



# *dog balls*

Electronic ball machine  
User's Guide

Thank you for purchasing the product **DOGtrace™ dog balls**

produced by the company VNT electronics s.r.o., Czech Republic.

We would like to ask you to read this user's guide carefully before you start using the product. Keep it please for further use after reading.

## **EC declaration of compliance • Guideline R&TTE 1999/5/CE**

The manufacturer: VNT electronics s.r.o. declares that the below mentioned product:

**Electronic ball machine DOGtrace™ dog balls**

complies to all Europe Council Guidelines, under No. 1999/5/CE of 7.4.1999

and corresponds to the following standards: **ETSI EN 300 220**

# CE

**VNT electronics s.r.o. • Němčice 23 • 561 18 Němčice u České Třebové**  
**Phone: +420 461 310 762 • Czech Republic • [www.dogtrace.com](http://www.dogtrace.com)**

Persons with a personal instrument to support heart activity (pacemaker, defibrillator) must respect the relevant precautionary measures. The product **dog balls** emits a certain stationary magnetic field (lower part of the remote controller and RF signals).  
Frequency = 869.52 MHz, maximum transmitted power = 25 mW).

## **Obsah**



Introduction .....	3
Delivery contents .....	3
Optional accessories .....	3
Product description .....	4
Battery installation and replacement .....	5
Turning ON/OFF .....	6
Programming (matching) of the remote controller and the receiver .....	7
How to use the remote controller .....	7
For the best results .....	8
User instructions .....	8
Maintenance .....	8
Troubleshooting .....	9
Warranty .....	9
Technical data .....	10

## Introduction



The remote control training ball machine **dog balls** is an excellent training device suitable for the following exercises: sending the dog forward, running round dummies and checking them, territorial training, overcoming obstacles and so on.

The ball machine is remote controlled at distances up to 250 m. Up to 8 feeders can be operated by one remote controller. Each of them has a container for 4 balls. It is not necessary to load them after every use. The dog is rewarded after completing an exercise only in case it deserves it. **Suitable for training centres as well as home use.**

## Delivery contents



- **dog balls** (ball machine)
- 4 balls
- Strap with loops for hanging
- 4 LR6 AA 1.5 V batteries
- Set of marking labels with numbers
- Remote controller (transmitter)
- 1 CR2 3 V battery
- Hanging string
- User's guide and certificate of warranty

## Optional accessories



- Further connectable ball machines **dog balls**
- Spare batteries
- Spare balls
- Battery charger
- Rechargeable GP270AAHC batteries (AA, 2600 mAh type)
- Feeder holder with a spike



### Remote controller



#### REMOTE CONTROLLER

- ❶ Indication light
- ❷ Ball machine control buttons 1-8

### Ball machine



#### BALL MACHINE

- ❶ Ball machine cover
- ❷ Holders for hanging a strap with buckles
- ❸ Indication lights
- ❹ Marking number space
- ❺ Holder slot
- ❻ Battery space cover



### Installation (replacement) of the battery in the ball machine

- Remove the screw from the ball machine battery space cover with a cross-head screwdriver. Take the battery holder out carefully. Insert 4 LR6 AA 1,5V batteries. Mind the polarity marked on the battery holder.
- Before putting the battery space cover back to its place make sure that the battery holder is seated in the battery space correctly. Tighten the screw on the battery space cover using adequate force.



Battery space cover



Battery holder

### Checking the battery status

Look at the indicator light on the front panel of the ball machine to check the battery status:

- The battery is fully charged: the LED indicator blinks slowly in green in on-state.
- The battery is weak: the LED indicator blinks in red in on-state. Prepare a spare 3V lithium battery CR2 and follow the section describing the battery installation. Make sure the ball feeder works correctly.

**TIP: The device can also be operated using LR6 rechargeable batteries.**

### Installation (replacement) of the battery in the remote controller

- Unscrew the battery space cover screw on the back side of the remote controller and lift the cover carefully. Insert a new 3V CR2 battery. Mind the polarity marked on the battery cover (see the picture). Put the cover back and tighten the screw using adequate force.



Battery compartment

When the battery gets weaker, the remote controller performance (radio signal coverage) decreases. The battery needs to be replaced. Discharged battery is indicated by red LED diode which is lit up by pressing any button on the remote controller. Prepare a spare battery and follow the instruction above for replacing batteries in the remote controller.

**TIP: You can remove the batteries more easily using a small screwdriver inserting it carefully under the edge of the battery.**

Make sure the remote controller is working correctly. By pressing any button, the green LED diode lights up.

## Turning ON/OFF



### Turning the ball machine ON / OFF

- **Turning on:** Place the lower part of the remote controller to the marked arrow (see the picture). The ball machine indicator blinks in red (The ball machine is recognised). Remove the remote controller when the LED diode lights up in red permanently. The diode starts blinking in green indicating the ball machine is ready for use.
- **Turning off:** Place the lower part of the remote controller to the marked arrow (see the picture) again. The receiver indicator lights up in red. Remove the remote controller. The red LED diode goes out. The ball machine is turned off.

To prolong the battery lifetime, the ball machine is always to be turned off after training. If the ball machine is not used for a longer period of time, removing batteries is recommended.



