



Northwest Tails

Volume 5, Issue 2

Apr-Jun 2005

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Limber Tail Syndrome—by Patti Schaefer, D.V.M.

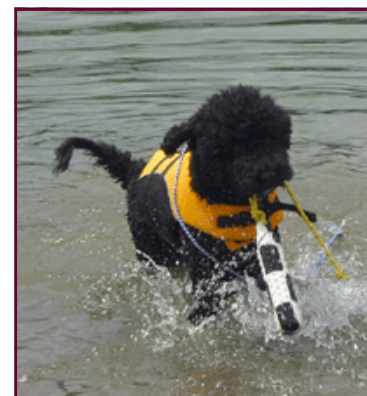
Now that summer is approaching and training for water work has resumed, it is a good time to become aware of one of the problems generally associated with cold water swimming.

Limber tail (also known as cold tail) is a condition familiar to the sporting breeds working in water, but can affect any breed and has been seen in our Portuguese Water Dogs. It can occur when dogs start swimming in cold water, or are exposed to cold water on the body, but also happens with heavy exercise in the field. The tail becomes flaccid and is painful, mainly at the base. Dogs are reluctant to move their tails due to the discomfort. Duration can be anywhere from a couple of days to a couple of weeks.

Although the exact pre-

disposing causes are not known, some of the associated factors suggested include prolonged crating, underconditioned status, hard workouts or overtraining, cold water exposure, gender (males affected more than females), tail conformation and nutritional status.

No one knew what occurred in the body with limber tail until recently, when Dr. Janet Steiss, a researcher at Auburn University, examined some affected Pointers and was able to identify what happened. She found that these dogs had elevations in serum creatine kinase and with the use of histopathology and thermography identified muscle fiber damage in the coccygeal muscles, with the laterally positioned intertransversarius ventralis caudalis muscles being the most



Trooper splashes at the recent June Water Workshop

affected.

Treatment includes the use of conventional anti-inflammatories (NSAIDS), or with natural medicines like bromelain, Traumeel, or arnica. Rest is also recommended to allow the muscles to heal.

Suggested preventative measures include proper conditioning, frequent exercises breaks from crating, avoiding overexertion, and drying off and keeping the body warm after water work.



Otis and Willie at the beach

*"It's great to have such a motivated bunch of members and everyone manages to play just as hard as they work."
Suzanne Malick*

President's Message—Suzanne Malick

Things were really "jumpin' in June" for our club with three activities: water workshop and trial, supported entry and agility fun day. Thanks to all who volunteered and made these events successful. Whenever I volunteer at club events, I am always certain at the end of the weekend that there were members who worked lots harder than I did. It's great to have such a motivated bunch of members and everyone manages to play just as hard as they work.

For those of you that missed out on the June events, there are details in this newsletter on upcoming PWD fun and games with the club picnic and general membership meeting and our annual fall water trial (which is a good place to come and socialize even if you have a Portuguese Land Dog).

Our newsletter editors have provided us with some timely topics for the season. If you are vacationing and need to leave your dog behind, you will appreciate Kath-

ryn Monroe's article on boarding your dog. Many of us are more active in the water with our dogs in the summer months and club member Patti Schaefer's article on "swimmer's tail" will help you learn to recognize and treat this ailment. A pet CPR class is a good idea for owners who are active with their dogs and you'll get some pointers on how to find a class near you.

See you at the lake!

Club Picnic at Kayak Point—July 31, 2005

The Pacific Northwest Portuguese Water Dog Club will host the annual picnic at Kayak Point County Park. The **general membership meeting will be at 11:00 a.m.** and the picnic will start immediately after.

There is a \$5.00 parking fee requested by the park.

The club will provide the basic lunch, drinks, plates, napkins, and plasticware. Please bring something to share: appetizers, desert, fruit, salad, chips, or anything else you want. The beach picnic shelter number 10, which is the last one at the northern end of the park, is reserved from 9 a.m.

