



Board Members
<a href="mailto:pvpresident@pviwc.org">pvpresident@pviwc.org</a>
<b>Kathy Lewis</b> <a href="mailto:pvveep@pviwc.org">pvveep@pviwc.org</a>
<b>Christina Buckner</b> <a href="mailto:pvtreasurer@pviwc.org">pvtreasurer@pviwc.org</a>
<b>Susan Wine</b> <a href="mailto:pvsecretary@pviwc.org">pvsecretary@pviwc.org</a>
<b>Carole Silverthorne</b> <a href="mailto:pvboard1@pviwc.org">pvboard1@pviwc.org</a>
<b>Judy Chantelois</b> <a href="mailto:pvboard2@pviwc.org">pvboard2@pviwc.org</a>
<b>Susan Montgomery</b> <a href="mailto:pvboard3@pviwc.org">pvboard3@pviwc.org</a>
<b>Linda King</b> <a href="mailto:pvboard4@pviwc.org">pvboard4@pviwc.org</a>
<b>Virginia Thackston</b> <a href="mailto:pvboard5@pviwc.org">pvboard5@pviwc.org</a>

## THE CORNER



**If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact Kathy Lewis.**

## **From the desk of Tammy Aube**

For those needing to mark your calendars and book your travels, the ***Irish Wolfhound Club of America's 95th National Specialty*** will be held May 25 - 29, 2025.

For more information please visit the IWCA 95th Specialty webpage at: <https://www.iwclubofamerica.org/iwca-2025>

## **From the Secretary, Susan Wine**

The **Military Bowl Parade** will be held next **Saturday, December 28 in Annapolis, MD. Parade starts at 2:00pm.**

We line up down by the City Docks. We are unit 59 and will line up near Latitude 38 (Restaurant). If you need help finding where to go when you get to the docks there are usually Parade Personnel with safety vests and a clipboard that can help direct you.

Parking is a challenge. Park Place is the recommended site. Google Annapolis parking and you will find a number of parking garages. Some roads will be closed for the parade.

We will have a 'Chase Vehicle' following us. Bring water for you and your dogs. Remember to pick up after your dogs. Dress appropriately for the weather.

You need to be in place no later than 1:00pm. Leave yourselves plenty of time to park and walk to the parade start area.

Wear Green. We have some sashes as well to wear.

**It is with great sadness,** I report that another of our members hounds has crossed the Rainbow Bridge, Judy Chantelois's hound, Hurin.



He was a very good boy .

"I am not someone who can write moving elegies, so I'll have to keep it simple. Hurin had a typical Irish Wolfhound personality- calm, great with people and other dogs, very sweet. He was a very good breed ambassador at events and wore his green beaded necktie at Irish events with grace. He absolutely hated being bathed or groomed and fought it with everyone of his 160 lbs. For that reason, he always looked varying degrees of unkempt.

He often carried his tail wrong for a wolfhound, up and with a curl. Wrong, but cute.

He was a great alarm clock for anyone in the driveway or coming to the door. Also, for strange dogs in the yard, but his special efforts were put into letting us know when the Amish were on the road in front of our house.

He didn't beg for treats, he insisted on them.

That's why we knew things were bad when he decreased, and eventually stopped, eating. He had dilated cardiomyopathy with afib, controlled on meds for over a year before he started to show it. He went from 160 to 125 lbs. Once he started having labored breathing and difficulty getting up,

we decided it was time to help him cross the bridge. I can't type this without crying. At least he is comfortable and at peace and, I hope, frolicking over the bridge.

"I write this through tears. This afternoon we took Hurin to the vet for the last time. He's been at the end stage of DCM, not eating, lethargic, and having some difficulty getting up. Also, his respiration had become labored. We helped him cross the bridge peacefully.

RIP or frolic over the bridge dear Hurin (Lismore Leo Bloom) 02/03/18-12/17/24."

Judith Chantelois

### **PVIWC Rescue Report** by Susan Montgomery

IW come into rescue for many reasons, the majority life events for the owner, seldom any problem with the hound. This year we have assisted other clubs in placing hounds in homes, but it wasn't until the week before Thanksgiving that we had hounds come into our club rescue.

