

Haslemere & District Dog Training Club (HDDTC) Covid 19

Update as at 24th June 2020

Dear Members, just to let you know that the HDDTC Committee met by Zoom on 24th June to discuss our strategy for reopening the Club in due course. We thought it would be a good idea to share our early thoughts with you to keep you updated.

As we are Kennel Club affiliated and Insured, we are bound by their rules. The Secretary will be contacting the Kennel Club to seek their approval of our outline strategy.

Puppies. Our thoughts are to first of all clear the backlog of puppies that have already been registered for courses. We think we can do this by training in an open-air venue in small groups of up to 5 adhering to social distancing. It is envisaged that this training will commence in July and run through August/September. Many of these puppies will now be over-age but we will still train them to an adapted puppy/junior syllabus as necessary. These puppies, once trained, will be eligible to progress to the junior courses once spaces are available. The puppy course that started on 5th March managed to fit in two lessons before shutdown so they will do a further 5. The others will do the full 7 weeks course. Once the backlog is cleared, we will look at rescheduling new courses for puppies up to 20 weeks old at the course start date.

Juniors. Our next priority will be to recommence junior training. This will happen once Grayshot Village Hall reopens and we have an agreed plan in place to socially distance. Naturally, class sizes will be smaller until all restrictions are lifted.

Bronze. As soon as the Junior backlog is cleared, we intend to recommence Bronze training.

Silver, Gold and HTM. Our view is that these courses are not so vitally important as puppy/junior and bronze as the dogs already have a good understanding of obedience. These will be phased in when it is safe to do so.

Agility. The Secretary is seeking Kennel Club advice regarding agility and speaking to the venue owner about when we will be permitted to resume. She will also seek advice from our head trainer, Jan Church, as to how we can safely resume.

Bravery and Relationship Training (Tuesday evenings at Priory). Shelley, the trainer has left. There is no intention to recommence this training unless a new trainer is identified.

Fees. Any fees paid will be carried over unless a refund is requested.

Further Update. We will give a further update after our next committee meeting to be held on 8th July.