

Phoenix Bulldog Club
A bit of news
for May, 2015

A BIG WELCOME to PBC's new members....Gini Acton, Rosemary Dorson, and Travis Certo! It's great to have you!

The next PBC meeting will be on Wednesday, May 20th starting at 7:00PM at Bass Pro Shop upstairs in the meeting room. **We will be showing a video of Dr. Jack Brown judging Bulldogs at the BCA Denver National.** This is a rare treat! PBC is still considering various locations and judges for the 2016 specialty show. If you have any ideas on that, please let Connie Booker know.

Ida and Howard Morrow were guests at the March meeting. They work with bullies, train service dogs, and are involved in dog rescue. Ida shared her treatment for mange:

Make a 50/50 solution of vinegar and Dial antibacterial soap.

Put the solution on your dog and let it soak in for 10 minutes. Then rinse off.

If you dog's eyes turn pink, rinse it off immediately.

Do this twice a week for 4 weeks to cure mange.

Also works on ringworm and other skin imbalances.

There have been discussions at the meetings about the decreasing number of entries at conformation shows. I did a little investigating on numbers. The following is the total number of Bulldogs per show. Absent dogs are in the total.

Black Mountain KC, Nevada on Oct. 11 had a total of 61 Bulldogs.

Madera Canyon KC in Tucson on Nov. 8 had 5 Bulldogs listed and 4 were absent.

Tucson KC on Nov. 15 had a total of 15 Bulldogs.

The Kachina Kennel Club shows on Jan. 10 and 11 had a total of 11 Bulldogs each day.

The Sahuaro KC on Feb. 7 had 17 Bulldogs.

Lost Dutchman KC on Feb. 8 had 16 Bulldogs.

PBC Specialty shows on Feb. 26 had 31 Bulldogs plus 8 Champions for a total of 39 (listed in the catalog).

Superstition KC on Feb. 28 had a total of 39 Bulldogs.

As summer approaches, people think of ways to get their Bulldog off the sofa occasionally and yet keep their dogs comfortably cool. Anyone who owns a Bulldog must know that Bulldogs are not built for swimming. They have big heavy heads with a heavy broad chest compared to their hindquarters. Bulldogs usually sink like a rock in water. If you have a pool, be sure your Bulldog does not have free access to it. Swimming is good exercise for dogs, but a Bulldog in a pool needs **constant supervision** while wearing a dog life jacket. If you do take your dog into a pool, be sure to rinse them off thoroughly afterwards so the pool chemicals do not harm their skin.

Another water option is a dog cooling pool. These are similar to wading pools, but dog pools are made of materials strong enough to withstand dog nails. Dog cooling pools have many options including a misting system. When using a dog pool, you want to place it in the shade and replenish the water often so it is cooling to your dog. Otherwise it turns into warm bath-like water. Always supervise your Bulldog when he or she is outside for any reason in the summer and be alert for signs of heat stress. Be sure they can get to shade and have access to clean water at all times when outside. If you get a dog pool, it is important to keep it clean. This is easy to do with desert sunshine. The pool should be emptied after each use, rinsed out and allowed to dry completely. This will prevent bacteria or algae from growing in the pool and insects from breeding in the water. Let it dry in our hot desert sun to kill the bacteria. Occasionally the pool should be cleaned with a mild antibacterial soap and thoroughly rinsed, then dried. Dog toys used in the pool should be made of material durable enough to be wet. After use, rinse them and let them dry completely. Keep the toys clean so the pool water stays clean. And remember that even though your dog is lounging in only inches of water in his cooling pool, supervise him.



Bulldog Tail Care

This article comes from “Ask the Vet” by Nancy W. Newcomb, DVM, published in The Bulldogger, Number 124, June, 2008.

Question: My Bulldog has a screw tail. It seems fine most of the time. How can I keep it from getting infected?

This is unfortunately a very common problem in our breed. Actually I treat all tails the same... I always dry under the tail after bathing and apply Gold Bond powder to the area generously. If the tail needs to be cleaned occasionally, I will use my gloved finger to remove hair and debris.

Sometimes, no matter how careful you are the area will become infected with a moist dermatitis. All you may notice at first is a bad odor or the dog trying to rub it's bottom everywhere to get some relief. Later on you can actually see the discharge. Many times I have been in the ring and smelled that very smell coming from the dog or bitch in front of me. That is not the best time to helpfully point it out to the unsuspecting owner. It can happen to everyone sooner or later. Once on the way to a show one of our boys spilled his water. The next day he would not move correctly in the ring because of his uncomfortable tail. One of my girls got a bad case last year when we had a lot of rain, even though she does not have what I would consider a bad tail.

Treatments can vary as to the extent of the tail fold infection or dermatitis. In severe cases the area will need to be shaved and the dog started on oral antibiotics and a steroid injection for itching. Usually an Elizabethan collar is not needed as the poor dog cannot reach the tail to lick or chew at it. The tail needs to be gently cleaned by a trained professional. Sometimes a little sedation will be in order because it can be very painful. The tail is cleaned with some sort of gentle disinfectant, debris and hair removed and healing ointment applied using a gloved finger to reach the very deep folds in areas you most likely may not be able to see. This process may need to be repeated for several days until the amount of discharge and debris resolves. At this point your DVM can suggest how long to use the ointment and when it is best to switch to a drying powder. Neopredel powder is good to use until the area is healed and then Gold Bond Powder makes an excellent choice for daily to weekly use or after bathing. I use a hair dye bottle from the beauty supply with the tip cut off to enlarge the opening so the powder can be puffed out directly into the wrinkles.

See you at the next meeting on the 20th to watch Dr. Jack Brown's judging video.