What to bring: Beach chairs, Towels, Crates, Food to share, \$5.00 parking fee.

Please observe the park leash law and keep your PWD on leash. In the past they allowed us to have our dogs off leash for a limited period of time, as long as they are in or near the water and under voice control.

Directions to the park: From I-5 take exit #199 (the Marysville exit) and head west on Marine Drive approximately 13 miles. At this intersection turn left into Kayak Point Park.

Pay your parking fee and follow the road down to the beach. Our shelter is all the way to your right on the beach side.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Johanna Kaestner at 425.836.4890 or johanna@byreconly.com

Treasurer Report 1-1-05 thru 6-17-05

Income		License	10.00
2004 Specialty	5,589.32	Newsletter	80.65
Grooming Event Income	100.00	Picnic	47.00
Membership Dues	1,344.00	Playday	125.00
Ship's Locker	45.00	Postage	37.00
Supported Entry	410.00	Specialty	229.00
Water Trial Income	2,900.00	Supported Entry Expense	695.83
TOTAL INCOME	10,388.32	Water Trials	4,052.26
EXPENSES		Water Workshop	25.00
Christmas Party	541.22	TOTAL EXPENSES	6,678.74
Club Web Site	76.95	OVERALL TOTAL	3,709.58
Grooming Event	198.83		
Insurance	560.00	Checking Acct Balance	\$15,790.99



Shuma and Kisha having a cool drink.

Pet CPR Classes

Pet First Aid classes are available through many local Red Cross offices. The class is 4 hours in length and costs \$38.

Among the things you will learn are:

- How to approach a sick or injured animal;
- Administering medications;
- Recognizing an emergency;
- Performing CPR and first aid;
- Treating common problems and emergencies requiring immediate attention; and
- What to stock in a pet first aid kit.

The Red Cross offers a soft-covered first aid book with lay-flat binding that is 128 pages long, and features more than 130 illustrations. It was written by Bobbie Mammato, DVM, MPH. To purchase the Pet First Aid book, contact your local Red Cross chapter or ask for it (ISBN 1-57857-000-X) at your local bookstore.

The following Pet First Aid courses will be offered in July and August:

- July 9 (Saturday) 12-4pm, at the Puget Sound Pet Pavilion, 2505 S. 80th, Tacoma 98409
- July 26 (Tuesday) 6-10pm, at the Olympia Office of the American Red Cross Mount Rainier Chapter, 2618 12th Court SW, Olympia 98502
- August 6 (Saturday) 1-5pm, at The Humane Society for Tacoma-Pierce County, 2608 Center St., Tacoma 98409

Individuals should contact the American Red Cross Mount Rainier Chapter to register by calling (253) 474-0600 in Pierce

County, (360) 352-8577 in Thurston & Mason Counties, and (360) 748-4607 in Lewis County. On-line registration is available at www.rainier-redcross.org

- July 9 (Saturday) 10am-2pm, at the West Sound Red Cross, 811 Pacific Ave, Bremerton, WA 98337
- July 20 (Wednesday) 6-10pm, at the Seattle Red Cross, 1900-25th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98144
- August 13 (Saturday) 10am-2pm, at the West Sound Red Cross, 811 Pacific Ave, Bremerton, WA 98337

Individuals should contact the American Red Cross of King and Kitsap Counties to register by calling 206-726-3534 or 360-377-3761. Online registration is available at <http://www.seattlredcross.org>

American Red Cross Chapter contact information for Washington and Oregon-

OREGON

Oregon Trail Chapter, Portland, info@redcross-pdx.org, 3131 N. Vancouver Ave., Portland, OR 97227, 503-284-1234

WASHINGTON

Seattle-King County Chapter, Seattle, 1900 25th Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98144-4708, 206-323-2345

Skagit Valley Chapter, Mount Vernon, info@skagitredcross.org, 119 S 14th St, Mount Vernon, WA 98274, 360-424-5291

Tacoma/Pierce County Chapter, Tacoma, 1235 South Tacoma Way, Tacoma, WA 98409, 253-474-0400

Whitman County Chapter, Colfax, wawiar@colfax.com, 115 NW State Street, Suite 313, Box 29, Pullman, WA 99163, 509-332-2304 or 877-397-2901



Together, we can save a life

www.redcross.org provides information on Disaster Preparedness for your animals.