We have two young hounds needing homes, a 3 yr old neutered male, and a 1 yr old intact female. Both have been vetted, microchipped, and are healthy. If you are interested in adopting, contact Rescue coordinator Susan Montgomery or fill out the application on the website.

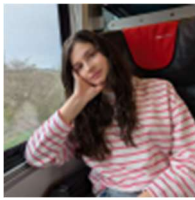


Jameson is a 3 year old male IW, wheaten. 35 inches at the shoulder and currently 101 pounds. He was raised with other dogs, cats and children and gets along with all of them. He has a sensitive stomach, but is doing very well on Costco Lamb and brown rice kibble, plus a bit of canned food and supplements. He has a grade 1 luxating patella, which the vet just wants to monitor but means lure coursing is likely not the best for him. He has no other restrictions on activity though. He walks well on the leash and is mannerly in the house. Enjoys toys and chewing on antlers. He can be quite playful and will paw for attention and will gently take your hand in his mouth to show affection. Currently underweight, he is on a refeeding program and will need 3 meals a day for a while. Very food motivated and attentive, he would be very easy to teach tricks to. Shy with strangers, but will warm up quickly with cookies. A bit noise reactive, but getting better.



Mazikeen, or Mazy for short, is a 1-year-old female intact IW. 94 pounds, 35 inches at the shoulder and still growing. She has not yet had a season, and while we require she be neutered, it should not happen until she is at least 18 months to 2 years old. Mazy was rehomed because she was killing chickens, so no chickens please. She is fine with cats and other dogs, and with our horses. Mazy also requires 3 meals a day and is on the same Costco lamb and brown rice kibble and supplements. Mazy is very much a puppy! We are working on the jumping on people, chewing shoes, and counter surfing. She is very sensitive and a harsh tone will have her hiding and/or peeing. She is a runner and fearful, but after she bonds with a person, they become her safe space and she will run to you and hide. She requires a sturdy slip leash and a harness right now for walking, she will scramble and run if afraid. Secure fencing is a must! Mazy will need an experienced wolfhound home ready to deal with her leggy 95 pound puppyhood.

## Why Some Dogs Wear Blue Vests, Bandanas, or Leashes



by: Nini, February 22, 2024, **Homemaking.com**



source: iStock

Have you ever been out and about, enjoying a sunny day at the park, and spotted a pooch rocking a stylish blue vest, bandana, or leash? Well, there's more to that fashion statement than meets the eye.

First things first, let's talk about the significance of the color blue. In the dog world, a blue vest, bandana, or leash isn't just a trendy accessory; it's a symbol. This color, especially when it comes to gear for dogs, often signifies that the dog is a service animal or is in training to become one. Service dogs are incredible companions that provide assistance to individuals with disabilities, offering support in countless ways, from guiding those who are visually impaired to alerting those with medical conditions of an impending emergency.

But wait, there's more! Not all dogs in blue are service animals. Some canine companions wear blue to indicate that they are therapy dogs. These furry friends bring comfort and joy to people in hospitals, nursing homes, schools, and even airports. Their presence alone can uplift spirits and promote healing, making them unsung heroes in their own right.



source: iStock

Now, onto the training aspect. Puppies and dogs in training might sport a blue vest or bandana to let others know they're learning the ropes to become service or therapy animals. This gear is like their "student driver" sign, signaling to the public to give them space or approach them with caution as they master their skills.

But here's a twist – not every blue accessory has an official meaning. In some cases, pet owners choose blue leashes or bandanas simply because they like the color or it looks good on their dog. Blue, after all, is a popular color that signifies calmness, trust, and loyalty, traits that many dogs embody to a T.

Understanding the purpose behind the blue gear can foster a more respectful and supportive community for service and therapy dogs and their handlers. Let's give these hardworking dogs the space they need to perform their duties effectively.



source: iStock

By the way, did you know that wearing a yellow ribbon on a dog, or even a red collar, means something really interesting? Well, there's so much to learn!



So, the next time you see a dog decked out in blue, you'll know there's a story behind that stylish choice. Whether they're on duty or just strutting their stuff, these dogs in blue deserve all the admiration and respect. And who knows? Maybe you'll consider a blue accessory for your furry friend too – whether it's for a cause or just for kicks.

