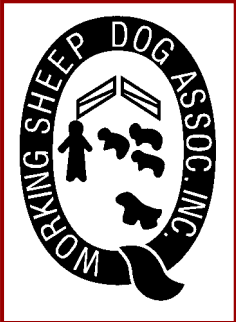


The Trialer's Tribune

Queensland Working Sheep Dog Association Inc.



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Main Sponsor of
QWSDAI Trials



Queensland Champions

The Queensland Championship trial was held at Warwick this year with Dog Pro being the main sponsors. This was a great competition with very tricky sheep and handler's and dogs having to think quickly before disaster struck. Ian Beard and his dog Cook's Tim were by far the better team to control these sheep. They scored 88 to make the top 20 and then improved that for a score of 94. The sheep got tougher in the final six and they managed a score of 68 with a grand total of 250 to finish a clear 10 points in front of the rest of the competitors. Ian has taken on the roll of Queensland Secretary this year and is also Secretary for the Australian Association as well as editor of the AWSDAI Newsletter. Congratulations on a great achievement!!!

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Editor's Note: Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Hope everyone stays safe this holiday period. Have a rest and return bright eyed, bushy tailed and ready for the new season in 2015.

It has been suggested that we do a feature in the Tribune next year on all our handlers. So I have put together a questionnaire on page 10. If anyone is interested in participating in this for a bit of fun please fill it in and email or post back to me for inclusion for next year.

Best Wishes & Stay Healthy

Linda

Date Claimers for the South 2015

Koroit trial Victoria to be held 4th to 8th February
Contact Barry Paton
Email - barrypaton@hotmail.com

National Championships Canberra

If you would like an entry form contact Charlie Cover
Email - thecovers@westnet.com.au

Chinchilla Trial Committee:
Michael Walsh, Ian Beard, Barbie, Jessica Walsh,
Lisa Walsh & Bob Walsh.



Parvo Virus

Parvo Virus is a contagious gastroenteritis of dogs. Parvo Virus first appeared worldwide in 1978 and is related to a viral enteritis of cats. A slight alteration of the virus allowed it to infect dogs, but cats can't get Parvo from dogs.

Spread: Parvo is spread through the droppings of infected dogs and can survive in yards, parks and streets for up to a year. It can also be spread from area to area by anything, shoes, clothes etc; contaminated with droppings.

Signs of Parvo: Parvo is usually seen in dogs that are less than 8 months old and have not been fully vaccinated as pups. Dogs are generally depressed and may show vomiting, diarrhoea, often with blood in their motions, and dehydration. This is because the virus attacks cells lining the intestine that absorb fluid into the bloodstream. Parvo can be fatal. The above signs are a strong indication of Parvo but your veterinarian can also do a test to confirm the signs.

Treatment: Treatment involves replacing the fluid that is lost due to vomiting and diarrhoea. An intravenous drip and drugs are the best way to do this. A dog with parvo may be hospitalized for up to 5 days. Once home it should be fed a specifically formulated food to help settle things down.

Prevention: Vaccinations should be started in pups from 6 weeks old and vaccinations should be strenuously followed from there on advice from your vet. Remember Parvo lasts in the environment for up to a year.

Sheep Dogs are one man dogs.

Talk to the dog on every occasion assuring him that he is a good boy whenever he is doing what is required of him, and steadily build up his confidence. This might seem silly, but read the advice of James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd, a very well known and highly skilled man with sheep dogs in the last century. "My dog was always my companion. I conversed with him the whole day - I shared my meal with him, and my plaid in the time of a shower. The consequence was that I generally had the best dog in the country".

Hogg owned, among others, one famous dog which he bought for a guinea from a casual drover. The dog, Sirrah was surly, unsocial, hungry and thin at the time he bought it. He was less than a year old and had never turned a sheep in his life but, says Hogg; as soon as he discovered that it was his duty to do so as that IT OBLIGED ME - I can never forget with what eagerness he learnt his different evolution. He would try every way deliberately until he found out what I wanted him to do: once I had made him to understand the direction, he never forgot or mistook it again." There are two good points to notice here, first a good sheep dog is a one man dog, confident in his owner, and wishing to please him, and secondly a sheep dog should understand his handlers signals by hand, whistle, or voice perfectly.