Pet First Aid makes a perfect gift for everybody you know with a cat or dog!



Available on Amazon for \$12.95 new.



Ellie with her rubber ducky.

*Water Trial at
Flowing Lake—
Snohomish, WA*

Sept 10-11

*Judge: Charles
Robinson*

*Water Match
Sept 9*

*Go to
www.pwdnw.com
or*

*Contact
Amanda Ford
at
Amanda_a_ford@hotmail.com
for more
information*



Chili poolside.

Tips for a Carefree Kennel Stay—by Kathryn Monroe (©1999)

If you plan to board your doggie while you're on vacation, here are a few tips I've learned from my own experiences and from working in a boarding kennel.

1. Make reservations early! Many kennels are already at or near capacity for the summer months. Note special arrangements at the time you reserve space; for example, dogs from the same family may share a kennel at most facilities. If your dogs do not room well together (one hogs the bed, another eats all the food), arrangements can be made to have them in kennels across from each other so that they can see one another.
2. Ask about special health requirements. Most kennels require immunization against bordetella, also known as kennel cough. If the immunization is given in shot form, the incubation period is 10 days. Some kennels will require the 10-day waiting period even if the immunization is given in the nasal form, especially if the dog has not been immunized previously.
3. Provide proof of current rabies and DHLPC inoculations (some will accept titer records, some will not). If you do not have the certificates, provide your veterinarian's phone and fax number. Note, too, that some veterinarians will not release shot records unless they have a written request from the dog's owner.
4. Ask about toys and treats. While kennels vary in terms of what can be left with your dog, these are fairly standard items: only new toys or chewies in original wrappings or that are purchased at the kennel facility when you drop off your dog; bedding that is freshly washed or new; medications that are clearly identified with the dog's name and dosage instructions. You may provide your own food, clearly marked with the dog's name. Send only as much as your dog will need and a bit more for travel delay. Please don't bring in a 40 # bag for a 3 day stay!
5. Bring phone numbers where you can be reached in case of emergency with you when you drop off your dog, and information on how to contact your veterinarian. It is also a good idea to discuss with your veterinarian your wishes and instructions if an emergency occurs and you cannot be reached.
6. If your doggie is a first time boarder, give it a little taste of what it's all about by dropping it off for a short afternoon stay well in advance of your trip, perhaps while you do an afternoon of pre-trip shopping. This lets your doggie experience the facility and to know that you will be coming back for it. Also, many kennels have a "quiet room" for the nervous or shy boarder, and that might be a good place to spend that first visit.

Finally, when you leave your dog, be matter of fact! Don't make a big scene or your doggie may become unnecessarily upset. Just hand over the leash, tell your dog to have fun, and leave.

My dogs are boarded when I go to judge water trials. As soon as the kennel leads are on and their collars and leashes have been returned to me, these veterans of kenneling leave without so much as a backwards glance. "Bye, Mom, we're going to camp!"

Editor note: Kathy, who was instrumental in developing the PWDCA water trial rules, conducts training seminars, judges, and lives with four Water Dogs: Courier/CD-titled Skye, Champion Grace, and puppies Leo and Julie.

June Water Workshop and Trial

PNWPWDC hosted a two day water workshop with Deborah Lee Miller-Riley, followed by a one day trial on June 5, 2005, in Woodland WA. The trial site was beautiful, even if the weather was not, and we enjoyed fishing ospreys, bald eagles, and herons throughout the weekend. A lovely setting, and as usual, great people and pups.

