be available on Wednesday 11 January 2012. Please contact Kirsten Rae on 6205 2173 for more details.

Statement ends

Media contact: Kirsten Rae, telephone 6205 2173