

Island Dog Training Club (Guernsey)
("the Club" or "IDTC")
Members Rules, Code of Conduct, Code of Ethics
(As amended 27.9.24)



Appendix A

Members' Rules

These rules apply to all Club training sessions and events, regardless of location. The priority at the Island Dog Training Club is safe, fun and responsible training.

1. Control of Dogs:

- When on Club premises or participating in Club events, you are responsible for keeping your dog under control at all times.
- You will take full responsibility for your dog's behaviour at any Club event, class, show, rally, or when attending any other event on behalf of the Club.
- If you are uncomfortable with any task requested by your Trainer for you or your dog, you must inform them.
- Dogs may only be off-lead within the training area of the Clubroom or other Club premises under a Trainer's instruction. Dogs must be kept on a lead outside the training area at all times.
- If your dog does not have a good recall and will not reliably come back to you when called, and you decide to let your dog loose (whether authorised by a Trainer or not) you do so at your own risk and will take full responsibility for your dog's actions.
- Extending leads are not encouraged and should be locked short.

2. Interactions and Incidents:

- Do not allow your dog to interfere with other dogs or persons at any time.
- You must report any incidents (accidents or injuries to handlers or their dogs) immediately to a Trainer or Officer and record it in the incident book.

3. Trainer's Authority:

- If a Trainer or Officer deems your dog to be out of control, you may be asked to remove the dog immediately. The Trainer must report such action to the General Committee which will consider if further action is necessary as per the Club's Constitution.

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4. Training Methods:

- IDTC promotes positive, kind training methods. Harsh handling is not permitted under any circumstances. Use of aversive equipment (e.g., choke chains, prong collars, shock collars) is prohibited.

5. Health and Vaccinations:

- Dogs must be initially vaccinated against Leptospirosis, Distemper, Canine Hepatitis, and Parvovirus.
- Proof of current vaccination or titre testing certificate must be shown when starting a puppy class. Puppies will be admitted 2 weeks after their last vaccination.
- If a puppy is not vaccinated for medical reasons, a Veterinary statement should be provided which confirms that in the Vet's opinion vaccination is not in the interest of the puppy. Under these circumstances the puppy attends Club solely at the owner's risk.
- Annual vaccinations or annual titre tests are strongly recommended for all dogs.
- Bitches in season cannot attend training sessions or events and may not enter the Clubroom.

6. Cleanliness and Maintenance of Assets:

- You must clean up after your dog and dispose of waste appropriately. Waste should not be left on Club premises.
- Members must report any damage to Club assets (whether equipment or real property) to an Officer for prompt repair and maintenance.

7. Health and Safety:

- Dogs must be free of illness to participate in any Club activity. If a dog has had a contagious disease, they must be symptom-free for 21 days or longer if advised by a vet before joining any Club activity.
- You must inform your Trainer if your dog has shown aggression toward dogs or people before attending classes so that your Trainer may decide on the appropriate course of action.

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8. Interactions with other Dogs and Etiquette:

- You must always ask permission of the handler before approaching or allowing your dog to approach another dog.
- Dog-to-dog greetings must be kept polite should be kept to a maximum of 3 seconds.

9. Children:

- Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. They may be allowed to sit quietly in the viewing area at the discretion of the Trainer.

10. Vehicle Safety:

- A dog may only be left in a vehicle if the vehicle is well-ventilated and the dog is calm, quiet and happy to be left in the vehicle.

11. Agility Matters:

- For participation in Agility Classes, you must inform your Trainer if your dog lacks a reliable recall unless taking part in classes specifically for younger dogs.
- The decision on whether a dog is allowed to participate in any class will be at the discretion of the Trainer.
- During agility classes and events, dogs must wear a flat fixed collar with only a "D" ring for a lead.
- Club agility equipment may be used only under the instruction of a Trainer or Assistant Trainer.

12. Parking:

- Members must park considerately on Club premises to maximize space and keep exit areas clear at all times.
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Code of Ethics Relating to Dog Welfare

The Island Dog Training Club is committed to the welfare of all dogs. By joining the Club, all Members agree to this Code of Ethics:

- To abide by the Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Law 2012.
- To ensure proper housing, feeding, watering, and exercise for all dogs.
- To provide appropriate veterinary care as needed.
- To use properly fitting collars/harnesses with identification tags showing information required by local law (owner's initial, surname and Parish letter). The Club also recommends including a contact telephone number.
- To clean up after their dogs and dispose of waste properly.
- To supervise and keep their dogs under effective control at all times and especially in public places.
- To transport dogs securely and safely and ensure that the dog cannot interfere with the driver whilst the vehicle is in motion.
- To avoid aversive equipment of any kind.
- To make suitable arrangements for dog care and welfare if the owner is absent for any period.
- To use appropriately sized crates/carriers and in accordance with best practice and relevant regulations.

Code of Conduct – General

The Island Dog Training Club is committed to encouraging a friendly environment in all of its activities. It is a condition of Membership that Members will:

- Abide by the Members' Rules, Code of Ethics, and this Code of Conduct.
- Always respect and show consideration to other Members and their dogs. Harassment, bullying and inappropriate language will not be tolerated.
- Always act in a sportsmanlike, friendly, and welcoming manner.

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- Endeavour to make all Members feel supported, valued and protected and free to be themselves without fear of discrimination.
- Never use abusive, aggressive, or discriminatory behaviour and address others as they would like to be addressed - he, she or they etc.
- Seek resolution of any issues regarding the misconduct of any Member, Trainer or Officer using processes set out in the Constitution to prevent any Member, Trainer or Officer, or the Club as a body from falling into disrepute.
- Ensure children do not approach dogs without permission and take full responsibility for children in their care at Club events.
- Avoid interfering with dogs not in their care.
- Support inclusivity and non-discrimination for all including but not limited to those with disabilities, the LGBTQ+ community and all races and religions.

Code of Conduct - Use of Social Media:

Members agree to:

- Only post responsibly and with permission, avoiding confidential or potentially libellous information.
- Obtain specific parental permission if it is intended to post photos of children.
- Correct mistakes promptly.
- Refrain from inflammatory posts of any kind.
- Consider the impact of posts on others.
- Avoid anonymous posts about Club matters.
- Refrain from using social media to discredit the Club. Any such action is likely to mean that the Club will seek legal advice.

Any breaches of the Members' Rules, Code of Ethics relating to the welfare of dogs, or Code of Conduct (including conduct related to the use of social media) will be addressed in accordance with the Club's Constitution.

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