

UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY DOG TRAINING CLUB NEWSLETTER May 2019

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May Meeting

Thursday, May 16, 2019 @ 7:00 pm
The Zone

Rabies Clinic

Wednesday, May 8, 2019 1:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Please contact Glenda Haller if you are able to help!

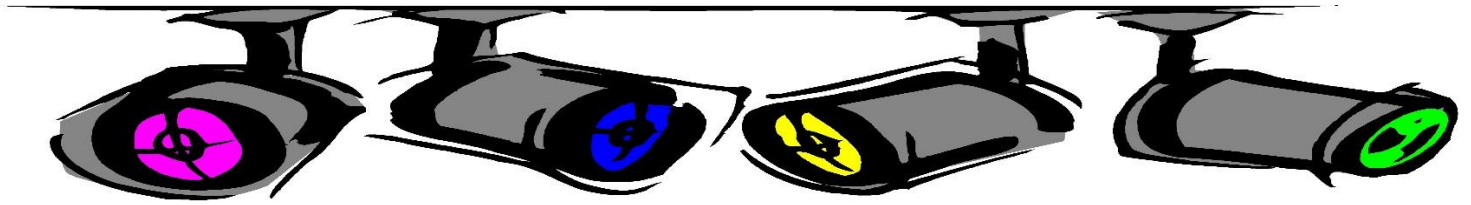
The next session of Obedience and Agility Classes will begin in June

Signup will begin soon – watch USRVDT.C.ORG for more information

Scent Work Trial – June 13-16, 2019

Eastern Idaho State Fairgrounds, Blackfoot, Idaho
Space is limited and it is filling up **FAST**

Member Spotlight



Mary Ann Igoe

Tell us a bit about yourself. (where you're from, what you do, your family, etc.)

My home town is Naples, NY. Naples is a small town in the Finger Lakes region with vineyards, fresh maple syrup, rolling hills, and is famous for grape pie. A major plus for Naples is that it is eight hours away from NYC. My husband, Tom, is from Long Island. He still has a bit of an "r" issue and that is because he grew up only 45 minutes from NYC. We have two amazing adult daughters and the most wonderful grandson! I dearly love and am very proud of my family! I retired last fall after 26 years at the INL and am enjoying more visits with my daughters and Owen. Trials are a lot more fun knowing I do not have to hurry home and go to work the next day. I also enjoy not getting up at 4:30 a.m.! Retirement is good. J

Share a random fact you learned recently.

Eagle eggs hatch after 35 days of incubation.

What are 3 words that describe you?

Go for it!

What is your favorite hobby (other than dogs)?

I am currently obsessed with my camera and watching a nesting pair of Eagles and Osprey.

What is one item you cannot live without?

Chap Stick.... it's an addiction.

What do you consider your greatest accomplishment to date?

My strong, independent, and kind daughters.

Android or iPhone?

iPhone

What is your favorite book?

I enjoy all the writings of Shel Silverstein - they are timeless.

What is your favorite food?

Crab cakes. :)

People would be surprised if they knew this about you.

I am a certified scuba diver. Tom and I have drift dived in Cozumel at a depth of 90', we traveled to Bonaire twice to dive their pristine reefs, and when our daughters were old enough to certify, we all went to Roatan, Honduras. We also took our daughters to Ventura to dive off the California coast and while I have to say the California coast was the worst place EVER for diving because the water was too cold, it was very memorable because we saw huge pods of dolphins, Orca's, and a Grey Whale gave us a huge surprise with a full fluke display just off the port side of the boat we were on! Amazing. After the California trip, I know if a dive boat has a hot tub, I'm staying on the boat.

If you could plan a vacation anywhere in the world, where would you go?

A family trip to Africa!

Have you always had animals? How did you come into dogs/dog training?

I have always had animals. I grew up on a farm and we had all the typical farm animals, along with a raccoon that wandered in and must have been a pet someone dropped off. After Rufus, I am a raccoon advocate whenever I find myself in a conversation about how bad they are. Raccoons are intelligent, sweet, curious, and enjoy snails from fish tanks.... he did get in trouble for that with my mom. Bad Rufus! As kids I never had my "own" dog, my brothers and sisters all shared our dogs, and my daughters had dogs, but my very own first dog was a Great Pyrenees pup found surviving on grasshoppers on the desert west of Idaho Falls. The pup needed a home and I needed a distraction with our daughters heading off to college. Glacier was followed by Fionna and then Pari. All dogs have been wonderful rescues. I think if you have a dog, you train, but Pari is the first dog I have trained for competition.

How long have you been a part of USRVDTTC?

I joined the club in 2012.

What is your favorite part of being a member of USRVDTTC?

Training is fun stuff and USRVDTTC has lots of variety! I have always had the mutt that no one wanted, so until USRVDTTC, I had never paid much attention to AKC or trained a dog to the level needed for competition. I have learned a great deal, made new friends, and enjoy watching other teams at trials. It's all fun!

Tell us about your dog(s).

Pari is a joy. I adopted Pari from the Bingham County Humane Society in 2011. When I adopted her she was afraid of everything! She would roll over when I tried to put a leash on her, if I pulled a broom from the closet, she would hide under the bed, she was afraid of dogs, riding in a vehicle, loud voices, etc. It took several weeks to help Pari get adjusted in our home and during the process I was in daily contact with the foster mom as she was very helpful with the transition. She told me Pari was from the reservation, had been attacked by a large dog(s) requiring so many stitches to put her face and throat put back together that the staff at the vet clinic nicknamed her Baby Frankenstein because she was such a sight. I was also told that Pari had at least one litter of puppies; all of this happened before she was a year and a half!

Pari was convinced she wanted to live under the bed, and I was determined that was not going to happen, so we enrolled in a basic obedience class with USRVDTTC and she sailed through the CGC testing. She was definitely a different dog from when we started. Training helped with confidence and provided exposure to many of the things that frightened her.

What is your favorite part of training?

The time we spend together discovering what it takes for the light bulb to come on. The light bulb is with both dog and handler! There have been several times I realized that when I “listen” to Pari and approach something differently, BOOM, success happens.

Do you have any favorite success stories or breakthrough moments in training?

The first time I was able to put a leash on Pari and she did not roll over. She “got it” - fun things happen at the end of a leash. For Pari, life began when we were able to leave the bed behind.

What is your favorite tip for someone wanting to get involved with dogs/dog training?

Don't rush and listen to your training partner.

What is the best piece of advice you have ever received regarding dog training?

Trust your dog.



Yummy Frozen Dog Treats

½ cup peanut butter
(Make sure it does not contain Xylitol)
1 cup plain yogurt (Greek is fine!)
2 Tbsp vegetable broth or chicken broth

In medium bowl, mix all ingredients together.
Distribute evenly into ice cube tray or other mold (or drop by small spoon full)
Freeze for 12 hours, or overnight.

Preventing Reactivity... A little Management goes a Long Way

Flight (or avoidance) is also a strategy which young animals will use more often, however, once a dog reaches adolescence and becomes bigger and stronger, they will start to experiment more with using FIGHT as a strategy to cope with a threat. The reality is that while we find flight or appeasement more socially acceptable, animals need to be able to use whatever strategy is necessary to get out of danger – being able to do this could mean the difference between life and death. If you are trapped and appeasement does not placate the threat, fight may be your only option.

The thing that we need to understand about survival behaviour, is that it is:

1. **Hardwired into all animals**
2. **Highly reinforceable**

Think about it – while an animal can miss a meal or fail to find a mate, but still go on to have another chance at success the next day, if you fail to escape danger, you are done. There are no do-overs, no going back to begin - you are eliminated from the game altogether. Therefore, survival behaviour is of the utmost importance to all life forms and takes precedence over all else. In fact, the circuits in the brain that trigger survival responses have the ability to bypass any logical thought. I will never forget how I almost jumped into the back seat of the car when I heard a “ssshhh...” sound while my husband was driving, and I was in the passenger seat. I am not scared of much in the way of critters, but I have had several traumatic snake experiences and am VERY familiar with the sound that a Puff Adder makes. The sound I heard that day accessed my limbic system (emotional brain), which hijacked my cortex (rational, thinking brain) and I started flinging myself away from the noise. As I started to move, of course my cortex caught up with events and on processing the information more carefully let me know that it was in fact the air brakes of the bus in front of us. Yes, I felt like an idiot!

The point is that when a dog is faced with something scary, they will engage an instinctive, inherent response. They don't have a choice. However, the ability to engage the 5F's only starts from around 5 weeks of age and develops during a period of high social attraction - what we call the socialisation period, which lasts from about 4-14 weeks of age in the average pet dog. This is why we stress the importance of exposing puppies to positive social experiences with everything they will encounter as adult dogs during this time – because they will react with more attraction and with less fear and will learn to regard things they have positive experiences with as a normal, non-threatening part of life. Being used to lots and lots of different people, dogs, animals and “stuff” will mean that there will be less for the puppy to regard as threatening and react with one of the 5F's towards later in life.

So where does it all go wrong?

While social attraction may outweigh the fear response during the socialisation period, this does not mean that puppies are immune to bad experiences or that they are not capable of showing us that they are feeling anxious or afraid. Puppies may be less likely to “freak out” about new things, but they still do have the capacity to use the 5F's. The problem is that we tend to ignore everything but aggression. The only F that we pay attention to, tends to be FIGHT. Time and again, we see puppies that are showing clear discomfort in a situation, but their discomfort is ignored. A puppy may be frantically back-peddling away from a person or dog and the owner will simply drag them forward and tell them: “Don't be silly, say hello!”. Or we will see a puppy that pretty much flattens himself on his back every time another dog approaches and no one intervenes to allow him to get up and move away. Then, as these puppies turn into teenagers, everyone is horrified when they start to become reactive and snappy. The reality is that they have tried to use other strategies – they tried to use appeasement, they tried to escape, but it didn't work. They didn't find any way to feel better or get out of the situation, so they eventually turned to the only option left – FIGHT.

The next stage in what goes wrong is the humans then approach the situation in one of two ways:

1. Punish the behaviour (this is unacceptable!)

2. Ignore the behaviour (he's only a puppy, he'll get over it)

Neither of these approaches works. I have written so many posts and articles on why we do not use positive punishment as a training method, that I am not going to go into this in detail again, suffice to say that punishing a dog for a behaviour that is driven by fear will only make the dog feel worse, create more behaviour problems, break down your relationship with your dog and fail to address the underlying cause of the behaviour (how the dog feels). What I want to focus on here is the second approach – ignoring the behaviour and hoping it will go away.

Have you ever had the experience of a young dog running up to you barking and the owner calling out “Don’t worry, it’s okay, he’s just a puppy!” Well, it isn’t okay, least of all for the puppy. I mentioned earlier that survival behaviours, while hard-wired (in the sense that all animals have the capacity to use them and will use them if necessary), are also subject to the laws of operant conditioning i.e. they can be reinforced. Survival behaviours are usually negatively reinforced: something that causes a negative emotional response (fear) triggers the behaviour and escaping from the thing that caused the fear brings strong feelings of relief. Relief is an incredibly reinforcing emotion. Relief is caused by dopamine flooding the brain and dopamine acts on recently fired neural pathways, strengthening them, so that they are more likely to fire again in the same situation. Going back to my snake story – why did I try and jump into the back seat of the car? Because in previous encounters with Puff Adders I learned that running away was a REALLY good option! I was terrified, I ran and put distance between myself and the snake and felt a WHOLE lot better! Flight was heavily reinforced repeatedly (yes, I have encountered lots of snakes!) and is my go-to strategy. It has even been generalised to any stimulus which could signal the presence of a snake.

Similarly, when a young dog lunges or runs up to a person or dog barking, successfully making that person or dog go away, brings relief which reinforces the behaviour. In fact, even just surviving the situation is reinforcing. The dog’s brain basically says: “I felt threatened, I barked, I lived, therefore barking works”. Every time the dog rehearses this behaviour, dopamine is strengthening those neural pathways, cementing reactivity or FIGHT as the go-to option for dealing with that threat. And the more the strategy is used, the more it starts to generalise to more and more situations and anything that might be just remotely threatening.

And there’s more: In some cases, with regular rehearsal of the behaviour, the relief gained from running and barking or lunging on the lead can actually become something that a dog will deliberately work for. Sounds a bit crazy, right? But think about people who jump off bridges or perfectly functional aeroplanes for fun – why do they do this? People will say it is for the adrenaline rush, but in fact, it is the dopamine rush when you survive that is so reinforcing. Ever see a dog that rushes up and barks at someone and then trots off looking very pleased with themselves? That is a dog that has developed their own “extreme” sport.

While there may be times when allowing a spooky puppy to choose to approach a stooge person or dog in a CONTROLLED environment and not intervene if the puppy does a little spooky barking, giving the puppy time to figure out that this person or dog is not something to be afraid of, it is NEVER acceptable to allow puppies or young dogs to run up to strangers and unknown dogs and do this in public. In a controlled set-up, with a young puppy that is just a little spooky, you can ensure that the stooge person or dog (and it better be a one in a million, extremely reliable, experienced individual) reacts appropriately by ignoring the puppy until the puppy figures things out and calms down. In public, you have no idea how the person or dog will react and the chances of the puppy or young dog managing to work through their fearful response and relax are just about zero. By allowing puppies or young dogs to do this, we are only giving them the opportunity to rehearse behaviour that we do not want (which strengthens the behaviour) and exposing them to the possibility of having a really nasty experience with a person or dog who reacts aggressively towards them, creating even more negative associations with people or dogs.

So, what should you do to prevent your puppy or young dog developing reactivity?

1. Allow your puppy or young dog the choice of interacting or walking away – don't force them into situations they are not comfortable with.
2. Observe body language carefully and allow avoidance or appeasement to be successful – if you see signs that your puppy or dog is anxious, help them to get out of the situation.
3. **DO NOT put them in situations where they are likely to rehearse reactive behaviour**

The first two I have spoken about quite a bit before. We need to give our puppies, adolescents and all dogs choice. We need to be sensitive to signs that they are not comfortable, we need to call or lead them out of the situation as quickly as possible and reinforce them for moving away. If we do this consistently, calm avoidance will become the learned strategy when your dog starts to feel uncomfortable.

But how do we avoid our young dogs or puppies getting into situations where they may want to run and bark at someone or at another dog? Well, we need to be aware of what tends to spook them and if there is any chance of that scenario arising, we need to keep them on the lead so that we have the opportunity to prevent them from running and barking and we can move them out of the way to where they feel safe instead.

Unfortunately, people often think that putting a young dog or puppy on lead will make reactivity worse, but it really doesn't have to. For a thorough look at preventing on-leash reactivity, please see: <https://www.tarynblyth.co.za/on-lead-doesn-t-have-to-mean-reacti>. In essence, if we want our puppies and dogs to be comfortable passing people, dogs or anything they would be anxious about on lead we need to do the following:

1. **Give them space i.e. move away from the runner or bicycle or whatever it is until you are at a point where you know your pup is under threshold i.e. aware, but not anxious or afraid.**
2. **FEED tasty treats the entire time the "scary" thing is present, until it has gone past. This will counter-condition the emotional response i.e. replace the negative emotional response with a positive one: "Ooh! Runner = chicken!"**

Using this approach will help to gradually desensitize your puppy or young dog to those things that they find scary and it will prevent them from learning that FIGHT is the best way of dealing with a potential threat. This must be done in EVERY possibly scary scenario.

The other excuse people often use for not managing their dogs better, is: "I didn't see him/her/it coming". We really need to be more proactive about managing our dogs – if we cannot see what is coming and we know that there could be someone around the corner, then keep them on the lead until you have a better view of the area. It really is as simple as that. Our dogs should not be wandering off unsupervised when our view of what is coming is obscured.

Perhaps I am really sensitive to these issues because of the breed of dogs that I have. With Rottweilers one really does not have the option of shouting: "Don't worry, he's just a puppy!" as your teenage Rottweiler runs and barks at someone. Trust me, that just doesn't fly. I simply cannot put my dogs in situations where the slightest negativity could be cast on their social behaviour. Possibly this has forced me to be much better at managing my own dogs and made me far more aware of people who don't manage their dogs appropriately. But it isn't just about that. It is 20 years' experience working with all types of dogs and owners that has shown me how a little management can go a LONG way in preventing so many behaviour problems, especially reactivity and aggression. Prevention is ALWAYS better than cure – it is much harder to put that particular genie back in the bottle than to never take it out in the first place.

Article shared from www.tarynblyth.co.za



Dog Stung By A Bee? Here's How to Treat It

Dogs stung by bees can be hurt or even killed - bees, wasps, hornets, and fire ants may all cause allergic reactions. Learn what you should do if your dog gets stung or bitten by these flying insects.

By Catherine Ashe, DVM

Spring is springing forth all over the country. Flowers, grasses, and trees are blooming, and the pollinators are out in force. This is great news for plants, and less great news for our canine friends. Dogs are more prone to being stung by insects than we are, given that they aren't always aware that some of the buzzing, flying insects they love to chase can hurt!

The most likely sting suspects are the *Hymenoptera* species, which include bees, wasps, hornets, and fire ants. As an emergency veterinarian, I often treated dogs who suffered bee and wasp stings, with reactions ranging from very mild localized swelling and pain to anaphylactic shock. These symptoms were sometimes caused by a direct sting to the muzzle or paw, but in some cases, they occurred when a dog ingested a bee! It's important to know what is normal and what is not when this happens.



The swelling from a bee stings can be very dramatic. If your dog is lucky, it only looks strange and isn't too painful. A less-fortunate dog might require quick veterinary intervention to keep the swelling from closing the dog's airway.

The typical dog bee stinging event leaves the dog with a single sting on the muzzle or foot. This is because of dogs' horizontal, four-footed orientation and their innate curiosity. The feet often find the insects when running through the grass, and the curious muzzle will follow.

What to Do If Your Dog Gets Stung

In the case of most stings, there will be very mild redness and swelling. Your dog may suddenly [limp](#) and/or favor a paw, or have a red, swollen spot on the face. In some cases, a stinger can still be found in the wound. This is extremely difficult to find without a still, calm dog and a magnifying glass. In some cases, removal of a stinger must be done at a veterinary office. You can try to visualize and remove it at home, but it may not be possible.

Initial treatment for a sting or bite of this severity can consist of rest and a cold compress to relieve swelling and pain. Do not administer over-the-counter medications; these are generally not safe for dogs. If you are concerned that your dog is in significant pain, contact your veterinarian to discuss a pain-management strategy.

Hives, wheals, and welts are a moderate reaction to stings. Just like their human counterparts, dogs who have been stung can break out in unsightly hives. These are usually very itchy and uncomfortable. The first sign often noticed is the dog rubbing along furniture or scratching at the face and eyes. The hives may manifest as bright red streaks or lumps all over the body or be confined to a single place.

As long as there is no attendant [vomiting](#), [diarrhea](#), weakness, or collapse, this can be managed at home successfully. Diphenhydramine (the active ingredient in Benadryl) can be given at 1 to 2 milligrams per pound of body weight. If using a Benadryl product, check to make sure there are NO other active ingredients. Some Benadryl products contain decongestants as well, and these can be dangerous for dogs.

Diphenhydramine can be repeated every six to eight hours as needed to help with hives. They can sometimes take hours to a few days to completely resolve. Diphenhydramine can cause drowsiness, but in some dogs, it can cause excitement (called a paradoxical reaction).

Severe Bee Sting Reactions in Dogs

In the most severe cases, dogs can develop anaphylactic shock. In canines, the shock organ is the gastrointestinal (GI) tract (in contrast to cats and humans, in which it is the lungs). Dogs in anaphylactic shock do not necessarily develop difficulty breathing. They are much more likely to develop sudden onset of vomiting, diarrhea, and collapse. The diarrhea and vomit can both be extremely bloody, in some cases.

This is an absolute emergency and should be treated as such. Once evaluated by a veterinarian, your dog will be treated with intravenous (IV) fluids, epinephrine, possibly [steroids](#), oxygen, and very close monitoring. Diagnostic testing will likely include blood pressure monitoring, [bloodwork](#), and maybe an abdominal ultrasound.



Often, when dogs are stung, it is not witnessed, so it can be difficult to determine the cause of the signs. Anaphylaxis can also look like an [Addisonian crisis](#); severe, acute [hemorrhagic gastroenteritis](#) (HGE); or [mesenteric volvulus](#). One helpful test is the abdominal ultrasound. Gallbladder wall swelling (edema) can be used to determine if anaphylaxis is the true cause of the signs. Another indicator is that anaphylaxis is a very sudden onset in a previously healthy dog that has just been outside.

With rapid and aggressive treatment, most dogs will recover from this type of shock, but early treatment is essential. In some cases, your veterinarian may recommend carrying an EpiPen Jr for future outdoor travels with your dog. Despite having this on hand, any suspicion of an anaphylactic event should prompt immediate evaluation by your veterinarian.

When Your Dog Suffers Multiple Bee Stings

Initial symptoms in dogs include multiple bites, marked pain and swelling, hyperthermia (temperature can elevate to a deadly 107 degrees), heavy panting, rapid heart rate, and in some cases, muscle tremoring.

There is no antidote, so treatment is aimed at supportive care. This must be aggressive, as dogs can later develop systemic effects such as kidney failure. The kidney failure develops due to generalized muscle trauma from the stings and hyperthermia. When the muscle is damaged, extra myoglobin (a muscle enzyme) is released into the bloodstream. This must be metabolized by the kidneys, and excess amounts can cause renal damage. This will lead to a dark brown color to urine and elevated blood urea nitrogen (BUN) and creatinine.

Treatment is centered on maintaining hydration with IV fluids, pain relief medications (generally strong drugs like opioids), and close monitoring of vitals and bloodwork. NSAIDs like carprofen and meloxicam should be avoided due to the risk of kidney failure.

A different and less-common scenario is a sting to the inside of the mouth or the tongue. These stings can be more severe because of the amount of pain and swelling. In rare cases, swelling in the mouth could lead to airway inflammation, obstruction, and labored breathing. While this isn't common, it can happen. If you know that your dog was stung in the mouth or on the tongue, monitor closely for any signs of respiratory distress. These include wheezing or other noisy breathing, coughing, and difficulty pulling air into the lungs (inspiratory dyspnea). Seek veterinary care!

In these cases, your dog may need to receive respiratory support. This might include an oxygen mask, nasal oxygen prongs, or in serious cases, where the upper airway is obstructed, the placement of an emergency tracheostomy tube. This allows the veterinarian to bypass the swollen upper airway and provide the patient with life-saving oxygen. These are temporary and will be removed when the swelling has resolved enough to allow normal respiration.

Most reactions to bee stings are mild, but it is important to recognize the more severe symptoms so that immediate treatment can be started and systemic effects minimized.



What About Killer Bees?

A special note about Africanized killer bees should be made. These are a hybrid of two honeybees: the western honey bee and the Iberian honey bee. They were hybridized in Brazil in the 1950s with hopes of increasing honey production. Unfortunately, swarms escaped quarantine and migrated through Central America and into the Southwest and Florida. These bees are still largely isolated to those areas, but with global temperatures in flux, they can be expected to spread.

Unlike the usually docile honey bee, these bees can be very easily aggravated and aggressive and even chase victims. When annoyed, they tend to attack in large swarms. Interestingly, the venom is the same as other honey bees, which are rarely fatal. It is the multiple stings that can be fatal for animals and humans.

Catherine Ashe, DVM, practiced emergency medicine for nine years and now works as an associate veterinarian at Skyland Animal Hospital in Asheville, N.C.

Upcoming Opportunities

2019 RABIES CLINIC

**Every Dog & Cat 3 Months Of
Age & Older Needs Protection**



**Get Your Pet Vaccinated At The Annual
Public Rabies Vaccination Clinic**

Senior Citizens (65 & Over) Get One Free Vaccination Per Household Upon Proof Of Age

Date : Wednesday, May 8

Time : 1:00pm-7:00pm

Location : City Activity Center

Cost : \$15.00 Per Vaccine

**Sponsored By The Eastern Idaho
Veterinary Medical Association**

PROTECTION FOR YOU AND YOUR PETS

Scentsable Dog Training Seminars

Hallie McMullen

May 11-12, 2019

Held at Precision K9

153 N Benjamin Ln, Boise, ID

Saturday, May 11, 2019: Getting Focused

This one-day seminar will help dog and handler teams to bring together the focus and dog/handler connection for competition. Trialing is so much more than training the dog to find odor. It is important that the dog and handler be on the same page. They need to be attentive to the task and tuned in to each other. Ready to communicate! This seminar will have an emphasis on getting the team connected, improving attention and evaluating body language to identify behavior changes that will improve confidence and accuracy in the search environment. This will include increasing motivation and having lots of fun with your dog!

Sunday, May 12, 2019: Trialing Tips and Techniques

This one-day seminar will focus on tips for improving your trial performance. So many teams miss the small details that can often make a big difference in their performance. We will focus on the challenges that teams face in the trial environment and how to overcome those challenges to improve accuracy, speed and most importantly pass rates. This will include looking at faults as well as specific issues that cost teams valuable time and success. There will also be an emphasis on how to troubleshoot and make choices when a problem arises during a search.

Interested? Please contact Hallie McMullen at mcmuse@msn.com or 208-866-5559 for more information or to register.

Seminars will begin at 9am and end at 4pm. Check-in at 8:30am. Lunch and snacks will be provided.

There will be 10 working spots each day. Audit spots are available. The seminars are open to dogs of all levels as long as they are solid on odor. Dogs must have current proof of vaccination. Crate space will be available in the building for dogs that will crate quietly.

Cost:

Working spots: One day: \$120 Both days: \$200

Audit spots: One day: \$75 Both days: \$100

Hallie McMullen is an AKC Expert Scent Work Judge and has been training detection dogs for law enforcement since 1996. In addition to teaching classes and seminars, Hallie has judged many trials and evaluated dog and handler teams for law enforcement certification. In her experience she has provided guidance to many teams as well as observing and helping them to overcome the challenges and improve their success.

AGILITY 4 FULL COURSE SCHEDULE

Agility 4 will all be held at our usual spot in Tautphaus Park.

APRIL 30

JUMPERS COURSE

MAY 28

STANDARD COURSE

JUNE 25

PREMIER JUMPERS COURSE

JULY 30

PREMIER STANDARD COURSE

AUGUST 27

JUMPERS COURSE

SEPTEMBER 24

STANDARD COURSE

OCTOBER 15

TIME 2 BEAT COURSE

Please text or call Cheryl at 208-970-9492 if you will be coming to play. If there is not enough interest we will be unable to set a full course.

AKC Rules Corner

CHAPTER 3 NOVICE

Section 1. Novice A Class. The Novice A class shall be for dogs that have not won the CD title. A handler must own the dog entered or be a member of the owner's household or immediate family and may not have previously handled any dog that has earned an AKC Regular or Preferred Novice, Open, or Utility title. Owners may enter more than one dog in this class. The same person who handles the dog in the first five exercises must handle the dog in the group exercise; however, if a person has handled more than one dog in the first five exercises that will participate in the group exercise, that person must provide a handler for the additional dog in the same group exercise. The additional handler for the group exercise need not be a member of the owner's household or immediate family. No dog may be entered in both Novice A and Novice B at any one trial.

Prior to the start of judging, the judge will decide where the leash will be placed and post this information at the ring approximately 45 minutes or earlier before the start of the class.

At the listed start time for the class, a walkthrough of up to 10 minutes will be allowed for handlers without their dogs and judging of the class will follow. The judge must be available in the ring during this period to brief the handlers and answer any questions they might have.

Section 2. Novice B Class. The owner or any other person may handle dogs in this class to earn a CD title. Owners may enter more than one dog in this class. The same person who handles the dog in the first five exercises must handle the dog in the group exercise; however, if a person has handled more than one dog in the first five exercises that will participate in the group exercise, that person must provide a handler for the additional dog in the same group exercise. No dog may be entered in both Novice A and Novice B at any one trial.

Prior to the start of judging, the judge will decide where the leash will be placed and post this information at the ring approximately 45 minutes or earlier before the start of the class.

Section 3. Novice Exercises and Scores. The exercises and maximum scores in the Novice classes:

1. Heel on Leash and Figure Eight	40 points
2. Stand for Examination	30 points
3. Heel Free	40 points
4. Recall	30 points
<u>5. Sit Stay – Get Your Leash</u>	<u>30 points</u>
<u>6. Group Exercise – Sit & Down Stay</u>	<u>30 points</u>
Maximum Total Score	200 points

The maximum judging rate is nine (9) dogs per hour.

Section 4. Companion Dog Title. The letters CD may be added after the name of each dog that has been certified by two different judges to have received qualifying scores in Novice classes at three licensed or member obedience trials. That dog will receive a Companion Dog certificate from the AKC.

Section 5. Heel on Leash and Figure Eight. The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team.

The orders are: "Forward," "Halt," "Right turn," "Left turn," "About turn," "Slow," "Normal" and "Fast."

"Fast" means that the handler must run, and the handler and dog must move forward at a noticeably accelerated speed. All about turns will be right about turns. Orders for halts and turns will be given only when the handler is moving at a normal speed. The other orders may be given in any sequence, and turns and halts may be repeated. However, the judge should standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in the class.

The leash may be held in either hand or in both hands, but the hands must be held in a natural position.

The handler will enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the heel position in a place designated by the judge. The judge will ask "Are you ready?" before giving the first order. The handler may give a command or signal to heel and will walk briskly and naturally with the dog on a loose leash. The dog should walk close to the handler's left side without swinging wide, lagging, forging or crowding. The dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At each order to halt, the handler will stop. The dog shall sit straight and promptly in the heel position without command or signal and shall not move until the handler again moves forward on the judge's order. After each halt, it is permissible for the handler to give a command or signal to heel before moving forward again. The judge will say "Exercise finished" after this portion of the exercise.

For the Figure Eight, the handler will stand and the dog will sit in heel position facing the judge, midway between the two stewards, who will stand 8 feet apart. The Figure Eight in the Novice classes will be done on leash; the handler may go around either steward first. The judge will ask "Are you ready?" before giving the first order. The handler and dog will walk briskly around and between the two stewards twice. There will be no about turn, fast or slow, but the judge must order at least one halt during this exercise and another halt at the end.

Judging Procedures: *In scoring this exercise, judges shall accompany the handler at a discreet distance so that they can observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog. The judge must do so without interfering with either dog or handler. The judge should attempt to be in a position during the course of the exercise so that the dog and the handler may be observed from the rear, front, and side.*

Dogs receiving an extra command or signal during heeling can still qualify, although a deduction must be made for the extra command or signal. Subsequent additional commands or signals could indicate the dog is not under control and is not working with the handler as a team. The judge must determine whether the dog should receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score for heeling based on the overall performance of the dog and handler during the entire exercise.

Section 6. Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, Scoring. If a handler is constantly controlling the dog by tugging on the leash or is adapting to the dog's pace, that dog must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score for the exercise.

Depending on the circumstances, minor or substantial deductions, will be made for additional commands or signals to heel or for failure of dog or handler to speed up noticeably for the fast or slow down noticeably for the slow.

Minor or substantial deductions shall be made for lagging, heeling wide, forging, crowding, poor sits, failure to sit at a halt and other heeling imperfections. Deductions should also be made for a handler who guides the dog with the leash, any tightening or jerking of the leash, or does not walk at a brisk pace.

While scoring this exercise, the judge should be near enough to observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog without interfering with either.

Section 7. Stand for Examination. The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog stand in position before and during the examination without displaying resentment.

The orders are: "Stand your dog and leave when you are ready," "Back to your dog," and "Exercise finished."

Prior to the start of the exercises the handler will remove the leash and give it to a steward, who will place it on the judge's table or other designated place. The handler will take their dog to the place indicated by the judge. The judge will ask "Are you ready?" before giving the first order. On the judge's order, the handler will stand/pose the dog by the method of the handler's choice, taking any reasonable time if they choose to pose the dog as in the show ring. The handler will then stand with the dog in the heel position, and may give the command and/or signal to stay, walk straight forward about 6 feet, and then turn and face the dog.

The judge will approach the dog from the front. Using the fingers and palm of one hand, the judge will touch the dog's head, body and hindquarters. On the order "Back to your dog," the handler will walk around behind the dog and return to the heel position. The dog must remain standing until the judge has said "Exercise finished."

Judging Procedures: *The dog need not be sitting at the start of this*

exercise. The judge must be alert to keep handlers from going more or less than about 6 feet and must penalize, even to the point of non-qualifying, the dog whose handler backs away when leaving.

The examination is complete when the judge lifts their fingers and palm from the dog's hindquarters.

Judges should not expose themselves needlessly to the danger of being bitten. Should a dog in the ring give warning that it may bite if you proceed with the examination, you should excuse the dog from the ring and mark the judge's book "Excused – Unable to Examine." If a dog attempts to attack or bites any person in the ring, the judge must disqualify the dog, mark the judge's book "Disqualified – Attack" and fill out the "Disqualification for Attacking" form (AEDSQ1).

Section 8. Stand for Examination, Scoring. The scoring of this exercise will not start until the handler has given the command and/or signal to stay, except for such things as rough treatment by the handler or active resistance by the dog to its handler's attempts to have it stand. Either of these will be penalized substantially.

A dog must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score if it sits or lies down, moves away from the place where it was left either before or during the examination, or growls, snaps or displays resentment.

Minor or substantial deductions, even to the point of a non-qualifying (NQ) score, will be made for shyness. Minor or substantial deductions will be made for a dog that moves its feet at any time or sits or moves away after the examination has been completed.

Section 9. Heel Free, Performance and Scoring. This exercise will be performed as in the Heel on Leash but without either the leash or the Figure Eight. The scoring and orders will be the same.

Section 10. Recall. The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay where left until called by the handler, and that the dog responds promptly to the handler's command or signal to come.

The orders are: "Leave your dog," "Call your dog," and "Finish."

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position in a place designated by the judge. The judge will ask "Are you ready?" before giving the first order. On the judge's order, the handler may give a command and/or signal to the dog to stay in the sit position. The handler will then walk forward to the other end of the ring, turn to face the dog, and stand with the arms and hands hanging naturally. On the judge's order or signal, the handler will either command or signal the dog to come. The dog must come directly, at a brisk trot or gallop and sit straight, centered in front of the handler. The dog must be close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching or moving either foot. On the judge's order, the handler will give a command or signal to finish. The dog must go smartly to heel position and sit. The

manner in which the dog finishes will be optional, provided it is prompt and that the dog sits straight at heel.

Judging Procedures: Reference the *Obedience Judges' Guidelines*, Chapter 3.

Section 11. Recall, Scoring. A dog must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score if it is given an additional command and/or signal to stay, if it fails to come on the first command or signal, if it moves from the place it was left before being called or signaled to come, or if it does not sit close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching or moving either foot.

Substantial deductions will be made for a handler's extra command or signal to sit or finish and for a dog that fails to remain sitting and either stands or lies down, fails to come at a brisk trot or gallop, fails to sit in front, or fails to finish or sit at heel.

Minor or substantial deductions will be made for slow or poor sits, for finishes that are not prompt or smart, for touching the handler on coming in or while finishing, and for sitting between the handler's feet.

Section 12. Sit Stay – Get Your Leash. The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sit position.

The orders are: "Sit your dog," "Leave your dog to get your leash," and "Back to your dog."

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position in a place designated by the judge. The judge will ask "Are you ready?" before giving the first order. On the judge's order the handler may command and/or signal the dog to sit without touching either the dog or the dog's collar. On further order to "Leave your dog to get your leash," the handler may give a command and/or signal to stay and will walk forward immediately to the place designated by the judge for the leash, pick up the leash, turn, and face the dog. The judge will give the order "Back to your dog." The handler must return directly, walking around and in back of the dog to heel position. The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the judge has said "Exercise finished." The judge will tell the handler "Clip your leash to the collar and maintain control of your dog." The handler is required to exit the ring with the dog under control and without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash.

Judging Procedures: The judge will instruct the steward to place the leash at the designated location after the Heel on Leash and Figure Eight exercise. The handler and dog will be positioned at least 30 feet from and facing the direction of the gate entrance. The judge must be in position to watch the dog and handler throughout the exercise including exiting the ring.

<u>Ring Length</u>	<u>Maximum # of Dogs Single Row</u>	<u>Maximum # of Dogs Back-to-Back Row</u>
<u>50'</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>45'</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>40'</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>35'</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>30'</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>

The group exercise will be conducted after the last individual team in the class, or combined classes, is judged. If there are more dogs competing than can be handled in one group exercise, the judge will divide the class into approximately equal sections.

If two classes in the same classification have different judges, each judge must judge the group exercise separately. A judge with only a single dog competing in a class would be required to have the dog perform the group exercise alone. If the same judge is judging both Novice A and B classes (in the same classification) and the combined total of the dogs returning for the group exercise can be judged in only one group without exceeding the limit of dogs based on the size of the ring, the judge may combine the two classes for the group exercise.

This exercise must be performed with the dog on a 6-foot leash. The leash will remain clipped to the dog's collar and the handler will hold on to the leash throughout the entire exercise. The armband will remain on the handler's left arm. The dogs will be lined up in judging program order. Prior to beginning the exercise, the judge will instruct the handlers to remove their dog if it starts to move out of position. The judge will ask "Are you ready?" before giving the first order. On the judge's order, the handlers will command and/or signal their dogs to sit without touching either the dog or the dog's collar. On further order to "Leave your dogs," the handlers may give a command and/or signal to stay and will walk forward immediately to the end of the leash, without jerking or tightening the leash, turn, and face their dogs. The leash must remain loose with slack throughout the entire exercise.

After one minute from the time the judge ordered the handlers to leave their dogs, the judge will give the order "Back to your dogs." The handlers must return directly, walking around and in back of their own dog to heel position. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the judge has said "Exercise finished." This order will not be given until the handlers are back in heel position. The dogs must remain under control between this two-part exercise.

Before starting the Down Stay portion of this exercise the judge will ask "Are you ready?" On the judge's order, the handlers will command and/or signal their dog to down without touching either the dog or the

dog's collar. On further order to "Leave your dogs," the handlers may give a command and/or signal to stay and will walk forward immediately to the end of the leash, without jerking or tightening the leash, turn, and face their dogs. The leash must remain loose with slack throughout the entire exercise.

After one minute from the time the judge ordered the handlers to leave their dogs, the judge will give the order, "Back to your dogs." The handlers must return directly, walking around and in back of their own dog to heel position. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the judge has said "Exercise finished." This order will not be given until the handlers are back in heel position. The judge will tell the exhibitors "Maintain control of your dogs." The handlers are required to exit the ring with their dogs under control and without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash.

Judging Procedures: *If a judge observes any signs of aggression or potential problems when the dogs are being assembled outside the ring for the group exercise or once the dogs are brought into the ring, the judge must excuse the dog and mark the judge's book "Excused" and state the reason.*

Any handlers who physically correct their dogs before or after the group exercise or while leaving the ring must be penalized under Miscellaneous Penalties.

Judges must stand with their full attention on the dogs and handlers during the group exercise and remain alert to any potential problems. To have both dog and handler under constant observation in this exercise, a judge should take a position slightly to the rear of the dogs at one end of the row(s) of dogs.

Section 15. Group Exercise – Sit and Down Stay, Scoring. A non-qualifying score (NQ) is required for the following: The dog moving a substantial distance away from the place where it was left any time during the exercise, not remaining in the required position until the handler has returned to heel position, and repeatedly barking or whining.

Substantial deductions will be made for the following: A dog that must be repositioned by its handler if it is out of position enough to interfere with an adjacent dog (in extreme cases the dog may be released), that moves even a short distance from where it was left, that barks or whines only once or twice, or that changes position after the handler has returned to heel position and before the judge has said, "Exercise finished." A substantial deduction will be made for jerking or tightening of the leash before the judge has said "Exercise finished:" depending on the extent, the deduction may include a non-qualifying (NQ) score. A substantial deduction, under Miscellaneous Penalties, must be made for a dog that does not remain under control while leaving the ring.

Section 13. Sit Stay – Get Your Leash, Scoring. A non-qualifying score (NQ) is required for the following: The dog moving a substantial distance away from the place where it was left any time during the exercise, not remaining in the sit position until the handler has returned to heel position, and repeatedly barking or whining.

Scoring of the exercise for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to make it sit starts with the first order, "Sit your dog." These will be penalized substantially and in extreme cases the dog may be released.

Substantial deductions will be made for a dog that moves even a short distance from where it was left, that barks or whines only once or twice, or that changes from the sit position after the handler has returned to the heel position and before the judge has said, "Exercise finished." A substantial deduction, under Miscellaneous Penalties, must be made for a dog that does not remain under control while leaving the ring.

Section 14. Group Exercise – Sit and Down Stay. The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sitting or down position, whichever is required at the time.

The orders are: "Sit your dogs," "Down your dogs," "Leave your dogs," and "Back to your dogs."

If a dog has non-qualified (NQ) in an individual exercise the judge must release the dog from performing the group exercise. A dog that does not remain sitting during the first part of this exercise must be released from participating in the second part.

Handlers of dogs that have qualified during the individual exercises will have the option of returning for the group exercise. After completion of the last individual exercise, if the dog has qualified, the judge will ask if the handler will be returning for the group exercise. Once handlers have notified the judge of their decision not to return for the group exercise they may not change their minds. Dogs that have been released or excused and handlers who have left the ring during the individual exercises may not return for the group exercise. See Judges' Guidelines, Judge's Book.

Dogs must be spaced with a minimum of six (6) feet between each dog and a minimum of four (4) feet from the ring barriers. Judges will position the dogs in the approximate center of the ring in one row or back-to-back in two rows with a minimum of six (6) feet between the rows. If the back-to-back formation is used, it must be used for all groups in the class. On a 50' side of the ring the maximum # of dogs allowed in a single row would be six (6) and in a back-to-back row twelve (12) dogs (see table);

Minor or substantial deductions, depending on the circumstances, will be made for touching the dog or its collar while getting the dog into the down position.

Scoring of the exercise for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to make it sit or lie down starts with the first order, sit or down your dogs. These will be penalized substantially and in extreme cases the dog may be released.

The timing of each stay exercise begins on the judge's order, "Leave your dogs."

USRVDTTC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 18, 2019

The regular monthly board meeting of the Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club was called to order by President, Marilynne Manguba, at 7:03 p.m., on Thursday, April 18, 2019, at The Zone, in Idaho Falls ID.

Suzanne Belger moved to approve the previous Board meeting minutes as published in the newsletter. Nicki Bowden Seconded. Passed.

Board Members Present:

Marilynne Manguba

Suzanne Belger

Steven Olson

Nicki Bowden

Report of President: None

Report of Vice President: None

Report of Secretary: None

Report of Treasurer: Report held for regular meeting.

Report of Committees: None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Suzanne Belger moved to Adjournment. Steven Olson seconded. Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

USRVDTC REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 18, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club was called to order by President, Marilynne Manguba, at 7:05 p.m., on Thursday, April 18, 2019, at The Zone, in Idaho Falls ID.

Members Present:

Marilynne Manguba	Shel Williams	Elise Desautel
LeeAnn Chaffin	Cheryl Loomis	Duane Loomis
Brian Meyers	Melissa Meyers	Layla Johnson
Heike Vitacolonna	Ed Vitacolonna	Jim Norrell
Sun Norrell	George Haller	Glenda Haller
Steve Olson	Lois Olson	Carl Frederick
John Baughman	Diana Robinson	Mary Ann Igoe
Suzanne Belger	Nicki Bowden	Aubrey Parry

Desirae Chase

Introduction of Guests/Visitors: Lacey Moon was a visitor. She has a Golden Retriever and is interested in taking obedience classes next session.

Suzanne Belger moved to approve the minutes as published in the newsletter. Glenda Haller seconded.
Passed

Report from the Board Meeting: None

Report of the President: Marilynne let everyone know about a recent call she received from a woman that said she's having a hard time getting her dog housetrained. He is 8 weeks old and she has had him for 3 weeks already.

Report of the Vice President: None

Report of the Secretary: None

Report of the Treasurer: Suzanne provided treasurers report

Report of Committees:

Suzanne Belger reported for LaDawn Moad on the Agility Trial. Thanks to everyone who helped with set up and take down. Special thanks to Carl for all his help. The agility trial made about \$2700. It was a good trial. Number of dogs is per agility trial remains largely the same. Carl Frederick reported that the Salt Lake people

came and supported us even though they had a last minute trial in their area. We have loyal supporters that always come to our trial. There were many new people from Jackson and Pocatello getting into agility.

Agility classes are going well, they just started this week. Carl has a new barrel for the agility trailer.

Cheryl Loomis reported that full courses will be held the last week of each month. If anyone has old clean run magazines get them to Cheryl and she will use the courses for our practices.

Suzanne Belger reported that the Scent Work premium is already out and we already have many entries so if you are interested please get your entries in quickly. Pocatello's obedience and rally premiums for June are out as well.

Heike Vitacolonna reported we are ready to get classes for June published. Elise would like to instruct basic obedience. Shel Williams and Nicki Bowden will teach a rally class in the June session. We will hold two basic obedience classes at 6:00 and two at 7:00 in June. Rally class will also be at 7:00.

We will possibly add a trick dog class in an upcoming session.

Shell Williams reported that CGC testing went very well. We tested 19 dogs 17 passed .

Glenda Haller reported that the Rabies Clinic is May 8 from 1 – 7 . She needs help and sent around a volunteer list. All vets in the area already have fliers posted. Vet Suzie Mackin from Countryside Vet is the vet this year. There will be city and county officials there to do license. Microchips are not being offered.

Lois Olson reported that Tracking starts on Saturday and it will be at Bonneville High School at 2:00 pm as there are Easter Egg hunts earlier.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Suzanne Belger spoke about what it means to be an active member says we need to have people sign up and work for the club for 6 months before they get free classes. We need to decide if we are going to enforce our rules or how we are going to go forward. We need to know who is coming into our club.

Elise Desautel made a motion to table the discussion until next meeting when the board can come forward with a plan. Motion was seconded by Layla Johnson. Passed.

Layla seconds the motion.

Membership Applications Read/Approved: the Eckman family was voted in.

Carl Frederick motioned for Adjournment. Steve Olson seconded. Passed

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Location of Next Club Meeting: The Zone