It was quite a successful trial, with 8 of 16 teams qualifying... an outstanding 50% pass rate! What a great start to the 2005 season, despite the iffy weather. Many thanks to the hard working people who made this possible, and of course thanks to Deborah Lee for her enthusiastic judging style and limitless encouragement to all the teams.

Qualifying teams were:

Junior	Helm's Alee Skipper	Cathi Jzyk
Junior	Ch Jewel de Agua Frango	Suzie Aarts
Junior	Helm's Alee Weigh Anchor	Linda Ericson
Apprentice	Adia Bay's Breeze Right By	Dixie Matson
Apprentice	Int/Am/Can Ch Benhils Stillwater Chiquita CD	Angela Harding
Apprentice	Stargazer's Hot Shot	Anne Herberholz
Courier (1st leg)	Armada's Brigandine CD TD WWD SROM	Tammy Hibberson
Versatility	Ch Bayswater Jubilee Jude CDX OA OAJ CWDX	Dixie Matson

And congratulations to all who braved the elements to have fun with their dogs!

See you all September 10 and 11 at Flowing Lake.

Amanda Ford
PNWPWDC Trial Secretary
Carnation, WA



Deborah Lee teaching Cadie "left" and "right" .



Roxie gets her bumper!

*Cathi Jzyk
and Skipper
awarded
Team Spirit
at June 2005
Water Trial*

A Training Opportunity—Janet Boyd-Kristensen

During a recent agility trial weekend, we discovered contact training is available at the Red Lion in Aberdeen! Yep, you heard it here first.

Saturday's Open Std run revealed the need for some remedial dogwalk work and of course that is NOT an obstacle you can pack in your van, or at least not one I pack;-) Sitting in my room Saturday night I suddenly "saw" a dogwalk ramp hanging on the wall! Of course the staff at the Red Lion call it an ironing board, but in my world it has much more function as a dogwalk ramp than ironing clothes. I propped the ramp on the edge of the bed and with the aid of Chicken Soft Tacos, Cadie was doing rapid-fire up/down ramps and

shredded lettuce was everywhere! I cleaned up the lettuce and returned the dogwalk ramp to it's hanger on the wall and settled in for the evening to dreams of success the next day. It worked!

Seems our judge for the weekend, Pam Richcreek, had stories to share of other hotels that provide more equipment! Entire course can be setup in the hallways – ironing board/bench/ironing board for a complete dogwalk – chairs and bedspreads for tunnels. Will the Portland Doubletree ever want agility dogs back on their property?

Off to our next agility adventure—Janet and Cadie



Linda Kelly, Janis Watts, Judy Siebert, and Val Tangen sunning themselves at the recent water workshop.



Dixie and Jude training at the water workshop

What a thrill to see such a large entry at the Supported Entry show in Puyallup. Job well done to the hard-working organizers!



Cadie hits the contact.
(Creative Indulgence)

Supported Entry Results

Puppy Sweepstakes - Judge Ms. Kristi Trivilino

Best Puppy in Sweepstakes: RainCity's All That Jazz
 Best Opposite Sex to Best in Sweepstakes: Del Sur's Illustrado

Veteran Sweepstakes - Judge Ms. Kristi Trivilino

Best Veteran in Sweepstakes: Int/Am./Can. Ch Helm's Alee Summer Rain
 Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Sweepstakes: Ch Benhil's Stillwater Forte CDX

Regular Breed Competition - Judge Miss Kimberly Meredith-Cavanna

Best of Breed: Ch Del Sur's Keno of Cascade
 Best of Opposite Sex: Ch Do Gato's Catwoman
 Best of Winners/Winner's Dog (5 pts): Tanaki's Bayliner At Commocean
 Winners Bitch (5 pts and New CH, pending AKC confirmation): Driftwood Saltyseas Sand-piper
 Reserve Winners Dog: Stargazer Indy on Starboard
 Reserve Winners Bitch/ Best Bred By Exhibitor: Fishbay's Co River Ind Tribes

