



# UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY DOG TRAINING CLUB



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## **JUNE NEWSLETTER 2025**

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### **June Regular Meeting**

June 19, 2025, at 7PM

At Papa Tom's

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June Cluster is June 12-15, 2025

at the

Eastern Idaho State Fairgrounds in  
Blackfoot, ID

## Member Accomplishments

At the IKC trials in Utah, Quincy earned her second Rally Intermediate leg, Touche' qualified in Choice, Master, Excellent and Advance Rally and earned a Master FAST leg. London earned a Master FAST leg.



Itza earned her Novice FAST Title at the PKC Agility Trial with 58 points in 17 seconds!



# Tips For Keeping Your Dog Safe This Summer

By [Jan Reisen](#)



Summer is the time to have [outdoor fun with our dogs](#). Longer walks in the park, ambitious [hikes](#), [beach days](#), or family [travel](#) – the sun is shining, and the outdoors is calling.

But hot weather can also make us uncomfortable, and it poses [special risks for dogs](#). From increased exposure to [ticks](#) and other insects to [sunburn](#) and even [heatstroke](#), all sorts of things can go wrong for your dog in summer. Keep the following safety concerns in mind as the temperature rises, and follow our [tips for summer safety for dogs](#). They will help you keep your pet happier and healthier during the dog days of summer.

## Help Your Dog Beat the Heat

- Give your dog a shady spot to hang out on hot days or keep them inside where there's air-conditioning. Doghouses are not good shelter in the summer because they can trap heat.
- Fill a child-size wading pool or [pool designed for dogs](#) with fresh water for your dog to cool off in.

- [Never leave your dog in a closed vehicle](#) on a hot day. The temperature inside a car can reach 100 degrees Fahrenheit in just 20 minutes.
- Provide plenty of cool, fresh water, perhaps in an [insulated dog bowl](#).
- Avoid exercising your dog strenuously on extremely hot days. Take walks in the early mornings or evenings, when the sun's heat is less intense.
- Avoid [exposing your dog to hot asphalt or sand](#), which can burn their paws, for any prolonged period.
- Be mindful of your dog's breed. Dogs that are [brachycephalic](#) (have a short head and snout), such as [Bulldogs](#), [Boxers](#), [Japanese Chin](#), and [Pekingese](#), have an especially hard time in the heat because they do not pant as efficiently as longer-nosed dogs. Keep your brachycephalic dog inside with air-conditioning.



### Keep Your Dog Healthy in Summer

- Make sure your dog's [vaccinations](#) are up-to-date, especially since dogs tend to stay outdoors longer and come into contact with other animals more during the summer months.
- Keep dogs off of lawns that have been chemically treated or fertilized for 24 hours (or according to package instructions), and away from toxic [plants and flowers](#).
- Keep your dog's coat [well-brushed](#), [clean](#), and free of mats.
- Ask your veterinarian about which preventative medication against [fleas, ticks, and mosquitoes](#) that carry [heartworm](#) will be best for your dog. The [AKC Pet](#)

[Healthcare Plan](#) can help with the cost of providing quality healthcare, including preventive medicine, throughout your dog's life.

### Safety Tips for Taking Dogs to the Beach

- Give your dog a shady spot to rest, like a [beach tent](#) or their own [outdoor beach pen](#).
- Provide plenty of [fresh water](#).
- Protect them against sunburn. Dogs, especially those with short hair, white fur, and pink skin, can get sunburned. Limit your dog's sun exposure during the day and apply [sunscreen](#) to their ears, nose, and coat before going outside.
- Check with a lifeguard for water conditions. Dogs are easy targets for sea lice and jellyfish.
- Keep a check on their activity. Running on the sand is strenuous exercise. A dog that is out of shape can pull a tendon or ligament, and running on wet sand can make their paw pads blister.
- Don't let your dog drink [seawater](#), since [salt will make them sick](#).
- [Rinse them off](#) at the end of the day. Salt and other minerals in ocean water can damage your dog's coat.
- Check local ordinances before heading out. Not all beaches allow dogs, and some restrict the time they can be there.



## Keep Your Dog Safe in the Water

- Let your dog [go for a swim](#). Some dogs are natural swimmers, while others won't get a toe wet. Never force your dog into the water. Follow these [water safety tips](#) and be mindful of your dog's preferences and skills before sending them out to ride the waves.
- Don't let your dog overdo it. Swimming is hard work, and they may tire quickly. When swimming in the ocean, be careful of strong tides.
- Never leave your dog unattended in water.
- Put your dog in a [life jacket](#).

## Traveling in Summer With Your Dog

### Traveling With Your Dog on a Plane

- Be aware that many [airlines](#) will not ship animals during summer months due to dangers caused by hot weather. Some will only allow dogs to fly in the early morning or in the evening. Check with the airlines for specific rules.
- Put ice packs wrapped in a towel or an ice blanket or [cooling mat](#) in the [dog's crate](#) if you do ship a dog. Two-liter soft drink bottles filled with water and then frozen work well.
- Provide a container of fresh water, as well as a container of frozen water that will thaw over the course of the trip.

### Traveling With Your Dog By Car

- Keep your dog cool [in the car](#) by putting ice packs wrapped in a towel in their crate. Make sure the crate is well-ventilated.
- Use a [cooling pad](#) as a bed or crate liner.
- Put a sunshade on your car windows.
- Bring along fresh water and a [bowl](#), and a tarp or [tent](#), so you can set up a shady spot when you stop. Keep a spray bottle filled with water to spritz your dog with to cool them down.

