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MEMBER CONNECT

www.dogswest.com



Notices

Helping Our Grass Survive the Summer Heat

WA summers are tough on grass, especially in the Lower and Main Arenas. Heat, foot traffic, and equipment use can cause some browning.

Our groundsman is doing everything possible — watering extensively and maintaining the turf — to keep it healthy.

How You Can Help:

- Roll mats up overnight during multi-day events so the grass can

Dogs West Christmas & New Year Schedule

The Dogs West office, administration, and grounds will be closed for the Christmas and New Year period:

Closed: 5.00 pm, Monday 22 December 2025

Re-opening: 9.00 am, Wednesday 7 January 2026

These closures do not apply to Alpha Dog Shop. For their holiday opening

- Place gazebos and equipment in designated areas to reduce wear.

Thanks for helping keep our arenas looking their best all year!

Reminder: Secure Your Gazebos on the Grounds

With summer weather and strong winds about, please ensure your gazebos are securely *staked or weighted down* at all times while on the Dogs West grounds. Properly securing your setup helps prevent gazebos from lifting or blowing away, protecting your property and keeping fellow members, dogs, and vehicles safe.

Thank you for helping keep our grounds safe for everyone.

Dogs West supports Murdoch University canine cancer research

Dogs West has approved \$25,000 in funding to support two Murdoch University research projects focused on improving cancer diagnosis and treatment in dogs.

The projects — led by Dr Albert Thomas from the School of Veterinary Medicine — will study:

- The Schlafen 11 biomarker to help predict chemotherapy success in canine cancers; and

On behalf of the President, Council, and Staff, we wish all members a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!



From PD Insurance

PD's Guide to a Pet-Friendly Christmas Feast Planning to spoil your canine companion this festive season? Discover what's safe (and what's not!) to serve your dog from the Christmas table in PD's essential guide. Then, go all in with 12 mouth-watering [homemade dog recipes](#) — from turkey and salmon delights to Greek yoghurt “dognuts.” Whether you're cooking or ordering in, these tips and treats will keep your canine safe and satisfied these holidays. [Read more.](#)

improve prognostic tools for affected dogs.

These studies will contribute to more personalised and effective cancer treatments for dogs, supported through Murdoch's Veterinary Residency Program.

Read more on our website [here](#).



Message from the President – November 2025

Your Governing Council met in November to review committee reports, governance items, and planning for 2026. Key updates include:

New Members

20 new memberships were approved — welcome to our newest Dogs West members.

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A Safe New Year for Dogs: How to Help Your Dog Cope with Fireworks

Fireworks can be frightening for many dogs, but a few simple steps can make the night much easier for them.

- **Prepare early** – Exercise your dog before fireworks begin and bring them indoors for the evening.
- **Create a safe space** – Close curtains, leave lights on, and set up a comfy hiding area with familiar bedding or toys.
- **Reduce the noise** – Play the TV, radio, or calming music to help mask firework sounds.
- **Stay calm** – Your dog will take cues from you. Offer quiet reassurance if they seek comfort.
- **Check ID** – Make sure microchip details are current and your dog is wearing a collar with up-to-date contact info.
- **Consider calming aids** – anxiety wraps or vet-recommended options can help anxious dogs.

Complimentary Membership, allowing their dogs to enter trials (handlers must hold a financial membership).

Policy & Awards

- The updated Dogs West Privacy Policy is now available on our website.
- The Subscription Only Membership class has been discontinued.
- A new Top Trick Dog of the Year award will be added to the Top Dog Awards from July 2026.

Budgets for 2026

Budgets for Canine Development, the Western Classic, and Celebration of the Best have been approved. Council has also requested a review of insurance and valuation processes.

Operational Update

With a staff member departing, some processing delays may occur until the incoming General Manager is able to review staffing needs.

General Manager Recruitment

Interviews were held this week; updates will follow as the process progresses.

Thank you to our volunteers, committees, and members for your ongoing support.

Pamela Campbell

President, Dogs West

about longer-term support or training options.

Wishing all our members and their dogs a safe and happy New Year 🐾 🌟



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From Dogs Australia

Find the Latest News from Dogs Australia on their website [here](#).

Upcoming Events

Find all our Upcoming Events online [here](#).





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