

# REDUCED REGISTRATION FEES FOR OBEDIENCE TRAINED DOGS — FACT SHEET



Council has an incentive scheme to reward owners of obedience trained dogs. Owners of obedience trained dogs are eligible for a waiver of the fee for the first full year of registration together with a 50 per cent discount on the subsequent years (conditions apply).

## What do I need to do to qualify for the scheme?

The following must be met in order to meet the criteria for the scheme:

1. Your dog must have successfully completed an approved obedience program. Or your dog must have been awarded an obedience title recognised by the Australian National Kennel Council.
2. The obedience program must be conducted by a suitably qualified trainer who is a member of an approved training organisation.
3. You must provide Council with a copy of the completion certificate from the approved training organisation. The certificate must state that the course undertaken complies with Regulation 49 of the Domestic Animals Regulations 2005.
4. Your dog must also be desexed or be eligible for at least one other reduced fee criteria.

## What is an approved obedience program?

An approved obedience program is a program carried out by an approved training organisation that assesses the dog in all of the following skills:

1. heeling or walking with a handler;
2. sociability with other dogs;
3. staying on command (known as the 'stay test');
4. coming to the handler on command (known as the 'recall test'); and
5. absence of aggression.

## What is an approved training organisation?

The following organisations have been approved by the Minister for Agriculture as Approved Obedience Training Organisations in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 49 of the *Domestic Animals Regulations 2005*:

1. Australian Association of Professional Dog Trainers Inc.;
2. The Gentle Dog Trainers Association Inc.;
3. Dogs Victoria; and
4. Four Paws K9 Training.

## What is a suitably qualified trainer?

A qualified trainer is a person who is a current member of one of the organisations approved by the Minister (listed above). The trainer must have completed, to the satisfaction of that organisation, a training course that has been approved by the Minister that is administered by that organisation.

## What are the other reduced fee criteria?

Other criteria for reduced fees are:

1. dogs more than 10 years old;
2. desexed dogs;
3. dogs kept for working stock;
4. dogs kept for breeding at a domestic animal business conducted on registered premises; and
5. membership with Dogs Victoria.

# GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

## Domestic Animals Regulations

### Regulation 49. Obedience training



GLEN EIRA  
CITY COUNCIL

#### Domestic Animals Regulations 2005 S.R. No. 151/2005 Part 4 GENERAL

#### 49. Obedience training

- (1) For the purposes of the Schedule to the Act, obedience training which complies with these Regulations is training of a dog that enables the dog to successfully complete:
- (a) an assessment program administered by the Victorian Canine Association Inc. which results in the award of an obedience title recognised by the Australian National Kennel Control; or
  - (b) an assessment program approved by the Minister and conducted by a qualified dog trainer.
- (2) For the purposes of subregulation (1)(b) a qualified dog trainer is a person who:
- (a) is a current member of an organisation approved by the Minister; and
  - (b) has completed to the satisfaction of that organisation a training course approved by the Minister and administered by that organisation.
- (3) For the purposes of sub-regulation (1)(b) the Minister may approve an assessment program if it provides for a dog to be assessed in the following skills:
- (a) heeling or walking with handler;
  - (b) sociability with other dogs;
  - (c) staying on command (known as a 'stay test');
  - (d) coming to handler on command (known as a 'recall test');
  - (e) absence of aggression towards humans or another animal.
- (4) For the purposes of subregulation (2)(a), the Minister may approve an organisation for a period of up to 36 months if it satisfies the following criteria:
- (a) it is an organisation established for the purpose of representing the interests of other dog training organisations as well as individual dog trainers;
  - (b) it provides training and education programs relating to dog training to its members;
  - (c) it has prepared and distributed to its members a code of ethics relating to dog training that is endorsed by the organisation and is binding on its members.
- (5) An organisation approved by the Minister under subregulation (4) may apply to the Minister to be approved for a further period of up to 36 months by submitting a report on its activities in relation to the criteria specified in subregulation (4).
- (6) An application under subregulation (5) must be made at least 30 days, or any lesser number of days approved by the Minister, before the expiry of the period referred to in subregulation (4).
- (7) If, after considering a report submitted under subregulation (5) the Minister is satisfied that an approved organisation continues to meet the criteria specified in subregulation (4), the Minister may approve the organisation for the purposes of subregulation (2)(a) for a further period of up to 36 months.
- (8) For the purposes of subregulation (2)(b), the Minister may approve a training course if it provides for:
- (a) training in appropriate equipment used to train a dog; and
  - (b) practical obedience training of dogs; and
  - (c) a written or oral examination on the theory of dog training; and
  - (d) a practical examination of a person's dog training skills; and (e) a probationary or learning period of at least 25 hours in which the trainee is under the supervision of a qualified dog trainer.