

THE QUARTERLY DRIBBLE

From your local canine expert

Jo Loft - IMDT KCAI (ag)

Summer 2022

£7.99 (where sold)



Exclusive
Discount Codes

**Inside this
edition...**

**Adder
Bites**

**Separation
Distress**

**Training
Classes**

**Do you
play ball
with your
dog?**

**Teaching
settle and
more**

and more...

WEEKLY TIMETABLE OF CLASSES

Monday

IMDT Partnership Classes
Confident Canines
Scentwork

Tuesday

Confident Canines
Group and 121 agility

Wednesday

IMDT Partnership Classes
Group and 121 agility

Thursday

IMDT Partnership Classes
Group and 121 agility

Class timetable could be subject to change

ADDERS

Firstly, a big thank you to vet Anna and the team at Maltman Coshamvets for looking over my article before it went to the publishers - they really do go the extra mile to help our pets.

Adders (*Vipera berus*) are the only venomous snake that is native to the UK and are most commonly found on sandy heaths, sand dunes, rocky hillsides, moorland and the edges of woodland. Dogs are especially at risk of an adder bite because of their curious nature, but adders will only bite in self-defence when they've been disturbed or stepped on.

How to recognise an adder

- Black/brown zig-zag pattern along their back
- V shape on the back of the head
- Adults can be up to 2ft long
- Likely to be spotted sunbathing



Signs your dog may have been bitten by an adder

- Bites are usually on a dog's legs or face
- Bites appear as a dark and painful swelling and you may see two puncture wounds
- Breathing difficulties
- Indication of pain
- Appearing nervous
- Pale gums
- Drooling
- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea
- Dehydration
- Restlessness
- Lethargic

ADDERS

What do you do if you suspect your dog may have been bitten by an adder?

The severity of clinical signs is dependent on different factors: the location of the bite, the amount of venom injected, and the size of the dog.

If possible, carry your dog to reduce the spread of venom around the body.

If you have a cool pack to hand, you can use this to help prevent swelling. Don't attempt any first aid.

Contact your vet urgently for advice as the severity of the bite has several different factors involved that your vet needs to know.

Treatment

Your vet is likely to treat for shock, swelling and pain relief. If symptoms are severe then an anti-venom may be administered if available. Death from adder bites is very rare and one study found that fewer than 20 dogs have died from an adder bite. However, all bites should be treated as an emergency and your dog should be seen by a vet as quickly as possible.

References

www.vets-now.com/pet-care-advice/adder-bites-dogs/

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/animals/reptiles-and-amphibians/adder/

TIME FOR TRICKS

Teaching your dog tricks is a great way to build your bond and have some fun together - plus you do not need to do lots of practice, just a couple of minutes a day.

Leg weaving

Teach your dog to do a figure of eight around your legs

Start with some small, yummy treats in both hands. With your dog in front of you lure your dog with the treat between your legs from front to back and reward behind you. Then lure your dog from behind you round your side and give them another tasty morsel. Keep repeating until your dog understands that going through your legs and round to the side is fun to do. Gradually build on the behaviour so that your dog only starts to get a treat for completing one full leg turn and then build on that to just getting a reward after doing one complete figure of eight.

Once your dog understands how to do the figure of eight you can start to add in some gentle leg movements by leaning to the side as your dog goes around your leg. Once your dog is happy doing the figure of eight while you are doing some sideways motions you can start adding in moving forwards. Remember to take things slowly and at a pace your dog understands. You do not want to move too quickly as you do not want to tread on any paws. To help, you can find a How-to Video on my YouTube Channel - The Paws Group and the video is called Weekly Challenge #2

Whenever you are teaching a new behaviour, go slowly so that your dog understands and doesn't fail. If your dog fails then you have made the exercise too hard, too quickly. To build on behaviours always think about the **3Ds**.

Distance
Distraction
Duration

SEPARATION DISTRESS

ALSO REFERRED TO AS SEPARATION ANXIETY

Dogs can develop separation distress for several reasons but it is usually because they have never learnt that it is OK to be alone. Dogs are naturally social so they want to be with us and others, rather than be alone.

Separation distress can only be properly diagnosed by a qualified behaviourist. Several factors need to be looked at and it is not as simple as saying that a dog simply has “separation distress”.

There are several signs of separation distress that you can look out for:

- Panting
- Salivating
- Pacing
- Toileting indoors
- Not eating food left out for them.
- Destruction around exit areas such as doors/windows
- Chewing items that smell of you
- Whining, barking and howling

The best way to avoid separation distress in your dog is to start as you mean to go on, from the moment you bring your dog home (unless you're rescuing a dog with known separation distress - in which case the rescue should have provided a behaviourist for you to work with).



