



The Greater Gainesville Dog Fanciers' Association, Inc.

August 2011

Newsletter for Dog Lovers

G.G.D.F.A.

P.O. Box 358332

Gainesville, Florida

32635-8332

www.ggdfa.org

General Meeting Dates:

2nd Tuesday each month
7:30 pm at the United Way
Building, 6031 NW 1st Street,
Gainesville, FL

Board Meeting Dates:

4th Tuesday each month

Club Officers

President — John McKamey
1st VP — Pam Rice
2nd VP — Denise Gaboury
Secretary — Ellen Eriksson
Treasurer — Doris Horton

Club Directors

Barbara Matthews
Russ Milner
Brenda Satterfield
Carol Siflinger

Newsletter Editor

Claire Hedrick

Membership Chair

Brenda Satterfield



AUGUST MEETING

IS PICNIC NIGHT!!

7:30 PM

August 08, 2011

We will have a picnic night instead of our regular meeting just to relax and spend some time networking. It is at the same location at the United Way.

For information:

Contact: Maria Cadette
Cell—352-562-5545

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

"Dog Days" (Latin: diēs caniculārēs) are the hottest, most sultry days of summer. In the northern hemisphere, they usually fall between early July and early September. In the southern hemisphere they are usually between January and early March. The actual dates vary greatly from region to region, depending on latitude and climate. Dog Days can also define a time period or event that is very hot or stagnant, or marked by dull lack of progress. The name comes from the ancient belief that Sirius, also called the Dog Star, in close proximity to the sun was responsible for the hot weather.



Dog Heatstroke Survival Guide

Know how to treat and prevent this dangerous condition.

By Robert Newman

Contributed by Nancy Groff

What is heatstroke?

In simple terms, heatstroke occurs when a dog loses its natural ability to regulate its body temperature. Dogs don't sweat all over their bodies the way humans do. Canine body temperature is primarily regulated through respiration (i.e., panting). If a dog's respiratory tract cannot evacuate heat quickly enough, heatstroke can occur.

To know whether or not your dog is suffering from heatstroke (as opposed to merely heat exposure), it's important to know the signs of heatstroke.

A dog's normal resting temperature is about 100.5 to 102.5 degrees Fahrenheit. Once a dog's temperature rises above 105 degrees, physiological changes start to take place, and the dog begins to experience the effects of heatstroke. At 106 to 108 degrees, the dog begins to suffer irreversible damage to the kidneys, liver, gastrointestinal tract, heart and brain.

If a dog is experiencing heatstroke, you may observe excessive panting; hyperventilation; increased salivation; dry gums that become pale, grayish and tacky; rapid or erratic pulse; weakness; confusion; inattention; vomiting; diarrhea; and possible rectal bleeding. If the dog continues to overheat, breathing efforts become slowed or absent, and finally, seizures or coma can occur.

The amount of damage a dog sustains when stricken with heatstroke depends on the magnitude and duration of the exposure. The longer and more severe the exposure, the worse the damage will be.

What to do

1. Pay attention to your dog. Recognizing the symptoms of heatstroke and responding quickly is essential for the best possible outcome.
2. Get into the shade. If you think your dog is suffering from heatstroke, move it into a shaded area and out of direct sunlight. Apply cool water to the inner thighs and stomach of the dog, where there's a higher concentration of relatively superficial, large blood vessels. Apply cool water to the foot pads, as well.
3. Use running water. A faucet or hose is the best way to wet down your dog's body. Never submerge your dog in water, such as in a pool or tub - this could cool the dog too rapidly, leading to further complications, including cardiac arrest and bloating.

4. Use cool - not cold - water. Many people make the mistake of using cold water or ice to cool the dog. When faced with a dog suffering from heatstroke, remember that the goal is to cool the dog. Using ice or extremely cold water is actually counterproductive to this process because ice and cold water cause the blood vessels to constrict, which slows blood flow, thus slowing the cooling process.
5. Don't cover the dog. One of the keys to successfully cooling your dog is ensuring the water being placed on the dog can evaporate. Never cover an overheated dog with a wet towel or blanket. This inhibits evaporation and creates a sauna effect around your dog's body. Likewise, don't wet the dog down and put it into an enclosed area, such as a kennel. Any air flow during the cooling process is helpful in reducing the dog's body temperature. Sitting with the wet dog in a running car with the air conditioner blowing is an ideal cooling situation.
6. Keep the dog moving. It's important to try to encourage your dog to stand or walk slowly as it cools down. This is because the circulating blood tends to pool in certain areas if the dog is lying down, thus preventing the cooled blood from circulating back to the core.
7. Allow the dog to drink small amounts of water. Cooling the dog is the first priority. Hydration is the next. Don't allow the dog to gulp water. Instead, offer small amounts of water that's cool, but not cold. If the dog drinks too much water too rapidly, it could lead to vomiting or bloat.
8. Avoid giving human performance drinks. Performance beverages designed for humans are not recommended because they are not formulated with the canine's physiology in mind. If you can't get an overheated dog to drink water, try offering chicken- or beef-based broths.

See a veterinarian.

Once your dog's temperature begins to drop, cease the cooling efforts and bring the dog to a veterinarian as soon as possible. Your dog's temperature should be allowed to slowly return to normal once cooling has begun. A dog that's cooled too quickly may become hypothermic.

Even if your dog appears to be fully recovered, the veterinarian needs to check to determine if the heatstroke caused any damage to your dog's kidneys and liver. The effects of heatstroke can continue for 48 to 72 hours longer, even if your dog appears normal.

William Grant, DVM, a veterinarian for 20 years and former president of the Southern California Veterinary Medical Association, has treated hundreds of cases of heatstroke, ranging from mild to fatal.

