



If your dog's behaviour is causing you concern, our members can help you understand the problem and modify the behaviour.

Issues we can help you with include:

Aggressive behaviour toward humans, dogs or animals

House training problems

Separation related issues, poor socialisation

Chasing cars, bikes, joggers, livestock

Inappropriate barking

Compulsive behaviours and phobias

Fear related issues

Pulling on lead, jumping up, recall problems

Find your local TCBTS behaviourist or trainer at www.tcbts.co.uk

(Costs vary and may be covered by pet insurance).

Become a TCBTS member

For an application to become a student, provisional, full member, or dog training instructor member, see our website or contact Sarah Cooke, Applications Officer, Email: getintouch@tcbts.co.uk



ABOUT TCBTS

THE CANINE BEHAVIOUR & TRAINING SOCIETY founded in 1992, is a professional body of canine behaviourists and dog training instructors with members practising in Great Britain and a select few internationally. Membership is open to practitioners who meet the criteria and high standards set by TCBTS. Members are encouraged to communicate regularly with fellow professionals and colleagues, to share and update on best practice, and to draw on the collective scientific knowledge and skills base. All members agree to abide by our strong Code of Practice.

THE ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR AND TRAINING COUNCIL (ABTC), of which TCBTS is a founder member, was formed to agree the standards of education and training required for animal trainers and behaviour therapists and to provide formal recognition for practitioners who meet these standards. The agreed standards form the benchmark for professional membership organisations to assess the competence of practitioners seeking entry onto the Council's national registers for animal trainers and behaviour therapists. ABTC is the regulatory body that represents animal trainers and animal behaviour therapists to both the public and to legislative bodies. See <http://abtcouncil.org.uk/>

BECOMING A TCBTS MEMBER

Applicants for TCBTS membership come from a variety of backgrounds, with varying levels of experience and competence. The ultimate goal of TCBTS membership is to cultivate members who are conversant with the latest science and research in behaviour modification, with hands-on practical experience of effective and ethical dog training methods. Members should have considerable interpersonal and communication skills and direct experience with a large number and variety of dog breeds and types. This takes time and application which is why we have structured three levels of membership to encourage education, experience and growth.

ALL TCBTS MEMBERS BENEFIT FROM:

- ✓ An invitation to participate in TCBTS Online Study Days
- ✓ Discounted tickets to our annual conference
- ✓ Become part of a working network of TCBTS members
- ✓ Access to TCBTS online Forum and knowledge base
- ✓ Access to a TCBTS mentor
- ✓ Members who meet the required standard are eligible for entry on the national ABTC registers.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Applicants may be accepted for student membership after they have sought and embarked upon an approved academic course; the Compass A.DipCBM, NQF level 5 or a course of equivalent or of higher standard. Those interested in student membership will complete the student TCBTS application form; provide proof of courses enrolled upon, a detailed CV and references from two referees. Referees should know the applicant personally; academic references will not suffice.

The annual fee for student members is £60. While students are completing their academic courses, advice will be available through TCBTS if they have not yet reached the high standard of hands on dog training and consultation criteria necessary to apply for provisional membership. It is expected that student members will further their in-depth practical dog training experience in parallel with their academic studies. Student members may be interviewed during the period of their student membership and must be interviewed before progressing to provisional membership.

Student members are not permitted to practice under the TCBTS name or logo. Student members of TCBTS are listed on the Society's website by name only. Contact details are included on the TCBTS website upon attainment of provisional status.

PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Applicants for provisional membership will normally have successfully completed the A.DipCBM, NQF level 5 or a course of equivalent or of higher standard. Application will be considered upon completion of an in-depth application form, a detailed CV and verification of two referees. Referees should know the applicant personally; academic references will not suffice.

Applicants for provisional membership will usually be interviewed by the Board of Managers prior to offer of membership. Over the provisional period, it is expected that successful applicants will continue to develop a range of practical skills involved in dog training, as well as those necessary for counselling clients in canine behaviour modification. As part of their development, it is advised that provisional members observe consultations with established practitioners. Provisional members will also be expected to complete TCBTS recommended reading lists and fulfil Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements, as set by the Board of Managers.

The purpose of provisional membership is to allow the Board of Managers to supervise and support the professional development of the individual involved. Provisional members are closely monitored and guided by TCBTS Education Officers, who review written reports to clients, which are submitted on a regular basis for feedback and discussion. Normally, provisional members remain at this membership level for at least a year, over which time they submit up to twelve case studies with written reports for supervision, together with evidence of CPD. Our education officers have extensive experience in the field of canine behaviour as well as the field of further education.

The annual fee for provisional membership is £100. All provisional members must carry professional indemnity and third party insurance. Provisional members may not use the TCBTS logo until they have reached full membership status but they can state they are affiliated to the Society undergoing supervised practice as a provisional member. Provisional members shall have their names, contact numbers, town and county of domicile listed on the TCBTS website.