Obedience and Agility Awards

High Scoring PWD in Obedience (regular classes): Willow's End Kasey Mae-Hem
 High Scoring PWD in Agility: DoMarco's Red Sky At Night, NA, OAJ, AWD.
 High Scoring PWD in Rally Obedience: Ch. Bayswater Jubilee Jude, CDX, OA, OAJ, CWDX

AKC Championship Point Schedule for PWDs—effective May 16, 2005

(Dogs-Bitches) 1pt, 2pts, 3pts, 4pts, 5pts
 Div. 8 (CO, ID, NEV, OR, UT, WA, WY): 2-2, 4-6, 7-9, 8-11, 10-15
 Div. 10 (AK): 2-2, 3-3, 4-4, 5-5, 6-6
 Div. 13 (MT, ND, SD): 2-2, 3-3, 4-4, 6-8, 7-9

New Titles— earned Apr-Jun 2005

<i>Conformation-</i>	Cadie Boyd-Kristensen earned her RN	Salty Curry earned her OA and OAJ
Piper Lankester earned her AKC CH	<i>Agility-</i>	Sa-vannah Foisie earned her AX
<i>Obedience -</i>	Sailor Roach earned his NAJ and OA	Joy Schaeffer earned herMXJ
Bean Kahn earned her Canadian CDX	Nami Schaeffer earned his OAJ and NA	<i>Water</i> —See June Water Trial results page 5 this issue.
Ace Kahn earned his Canadian CD	Goose Roach earned his NAJ	

Tail Wind—Warm Weather Watch Editorial—Joanne Forsythe

Here comes warm weather! For our dogs, pleasure and for us? possible panic. Let's run down the checklist of doggie-factoids and see how to have fun in the sun.

Our breed has some distinctive hot weather considerations. Though lacking a sheddable undercoat, our Water Dogs continue to grow hair year round. You know this, having spent your family fortune on grooming fees, or you've outfitted your home with clippers, brushes, multiple scissors, and perhaps a blow dryer as well. Most grooming advice suggests a summer "do", a buzz cut for your PWD at about one inch overall. Some people leave a little more hair on the legs and muzzle, if they like the balance this look purveys, but remember: the shorter the hair, the quicker the dry-time!

For a breed which may have spent a good deal of its working life on the water, our dogs seem remarkably susceptible to the heat of the summer sun. Black dogs absorb more heat than our browns or particoloreds. You must be ever vigilant in assessing your dog's viability when the temperature climbs above 70 degrees.

There are numerous helpful devices on the market now to help keep your dog cool in the vehicle, at the family picnic, or at dog shows, obedience, agility, or water trials this summer. Old-fashioned evaporation cooling drives the new technology of crate pads. There are bandanna collars and body jackets filled with water-retaining crystals, which keep your PWD damp and delighted. A white or reflecting fabric jacket may help, should you have to be out in the noonday sun. Our Parti-colored pets can endure more sunlight due to the light coat, right? Wrong. Pink skin, especially around the nose, can sunburn easily and predispose your dog to skin cancer.

