

The Animal Behaviour Consultants of Southern Africa (©®™)



WHAT AN ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR CONSULTANT DOES

Animal behaviour consultants consult pet owners regarding control of their pet's behaviour disorders and assist in preventing and treating inappropriate behaviour such as aggression, anxiety, destructive chewing, digging, disobedience, escaping, excessive barking, fighting, inappropriate toileting, incompatibilities, manias, neuroses, phobias, self mutilation, tail chasing, etc. Pets may include dogs, cats, horses, birds, cows, etc. and consultants specialise in certain animals.

Puppy socialising classes are run by many consultants for early socialisation, prevention of behaviour problems and basic training.

Other services may be offered by consultants such as settling of pups and kittens, pet matching and character assessment, re-homing of animals, dog training, family counselling, veterinary services, animal training for stage and screen, grooming, breeding and showing of animals.

Seminars, meetings and newsletters are organised on a regular basis by consultants as a continuing education requirement to keep up to date with all the latest developments in the science of animal behaviour.

HOW A CONSULTATION IS ARRANGED

1. Speak to your veterinarian who can refer you to an accredited animal behaviour consultant.
2. Phone the consultant to make an appointment. You will be asked for a brief description of the problem.
3. Fees should be discussed in advance and vary depending on circumstances.

CODE OF ETHICS

Animal behaviour consultants resolve at all times:

- to provide a professional, confidential service to owners of companion animals;
- to analyse the behaviour problem thoroughly;
- to treat the owner and the animal with understanding and compassion;
- to treat the animal in liaison with the veterinarian concerned;
- to offer appropriate advice and therapy for the animal and the owner;
- to deal honestly and fairly with the public;
- to avoid any action that would discredit the A.B.C.;
- to liaise with all aspects of the animal industry;
- to encourage responsible companion animal ownership and to promote awareness of animal behaviour;
- to take every opportunity to be involved with continuing education in Ethology and keep abreast of all developments in this science.

TYPES OF ABC MEMBERSHIP

The Animal Behaviour Consultants of Southern Africa have several different categories of membership, namely:

Associate membership

This type of membership does not permit a member to practice as an animal behaviour consultant. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in animal behaviour.

Intern Animal Behaviour Consultant

Referred to as an "intern consultant". Before applying for membership as an intern behaviour consultant, the applicant must be a paid-up associate member of the ABC of SA. After the application for accreditation as an intern ABC has been approved by the accreditation committee – members **ARE** permitted to practice and charge a professional fee. However clients **MUST** be informed of the consultant's accreditation status, (i.e. they are undergoing their internship as an **intern** behaviour consultant). The fee the intern consultant charges should be in accordance to their academic qualifications and practical hands-on experience.

Accredited Animal Behaviour Consultant

After completing their internship, the consultant will be eligible to be awarded accreditation as a fully accredited animal behaviour consultant. This is usually reviewed every two years.

Senior Animal Behaviour Consultant

Referred to as a senior consultant.

This title is awarded on merit to an accredited animal behaviour consultant.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Anyone interested in animal behaviour may join the ABC initially as an associate member. A once-off joining fee of R180 is charged, after which the annual membership fee is R90 payable by 31 January each year. Benefits include bi-monthly newsletters, seminars, workshops and access to up-to-date information on animal behaviour.

Title: _____ First names: _____ Surname: _____

Phone no: (h) _____ (w) _____

(Email) _____

(Cell) _____

Postal Address: _____

Code: _____

Main occupation: _____

Other interests: _____

I hereby apply for Associate Membership of the A.B.C. of SA and agree to comply with the Constitution and Code of Ethics should my application be accepted. I understand that my membership fee will be refunded should my application fail.

Date: _____ Signed: _____

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER:

Please send application along with proof of payment to joanne@paws4us.co.za.

ACCREDITED MEMBERSHIP: Should you wish to be considered for accreditation, please direct your enquiries to louthomp@mweb.co.za.

BANK DETAILS:

Standard Bank Fourways Crossing Account no. : 42 669 167 9 Branch Code: 00 99 53

PLEASE USE YOUR NAME AS REFERENCE