

Paws Squad Canine Sports Club Membership Rules

Updated as of November 2021

Membership Eligibility

- Prospective members must be actively learning agility/taking an agility class prior to their application. Paws Squad does not offer agility training, but can refer to instructors, who are members or friends of the Club.
- Prospective or new members must have a current Paws Squad member sponsor their membership application and must attend two Paws Squad organized events such as a trial, demonstration or drop in prior to their application being finalized. Club application can be found here.
- Applicants will be approved by the Paws Squad executive and will be placed on a 6 (six) month probation period, during which they can attend Paws Squad events, however they do not receive discounted club members rates nor can they vote at the Annual General Meeting.
- Paws Squad Executive reserve the right to waive the probation period. Membership Guidelines
- Members must be 18 years of age or older, unless they are part of a family membership with a relative over the age of majority.
- Membership dues must be paid by July 1 each year to remain a member in good standing. Current membership rates are: \$40 single membership (one member, multiple dogs), \$60 family membership (two or more members, multiple dogs). Dues are payable to the Paws Squad treasurer directly within 30 days of July 1 each year. Members who do not pay dues on time will not be permitted to attend club-member only events and do not qualify for member benefits as listed below. Members with delinquent dues may be asked to leave the club at the discretion of the Executive.
- All members are eligible to stand for annual nomination to executive roles after a successful completion of 6 month probation. Executive positions are unpaid and voted annually at the AGM. Executive roles include: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Director at Large.
- Membership includes one vote (single or family) at the Annual General Meeting.
- Willing to be listed by name and allow photo of member and dog(s) on Paws Squad website.
- Members are expected to participate in the running of the club, including:
 - o Attend membership meetings/AGM
 - o Provide feedback and support to executive of club
 - o Support trials, fun matches, demos and seminars where possible
 - o Provide leads and support related to fundraising and demo opportunities, where possible

Membership Rewards

- Free bi-monthly, 3 hour, club practice drop ins
- Free club t-shirt
- Discounted club clothing (jackets, tanks, performance shirts)
- Voting privileges at AGM (one per membership)
- Discounted runs at Paws Squad events (fun matches and trials) up to 9 runs daily per membership at 50% off, where club member helps at the event for the day (set up time to take down time on the day(s) the discounted rate is taken). Club member entries are guaranteed only if the member reserves their entry at least one month before the closing date of the trial, with the understanding that changes and pulls may be made without penalty.
- Discounted rates for participation in seminars or advanced learning opportunities hosted by the club, on a case by case basis.
- Participation in demonstrations community festivals, sporting events, hospitals and care facilities.

- Ability to request use of timing lights or equipment for non-club events or trials/fundraisers, for a fee or exchange of labour at a subsequent Paws Squad event, with approval of executive. The requesting member is fully responsible for returning the equipment in the same condition in which it was borrowed.
- Eligibility for a bi-annual draw for a free trial or seminar entry for one dog (up to \$200), based on volunteering at Paws Squad events throughout the calendar year. Such draw to be made at the club trial and at the club AGM.

Member Code of Conduct

- Club members are expected to represent Paws Squad professionally by:
 - o Wearing club clothing at Paws Squad events and other events, if appropriate
 - o Providing support and guidance to other club members and celebrating achievements
 - o Treating other members of the agility community with respect
 - o Identifying concerns and issues with executive immediately so they can be addressed
 - o Having fun and a positive attitude
- Aggressive dogs are not permitted to attend drop-ins, trials, demos or fun matches.
- Club members must always be in control of their dog. If not running a course, dogs must be leashed, crated or confined in a safe manner.
- Dogs must not be left in extreme hot or cold vehicles.
- Yelling, physical force corrections and items such as shock collars are not permitted to be used by club members at Paws Squad events.
- Dogs that are obviously injured, unwell, overworked or fatigued will not be permitted to run at any Paws Squad event.
- Paws Squad executive reserve the right to refuse entry to or dismiss any dog or handler from a Paws Squad event if a violation of code of conduct is observed.