*Position when turning the ball feeder on/off and when matching the transmitter with the ball machine.*

## Programming (matching) of the remote controller and the receiver



Every remote controller has its own RF operational code. Programming of the remote controller with the ball machine will be performed during the first use of the **DOGtrace™ dog balls** set or with a new remote controller or ball machine (in case they get lost). This operation enables you to match your remote controller with the delivered ball machine.

**IMPORTANT: Before programming (matching) is started, make sure no one else is using his/her dog balls ball machine or another DOGtrace™ product close to you. Your ball machine could randomly receive a code from another remote controller and set itself to it. If this happens, program your ball machine once again using your remote controller.**

- If you have inserted balls into the container, replace them.
- Place the lower part of the switched-off remote controller to the arrow marked on the ball machine (see the picture on page 6). The red LED diode blinks, the green LED diode lights up for 3 seconds. Then the red as well as the green LED diode starts blinking. The ball machine is ready for matching. Remove the remote controller now and press buttons 1 to 7 which you want to control the ball machine with. Ejection cycle is performed at the same time. This way you make sure the matching has been successful.
- Use the same procedure for matching more ball machines.

## How to use the remote controller



Remote controller **DOGtrace™ dog balls** is designed to control up to 8 ball machines.

**Buttons**  **1** **to**  **8**

By pressing these buttons, an ejection signal is sent to the feeder which is matched to the button.

## For the best results



Commands for balls ejection are sent from the transmission unit to the ball machine on radio waves. Radio wave propagation is influenced by many factors. The reach of this device is approximately 250 m at common circumstances (depending on geographical conditions and surroundings).

### Follow the instructions below to get the best results with this device:

- To get the best connection, hold the remote controller in your hand not covering its front part (the antenna is installed in this part).
- The reach is increased by holding the remote controller with your hand outstretched in front of you.
- Check the battery status in the remote controller as well as in the ball machine before using the set. Replace the batteries if necessary.
- Battery performance decreases moderately at temperatures below zero. If possible, keep the remote controller warm in your pocket and take it out only when using.

## User instructions



- Don't put the remote controller close to objects sensitive to magnetic field to avoid causing permanent damage to them.
- Don't expose the **dog balls** set to high temperatures.
- It is necessary to replace the batteries every two years, even in case the set has not been in use for a longer period of time. Don't leave discharged batteries in the device to avoid potential damage.
- The set is designed to be used with four balls maximally. Don't use any extenders to increase the capacity. It could cause damage to the device.
- Use only balls delivered with the set or recommended by the manufacturer. Using different balls than recommended can cause damage to the device.

## Maintenance



Don't use any essential substances such as diluents, petrol or various cleaners to clean the **DOGtrace™ dog balls** set. Use a soft wetted cloth, eventually a neutral cleaning agent.

The remote controller is not water resistant. Protect it from water and humidity as much as possible. If dropped into water, the device will probably be damaged permanently.

The ball machine is designed to be able to stay in the rain for a short time after closing the cover of the ball container.

The set remembers the configuration settings (autocoding). It stays in the last selected mode after you switch it on again.



## Troubleshooting



### **Do the following before you consider your device defective:**

- Read the user's guide again and check whether the problem isn't caused by weak batteries or incorrect use.
- Check the correct polarity and position of batteries.
- If it doesn't help, reprogram the ball machine according to the instructions in this user's guide.
- If the problem prevails, try to initialize the system by removing batteries from the holder in the ball machine and from the remote controller. Create a shortcut to the contacts using a steel tool (screwdriver, scissors for instance) for about 2 seconds. Insert the batteries again and carry out matching.

### **If the problem still prevails, contact your dealer.**

## Warranty



The company VNT electronics s.r.o. provides warranty for potential manufacture faults to the extent of two years from the date of purchase.

The manufacturer does not take responsibility for damage to the device caused by incorrect use, unauthorized repairs and dismantling.

### **The warranty does not cover the following items:**

- Batteries
- Strap with loops for hanging
- Direct or indirect risks during transportation of the product to the dealer
- Damage to the product caused by user's negligence or by an accident (e.g. by masticating, breaking, impacts, etc.) and by interventions of unauthorized persons.

The information contained in this user's guide may be subject to alterations without prior notice.



### Transmitter

- Weight: **60 g (without battery)**
- Reach: **approx. 250 m in an open space**
- Power supply: **3V CR2 lithium battery**
- Battery lifetime: **6–12 months depending on use**
- Frequency (performance): **869.525 Mhz (25 mW)**
- Antenna: **integrated**
- Radio connection security and coding: **microcontroller**
- Number of connectable ball machines: **8**
- Working temperature: **-10 °C to +50 °C**
- Dimensions: **110 × 52 × 30 mm**

### Ball machine

- Weight: **560 g (without strap and balls)**
- Power supply: **4 LR6 AA 1.5 batteries (or rechargeable LR6 batteries)**
- Battery lifetime: **6 months depending on use**
- Frequency: **869,525 Mhz**
- Antenna: **integrated**
- Covering: **against short rain with the ball container cover closed**
- Radio connection security and coding: **microcontroller**
- Working temperature: **-10 °C to +50 °C**
- Dimensions: **320 × 180 × 80 mm**