



UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY DOG TRAINING CLUB



CONTACT INFORMATION

President

Nicki Bowden
208.709.7914

Nedwob88@gmail.com

Vice President

Layla Johnson
262.247.5151

mattpaulj@gmail.com

Treasurer

Suzanne Belger
208.521.8872

desertmtmalinois@gmail.com

Secretary

Lacey Moon
208.520.6500

Philandlaceymoon@hotmail.com

Board Members

Nichole Crossley (1 year)
208.315.7355

homedawgeducation@gmail.com

Marilynne Manguba (2 years)

208.221.5142

marilynnem@gmail.com

Melissa Meyers (3 years)

208.520.8481

melissameyers@cablone.net

Newsletter Editor

Desirae Chase
chasede@d93mail.com

www.USRVDTC.org

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2021

AUGUST MEETING AND TRIAL SET UP

August 19th – the trial set up will start at 5:30pm
with the general meeting to follow

Upcoming Trials

USRVDTC Obedience/Rally- August 20th -22nd

USRVDTC Tracking - Sept. 26th

USRVDTC Agility- Oct. 29th-31st

For more information and premiums for these
events please visit [https://www.usrvdte.org/site/trials-
certification/](https://www.usrvdte.org/site/trials-certification/)

Upcoming Classes

Upcoming classes start August 24th and 25th
-Sign up at USRVDTc.org

***Self certification for *active* membership is
available to fill out online at USRVDTc.org

Just a Dog

From time to time, people tell me, "lighten up, it's just a dog." Or "that's a lot of money for just a dog."

They don't understand the distance traveled, the time spent or the cost involved for "just a dog."

Some of my proudest moments have come about with "just a dog."

Many hours have passed and my only company was "just a dog" but, I did not once feel slighted.

Some of my saddest moments have been brought about by "just a dog," and in those days of darkness, the gentle touch of "just a dog" gave me comfort and reason to overcome the day.



If you too, think it's "just a dog", then you will probably understand phrases like "just a friend" "just a sunrise, or "just a promise"

"Just a dog" brings into my life the very essence of friendship, trust and pure unbridled joy.

"Just a dog" brings out the compassion and patience that make me a better person.

Because of "just a dog" I will rise early, take long walks and look longingly to the future.

So for me and folks like me, it's not "just a dog" but an embodiment of all the hopes and dreams of the future, the fond memories of the past, and the pure joy of the moment.

"Just a dog" brings out what's good in me and diverts my thoughts away from myself and the worries of the day.

I hope that someday they can understand that it's not "just a dog" but the thing that gives me humanity and keeps me from being "just a man."

So the next time you hear the phrase "just a dog," just smile.

Because they "just don't understand." - Unknown Author

WTF fun fact #8891

The average dog can count to 5 and understands about 165 words, including signs, signals and gestures. The smartest dogs understand up to 250 words, putting them on par intellectually with 2-and-a-half-year-old humans.

Fun Facts and Comics Corner



Enjoy these memorable moments from the Christmas in July picnic



Don't let your dog get dehydrated on warm days

Our vets see a lot of cases of **heat stroke** during the summer months. Many of these are very serious and some end in tragedy.

One of the saddest aspects of this is heat stroke is easily avoidable if proper precautions are taken. So here are our top tips on how to keep dogs cool in the heat.

1. Circulate cool air

Open the windows, turn on a box fan or keep the air conditioning at a reasonable temperature. Your dog will appreciate having a cool place to relax indoors if it's scorching outside.

2. Keep dogs out of conservatories and greenhouses

These areas can get dangerously hot even when it may only feel mild outside. Bear in mind that there are no cooling breezes inside these sun traps and they magnify the heat.

Worried your dog has heat stroke?

Find your nearest clinic for immediate treatment.

Enter City, Town, or Postcode

3. Prevent sunburn

Don't forget dogs are susceptible to sunburn, particularly those with white ears and noses. This can lead to painful blistering and sores, and long-term exposure can lead to skin cancers. It is possible to buy pet sunscreen to apply to the hairless areas on the end of the ears and nose. It's also advisable to keep white-faced dogs indoors during the heat of the afternoon.

4. Never leave dogs in a parked car

Temperatures inside cars can reach astronomical levels on a warm summer's day, and it can take just 15 minutes for a dog to start overheating. Watch our video to see what happened to one of our members of staff when he was stuck inside a car in the height of summer.

5. Leave a bowl of water out for your dog to drink from



It's common sense but you should check your dog's water bowl regularly and fill it up whenever it's low. If you take your dog for a long walk, please remember to pack water and a bowl to ensure he doesn't overheat and suffer dehydration.