You've read up (or attended a class--see elsewhere in this issue) on the dangers of heat-related crises. Be aware, however, of earlier signs of distress: lowered tail, slower gait, lowered head carriage. Long before the clinical signs of heat stress or heatstroke manifest, you should have "read" your dog properly and stopped your activity to seek shade. If you jog, you're doing it in sport sandals or athletic shoes with something between you and the hot pavement. Regard your dog's feet: they are bare. If you can't hold your palm on the pavement comfortably, don't expect your dog's pads, sturdy as they are, to endure that heat. Ditto for beach sand, or sun-drenched rocks even at mountain altitudes where the air feels cool. If the beach you visit is devoid of cafe or snack bar, bring water or ice for your dog. Too many sea-drinks can make a pooch woozy. Sea lice and jellyfish are other dangers lurking under the waves. In other seasons, your dogs enjoy watching the world go by from the vehicle whilst you're dining in the restaurant. This gives way in summer to the drive-up fast food window or the sandwich from home, or bring two keys so you can keep the air conditioning running full tilt. When I'm on a cross-continental drive, I cover my side rear windows with reflective cloth on the "sun-side". Consider buying a chunk of ice in the heat of the day if you're headed for the back country. Encased in a plastic trash bag, it won't leak, and you'll have it in case you break down. I know this sounds like the Wild West, but an hour waiting for your auto club to rescue you could mean life or death for your dog in the prairie sun. Traveling before dawn (watch for deer!) until midday makes more sense than driving through the heat of the afternoon. You've read these admonitions elsewhere, so I won't belabor the point: when parked, the sun can shift, the vehicle can become an oven, and heartache and guilt can last your lifetime.

Another topic your veterinarian or health advisor should have discussed with you: salmon poisoning. Please ask for details! Two microscopic organisms, *Neorickettsia helminthoeca* and *Neorickettsia elokominica* reside in flukes, which inhabit only this part of the world. Eating raw salmon and trout from rivers and streams on the Pacific Coast can cause transmit these flukes and cause early death. Antibiotics are effective, but only if you identify the problem early on. Be aware. Fleas thrive greatly in warmth and humidity. It takes approximately three weeks of consistent warm temperature combined with relative humidity of 70% to stimulate egg laying and hatching. If you find a flea on your dog, there are probably more on the way! Those evening massages you give your pup can be a good time for inspecting its body under that furry coat, for signs of fleas or ticks. The market is full of many kinds of parasite deterrents and killers--take your pick after perusing the literature and talking with your veterinary clinic. This is one critter that can join the humans in the household, causing allergic reactions for you and tapeworms for your dog. Get rid of them! If you prefer natural methods, diatomaceous earth can be very effective on the surroundings.

Rattlesnakes live East of the mountains--be watchful. Deadly brown recluse spiders can lurk under woodpiles or forest brush. There is a holistic viewpoint that dogs with autoimmune or thyroid problems are better suited to daily, not monthly, heartworm medication, so again, choose a vet whose philosophy melds with yours.

Now that I've gotten you on the edge of your chair--relax! This can be a fun season for you, the kids, your dog and its doggy pals. Just use your good sense, and try to put yourself in the dog's webbed feet when making decisions about summer safety. Before you know it, fog will start rolling in from the coast, and spiders will start their August dawn webs, heralding the end of summer. As Shakespeare said, "Summer's lease hath all too short a date"--so enjoy the season now!

Joanne Forsythe Reprinted from Tidelines



Paolo taking a sunny siesta.

**Saturday
August 27th**

Fun Match

**All-breed
Puppy,
Conformation,
Obedience,
Rally.**

**In conjunction
with
Sammamish KC
All-Breed Dog
Show.**

**Marymoor
Park,
Redmond, WA.
(Near the
Veladrome.)
Registration
begins at
9AM—match
begins at 10AM**



Minnow defines the Dog Days of Summer!

PACIFIC NORTHWEST
PORTUGUESE WATER DOG
CLUB

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Club Calendar—2005

July 31—Club Picnic and General Membership Meeting. Contact Olaf and Johanna Kaestner.

September 9-11—Match and Water Trial at Flowing Lake. Charles Robinson to judge. Contact Mandy Ford at amanda_a_ford@hotmail.com

December—Holiday Party and General Membership Meeting. Contact Cindy Thorson at c.thorson@verizon.net

Additional Events of Interest-



Deborah Lee and Jim Smith discussing the choice of chips at the water workshop.

Sept 17-23 — PWDCA National Specialty. Rocky Gap Resort, Maryland. www.makeitmaryland.com

October 27—Canadian National PWD Specialty, in conjunction with Abbotsford weekend-4 shows. Go to www.pwdcbc.com for details.