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## THE QUEENSLAND BOXER CLUB

The Queensland Boxer Club was established in 1958 and is affiliated with the National Boxer Council and the Canine Control Council (Qld).

The club is made up of people who are dedicated to the wonderful Boxer and who deal with issues that affect all Boxers - show dogs and family pets alike.

We don't "control" the breed, what we do is examine the issues that may affect the Boxer and make recommendations as to what we think will be the best in the long term for all Boxers.

We promote the Boxer through bringing specialist Boxer judges to our Dog Shows, our Boxer All Stars Obedience Demonstration Team and through our Family Fun Days.

If you have a question on any aspect of your Boxer's life, we can refer you to a member who's experienced in that particular area.

We can recommend experienced, responsible breeders who take care in selecting healthy parents and raise their puppies in a healthy environment and also offer an after sales back-up service.

So if you have any queries, contact the Qld Boxer Club - we're not strangers, we're just Boxer owners you haven't met yet!

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Contact the Secretary on [secretary@qldboxerclub.org](mailto:secretary@qldboxerclub.org)

**The Queensland Boxer Club**  
**P O Box 878 Archerfield 4108**

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## THE QUEENSLAND BOXER CLUB

# Training



Affiliated with the Canine  
Control Council (Qld)

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## BOXERS IN OBEDIENCE

Obedience training & socialization are very important for a Boxer because they grow up to be very strong and strong willed dogs. Unless you get them trained from a young age they could be very hard to control later.

Boxers are highly intelligent dogs. Their origin lies with the hunting dogs of Europe. Last century they were used in the trenches during the wars and are still used as Police dogs and guide dogs for the blind.

Then why aren't Boxers very successful in obedience training?

Contrary to what a lot of "expert" trainers think, the Boxer is quite a trainable dog - it is a working breed after all.

The answer is partly in the way we train them. Dogs learn by repetition and this is the basis for obedience. However . . . Boxers learn their lessons very quickly and easily become bored with doing the same thing time and again for long periods. The secret of training a Boxer is short, concentrated spells with play time in between. That doesn't mean that training can't be fun but make sure, though, that your dog knows the difference between work and play and don't mix them. Use the commands "Working" and "Free" for example so that there is no confusion for your dog.

The other side to the obedience question is in the Boxer's character. Boxers, being the fun loving and playful breed they are, would much rather be playing with the other dogs than concentrating on work.

Don't be discouraged or embarrassed because you own the class clown and don't let people tell you that you're wasting your time trying to obedience train your Boxer. Find an obedience school that wants to help **and** if you put in the time and effort, you will succeed!

Of course, as well as Obedience you could also try your hand at Rally O or Agility or Tracking.

Rally O is a new sport that suits the Boxers very well. It allows the handler to talk to their dog and each course will be different and interesting.

Agility seems to be a natural favourite with Boxers in that it encourages them to run and jump, two of their favourite past-times. But you **must** have a degree of obedience control over your dog to direct their energies in the correct manner.

Tracking too seems to come naturally to Boxers. How many times when you're out walking has your Boxer's nose been glued to the ground following a scent trail? It's a great experience to follow your dog along a track when only they know where you are going. Ask your local Obedience Club for more details.



## LURE COURSING

If the rigours of obedience training aren't for you but you still want to satisfy your competitive edge, then maybe Lure Coursing is what you and your Boxer have been looking for.

Lure Coursing is extremely popular in England, Europe and USA and has come to Australia in the form we practise now. It is open to all breeds of dogs and haven't the Boxers taken to it.

It's not like Greyhound racing which is run around a track. This is run in a field with the Lure (strips of plastic or leather) tied to a rope that is pulled around spindles and pulleys by a motor. The course pattern is irregular with long straights, some short sharp turns & is meant to mimic how a hare might run in the open field.

Dogs run within their breed class however each dog is scored according to its own performance against the scoring criteria. Placings are given for each breed and also for overall group winners at each meet. They are rated for enthusiasm, follow, agility, speed and endurance. Each dog is aiming for points towards their titles Field Champion and Lure Courser of Merit.

There is no live game used in the training or running of Lure Coursing and has been endorsed by the RSPCA.

Lure Coursing appeals to the Boxers sense of fun and their love of running around and chasing things. It is becoming a very popular sport, maybe you should give it a try.