SEPARATION DISTRESS

ALSO REFERRED TO AS SEPARATION ANXIETY

Leave your puppy alone for short periods of time - the aim is to teach your puppy that it's ok to be alone and that this is time to relax. Gradually increase the time you're away from your puppy.

Create an area for your puppy to call home, ideally a crate or a pen that can be covered to create a den for them to snuggle up in and feel safe. Your puppy should have access to water and some chewable items (I personally love leaving a dog with a frozen stuffed toy such as a kong).

You can leave a radio close to your puppy to provide a little background noise so other noises they may hear are not as startling to them. Another great tip is leaving them with an old t-shirt (or another article of clothing) that you have worn so it smells of you.

If you don't start working on this straight away, then it's not fair to expect your puppy to suddenly accept you're not there. Your puppy won't understand you may have to go back to work and won't be back for a few hours if you haven't helped them to settle for a shorter duration.

Separation distress is something that will take time and consistency to resolve, there is NO QUICK FIX with this (or any other training). You WILL need to seek professional help with these behaviours.



7 TOP TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR CANINE COOL THIS SUMMER

1

Drinking water should be available at all times



2

Encourage your dog to stay in the shade and away from direct sunlight



3

Go for a walk at a suitable time
DO NOT go out during the hottest part of Day



4

Soak toys in water and then freeze them so your dog has a chilled toy to play with



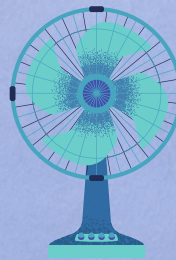
5

Freeze treats and water in an ice cube tray for a quick cooling snack



6

Cool the air around your dog



7

A dog **NEVER** died because they missed a walk

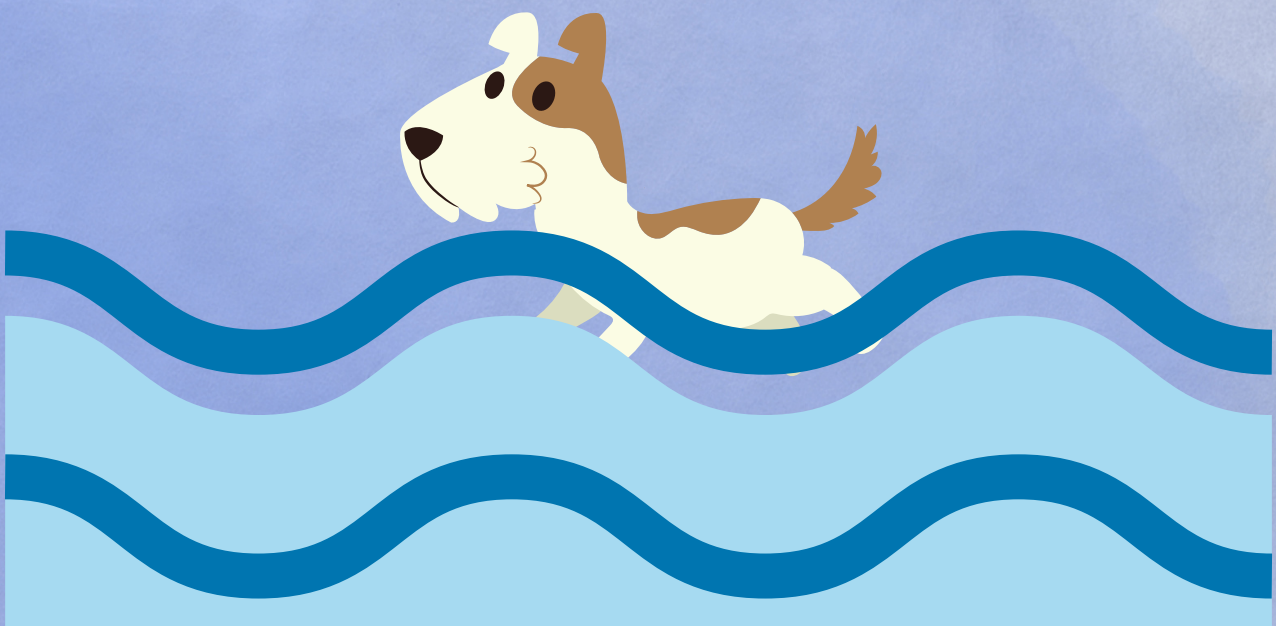
SUMMER DANGERS TO BE AWARE OF

Heat Stroke



Water Intoxication

Dog's that play in water can ingest large amounts in a short period of time which can prove fatal. Therefore, never allow your dog to ingest too much water.



