



## **AVA OPENS APPLICATIONS FOR ACCREDITATION OF DOG TRAINERS**

Following our announcement on changes to the Animals and Birds (Dog Licensing and Control) Rules in Nov 2010, the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA) has established a panel to accredit dog trainers for the purpose of training dogs that are listed under the Second Schedule, or any dogs that have been assessed by AVA to be potentially dangerous. The Panel for the Accreditation of Dog Trainers (PADT) comprises experts from both the public and private sectors. Details of the panel members are attached at [Annex A](#).

2 Since 15 November 2010, any newly licensed dog of a breed listed in the Second Schedule (refer to Annex B) or any dog assessed by the AVA to be potentially dangerous, is required to undergo basic obedience training by an AVA-accredited dog trainer. This is to better safeguard the public against possible dog attacks.

3 The PADT will accredit dog trainers based on an established training syllabus with a focus on basic obedience and social interaction. AVA's Chief Executive Officer, Ms Tan Poh Hong, said that the training objectives are to ensure that owners can maintain control of their dogs at all times and that the dogs are comfortable in a public environment and hence not react aggressively. "It is important that dog owners are considerate of others and ensure that their pets are well behaved, especially in our dense urban environment. Although compulsory training by AVA-accredited dog trainers is only required for potentially dangerous dogs, I encourage all dog owners to send their pet dogs for basic obedience training."

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### **Eligibility of dog trainers**

4 Any dog trainer is eligible to apply for accreditation if he/she fulfils the following criteria:

a) Active in training dogs, preferably large breeds, for the last 2 years. This should be verifiable with a minimum of 6 references.

b) Able to conduct classes according to the training syllabus for accreditation. The applicant may be assessed individually by the PADT.

5 Applications will open from 5 August 2011 and close on 19 August 2011. Dog owners can refer to AVA's website at [www.ava.gov.sg](http://www.ava.gov.sg) for the list of AVA-accredited trainers from 13 September 2011.

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**5 August 2011**

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**Members of the Panel for the Accreditation of Dog Trainers (PADT)**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation / Organisation</b>
1.	Dr Wong Hon Mun (Chairman)	Director, Agri-Establishment Regulation Department, Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority
2.	Dr Lou Ek Hee	Assistant Director, Animal Welfare, Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority
3.	Dr Cai Panqin	Veterinarian, Animal Control, Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority
4.	Pak Ooi Tart	Deputy Commander, Singapore Police Force
5.	Davan A. Mahadavan	Station Inspector and Senior Trainer, Police K9 Trainer, Singapore Police Force
6.	Johnny Sim Kiah Huat	Senior Staff Sergeant and Senior Trainer, Police K9 Trainer, Singapore Police Force
7.	Kabir Singh	President, German Shepherd Club of Singapore Vice President, Singapore Kennel Club
8.	Ricky Yeo	President, Action for Singapore Dogs
9.	Owen Sim Hua Guan	Training Director and Managing Partner, Best Friends Doggy and Kitty Salon Cum Learning Centre

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**Schedule Part II**

1. Bull Terrier
2. Doberman Pinscher
3. Rottweiler
4. German Shepherd Dog with its related breeds such as the Belgian Shepherd Dog and the East European Shepherd Dog
5. Mastiffs, including the Bull Mastiff, Cane Corso and Dogue De Bordeaux
6. Crosses of 1 to 5.

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