Note: The word plaid means a long piece of twilled woollen cloth with a chequered or tartan pattern, outer article of a highland costume.

Training Tip: 5 to 6 months - Good age to introduce to sheep work in a controlled environment. Let them have fun, but stay in the picture, keep everything safe. At this age they want to please you so do as much as you can with them. Teach them anything from sitting, to getting up. Whatever you like. Keep sessions short and fun, mainly praise and not food. Get them wanting to please you.

Rod Cavanach has one or two books worth a read. Influences and Performances by Rod Cavanach.

Some dogs can be bludgers (not do their fair share of work), especially if they are part of a team of working dogs. This usually occurs if their handlers do not truly dominate as a pack leader. For example, imagine a couple of dogs being worked at yards while their handler is drenching a race full of sheep they go off wandering and sniffing around.

When they are required for work again, they are both whistled and called but one dog is so intrigued at doing something else, only one obeys. Allowing such a thing to happen teaches disobedience. Only give commands that you know will be obeyed. Even good and clever dogs can become bludgers if allowed.

Restrain dogs on chains between working sessions if they are inclined to wander. This also prevents any inclination for them to work behind your back. Bad habits can occur without supervision especially with young dogs that are keen to work. For example sheep may be stirred and terrorised into a corner and smother. A dog may even maul sheep and kill just because his handler neglects to give a little supervision and restraint. Aim to give the sheep you are working maximum comfort and avoid working dogs to exhaustion. It is sad to see a sheep dogs spirit broken by overwork and abuse.

A dog who has never had his spirit broken still shows courage at the end of a long hard day and does not realise his tiredness to the full extent. Dogs do die from heat exhaustion.

Do not curse any dog if he becomes fatigued. Instead encourage and praise him when he tries his best and ease your requirements of him. It often helps to imagine yourself in a dogs place and consider how you would feel. All working dogs should be provided with rest periods

Many successful handlers share their everyday working life with a dogs and therefore become better acquainted with them. They sometime talk to their dogs like mate's during off work periods a so more understanding relationship often develops.

Dogs usually show their affection and become more responsive which can be very rewarding. Do not lose sight of reality, however, dogs are dogs. It is easy to remember this when they shake themselves against you when they are wet or they sit beside you after rolling in the foulest smelling stuff they can find. These acts certainly make their presence felt.

Dogs do speak, but only to those who know how to listen.

"Orham Pamuk"

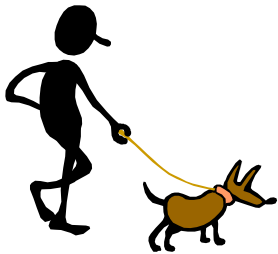
Rego Labels - A thing of the past. Did you know that you no longer need to display your registration label on your car? These changes also apply to motorcycles, light trailers, light caravans, light buses and motorised wheelchairs. Registration renewal notices will still be issued and you will still need to register your vehicle - you just won't get a label.

(Articles contributed by Joy Williams.)



Jack Parr is still going strong with the help of his daughter Liff. He was recently seen at the Karara Trial this month looking very spritely.

He is seen here at Rome Trials a few years ago with his partner of many years Lyn and his best dog Aqua Gold Lady.



Points - Friskies Pet Care Novice Dog of the Year

Virgo's Cruise	16.5
Potter Gillie	14
Potter Frosty	13

Points - Parr Family Handler of the Year

Snow Potter	51
Roy Potticary	48
Geoff Gibson	35
Ian Beard	23.5
Wayne Abra	15

Points - Colykade Improver Dog of the Year

Delrae Eddie	11
Potter Bizzie	9
Blackbrook Dart	6
Colykade Skye	6
Shaundar Hope	6

Points - Don Smith Memorial Open Dog of the Year

Cook's Tim	16.5
Delrae Eddie	11
Blackbrook Phoebe	9.5
Gibson's DJ	9
Fiesta Shilpa	6

Points - Ken & Natalie White Novice Handler of the Year

Michael Dungery	12
Matthew Mitchell	9
Bill Ritchie	7
Ken Sykes	5

Points - Ian Skea Encourage Handler of the Year

Michael Dungery	17
Rhonda Bradbury	13
Karan Manton	12
Ellie Wong	10
Bill Ritchie	8

These points are up to and including the last Karara Trial. Anyone with any queries please contact Secretary Ian Beard. The keeping of points is done voluntarily so any mistakes are just human errors which we all make.