6. Try giving your dog cool snacks

If you are at home or out in the garden try giving your dog a few ice cubes to lick or freeze one of his favourite chew toys.



7. Watch when you exercise

Make sure your dog doesn't play too hard while in the sun. During particularly hot spells walk them early in the morning or later in the evening. And make sure they take breaks between playing. This includes swimming, particularly if your dog doesn't venture into the water regularly. Swimming in a safe place can be fun but overdoing it can cause exhaustion, low blood sugar and 'swimmer's tail' where the tail can be painful or immobile.

8. Check the pavement

On very warm days, there is a risk the pavement may be too hot for your dog's paws. It's worth checking the tarmac before you head out for a walk. If it's too hot for your hand, it's too hot for your dog's paws. If that is the case stick to grass.

During the heat of summer, dogs can't regulate their temperature like humans.

9. Ensure there's a shaded spot

If there are no naturally occurring shaded spots in your garden, or even in your house, create one by placing some cloth or cardboard over an area to keep the sun out.

10. Spray them with the hose or put out a paddling pool

If you're using a paddling pool for your dog, remember to test the temperature. It takes a lot longer for water to warm up than it does the surrounding air. When water is too cold it can cause dogs to become hypothermic.

11. Avoid long car journeys

If you decide to take your dog in the car, make sure the air conditioning is on or the windows are open. Also, take plenty of water and regular breaks for fresh air.

How Do Wildfires and Smoke Affect Dogs?

By [AKC Staff](#)

Jul 21, 2021 | 3 Minutes

When wildfires ravage an area, both humans and pets are at risk of being displaced and inhaling dangerous amounts of smoke. Remember — if you feel the effects of smoke, your pets probably do, too. And if you ever [have to evacuate your home](#), your pets should always go with you.



If you're in an area impacted by wildfires or smoke, don't panic. Here's how to prepare for an emergency, protect your pup from dangerous air quality, and evacuate safely.

What To Do With Your Pets When the Air Is Smoky

During wildfires, the air quality is often dangerous and hazardous to breathe. Some studies estimate that breathing the smoke-filled air is equivalent to smoking more than eight cigarettes a day — and that's for a human! Brachycephalic breeds (such as [Pugs](#) and [Bulldogs](#)), puppies, and senior dogs may be especially at risk of inhaling too much smoke.

Here's what to do if you experience poor air quality due to smoke:

- Keep your pets inside as much as possible, with your windows shut
- If your dog needs to go to the bathroom, only let them out for short periods of time
- Avoid long walks and activities outdoors
- Watch for signs of smoke inhalation (see below)

There are many ways to [keep your pets busy and active while indoors!](#)

Signs Your Pet May Have Inhaled Too Much Smoke

[Call your veterinarian](#) right away if your dog exhibits any of the following symptoms:

- Coughing
- Trouble breathing
- Wheezing or loud breathing
- Fatigue or disorientation
- Reduced appetite
- Reduced thirst
- Red eyes, excessive tearing or blinking, or pawing at eyes (indicate cornea trauma)

Do Facemasks Protect Dogs Against Smoke?

While most people have gotten used to [wearing facemasks](#) to combat COVID-19, they can also be a tool for protecting humans against poor air quality. However, no evidence has been seen that masks protect against carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, and cyanide, which are some of the most dangerous aspects of smoke inhalation. Not enough research has been done to support any effectiveness on masks to protect animals. The best plan is to keep both you and your animals indoors as much as possible.

Preparing Your Pets For Fire Evacuation

It's important to remember that your pets are a part of your family, so if you have to evacuate, your animals should go with you. This is why you should have [an evacuation plan](#) ready before you even think you may need it.

Make sure your dog is [microchipped](#). A microchip allows veterinarians and shelter workers to scan your pet and access your contact information. It could be essential to being reunited with your dog if you get separated. Keep your dog's microchip registration up to date with your most recent phone number



and address. But don't forget the low-tech option too. Your dog should be wearing a collar with up-to-date identification tags. Finally, have copies of all your dog's important documents. Consider including:

- Vaccination certificates and most recent [heartworm test](#) results.
- Information about any health concerns, medications, or behavior problems.
- Contact information for your veterinarian.
- Identification information including proof of ownership and a current photo of you with your dog in case your dog gets lost.

