



# BAGSD Reigate Branch

British Association for German Shepherd Dogs

## Introduction for New Members

Welcome to British Association for German Shepherd Dogs (BAGSD), Reigate Branch. BAGSD exists to assist owners of the breed to become more knowledgeable and responsible, therefore better able to develop the potential of their dog. This will ensure that ownership gives them more pleasure and helps to enhance the reputation of this wonderful breed.



Membership of BAGSD ensures you are kept up to date and informed of changes affecting the breed. You must be a member of BAGSD before you can train at Reigate Branch. The annual BAGSD membership fee per adult handler working a dog is £20.00. For a Young Adult under 18 years the annual BAGSD membership fee is £5.00. Further information concerning BAGSD membership can be obtained from Sandra Cobbold on 0780 141 8588.

Reigate Branch makes a charge of £50.00 to attend training classes for 10 consecutive weeks. This is to pay for the hire of the Bowls Club and any incidental expenses. Training is given by volunteers who have passed the BAGSD Instructor's Course. If you consider that your dog is not ready to take part in the training class, you are welcome to bring it along so that you can observe the training sessions. Your dog will benefit from the social interaction with other dogs.

### About us and our training methods - reward based

Our instructors, who are qualified and experienced, will be available to advise you on any problems with which you may need help. They will show you the correct use of equipment and introduce you to basic commands before you commence training classes. It is important that you know that none of our Instructors are paid, we do this on a purely voluntary basis for the good of the Breed.

We take part in the Royal Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme (RKCGCDS) which encourages responsible dog ownership. We start with the Puppy Foundation Assessment Course which is normally completed in 11 weeks; this then sets the foundation for the three further RKCGCDS Awards; Bronze, Silver & Gold. All are achievable by any pet owner with the training we provide. The scheme is straight forward and non-competitive, and on successful completion of each Award owners are given a Certificate and Rosette. The Puppy Certificate & Rosette on a completion of the puppy course. To mark their achievement, the Bronze, Silver & Gold Certificates & Rosettes are presented to successful candidates following assessment by a qualified RKCGCDS Judge.

We hold Fun Events for all our members through the year. In the Summer we hold BBQs with games for dogs and handlers and an agility course. And at Christmas we have a Dog Christmas Party with party games for dogs and handlers, which is thoroughly enjoyed by all the dogs followed by a food event for the humans.

### Contact Details

Sandra Cobbold – Treasurer and Instructor– 0780 141 8588

### Committee and Instructors

Sandra Cobbold – 07801 418588 – Treasurer and Instructor

Phil Williams – 07973 406220 – Secretary and Instructor

Rachel Chapman – Committee & Instructor

Simon Cornwell – Committee & Instructor

Yvette Theobald - Committee & Instructor

Jane Guest – Committee & Instructor (Part 1)

Andy Johnson – Committee & Instructor (Part 1)

Pip Garafalo – Committee & Instructor (Part 1)

Derek Theobald – Committee

Chris Wicks – Committee

Shaun Hiller - Committee



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## Training Tips

- Be **consistent**, be **patient**, and give lots of praise when your dog gets it right.
- When giving a command, give it clearly but only once and help your dog to carry out the command. The dog will learn through repetition.
- When your dog has carried out your instruction to your satisfaction, ensure you reward your dog. Rewards can be a verbal praise, food or a toy, ensuring your dog enjoys their training.
- When teaching an exercise, don't chastise the dog for getting it wrong, they may have misunderstood. Always praise the right response. If necessary, break the exercise down to smaller components.
- Don't shout, your dog is not deaf!
- Always make training short and enjoyable; a 5 to 10 min session a couple of times each day is better than 1 hour once a week, always end on a good positive note.
- Other useful practices include teaching your dog to sit whilst it waits for its food. Give the food only when it has complied with your instruction.
- When exercising on the lead, do not allow your dog to push through doors or gates. Command it to sit or wait, then open the door or gate but insist that it passes through in a controlled manner. Whenever you cross a road make your dog sit or stand at the kerb and wait until you give the command to proceed.

We recommend a suitable length lead and either a flat or ½ check collar, or Halti. Our training is motivational and reward based, so please bring treats/toys, and a retrieve article and a scent article.

These small but important practices will help your dog to associate training with pleasure. Experience has shown that a dog that enjoys its training learns quickly and has fewer problems than those which find training boring.

Finally, please remember that you have chosen not only the most attractive breed but also one of the most intelligent and powerful of breeds. Because of this, it is essential that ongoing training forms a part of the daily routine. Training should be fun for both you and your dog and will help you bond with your dog and stop boredom setting in.

## Rules

- We ask that all dogs are properly walked and 'emptied' before attending classes. Any 'accidents', either in the Bowling Club or in the car park, must be cleared up by the owner. If your dog does have an accident in the Bowls Club, please don't worry, allow it to do so. Please ensure you always have a poo bag.
- Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times, except when doing 'off lead' exercises with an instructor.
- Please do not bring your bitch to classes if she is in 'season'.
- If you are late for a class, try to join quietly and with the minimum of fuss.
- Fees are paid to the club Treasurer in advance., either by Bank Transfer or Cash.
- Whilst in a class we ask that you listen to the Instructor at all times.
- We invite all handlers to speak to any of our instructors to discuss individual concerns and any problems. Please feel free to stay and observe other classes.
- When a class is in progress, please keep dogs under control on a lead to avoid disturbing the class. Please do not allow your dog to bark excessively in the Bowls Club or car park.
- As a responsible dog owner, you will know how important it is for dogs to be kept healthy e.g. regularly wormed and vaccinated (Regular vaccination or Homeopathic) Please bring your vaccination certificate.
- We also ask that as a responsible dog owner that if you believe your dog is suffering from any infectious or contagious disease that you DO NOT bring them training and let us know, the cause of the illness.