NEWS FROM QUEENSLAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



DRESS CODE

Members are asked to wear appropriate dress and footwear at trials. This mainly comes in line with what would be worn at work regarding covering up and protection from injury, also having a tidy standard.

UNIFORM for REPRESENTATIVES

There has been some discussion on what is the appropriate dress to wear when representing Queensland at the Australian Supremes. At present representatives are wearing white shirts and grey trousers similar to the Australian uniform. Some argue that a more "stockman look" would be more appropriate, remembering that any style chosen would be worn with our maroon blazer and tie.

President Geoff is asking through the tribune to suggest ideas you would like the representatives to wear to be submitted to the Qld Management Committee and a vote will take place at the general meeting in 2015.
(which allows all members to vote)

JUDGES REVIEW PANEL

The Qld Committee has kept the judges review panel going this year with Graeme Heath as chairman along with Geoff Gibson, Roy Potticary, & Garry Barker. These triallers are approachable and ask any member to voice their concerns or ideas to them. Venues are being asked for to hold Judges forums.

MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

Membership fees are now overdue with the end of the discount period. Please note that all triallers from now are not able to compete if unfinancial due to not having any public liability insurance.

Please send your money to Joy Williams. Po Box 2524 Nerang Qld. 4211.



Trevor Percival and Jack Dwan were our Queensland reps and winners for the Fred Dohle Challenge against NSW held at the Queensland Championships at Warwick in September.

The Fred Dohle Challenge is held every year at The Queensland Championships and is in memory of the father of our QWSDAI Patron Lynne Topp.

The trophy's are donated by the Topp Family every year for this event.

Geoff Gibson, Wayne Abra, Roy Potticary, Trevor Percival, Sue Selby, Gary Milgate, Jack Dwan and Ian Beard at the presentations after the Queensland Championship trials at Warwick. (Photo by R Stevenson)



Karan Manton with her dog Moriarty Kruger finished in First Place at the recent Encourage Karara Trials and friend Ellie Wong and her trusty dog Old Mill Panda placed second.

Third place was shared by Jessica Gall who has just recently joined the sport of dog trialling. Jessica's dog was Camara Hooker who was bred by Jim O'Connell of Winton.

Sharon Dungery and Wondarra Gemma also managed third place. Both Jessica and Sharon scored 90 in the first round and 90 in the final.

**Photo supplied by Karan Manton
Photo taken by Karl Hinshelwood.**

Winners at Chinchilla:

Roy Potticary, Rhonda Bradbury, Michael Rigby, Damian Bougoure, Snow Potter, Geoff Gibson, Colin Topp Wayne Abra Front - Dave Sharp & Michael Dungery.

Michael Dungery won the Novice and the Improver Trial with the same dog - Shaundar Hope.



Geoff Gibson's School.

Held on the 8th and 9th of November on his property at Swan Creek.

We had a good numbers of handlers from those who were just starting out, to those who are trialing and some who have been in the trial ring for many years with early starts, long lunches and cold beer at the end of the day. The Instruction was very easy to follow from the class room to the paddock, all handlers got a ton of dog time with most handlers bringing along two dogs. The schools atmosphere was light hearted with a serious tone on learning. Everyone came away with lots of new ideas on how to improve performances personally and the way their dogs work. Rosemary did a marvellous job with the catering, lots of home made cakes, big cooked breakfasts, light lunches and a 2 coarse meal in the evening. The dogs got to enjoy time out in Geoff's big dam at the end of the day.

The next school will be in Autumn 2015. Date yet to be decided. Expressions of interest please contact Joy Williams as places are very limited.

Email: joysdogs7@gmail.com or Mob: 0418759756.

(Article supplied by Joy Williams)

Handler Profile:

Name:

Town of residence:.....

Nickname if any:

Photo of yourself as a child:

How long in the dog trialling world:

What or who made you join the sport:

Best Dog you ever owned and why: (previous, present or both).....

.....

What you look for when choosing a pup:.....

Best Achievements by dog:

Best Achievement by you:.....

