

German Pinscher Club of Victoria

Member Update No.1 - Jan/Feb 2002

Well, it has been 6 months since the club was formed. A great deal has happened in that time. As you would be aware we have only sent out meeting minutes to date - but here is our first newsletter!!!!. Feedback is gratefully accepted, as are contributions.

We will have a newsletter out every six months at this point. As we grow and develop this will become more often in time and more of a magazine style. For the present, it will take the form of a double-sided sheet with updates and other information.

Update

Since the formation of the club there have been 2 meetings and we have formally incorporated.

We currently have 12 members, 8 in Victoria and 4 interstate.

We have had several breeders' request membership forms to give to new Victorian owners. If any other people would like a copy please contact us.

In case people have forgotten (or not received minutes of the meetings – in which case please let us know) the office bearers are:

Cameron Davidson – President (phone no: 03 9705 8880)

Kate Guaran – Secretary, Puppy contact and Public Officer (as required by incorporation) (phone no: 9397 8638)

Kate Graham – Acting Vice President and Treasurer (phone number: 03 9307 0344)

Chris Graham – Public relations and historian (phone number: 03 9307 0344)

The VCA does not let any associate members hold an office bearers position – this is outside of our control. As we gain more Victorian members who wish to hold a position, each person will move to only have one role at any point in time.

We are not yet affiliated with the VCA, but they, and the Utility Dog Club of Victoria are aware that we are in existence – as shown by the number of phone calls from people interested in GP's which have been passed on to us through these associations.

Unlike NSW, we, as a club in Victoria, do not need a minimum number of members in order to be affiliated. However, once we affiliate we are then required to hold 2 shows a year (at least one championship show). The board members do not feel that the club is well enough established or developed at this point in time to be able to fulfil this commitment. Hence, for the next little while we will continue as a social club with the aim of growing the club to a point where we can successfully hold our own shows and we will then affiliate. In the mean time, the VCA and Utility Dog Club continue to acknowledge our existence and support us when we ask for assistance.

Still to be done

We are still considering what the club colours and logo will be. A final choice will be decided on by office bearers and then send to all members for comments and approval.

We are also in the process of applying for an ABN for the club.

If people are interested in attending any of the club meetings, please telephone Kate Guaran about the dates and locations. These tend to vary according to people's work and family demands. However, all interested parties are most welcome.

Correspondence.

To date we have been sending all correspondence via e-mail. To facilitate this in the future, please ensure we have your correct e-mail address. If you do not have an e-mail address, let us know and we will ensure that you receive hard copies of minutes etc.. in the future.

Events

The most recent event Victorian members attended was the Pet and Animal Expo held at Caulfield Racecourse. We did not have a stand for the GP's but has 3 GP's present at the show and answered many questions asked by the public. Planning is underway for us to have a stand next year.

Members have attended a variety of shows across Victoria with great success. At these shows handlers are asked many questions about the breed. The GP's at these shows are wonderful ambassadors for the breed.

Bits & Pieces

Things prospective dog owners should know:

Dog Owners CAN help prevent problems:

- Train your dog in obedience.
- DO NOT play aggressive games with your dog.
- Keep your dog healthy, an unnoticed injury can make a dog aggressive.
- Follow leash laws.
- Unsocialized dogs that are left outside are more likely to bite than those maintained as housedogs.

Dangerous situations include:

- invading dog's territory
- threat to dog's family
- threat to dog
- jealous dog
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You must be careful to avoid:

- approaching or bending over dogs especially if they are lying quietly
- approaching them immediately after entering their territory
- teasing or waking them
- playing with them till they become overexcited

A Threatened Dog Often Bites

Never run from or scream at a dog.

Do not challenge the dog by staring it right in the eye.