



## CANZ Accreditation Guidelines for Obtaining Consent

All training and behaviour modification programmes should only be carried out with the valid consent of clients. The following are recommendations for CANZ Accredited individuals for obtaining this consent from clients:

- Recognise that the animal is the vulnerable party in the consultation process and cannot offer informed consent. It is incumbent therefore upon the member to act for the animals benefit and be their voice.
- Take all reasonable steps to ensure that clients have adequately understood the nature of the training and behaviour modification programme and its anticipated consequences prior to obtaining consent. This includes:
  - Making clear the frequency, expected duration and the client's financial commitment for the work carried out by the member for the client.
  - Fully explaining the training philosophy that will be used for working with the animal.
  - Answering questions from the client with regards to the training plan.
  - Explaining any risks or dangers related to the techniques and/or tools that will be used any consequent physical or emotional fallout that may occur.
  - Informing the client of the right to refuse certain equipment, methods or techniques.
  - Informing the client that, based on developments or progress, the training plan may need to be modified.
  - Informing the client that any change in methods or equipment will not be undertaken before discussion with them.
  - Informing the client that no guarantee shall be offered as to the resolution of the training or behaviour problem.
  - Informing the client of their right to terminate the contract at any time.
  - Upholding the rights of clients to withdraw consent to training or behaviour modification programmes or other professional procedures after they have commenced.