Who has been the biggest influence on you with regard to trialling:

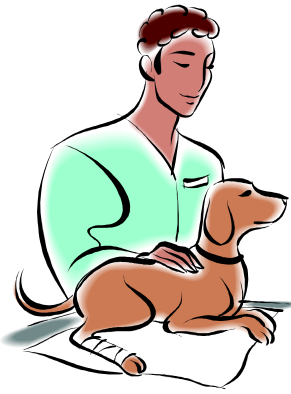
What are the main goals you would like to achieve in Dog trialling:.....

Any tips for training and trialling:

If anyone has any other suggestions or words of wisdom to add please feel free to tack them on here:

.....

Many Thanks for your time:



Strains vs. Sprains in Dogs

The words sound alike, but they mean different things

Our four-legged friends stand on their toes, ankles in the air, knees forward. Imagine doing that all day and you'll have a better idea of the weight and stress your dog puts on his muscles and joints. It takes lots of energy, strength, and flexibility to work sheep and cattle, scratch behind ears, wrestle with playmates, jump over fences, and leap over drains.

Every now and then dogs overdo it, asking just too much of their front legs (shoulders, elbows, wrists, and toes) or back legs (hips, knees, ankles, and toes). Sprains and strains are common injuries. If you hear your dog yelp, he may need your help.

Strains injure tendons that link muscles and bones. This can happen if your dog stretches too far, too much, or too often. Athletic dogs get strains, but this injury also can happen when a dog slips, falls, or jumps during normal play. In dogs, strains are common in the hips and thighs.

Sprains harm the ligaments that connect bones, which causes joint damage. Sprains can happen to hunting dogs who jump hurdles, as well as to the average dog who may hurt himself taking a hard landing off the couch, or even by something as simple as stepping in a hole. The wrist and knee are common joints for dogs to sprain. One of the most serious injuries is a torn cranial cruciate ligament (CCL), which connects the bones of the knee.

Where Does It Hurt?

The first warning sign of strains or sprains may be that your dog starts to limp or is suddenly lame, meaning he can't use his leg. If this lasts more than a day or so, or if it happens again and again, it's time for a visit to the vet.

Both strains and sprains can be chronic (ongoing) or acute (sudden), and can range from mild to severe. Your vet will figure out what kind of injury your dog has based on what you tell her and the results of a physical exam and tests. She'll want to know when you first noticed a change. You should explain:

1. How your dog is acting differently.
2. What he was doing if you saw the injury happen.
3. What he is or isn't doing since the injury. Is he sleeping more? Limping? Sitting with his leg extended? Not excited about going for a walk? Stiff? Not eating? These are signs he doesn't feel well.

The vet will check your dog's muscles and joints. She'll look him over first, then touch and press on certain points to see if they're sore, warm, swollen, or out of place. She'll want to see him walk, sit, and lie down. She may take X-rays or do an MRI or ultrasound to get a look at damage that can't be seen from the outside. X-rays show problems with bones. The other kinds of images are better for seeing tissue damage.



The Road to Recovery

It takes the same kinds of things to get your dog back on four feet as it would take to get you back on two.

Your vet will decide how to treat your dog based on whether he has a strain or a sprain, and just how bad it is. She'll likely try to avoid surgery as a first line of treatment unless a tendon or ligament is torn.

In a typical plan to treat strains and sprains, your vet may tell you to:

Give your dog nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) to ease inflammation.

- Apply an ice pack or heating pad.
- Make sure your dog rests.
- Walk your dog on a leash, taking it slowly at first.
- Use a brace or support to hold your dog's muscle or joint in place.
- Try physical therapy, such as walk on an underwater or land treadmill, balancing on a ball or board.
- Massage the area.
- Put your dog on a diet.

Surgery is in order for otherwise-healthy dogs that don't get better, keep injuring themselves, or have a torn tendon or ligament. If your vet didn't do an MRI or ultrasound the first time around, she may want to see these images before doing surgery.

Depending on the type of surgery, you'll need to keep your dog quiet and limit his activity for a week or longer. The vet may use a bandage or brace to support the joint. If your dog moves too much or too soon after surgery, he could re-injure himself. Physical therapy can help him get back to being active at the right pace.

Whether your dog has injured himself before or you just want to keep him from getting a strain or sprain, make sure he stays at a healthy weight and gets regular exercise. Obesity and inactivity make these injuries more likely.



Thanks to Dog Pro for their
generous Sponsorship of the
QWSDAI Trials