IMDT PARTNERSHIP AWARDS

It is AMAZING what a few short months of work can do.

The IMDT Partnership Classes are in full swing! There are currently six classes a week for you to choose from to come and join in the fun and learn how to teach your dog some basic behaviours... You then progress through the levels to really keep your training going, as I cannot say this enough...consistency is key! You keep up with your training...not just because you have to...but because you want to.

I have been lucky enough to see Vikki and Anna hand out awards to the below people and dogs over the past few weeks.



CONFIDENT CANINES COURSE...SNEAK PEEK!

With the IMDT Partnership classes in full swing, we thought it would be nice to bring you something a little different in July. Suze and I have come up with a brand new class for you all...**Confident Canines Course**.

These classes have been designed to build confidence and engagement with your dog.

They are designed for anyone that answers yes to any (or all) of the questions below:

Do you struggle to get your dog's attention?

Is your dog more interested in what is going on elsewhere?

Does your dog find it hard to relax?

Then our Confident Canines Course is for you!

One of the games you learn in this course is "middle" (if you have already taught your dog middle then don't worry, we have more things to add to this).

"Middle" is teaching your dog to sit between your legs, this can help your dog be close to you and to feel protected.

The very first Confident Canine Course starts at the beginning of July and we cannot wait to see how you all get on building confidence for both you and your dog in all sorts of situations that day-to-day life throws at us.



RELIABLE RECALLS & LOOSE LEAD WALKING GUIDES

Due to popular demand, my Reliable Recall and Loose Lead Walking guides are now available to everyone. The cost is £4 per booklet (plus P&P if you cannot collect it from the training centre).

Learn how to resolve two of the most common problems I get asked about in simple terms that can be practised every day.

On the next page find a sneak peek at one of the recall games for you.

Back and Forth

This is a fun game that can also teach a retrieve at the same time. What you need:

- Harness
- Longline
- Toys
- Treats

Find out how to teach Back and Forth on the next page.



RELIABLE RECALL GAME

Back and Forth

Step One With your dog in front of you, throw a toy out for your dog to get (if your dog is not inclined to recall with a toy you can do this with food, although it is definitely worth trying to teach them to enjoy a game with a toy in this case). To start with, don't throw the toy far away. As your dog investigates the toy encourage them to show that engagement with the toy is what you're looking for – remember if you use your marker word at this point you should follow it up with a reward).

Step Two As your dog looks back at you with the retrieved toy or from eating the food show them you have something else in the other hand. As your dog returns to you for what is in your other hand, mark and throw out the toy/food (reward).

Step Three Repeat, repeat and repeat. If your dog is already retrieving, then make it a little harder so when they come back to you ask for a sit, then mark and reward by throwing out the second toy. If your dog is just learning to retrieve a toy don't worry if they don't pick it up straight away or bring it back to you, as you've not thrown it far you can move to it when you have thrown the other out for your dog.

Step Four As soon as you're asking your dog to sit as they come back to you, add in touching their collar while they sit, then mark and reward by throwing out their toy again. This helps to teach your dog that it doesn't mean that every time you reach for their collar that the game/walk is coming to an end.

This is another game that can be fast and fun and also tire you and your dog quickly so don't do too many repetitions. This game is teaching your dog that as they return to you the game continues. So, why would they not want to return to you?

TRAINING IN A MULTI DOG HOUSEHOLD

It can be tough when you own more than one dog to train one at a time. While training one the other(s) may want to be involved and then do all they can to join in. You may try to pop them in another room while you focus on one dog, but can hear them making a fuss which is distracting what you're attempting to do.

I have four dogs and it can be tricky when I want to practise something with one while the others are left out. I tackle this in a few different ways:

1)I will go out with one dog and leave the others at home so they cannot hear all the enthusiastic chatting.

2)I will make sure that all the other dogs are well exercised/enriched and then pop them in a different room with a frozen stuffed toy. It has to be frozen or they'll be through it in 30 seconds and tell me about it!

3)My favourite choice...teaching a really good "settle" on a mat/bed etc.

I'm going to talk about teaching a really good settle in a multidog household because the benefit of this is that each dog in the household can be involved (which is what they generally want) and all they need to do to earn a reward is lie still on their blanket.

However, the tough bit is that you need to teach each dog a really good settle individually to start with and then gradually add the other dogs into the mix...expanding on your DISTRACTION.

