

Australia Air Express has announced changes to weekend operating hours. This has caused considerably anxiety in our dogworld and almost certainly will affect entries at interstate Specialties and Royal shows. We would have thought lots of people would fly after 3 pm on a Saturday to get to an interstate event the next day and wanting to go home after 3 pm on a Sunday after competing and a show finishing around 5.30 pm etc, ie a Royal when you can't even leave till then. I guess it does not affect shippers though as the owners would be lodging for themselves. Do read the comments though from some major shippers ND approached on the matter.

The following was forwarded to us recently, from Merrybark Kennels, WA. *What effect will the changes have on our members when they want to travel interstate for a weekend of shows, a National, a Speciality or a Royal. Not every member is able to take two extra days off work to accommodate these changes. Is it discriminating against our members because they travel with dogs. Maybe all of the controlling bodies through the ANKC should be lobbying on behalf of their members for a change. Will it stop animal transporters from shipping dogs only between these hours, or is it a way of wanting your members to use dog transport companies? It is ludicrous, as yet they haven't changed their web site re these changes, they still encourage you to check your dog in early am or late at night when it is cool, instead it was silently sneaked in and you will be shipping your dogs during the heat of the day in summer. What about those members who have already booked their air tickets for the Royal Shows across Australia later this year? Calculate how much clubs spend on air fares for their judges from interstate, around the world and within Australia when they are sub contracted, your members travel, our controlling bodies for conferences, a very large sum of money in a year. Come on ANKC stand up for your members.*

Australian Air Express has adjusted its weekend operating hours which has affected the flights we can receive animals for. During the week we are opened from 4am to midnight Monday to Friday so we can accept animals for all Qantas and Skywest flights.

On Saturday we are opening at 5am and closing at 3pm. This means any flight departing before 6.30 am or after 5pm we will not be accepting animals for.

On Sunday we are opening at 7am and closing at 3pm. This means any flight departing before 8.30 am or after 5pm we will not be accepting animals for.

These new hours came into effect about two weeks ago and are the same around the country.

I hope this clarifies our position. If you require any further information please let me know.

Regards, Elisa Millar, Business Services, Manager, Australian Air Express WA

ND asked some major shippers for their comments.

Commencing 6 June 2009, Australian air Express (AaE) will modify its Customer Service Front Counter operating hours at all major airports. The decision to restrict AaE Customer Service Front Counter office hours is based on a gradual decrease in customer demand. Any lodgments, including animals will not be accepted after 15:00 on Saturday and Sunday. We realize that such changes may affect the general public lodging directly with AaE however Jetpets customers will not be greatly affected. "I know how AaE operates" says Jetpets Regional Sales Manager, Lenny Thomas whose previous roles include Business Development Manager -Livestock for Australian air Express. We work together with all the airlines including Australian air Express, whether your pet needs to travel interstate or overseas, with Jetpets you know that comfort and well being always comes first. Jetpets works with many breeders and we realize that their business only finishes when we deliver their pets to their customers. Regards,

Lenny Thomas for Jet Pets

Ph Aus Wide 1300 668 309 +61 3 9339 4300 Fax: +61 3 9335 1206 Mob: 0447 446 336

Email: lenny@jetpets.com.au

First of all - nothing is changed for weekday flights!! Its normal operations for all flights

Weekends - All AAE offices now close at 1500 hours on both Saturdays and Sundays - hence the last flight that you can lodge for on Qantas flights must depart by 1630 hours - they do not accept any livestock shipments for flights departing after this time !!

Inbound shipments arriving after 1500 hours will still be able to be collected irrespective of the flight arrival time, even though the AAE office is closed, they will still have porters on hand who will unload pets and release them to the receivers

Hope this clarifies for you, Kind Regards

Michael Davis for Dogtainers

Ph: 02 9516 2766 Fax: 02 9516 3720 Email:michaeld@dogtainersnsw.com.au

The rule is for the weekends, Qantas office for Saturday and Sunday, you can't lodge before 6 am and not after 3pm, they do not have any staff on duty out of those hours. Some airport will not accept any pets on the weekend at all as they do not have staff allocated for loading and unloading of pets.

I think the situation will get worse rather than better, my advice to people is do not fly pets on the weekend if you are not willing to wait till the departure of the aircraft as they can cancel flights without notification and on the weekend they might not have another flight.

Just to let you know even if you book the flight for your pet, the airline can and will take the freight pet's off the flight if the passengers have more luggage or if they have additional pets with travelling passengers.