### Traveling With Your Dog in an RV

- Never leave an RV or motor home completely closed up, even if the generator and air-conditioning are running. Crack a window or door or run the exhaust fan.
- Even though there's lots of space to walk around, when you're moving, your dog should be attached to a [dog-safe seat belt](#) or ride in a secured crate. If you have to make a sudden stop, they'll be protected.
- Check out the location of the nearest veterinary office, if you plan to stay in one place for any length of time. You should also plan ahead and verify that campgrounds are pet-friendly.



## Be Alert to Dehydration and Heatstroke

### Dehydration

Dogs can become [dehydrated](#) when more fluids leave the body than it takes in. They lose fluids through [panting](#), urinating, and even [sweat](#) evaporation through their paws. If you see any of the following symptoms, the dog needs rehydration and replacement of electrolytes right away:

- Panting
- Dry gums and nose
- Thick saliva
- [Lethargy](#)
- Sunken eyes
- Loss of elasticity in the skin

Just giving your dog a bowl of water may not be enough. They need their electrolytes replaced, as well. Use a product like electrolyte-enhanced water or an electrolyte solution. Check with your veterinarian for dosage recommendations. You may also need to go to an emergency vet who can administer intravenous fluids.

### Heatstroke

Heatstroke can be the serious and often fatal result of a dog's prolonged exposure to excessive heat. Heatstroke usually occurs when high ambient temperature overcomes

the dog's ability to dissipate heat. The degree of damage is determined by how high a temperature is reached and how long the animal is exposed. Below are the signs of heatstroke and the actions you should take if your dog is overcome.

**Early Stages:**

- Heavy panting
- Rapid breathing
- Excessive drooling
- Bright red gums and tongue
- Difficulty maintaining balance

**Advanced Stages:**

- White or blue gums
- Lethargy or unwillingness to move.
- [Uncontrollable urination](#) or defecation
- Labored, noisy breathing
- Shock



If your dog begins to exhibit signs of heatstroke, you should try immediately to cool them down. Cooling methods include getting them into the shade, using [cooling mats](#), spraying them with cool or tepid water, and fanning them. Severely affected dogs require fluids, medication, support, and oxygen.

Check your dog's temperature regularly during this process. Once it's stabilized at between 100-to-102 degrees, you can stop the cool-down process. If you can't get the dog cooled down, and you begin to see signs of advanced heatstroke, take the dog to a veterinarian immediately.

The best treatment for heatstroke is prevention. Limit the time your dog works or exercises in hot weather. Choose cooler periods of the day for training and exercise sessions. Provide plenty of cool, fresh water, shade, and frequent rest periods when it's hot.

Nothing beats canine companionship on vacations, in the great outdoors, and on the beach. As a [responsible dog owner](#), you can ensure that your vacation with your best friend will be enjoyable for both of you.

## **USRVDTC BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date 5/15/2025

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, May 15, 2025 at 7:24pm at the Papa Kelsey's in Idaho Falls.

Previous Board Minutes Read/Dispensed: Motion to accept board minutes as they were printed in the April newsletter.

Motion by: Richard Brizzee

Board Members Present:

Lacey Moon Nicki Bowden Cheryl Loomis Richard Brizzee Suzanne Belger  
John Baughman

Visitors/Members Present:

Phil Moon Steve Olson Lois Olson

**Report of President:** None

**Report of Vice President:** Summer Picnic is coming up. We'll schedule it for 7/17/25 at Tautphaus Park. Richard will reserve the shelter and get the food set up. We'll have our July meeting to follow.

**Report of Secretary:** None

**Report of Treasurer:** YTD income: \$1709.43 Total Equity: \$109,507.18 Balance Sheets are filed with secretary notes and available upon request.

**Report of Committees:**

Classes – Vests have come in and they're embroidered. They're really cool and will be helpful in classes. Cheryl --Classes are going great and dogs and handlers have been consistent. CGC will be June 4<sup>th</sup>. New set of classes will start June 18 at Sandy Downs. Cheryl will be teaching obedience class at 5pm and Rally at 6pm. Cheryl is wondering how we can get more people involved in teaching and also attending classes. Cheryl is planning to change the obedience class to be more focused toward CGC (a well behaved dog that can be walked out in public) rather than for advancement in Obedience.

Scentwork – June Cluster is coming up June 12,13,14,15<sup>th</sup>. We're ready with location, judges, entries. Application is coming up for October trial and Nicki will get it filled out when the location is set.

Obedience Trial – August 15,16,17<sup>th</sup> at Tautphaus Park. Tiffany doing great getting it set up. Premium is out.

Tracking – Lois- going well. There are 6 people coming and they have 3 weeks left.

**Unfinished Business:**

How do we get more people to sign up for classes/join the classes?

- Phil is going to start a Facebook ad campaign to get people to see our club and sign up for classes.
- Should we move the next classes back to Tautphaus Park to get more exposure? We'll scope out the park and see how busy they are on Wednesday nights. If there is a place for obedience, rally and agility, we'll plan to move the classes there.
- We should probably do classes that aren't offered anywhere else too (scent work, agility, tracking, rally).

Cheryl – We need to get the leashes and collars out of the trailer so we can get them engraved and ready for the August trial.

Summer Agility Match to test out arenas. Nicki and Suzanne are going to go over dates this weekend.

**New Business:**

Nicki – we need to decide what old agility equipment we can sell and put a price on it. We will list it in the newsletter and then on the website. We want to sell first to our members and then open it to the public.

Motion for Adjournment: Suzanne Belger

Seconded by: Richard Brizzee

Time Adjourned: 8:11