TRAINING IN A MULTI DOG HOUSEHOLD

I'm sure you've heard me waffle on about the 3Ds a number of times, but in case you haven't. No matter how good you think a trained behaviour is, you can make it even better by working on the 3Ds.

Distance
Distraction
Duration

The 3Ds come together to build up the overall difficulty...and working with one of your dogs while the other is settled on a mat/bed is certainly something worth working on.

You may have seen many dog trainers on talent shows doing different things with many different dogs and while they're doing clever tricks with one dog, the others are sitting patiently on their own podium (which is just another mat/bed) waiting for their name to be called for their time to play.

I know that in a previous Quarterly Dribble I've mentioned how to go about training settle but rather than you dig out an old edition to find it, I will put the details of settle in this edition with some more advanced options for those that want to give this a try...and I highly recommend you do.

If you want to see a couple of my dogs showing you how it can be used then head on over to my YouTube channel and find the video there.



Mojo Dogs

SETTLE

Settle is about encouraging your dog to relax in a certain place. This is hugely helpful both out and about and in the home, if you teach your dog to settle on an easy-to-carry blanket, then you can teach your dog to settle anywhere...such as at a friend's house, cafe etc.

Start off with your chosen blanket (make sure it's a suitable size for your dog) directly in front of you. As your dog comes over to investigate the treats you are holding, they will interact with the blanket in some way. Your dog may look at it, sniff it, or may tread on it straight away. No matter what your dog does towards that blanket drop a treat on the blanket. Remember, if I thought a cake may fall on my head for being in a certain location, I am more likely to stay in that location hoping for another magical cake.

As you progress through this exercise, you may find that your dog offers you another behaviour on the blanket, such as a sit or down. This is ultimately what you're looking for; your dog happily settling on this blanket no matter what. Don't forget to keep building on this trick by adjusting the 3Ds: Distance, Distraction & Duration and before you know it, you'll have a wonderful behaviour that you can take with you all over the place.



SETTLE PLUS – FOR MULTIDOG HOUSEHOLDS

Once you have taught your dogs that lying on a mat/bed is valuable then you MUST start to increase the 3Ds and if you're aiming to utilise this for training in a multidog household then you must teach each dog the value in their mat individually before you progress your training.

If you have more than two dogs, gradually add more dogs together. For ease. I'm going to talk as if you have two dogs, but if you have more than two dogs, once you have two dogs doing the settle plus exercises then you can add in your third, fourth, fifth...whatever you've got...hey get the cat to join in if you want!

Start with both dogs in a suitable environment (indoors where there are little to no distractions).

Have both mats out, one on either side of you. Position your pups on their mats and just keep feeding them on their mats while you move around... there are those cheeky Ds again!

Distance Distraction Duration



SETTLE PLUS – FOR MULTIDOG HOUSEHOLDS

When you feel ready, recall dog #1 - you don't need to be far away, just a couple of steps if that. When dog #1 comes to you reward them and reward dog #2 on their mat. This is where your treat throwing skills start improving. You want to aim that treat right at the dog on the mat so they don't need to move much to get it, I like to aim between their two front paws and make it a game for myself.

Then ask dog #1 to sit and reward them while throwing a treat to dog #2 on their mat. Then send dog #1 back to their mat and reward them for returning to their mat and reward #2 for remaining on their mat at the same time.

Repeat but by recalling dog #2 this time while dog #1 remains on their mat.

Gradually you can add in more and more training around the dog with you and the one on the mat. You will be able to start reducing the number of treats thrown to the dog remaining on the mat but don't do it too soon, as we want them to understand that they lie on their mat until you call their name to start training.

Remember, if things go wrong then just go back to the previously successful point to help your dog succeed, don't expect them to progress as quickly as you might like them to do.

Take it at each dog's pace and see what you can all achieve as a team. There is no excuse for not training in a multi-dog household, in fact, it's more important that you all work as a team.

Enjoy and have fun.



WHAT IS BALL CHASING DOING TO YOUR DOGS?

With thanks to Canine Arthritis Management (CAM) for allowing me to pass on their information to you.