Pack a Fire Evacuation Kit

A [pet disaster preparedness kit](#) should include everything your dog will need in an emergency evacuation. Consider your dog's basic needs, safety, and any medical issues. Keep it in an easy-to-carry waterproof container and store it where you can easily get to it. Your dog's go-bag should include items such as:

- Bottled drinking water (during an emergency, tap water can be contaminated).
- Food in waterproof containers or cans. (Choose pop-top tins or pack a can opener.) Bring enough for at least two weeks.
- [Food and water bowls](#).
- Prescription medications and other required health supplies such as [tick medication](#) and [heartworm preventative](#).
- A [dog first aid kit](#).
- [Poop bags](#) and other clean-up supplies.
- Familiar items like toys, bedding, and blankets to comfort your dog.
- Stress-relieving items like an [anxiety vest](#) or [calming sprays](#) if your dog is prone to anxiety.

How to Evacuate With a Dog

Always bring your pets with you when evacuating your home. Pack your pet's emergency kit and documents and make sure you have a pet-friendly place to stay. Whether you're staying with family, at a shelter, or a [pet-friendly hotel](#), there are several options for traveling with your pets.

In the unfortunate event that you are separated from your pet or lose your pet, contact [AKC Reunite](#). Above all, stay vigilant, stay indoors if you can, and call your veterinarian if you notice any changes in your dog.

Have a non-urgent medical question? [AKC Vetline](#) is a live, 24/7 service staffed by licensed veterinary staff and pet professionals. Get unlimited access to answers about

your pet's health and wellness whenever and wherever you need it from a source you know you can trust.

IMPORTANT MEETING SCHEDULE CHANGES

As approved by the board, here is the schedule for meetings moving forward.

Board Meetings	General Board Meetings
January	February
March	April
May	June
July	August
September	October
November	November

USRVDTC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date 7/15/21

The regular bi-monthly board meeting of the Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club was called to order by President, Nicki Bowden, on Thursday, July 15, 2021 at 447 Park Ave, Idaho Falls at 7:23pm.

Previous Board Minutes Read/Dispensed: Lacey needs to change “as chair of agility and rally trials” in New Business to read “as chair of Obedience/Rally trial” because Lucien isn’t the chair of agility.

Motion by: Suzanne Belger to accept the minutes as corrected.

Seconded by: Layla Johnson

Board Members Present:

Layla Johnson Suzanne Belger Nicki Bowden Lacey Moon Marilynne Manguba

Guests Present:

LaDawn Moad

Report of President: None

Report of Vice President: Low response to Christmas in July party –lots of people going to be out of town. We’ll send out another reminder but probably not going to get out agility gear but still play games and enjoy each other’s company.

Report of Secretary: None

Report of Treasurer: Profit-Loss \$12,722.41 Balance \$113,557.26 Suzanne suggest we spend some money. Maybe we look into getting a scent work trailer-- Something small and easy to transport. Books were audited to date.

Report of Committees:

Obedience/Rally – Desi and Nicki are ready for the trials. They have been updated by Lucien on everything that has been done and what still needs to be done. We’ll need some volunteers to help at the trial. Park still needs to be reserved but judges are approved and Premium is out.

Agility – October trial. Judge application is in. Premium open August 1.

Tracking – Nicki is new chair for trial and will contact AKC to update their info. Marilynne is working on getting a field for trial. Premium is going out August 1.

Unfinished Business:

Classes—1st week of August is War Bonnet Round Up at Sandy Downs. We can't have class their 8/3 & 8/4. Classes will move to Tautphaus Park for that week. Instructors will be notified. Nicki and Marilynne will make sure trailer gets to Tautphaus.

New Business:

What happens when we get applications for membership if we're not meeting every month? Can we read them at a board meeting or print it in the newsletter one month and vote the next? Nicki and Suzanne reviewed the Bylaws and it states that it must be read in a club meeting. So, we'll read the applications one month and wait a month and then read again and vote at the next club meeting but the petitioners can begin their volunteer work going toward membership requirements before vote.

Suzanne made a motion for Nichole Crossley to fill the board position left vacant by Lucien's move. She stated that she had already asked Nichole if she'd like to be on the board and she agreed. Lacey seconded. Vote passed.

Suzanne sent a partial refund to a class attendee whose dog became aggressive and attacked another dog during obedience class. The owner (and dog) were excused from class and escorted away.

A nominating committee for board offices needs to be established. They will be chosen and published in the September newsletter. In October nominations from the floor will be accepted. Voting for officers will take place at November club meeting.

We need to have Club Member of the Year nominations brought forward. A reminder will need to be put into the newsletter.

Motion for Adjournment: Suzanne Belger

Seconded by: Layla Johnson

Time Adjourned: 8:57 pm