According to Grant, the most common cause of death following heatstroke is disseminated intravascular coagulopathy (blood coagulating throughout the body), or DIC, which can occur hours or days after the heatstroke episode.



DIC can also be caused by pyometra or septicemia, but Grant says heatstroke is the most common cause. "Once a dog develops DIC, it may bleed in the thorax, abdomen, nose and intestine," Grant says. "Once the blood-clotting factors are consumed, there is an inability of the blood vessels to prevent leaking; the condition is almost always fatal." For this reason, follow-up veterinary care is essential following a heatstroke episode, even if your dog seems to be completely fine.

Prevention is the best medicine.

The best treatment for heatstroke is prevention. Especially during the summer months, it's essential to be aware of the potential for heatstroke. Knowing the signs of heatstroke, and taking the necessary steps to prevent it, will ensure your dog can have a safe and active life year-round.



Jackie, Jack Russell Terrier

Published www.dailypuppy.com



	TYPE	CITY	DATE	CLOSES
Dog Training Club Of St. Petersburg	RLY	St Petersburg	8/27/2011	Wed 08/10
Dog Training Club Of St. Petersburg, Inc.	O	St Petersburg	8/27/2011	Wed 08/10
Calusa Dog Agility Club	AG	Arcadia	8/27/2011	Wed 08/10
Dog Training Club Of St. Petersburg	RLY	St Petersburg	8/28/2011	Wed 08/10
Dog Training Club Of St. Petersburg, Inc.	O	St Petersburg	8/28/2011	Wed 08/10
Calusa Dog Agility Club	AG	Arcadia	8/28/2011	Wed 08/10
Indian River Coon Hunters Association	CHBS	Scottsmoor	9/10/2011	Sat 09/10
Sunshine State Coursing Club Of Central Florida	LCTS/LCTR	Ocala	9/10/2011	Wed 09/07
Sunshine State Coursing Club Of Central Florida	LCTS/LCTR	Ocala	9/11/2011	Wed 09/07
Sarasota Obedience Training Club	AG	Palmetto	9/17/2011	Sat 09/03
Mid-florida Golden Retriever Club	HT	Montverde	9/17/2011	Mon 09/05
Sarasota Obedience Training Club	AG	Palmetto	9/18/2011	Sat 09/03
Mid-florida Golden Retriever Club	HT	Montverde	9/18/2011	Mon 09/05
Central Florida Working Group Association	LB/SWPC	Deland	9/22/2011	Wed 09/07
Greater Ocala Dog Club, Inc.	AG	Ocala	9/23/2011	Wed 09/07
South Atlantic Cocker Spaniel Club Of Jacksonville, Fla.	S/SWPC	Deland	9/23/2011	Wed 09/07
Great Dane Club Of North Central Florida	S/SWPC	Deland	9/23/2011	Wed 09/07
Northeast Florida Boxer Club (SHOW # 2)	S	Deland	9/23/2011	Wed 09/07
Northeast Florida Boxer Club (SHOW #1)	S	Deland	9/23/2011	Wed 09/07
West Volusia Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Deland	9/24/2011	Wed 09/07
Greater Ocala Dog Club, Inc.	AG	Ocala	9/24/2011	Wed 09/07
West Volusia Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Deland	9/25/2011	Wed 09/07
Greater Ocala Dog Club, Inc.	AG	Ocala	9/25/2011	Wed 09/07
Dog Obedience Club Of Hollywood, Inc.	AG	Davie	10/1/2011	Sat 09/17
Dog Obedience Club Of Hollywood, Inc.	AG	Davie	10/2/2011	Sat 09/17
Suwannee Valley Kennel Club Of Florida	AB/O/JSHW	Lake City	10/8/2011	Wed 09/21
Orlando Dog Training Club	O	Orlando	10/8/2011	Wed 09/21
Orlando Dog Training Club	RLY	Orlando	10/8/2011	Wed 09/21
Suwannee Valley Kennel Club Of Florida	RLY	Lake City	10/8/2011	Wed 09/21
Sunshine Belgian Tervuren Club	HRTS/HRTR	Hilliard	10/8/2011	Wed 09/14
Calusa Dog Agility Club	AG	N Fort Myers	10/8/2011	Fri 09/23
Suwannee Valley Kennel Club Of Florida	AB/O/JSHW	Lake City	10/9/2011	Wed 09/21
Orlando Dog Training Club	RLY	Orlando	10/9/2011	Wed 09/21
Orlando Dog Training Club	O	Orlando	10/9/2011	Wed 09/21
Suwannee Valley Kennel Club Of Florida	RLY	Lake City	10/9/2011	Wed 09/21
Sunshine Belgian Tervuren Club	HRTS/HRTR	Hilliard	10/9/2011	Wed 09/14
Calusa Dog Agility Club	AG	N Fort Myers	10/9/2011	Fri 09/23

Secretary's Notice of GGDFa Meetings

The next General Meeting of the GGDFa will be **Tuesday, August 8th**, promptly at 7:30 pm at United Way Building, 6031 NW 1st Street, Gainesville, FL

The next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, **August 23rd**.



Training Classes

Conformation classes—no classes at this time

Obedience/Rally classes— Thursdays 6:00 pm
with Denise Gaboury

LOCATION:
OAK HALL SCHOOL - Covered and lighted
Tower Road , Gainesville

Newsletter

The views and opinions in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Newsletter Editor or those of the GGDFa Officers and Board of Directors.

The editor reserves the right to edit or withhold copy that which may be detrimental to the standards of this publication. The deadline for submission of articles, announcements, and brags to the newsletter is the 15th of each month. Materials received after that date will appear in the following month's publication, depending upon space availability.

You can email the editor at claire@ggdfa.org.



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED