

# FVDTC

# WAGGIN' TALES

May 2020



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Est. 1947

## **A Note From the President**

Hello All,

I hope this message finds you and your family healthy and well. I have just a few things to report. Even though FVDTC is currently closed due to COVID-19, and our Governor's Stay-At-Home orders, the board of FVDTC has been hard at work planning for our eventual reopening. The Board has been having virtual meetings each month. We have also convened a re-opening committee that consists of Phil Nuger, Will Short, Cindy Placko and myself. The four of us have been meeting virtually to come up with a safe re-opening plan. We then presented our plan to the full Board for approval. The finalized Re-Opening Plan is published in this newsletter. This plan will allow us to re-open as safely as possible, and follow the CDC and Governor's guidance. I really want to thank everyone on this committee for their hard work and efforts to come up with this plan!

Unfortunately, once we do re-open, it will not be business as usual at this time. In order to keep everyone as safe as possible and not spread this virus, we will have to implement many new changes. We also need to follow the CDC and our Governor's guidance. As far as a time frame for re-opening. We will not be re-opening until we reach Phase 4 of the Governor's plan. During Phase 4 we will be allowed to have 50 people or under in the building at any one time. Please review our re-opening plan very carefully. We need everyone to abide by all of these changes, without exceptions. I know it's going to be very different for all. For the time being, we will have to be a club that solely concentrates on training our dogs, and then leaves the building. Sadly, this means hanging out and socializing with our friends will not be able to take place at the club for the time being. Once we reach Phase 5 of the Governor's plan, we will be able to go back to a more normal setting. I'm truly sorry that we have to make these changes. But the alternative is to not re-open at all. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

For the time being, we also have had to postpone our Annual Dinner indefinitely. Right now, we are not allowed to have gathering with the number of individuals that typically attend this event and maintain social distancing. Only time will tell us how we can safely proceed.

A few more things, I want to thank Dave Lewis, our Woofmaster. He is working hard to create an online sign-up system for all of our Drop-In training spots and classes. This is not an easy task. More details will be available soon. But without his efforts, we would not be able to achieve our re-opening goals successfully. So thank you in advance Dave!

I would also like to thank Will Short, our DOT, he has been working hard to come up with new class schedules. He has also been working with all our instructors, and assistants, as we work on our reopening plan. We appreciate all the work he has been doing lately to help with our re-opening plan. Thank you Will!

Thank you all, and see you at training.....eventually,

*Wendy Waddick*

## **Board Meeting Highlights - May 13, 2020**

Meeting brought to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Carolyn Pearson (Secretary)**. The April Meeting minutes were approved as published. The following Board members were also present during the virtual Board Meeting conducted on Zoom meetings:

- Carla Tisoris (Second Vice-President)
- Will Short (Director of Training)
- Sue MacPherson (Membership Chairperson)
- Cindy Placko (Public Education Coordinator)
- Dave Lewis (Director at Large)

**Taffy Wille (Obedience Trial Chairperson)** reported that we have received signed contracts for all 2021 judges.

Taffy Wille stated that we have the following judges' contracts for the 2022 obedience and rally trials: Loretta Lazzara, Jim Comunale, Randy Capsel and Dianne Allen. We are awaiting the contract from Pat Kasten.

**Cathy Fleury (Agility Trial Chairperson)** reported that at this time, the plan is to host the Fall Agility Trial on September 11th, 12th and 13th.

### **Old Business**

The Re-Opening Committee, consisting of Phil Nuger, Will Short, Cindy Placko and Wendy Waddick, presented the FVDTC Re-opening training guidelines, the layout of the training building including the ingress and egress plans and class start times. Carolyn stated that the overhead south door cannot be considered as an exit or entrance due to the size of the door and building temperature control (e.g. air conditioners or heaters in use).

Wendy reported that as of May 12th, Governor Pritzker said that Kane County is in the region of Illinois that will move to Phase 3 sometime mid-June. However moving into Phase 3 only allows groups of 10 or less people. By the State of Illinois definition, Phase 4 will allow a maximum 50 to gather at one time. Unfortunately, the full re-opening of Illinois when everyone is allowed to gather will not occur until Phase 5.

### **New Business**

None

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

## **Membership Report**

Sometimes accidents happen. Lynn's application got lost under a car seat, but we're happy to welcome her now. A thousand apologies for the delay

**Lynn Harrigan**  
St Charles, IL  
Golden/ Pyrenees mix  
Completed beginner class

## ***FVDTC Re-Opening Guidelines and Rules***

Fox Valley Dog Training Club (FVDTC) will re-open when we have reached Phase 4 of the Governor's Re-Opening Plan. Phase 4 sets a limit of the number of individuals to 50 or under at any one time in our building. In order to comply with the Governor's Orders and the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) guidelines, we have outlined the following rules.

All must follow these guidelines in order to return to training. Thank you for your understanding and compliance so we can re-open as safely as possible.

### **Personal Safety**

Anyone exhibiting respiratory symptoms such as a cough, fever, sore throat, loss of taste and or smell, shortness of breath, or any COVID-19 related symptoms, must refrain from attending any FVDTC events. We urge those in the COVID-19 High Risk Group to speak with your physician for guidance as to when it is acceptable to attend FVDTC events.

### **Building Protocols**

- The building hours for training are 5:30 PM until 10:00 PM, no exceptions.
- Social distancing of 6' must be maintained inside the building, outside the building and in the parking lot.
- Masks are **REQUIRED** to be worn by everyone in the building, at all times.
  - Individuals are to provide their own mask.
  - Masks must be worn properly – covering the top of your nose and your entire mouth.
- A generous amount of hand sanitizer must be applied before:
  - Entering the building.
  - Touching any other club equipment, such as when adjusting any jumps.
- No touching dogs or belongings of others , e.g.
  - No petting
  - No pass the puppy
  - No touching articles

- No Conformation inspection
- No stand for exam
- Figure-8 to be performed with cones (i.e. not people)
- Recalls without assistance – i.e. no holding leads of others, nor stepping on leads.
- No collar fittings
- Crating will not be allowed inside the building, dogs must be crated outdoors or in vehicles.
  - Instructors are allowed to crate one dog in the building, for the duration of their class, near the ring they are teaching, for the purpose of demonstrations.

### **Training Class Protocols**

- Class sizes to be limited - 8 dog/handler teams, 1 instructor and 1 assistant per ring.
- Participation is limited to one trainer with one dog, either registered for a class, or with a reserved spot in a Drop-In Class. Other dogs you are training must remain in the vehicle.
- Only trainers with dogs will be allowed in the building.
  - No additional friends or family members may observe or participate.
  - Absolutely no walk-in trainers will be allowed.
- Please arrive in the building no earlier than 5 minutes before your class, or reserved spot.
- If you are late, you will forfeit your spot.
- Everyone is responsible for keeping track your own time. This is the honor system. Please don't abuse this or overextend your training time slot!
- We will not have monitors for these purposes.
- Once your class or Drop-In training has completed, please leave the building immediately.
- If you have multiple Drop-In spots, please wait outside of the building until it is your next reserved time.
- Reserving a Drop-In Spot(s)
  - Sign up is done on the club's website,

- prior to training night each week.
- Sign up is only available to members at this time. With the exception of the Conformation Class which will accept non-members sign-ups.
- Instructors may sign up starting on the Saturday before regular training.
- Members may sign up starting on the Sunday before regular training.
- All Drop-In sign ups must be complete by 10:00 PM on the day before training.
- Beginner Novice/Novice Run-Throughs are limited to 10 minutes each
- Open and Utility will have 15 minute time slots
- Rally will have 5 minute time slots, no walk-

- throughs.
- Only one Drop-In spot per dog, per class.
- No second run-throughs for the same dog are allowed in any Drop-In class, this includes the Rally Class.
- A map will be provided to let all know which set of doors should be used to enter and exit the building based on which ring you are in.
- Fun Matches will be suspended for the foreseeable future.

**Team Members:**

- Wendy Waddick
- William Short
- Cindy Placko
- Phil Nuger

## Calendar

**Please note:** Everything on the calendar is tentative until we have permission to begin meeting again

### June 2020

- 04 Thu Regular Training - **Canceled**
- 10 Wed Board Meeting
- 11 Thu Regular Training - **Canceled**
- 18 Thu Fun Match - **Canceled**  
Therapy Dog Testing - **Canceled**
- 24 Wed 4-H Show - **Canceled**
- 25 Thu Regular Training - **Canceled**

### July 2020

- All July Activities are Tentative*
- 02 Thu Regular Training  
Puppy Begins (6:00pm)
  - 07 Tue Regular Training
  - 15 Wed Board Meeting
  - 23 Thu Regular Training
  - 30 Thu Regular Training

## ***Can Dogs Contract COVID-19?***

Dogs can contract coronaviruses, most commonly the canine respiratory coronavirus. This specific novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is not believed to be a health threat to dogs, but dogs can test positive for the virus.

The American Veterinary Medical Association also reports on preliminary results of “experimental infection” of domestic cats, ferrets, hamsters, and dogs in China, but cautions that these results don’t represent real-world circumstances and should not be overly interpreted.

*Excerpted from the AKC: <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/news/can-dogs-get-coronavirus/>*

## ***AKC Event Schedule***

*The American Kennel Club continues to encourage each of its 5,000 clubs to adhere to federal, state and local restrictions pertaining to minimizing the spread of COVID-19. As states gradually begin to reopen, we strongly urge clubs to follow every regulation for large gatherings.*

Best practices for each AKC sport can be found at:

<https://www.akc.org/press-center/covid-19-updates-from-the-american-kennel-club/>

Many AKC events have been cancelled. An up-to-date list can be found on the AKC web site at

*<https://www.akc.org/sports/event-cancellations/>*

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