

HEAT POLICY



On hot days if the temperature is hovering around 30 degrees, the club will place the decision to train solely with the handler.

As there are a number of web sites that will display differing temperatures, we recommend that you check the Elders Weather web site for Bendigo (not the surrounding areas like Heathcote as there may be some difference in temp). The link is posted below.

Make the decision based on whether the temperature has been falling, there is a cool breeze and if there is cloud cover or blazing sun. Please make the decision for the good of the dog.

If you come and don't bring your dog you can observe the classes and listen to the instructors as you may often gain more information by watching and listening than actually training. If there are a few handlers that haven't brought dogs then we can watch some short training videos and discuss some training techniques.

Again, PLEASE, make any decision based on what is best for the dogs. You won't miss anything as the dogs progress at their own pace.

<http://www.eldersweather.com.au/vic/northern-country/bendigo>

Heat Stroke

Dogs and cats can't perspire and can only dispel heat by panting and through the pads of their feet. If you suspect heat stroke in your pet, seek veterinary attention immediately.

Signs of heat stroke include *(but are not limited to):*

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- The illustration shows a bulldog sitting in the shade of a sun. Orange dots are placed on the dog's head, neck, and body, with lines pointing to text boxes that list signs of heat stroke.
- *Body temperatures of 104-110F degrees*
 - *Excessive panting*
 - *Dark or bright red tongue and gums*
 - *Sticky or dry tongue and gums*
 - *Staggering*
 - *Stupor*
 - *Seizures*
 - *Bloody diarrhea or vomiting*
 - *Rapid heartbeat*

Note: Short-nosed breeds such as Bulldogs, Pugs, etc., large heavy-coated breeds, and dogs with heart or respiratory problems are more at risk for heat stroke.

Cooling Your Pet

- Find some shade. Get your pet out of the heat.
- Use cool water, not ice water, to cool your pet (very cold water will constrict the blood vessels and impede cooling).
- Place cool wet cloths on feet and around head.
- Offer ice cubes for the animal to lick.
- Contact your your veterinarian.