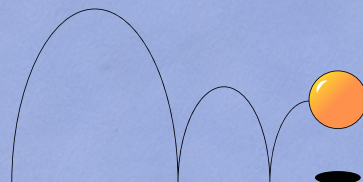
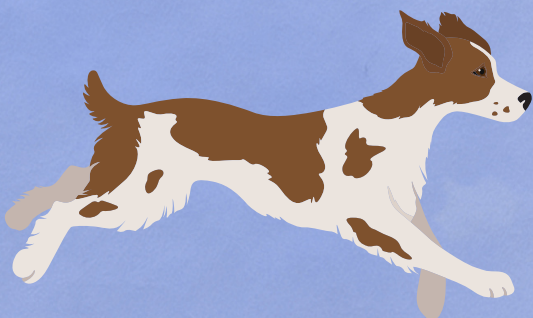
We all know that one of the joys of owning a dog is playing with them. But is there such a thing as too much of a good?

What ball chasing is really doing to your dogs...

... **Brain** – repetitive chasing can lead to prolonged adrenaline release. Cortisol release can lead to frustration and frantic behaviour which could be detrimental to long-term health. A high-drive dog may continue to chase a ball despite any pain from their joints, just for the reward of getting the ball.

...**Joints** – repeated micro-trauma to muscles and cartilage is the cause of long-term damage. Chasing and carrying balls can actually shift your dog's weight distribution to their front legs which puts excessive weight through them. If your dog is already carrying an injury or disease in their joints then they can be prone to even more damage.

...**Muscles** – balls move unpredictably, causing your dog to turn, twist, and land using muscles in a way they were not designed for. Add in high speed and this can double the forces generated in the muscles. The most dangerous part of ball throwing is when your dog puts on their breaks to get the ball and is often related to shoulder injuries.



WHAT IS BALL CHASING DOING TO YOUR DOGS?

What can you do with this information in mind?

Make sure that your dog is properly warmed up before starting any intense exercise, do not get straight out of the car into fast and furious exercise.

Only throw a ball a short distance and no higher than your waist so your dog doesn't jump up to get the ball.

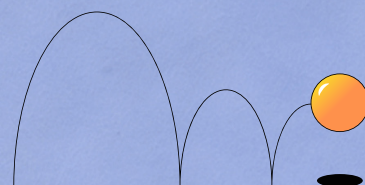
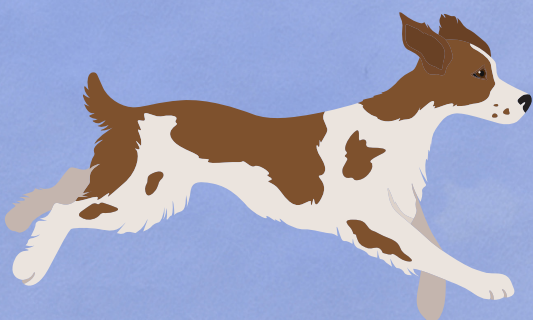
Avoid slippery surfaces.

Do not do it repetitively!

Why not also consider some alternatives like scentwork, varying your walks, or playing hide and seek with the ball instead so your dog can search it out.

And remember, everything in moderation!

For more information visit [Canine Arthritis Management on Facebook](#)



Go on! Treat your pup!

Did you know that you can get some great discounts just because you have this magazine in your hand? So why not take advantage of a cheeky discount here and there!

Get **50% off** two boxes with our special code
TeamPaws50
butternutbox.com



Finer Nature

GET **10%** DOG TOYS WITH TUG-E-NUFF WITH CODE **TEAMPAWS**

GET **10%** OFF WITH HIK9 BEDS WITH CODE **TEAMPAWS**

GET **10%** OFF WITH K9 CONNECTABLES WITH CODE
TEAMPAWS10

GET **5%** OFF YUMMIES WITH FINER BY NATURE WITH CODE
TEAMPAWS

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no text or other markings on the paper.

RECOMMEND A FRIEND AND GET A £5 VOUCHER TO USE AT MOJO DOGS!

For this summer* if you recommend a training class to a friend and they list you as the referral on their August or September booking form then you will receive a £5 voucher to use at Mojo Dogs!

Yup! £5

Recommend two people...that's a £10 voucher.

It goes on and before you know it you may have recommended enough friends to pay for your next course with us!

Just make sure that you're listed on the booking form under the **"how did you hear about us?"** section.



FOR YOU!

*Offer ends 30th September

YOUR LOCAL EXPERTS

"Find your mojo, with Mojo Dogs"

How we can help you

When you realise that you need some help with your dog it can be a minefield of searching and suggestions.

The team have many years of experience with many breeds of dogs.

New classes start the first week of each month with the addition of regular events, workshops and more.

Visit our website for up to date information and get in touch if you cannot see what you're looking for.

You and your dog are in good hands (paws) with Mojo Dogs.

New Classes EVERY month!

team@mojodogs.co.uk

www.mojodogs.co.uk