Hopefully this makes sense as my ear is hurting after the operation. If you need any additional explanations just give me a ring. Cheers

Soile Gendle for Pet Carriers International

Ph: (02) 9316 9411 Fax: (02) 9316 9455 Toll free 1300 788 770 Email: soile@petcarriers.com.au

As for AAE. The times are ONLY weekends nothing prior to 5.30am and nothing after 3pm and we would rarely if ever need to lodge outside of those times on weekends. Virgin apart from Gold Coast will still accept on weekends. The only one we would have a problem with is the Syd to Darwin flight if we had a consignment coming out of Eastern Creek quarantine on a weekend. Would have to lodge it the following day. Kind regards

Narelle and Ken Hammond

ANIMAL TRAVEL

Ph: (02) 45727736 Fax: (02) 45727735 Email: info@animaltravel.com.au



The outdoor show scene here in the UK has started off well with the WELKS. To give it its full title, West of England Ladies Kennel Society. You will gather from its name it is held in the west of England and close to the beautiful Cotswolds, renowned for its beautiful old English villages etc. So if you want to combine a dog show and one of the most beautiful parts of the country, then this would be the time for you to visit. The Kennel Club has now decreed that societies must stay within their boundaries and so with the limited number of indoor venues available, shows must seek outdoor sites but then they risk the mercy of our peculiar weather. The only exception to this rule is Manchester and that is simply because their show is in January, it is simply not possible to be outside and there are no indoor venues within the Manchester area.

But back to the WELKS and a show that is run entirely by the ladies and has a lot of 'class' about it. With the backdrop of the Malvern Hills this year it was baked in sunshine. The was another show that showed just a slight drop in entries from last year, this year they had 9,700 dogs and the highest numerical breed were Golden Retrievers with 297 dogs, now you know why a UK title is worth so much!

I noticed in Smooth Collies a new bitch from the famous Swedish Sandcastle kennel made its debut and took BOB, Int/Norw/Sw/Dan/FinnCh Sandcastle Storm In A Teacup, and in Pyreneans it was another breed win for Colin Bowker & Jean Boyd's Ch/AmCh Rivergroves Murphy Goode. This was his 23rd CC and he went on to win the Pastoral Group. In Cardigan Corgis AmCh Rhydowen Rhinestone Cowboy for Gerefa was best male but beaten for BOB by the big winning Ch Bymil Picture This, the first Cardigan to win a Group in the UK. This show now has the same date as the Poodle Club of America and so many of the breed people were away for that show, Philip Langdon included. Philip normally would handle the white Std male Am/Mex/IntCh Kaylens By Invitation Only, on this day his partner Darren Jennings handled and took him to his third and qualifying CC and so now can add his British title to all his others. Even though it would be the middle of the night in the USA, I am sure Philip would have been delighted with the news.

Last year the big winner in Basenjis was 'Million Dollar Baby', this year she is nursing puppies. So her owners have

imported a new male and at this show took the DCC with AmCh Kazors Make Way For Riley. He was beaten by the other big winning bitch Eng Ch Jethard Pardon Me Boys for BOB. Dachshunds have been a breed that has imported quite a few dogs from overseas over the past few year and so in Wire Hairs it was a new male AmCh Treis Pinheiros Zucchini who took the breed and in the Greyhound ring it was the US bred Ch/AmCh Hyperion Summer in Paris with Mistweave and it was she who took the breed. She is by a Sportingfield dog and a Mistweave bitch who was sent to the USA, and she is owned by Barbara Hargreaves-Savage.

Gundogs were topped by another winner and overseas bred dog and well known to everyone now simply as 'Yogi'. Of course I am speaking about the Australian bred Hungarian Vizsla ShowCh/AustCh Hungargunn Bear Itn Mind. This was his 37th Group and he was Top Dog A/B in '06 & '07. He is owned by Kathryn Armstrong and breeder Naomi Cragg and handled usually by John Thirlwell.

The Toys were topped again by last year's Top Toy and Runner-up to Top Dog, Sarah & Rosemary Jackson's Maltese Ch Benatone Gold Ring. This was his 20th Group and he was second in the Group at Crufts this year.

The Working Group was won by the brindle Boxer male Ch Winuwuk Lust At First Sight. This famous kennel has produced some fabulous Boxers over the years and this one could possibly be the biggest winner for them. This was his 7th Group and he now has 28 CCs. The breeder of this top kennel is Marion Ward-Davies and she co-owns this dog with Julie Brown & Tim Hutchings.

Which brings me to the final two dogs that finished Best and Reserve Best in Show. For Reserve Liz Cartledge chose the black Dalmatian bitch Ch Dvojica Voodoo, owned and bred by Mark Dunnachie. This was her 41st CC and is just back after a litter, she also has ten Groups as well. And for BIS Liz chose another big winner in the red Lakeland Terrier bitch Ch Saredon For Your Eyes Only owned by Dave Scawthorn & Johnny Averis, Saredon of course is famous for its wide variety of Terriers and for its owner Judy Averis. This bitch s always handled by Judy's son Johnny and she will shortly be flying over to California to join Woody Wornall's team of top dogs and we are sure she will do well in her new home. This was her second BIS this year. And so ended another great show for these hard working ladies.

GEOFF CORISH

pamplonabichons@tiscali.co.uk

More copies of our benchmark Annual are now available

To order your copy direct please email us at ringleader@ringleader.com.au

or phone 61 (0)2 4633 8099

fax 61 (0)2 4633 8057

\$13.00 posted within Australia, \$18.00 by air to New Zealand,

Asia and America,

and \$22.00 by air to the rest of the world.