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## Basic Syllabus for Classes – Saturday afternoons

### **Puppy & Beginners Class – Class One** Summer class times 15:00 -- Winter class times - 14:30

*Aimed at puppies, new handlers and re homed dogs. You will learn how to teach your dog to respond to basic commands and socialise your dog. Puppy class work towards the Royal Kennel Club Puppy Award. For puppies who have completed the puppy assessment or for dogs over 12 months, they work towards the Royal Kennel Club Bronze Award.*

- Heel on lead.
- Sit.
- Down.
- Stand.
- Watch / Look.
- Come when called.
- Introduction to retrieve.
- Socialisation with other dogs and people.
- Royal Kennel Club Puppy Foundation Assessment.
- Royal Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Bronze Award.

### **Intermediate Class - Class Two** Summer class times - 16:00 --- Winter class times - 15:30

*This class is aimed at handlers who wish to improve, consolidate on the basic commands, and train their dogs to a higher level and for the Royal Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme (RKCGCDs) Silver Award. Exercises will include:*

- Recall.
- Retrieve.
- Walking to heel off lead.
- Return to heel.
- Stand.
- Sit Stay for 1 minute.
- Down Stay for 2 minutes.
- Introduction to Out of sight Stays.
- Introduction to Scent.
- Introduction to Sendaway.
- Continuation of socialisation and temperament exercises.
- Royal Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Silver Award.



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**Advanced Class - Class Two** Summer class times - 16:00 --- Winter class times - 15:30

*Our aim for this class is for handlers to teach their dogs more advanced exercises and for those that have progressed through the RKC Bronze and Silver Award to train for the next stage in the Royal Kennel Club Awards, which is the RKC Gold Award. In this Section we concentrate on the higher-level obedience for both those members that want a good well trained family dog but also for our Members who would like to go into competitive dog shows. We train in small groups, but with enough to enable dogs to hopefully become well socialised.*

- Advanced Heelwork.
- A Recall.
- Distant Control.
- Out of sight Stays.
- Sendaway.
- Scent.
- Retrieve any article.
- Royal Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Gold Award.

**An Email will be sent to all Members with regards to when we change Summer and Winter Times and Winter to Summer Times**

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## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**The 3 paragraphs below relate to our BAGSD Reigate Membership Form on Page 5 below.**

1. **To help us** with you and your dog's training, and for when you take part in The Royal Kennel Clubs Awards. please complete the details on the form below
2. **We run The Royal Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme (RKC/CDS) Awards** for: **Puppy, Bronze, Silver & Gold**, we have to include certain information on the RKC/CDS Results Sheet please complete a few details about your dog on our Reigate Members Form Page 5 below, point i), ii) & iii) gives an explanation / sample:
  - i) Is your GSD Registered with the RKC OR NOT
  - ii) **If YES**, what is their RKC Registered Number and Name. If RKC Registered, the registration number will probably begin with an A or B (depending on the dogs age) – e.g. one of my dogs is registered as AZ15855003 - CHIRICAHUA EAGLE PREY, his pet name is Kele.
  - iii) **IF NO, it does not matter**, put N/A, we just have to record the information for the RKC.
3. **VERY IMPORTANT**, we have now included a space for **Emergency Contact Numbers (ICE)** as a just in case situation.



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Information on the following 7 lines to be completed by a Committee member at BAGSD Reigate

Vaccination Certificate -	Checked:	Date:
Microchip -	Checked:	Date:
Pet ID Tag -	Checked:	Date:
Pet Tag required: N/A - Yes (delete as applicable)	Amount:	Date:
HO – On-Line Membership: (how many) =		Date:
Reigate Membership Form:		Date:
Reigate Membership Fee: Bank Transfer / Cash:	Amount:	Date:

### To be completed by New Members:

Owner's Name/s (include all Members names): - .....

Address: - .....

Post Code: - .....

Mobile Tel. No/No.s: - 1: ..... 2: .....

Home Tel. No: - ..... Vets Tele No: .....

E-mail address/s: - .....

### IMPORTANT - In Case of an Emergency (ICE) please supply:

Emergency Contact No.: ..... Relationship to you e.g. mother etc. ....

Name of Dog/s Pet Name: - ..... Age of Dog/s: - .....

If RKC Registered please give: RKC Registered Number: ..... If Not write N/A .....

RKC Registered please give their Name: .....

What age was your dog when you obtained it? ..... Is it a rescue/re-homed? .....

Have you owned a dog/s before? ..... What breed/s? .....

How many people are in your household? – Adults: - ..... Children: - .....

Do you currently own more than one dog? .....

Have you / your dog attended Dog Training classes or undergone any previous training? If so which Clubs/Classes/Course/Home training?

Is your dog left alone during the day? ..... If so, for how long? .....  
Any specific areas of concern or problems?

How did you hear about us.....

Signature: - ..... Date: - .....