



Sheltie Showdown



A publication of the Central Indiana Shetland Sheepdog Club

January 2015

Club Meetings

Our membership meetings are held at 7:30p.m. at Bark Tudor, 2122 Broad Ripple Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46220. Bark Tudor is located in a strip mall just west of the intersection of Keystone Avenue and Broad Ripple Avenue (62nd Street).

Membership Meetings for 2015: January 2nd, March Awards Banquet TBD, May 1st, Summer Picnic TBD, September 4th, November 6th.

Board meetings for 2015: February, April, June, August, October.



January 2nd Meeting Program

We will vote on our 2015 CISSC Board of Directors and Officers.



President's Corner

As 2014 draws to a close, I'm looking forward to a strong 2015 for CISSC. There are so many events and trials already in the works. Think about what kind of a void would left in the dog community, not to mention the Shetland Sheepdog community, if this club didn't exist. But, CISSC could not exist without a strong membership. And that starts with YOU.

One my hopes for the coming year is to see the club membership grow. With new members, we gain new insights and ideas. But, we can't attract those new ideas without a positive outlook on who we are and where we are going. That means addressing our issues (and all organizations have them) in a positive manner internally and projecting a fun and inviting atmosphere to the public. That starts with YOU.

A new board of directors and officers will be voted on at the first general membership meeting of 2015 on January 2. The officers and directors need input from all members to take the club in the right direction. Please, plan to attend this important meeting and help set the direction of the club for the next year and beyond. Your thoughts and input matters. Remember, that starts with YOU.

I've enjoyed my year as your president, and look forward to supporting the new panel of officers and directors in the coming year.

I wish you and yours a happy and prosperous 2015.

Kathy Underwood



American Kennel Club

https://images.akc.org/pdf/public_education/GDSAF2.pdf

Winter Care for Canines

A dog's need for food, shelter and loving care increases during the cold winter months. Keep your dog safe and warm by following these guidelines.

- Don't leave your dog outside in the cold for long periods of time. Wind chill makes days colder than actual temperature readings. Be attentive to your dog's body temperature, and limit its time outdoors.
- Adequate shelter is a necessity. Keep your dog warm, dry and away from drafts. Tiles and uncarpeted areas may become extremely cold, so make sure to place blankets and pads on floors in these areas.
- Be extra careful when walking or playing with your dog near frozen lakes, rivers or ponds. Your dog could slip or jump in and get seriously injured.
- Groom your dog regularly. Your dog needs a well-groomed coat to keep properly insulated. Short- or coarse-haired dogs may get extra cold, so consider a sweater or coat. Long-haired dogs should have excess hair around the toes and foot pads trimmed to ease snow removal and cleaning. If you do the trimming, take care not to cut the pads or other delicate areas of the foot.
- Feed your dog additional calories if it spends a lot of time outdoors or is a working animal. It takes more energy in the winter to keep body temperature regulated, so additional calories are necessary.
- Towel or blow-dry your dog if it gets wet from rain or snow. It is important to dry and clean its paws, too. This helps avoid tiny cuts and cracked pads. A little petroleum jelly may soften the pads and prevent further cracking.
- Don't leave your dog alone in a car. If the car engine is left on, the carbon monoxide could endanger your dog's life. If the engine is off, the temperature in the car could get too cold.
- Antifreeze, which often collects on driveways and roadways, is highly poisonous. Although it smells and tastes good to your dog, it can be lethal.
- Rock salt, used to melt ice on sidewalks and roads, may irritate footpads. Be sure to rinse and dry your dog's feet after a walk.
- Provide plenty of fresh water at all times. Your dog is just as likely to get dehydrated in the winter as in the summer. Snow is not a satisfactory substitute for water.

- To prevent hypothermia and frostbite on your dog's ears, tail and feet, don't leave your dog outdoors for too long.
- Be very careful of supplemental heat sources. Fireplaces and portable heaters can severely burn your dog. Make sure all fireplaces have screens, and keep portable heaters out of reach.
- Like people, dogs seem to be more susceptible to illness in the winter. Take your dog to a veterinarian if you notice any signs of illness.

THE HOLIDAYS

The winter season brings lots of fun holiday festivities, but pet-owners should keep in mind the following special precautions:

- Think twice when considering a dog as a gift. Though nothing tugs harder at heartstrings than a cute, cuddly puppy, every adorable bundle of fur is a lifetime responsibility. Dogs can live up to 20 years (depending on the breed), and it's crucial that you know the recipient truly wants and can care for the dog. This means providing plenty of exercise, training, veterinary care and lots of love and attention.
- Poinsettias, holly and mistletoe may make your dog sick if she chews on the leaves, flowers or berries. Place holiday plants out of your dog's reach.
- Review holiday gifts for dogs to make sure they are safe. Items such as plastic toys and small rawhide sticks may be dangerous.
- Remove holiday lights from lower branches of your tree, and watch out for electrical cords. Pets often try to chew them and may get shocked or electrocuted. Place wires out of their reach.
- Tree adornments, candles and other decorations can cause choking or severe intestinal problems, if swallowed. Avoid decorating your tree with strands of popcorn or other items that might tempt your dog's appetite. Tinsel and angel hair can lead to upset stomach and possible intestinal blockage if ingested.
- Avoid using glass ornaments. They break easily and may cut a dog's feet and mouth.
- Pets may find tree water tempting to drink. If you use preservatives in your tree's water, be sure they are pet-friendly.
- Though humans may enjoy cookies, chocolate, raisins and other sweets, these rich treats are dangerous for your canine. Chocolate contains theobromine, which can be harmful to dogs and sometimes fatal. • While people may indulge in holiday libations, no dog should ever have alcohol.
- Not every guest at your holiday party, especially young children, may be familiar with your dog's habits. When entertaining, consider confining your dog securely in his crate or in one area of the house with a radio or TV on and soft lighting.
- The holiday season can be a stressful time for dogs. Try to keep a normal schedule during all the excitement.