FULL MEMBERSHIP

This is rarely offered before the minimum period as a provisional member. Provisional members are only accepted as full members after satisfying our education officers of their suitability, which includes at least one consultation observed by a board member.

An application from those not progressing from provisional membership is initially by an in-depth written application form which is reviewed by the Board of Managers. If the experience of the applicant is felt to be appropriate, then an interview with the Board of Managers is arranged.

Applicants for full behaviourist membership will normally have a minimum of 600 hours practical dog training experience with a variety of dogs and at least 100 behaviour consultations over a three year period. Those progressing from provisional status will have submitted up to twelve supervised case studies and undergone a number of observed behaviour consultations.

Successful applicants should have a broad understanding of the latest science, research and interventions within the field of canine behaviour. They should employ effective, ethical training methods and evidence a commitment to continuing education, counselling and teaching skills. Applicants for full behaviourist membership will normally hold the minimum of an NQF level 5 or 6 qualification or equivalent in canine behaviour (the Compass A. DipCBM is one example of a recognised level 5 qualification).

The annual fee for full TCBTS membership is £60. All full members must carry professional indemnity and third party insurance.

Those joining having attained CCAB status may be offered full membership following a satisfactory interview with a minimum of two members of the Board of Managers without a period as a provisional member. Only once accepted as a full member will applicants be entitled to use the TCBTS logo and to advertise that they are a member of TCBTS. Full members shall have their name, contact numbers, town and country of domicile carried on the TCBTS website.

DOG TRAINING INSTRUCTOR MEMBERSHIP

Applications for membership are invited from established dog training instructors, who have successfully instructed and trained a significant range of dog breeds and their owners over a considerable number of years. Successful applicants should have demonstrable experience in running, teaching and instructing dog training classes and and/or in one to one training, including rehabilitation and rescue. TCBTS encourages dog trainer applicants and members to hold or pursue an accredited level 4 qualification, or similar, in line with ABTC standards.

Applications will be considered on completion of an in-depth application form, a detailed CV and verification of two references. Referees should know the applicant on a personal level.

Selected applicants will be invited for interview by the Board of Managers and will undergo an assessed observation of their instructing and training skills by two full members. Applicants should supply a copy of their professional indemnity insurance with their training application form.

At assessment applicants running classes should demonstrate:

- the ability to organise and teach a range of dog training classes
- ability to accurately assess the individual needs of owners and dogs within the class
- effective communication and training skills with owners and their dogs
- the ability to train exercise sequences clearly and effectively
- course progression routes, accommodating different levels of attendee competence
- a course syllabus/teaching plans and relevant course documentation for owners
- ability to provide an appropriate venue, physical layout, class props, tools and supporting documentation
- problem solving techniques
- feedback and ability to answer questions
- an understanding about the limits of their practice and when to refer on

One to one Dog training instructors should demonstrate:

- ability to accurately assess the needs of the client and dog in situ
- ability to communicate effectively with the client and dog in situ
- assessment and communication of appropriate training methods
- the ability to train exercise sequences clearly and effectively
- ability to tailor training to the needs and abilities of each client and dog
- how to devise and communicate an effective training plan
- ability to support clients with appropriate documentation and follow up
- problem solving techniques
- feedback and ability to answer questions
- an understanding about the limits of their practice and when to refer on

At assessment TCBTS assessors should be provided with all documents or handouts that are given out to clients, one week in advance of any assessment session.

Dog training instructor members are entitled to use TCBTS Approved Dog Training Instructor after their name, with the appropriate TCBTS logo. The annual fee for full TCBTS dog training membership is £60. Contact details will appear on TCBTS' website under TCBTS Approved Dog Training Instructor Membership.

ALL TCBTS MEMBERS –

- TCBTS MEMBERS at any level agree to be bound by and accountable under the TCBTS Code of Practice

- TCBTS members are encouraged to work closely with the client's veterinary surgeon whenever possible prior to a behaviour consultation. Ideally, behaviour consultations should be on veterinary referral
- Student members and provisional members should not post videos onto the web or onto personal websites of their training or behaviour modification practice unless first viewed and approved by the Board of Managers prior to posting. This is to protect members as well as the reputation of TCBTS
- Only Full Members and Dog Training Instructor members are entitled to practice under TCBTS, to use and display the relevant TCBTS logo on their website, on any communications or for advertising. The name TCBTS is personal to them and must only be used or linked directly with the member's name and practice; it cannot be used by any other organisation of which the TCBTS member is a part.
- Members should be willing to participate in the running of TCBTS. This will entail accepting suitable jobs in the administration and work of TCBTS from time to time. Annual attendance of the AGM and regular attendance at the Conference is expected and proof of continuing professional development is required to maintain TCBTS membership at all levels
- Members at all levels are asked to read and participate in the TCBTS forum at least weekly. The forum is the primary medium of communication between the Board of Managers and the membership. Members who do not read the forum risk missing vital information