## **What do the different warning colours mean on dog leashes and bandanas?**

By PetHero.com



By now, most dog owners would have had (or anticipated) this kind of experience: you're out walking your dog and minding your own business, and another dog owner – bless them – spots the two of you and wants to come over and socialise their dog with yours because 'their dog is friendly'.

But what if yours is not? What if your dog needs space, is in training, or simply doesn't like other dogs? In situations like this, it's difficult to ask those enthusiastic owners of friendly dogs to stay away without feeling like you're violating a code of politeness or that you'll offend them. It's simply not nice to make other people (and especially their dogs!) feel unwelcome.

BUT as a dog owner, you need to advocate for your dog and not put them in an unwanted situation just because someone is invading your space with their friendliness. Yes, it's *important* to be kind, but it's more important to know your dog and to put their wellbeing first.

### **Why on-leash dog greetings are a bad idea**

Like humans, dogs have a fight-or-flight reaction in unfamiliar situations. Meeting a new or unknown dog for the first time can be a scary experience, especially if your dog has had negative encounters with

dominant or aggressive dogs in the past, and has become nervous or aggressive as a result.

Being on a leash means your dog's 'flight' response is not available to them (they are trapped), which only leaves them with a 'fight' response in a tense situation. If your dog is forced into meeting a new dog, their guard is already up, so any cues or behaviours on the parts of all the dogs and humans in this situation can set the dogs off.

Yes, it does happen that **dogs can greet on the leash**, but these are usually well-socialised dogs who are given a few seconds to acknowledge and sniff each other, and then they move on. There's no time to posture and challenge each other – usually because the owners are conscious of their dogs' boundaries and level of socialisation, and know to move on as quickly as possible. Not all dog owners can say this, though.

Some dog owners have the outdated belief that all dogs love playing with other dogs and even if there's a scuffle, we must just let them 'work it out'. This has been proved to be a false belief with very destructive and traumatising consequences.

So what do you do?

### **Why do dogs wear bandanas?**

The solution to avoiding conflicts and confrontations with well-meaning but misinformed dog owners is **non-verbal communication**. It may have taken a little while for this colour-coded system to be adopted, but it is definitely gaining traction among dog owners. The best way to let other dog owners know whether your dog is friendly, aggressive, nervous, unapproachable or has a physical disability like blindness or deafness, is through colour.

Most people understand red to mean WARNING, orange to mean 'proceed with caution' and green to mean GO or YES. Applying this logic, dog owners can tie a **bandana** around their dog's neck or attach a **lead cover** to their dog's leash, indicating their dog's level of approachability. With a little bit of awareness and conscientiousness, other dog owners can determine for themselves whether they should approach or not.

## What are the colour codes for dogs?

There are several warning colours for bandanas, leashes, collars and leash covers. There may be some variation to their meanings, but the overall message is the same: *this dog owner is trying to communicate something about their dog without having to go through the full explanation in public; maybe I should pay attention.*

### The colour codes for dog leashes, collars and bandanas include:

**RED** Aggressive dog; unpredictable towards people and other dogs; caution.

---

**ORANGE** Not good with other dogs, not friendly. Can also indicate that the dog is reactive or in reactivity training, and should not be approached.

---

**YELLOW** Nervous dog; needs space. Sometimes yellow bandanas are also used indicate dogs that are up for adoption, but this depends on the context the dog is in.

---

**GREEN** Friendly dog. BUT, this doesn't mean other dog owners should approach without first asking for permission.

---

**BLUE** Indicates a service dog. Can also indicate a dog that is in training, or in training to become a service dog.

---

**WHITE** Indicates a physical disability – the dog is deaf or blind.

---



You might ask 'What does it mean if a dog is wearing a red collar?' Well, sometimes it just means that the dog owner likes red and a red collar suits the dog's *personality* and coat. The colour coding for dogs is not yet universally accepted, but it helps to be aware that dog owners might be trying to communicate something important. The rule of thumb is to **always ask** if you can approach another dog and to respect the dog owner's answer, especially if it is an assertive **no**.

### **Etiquette for dogs in public**

It is vitally important that dogs are under the control of their owners when out in public. There are few (if any) municipal bylaws that allow dogs in public if they are off a leash – this is to ensure the safety of the dog and owner, to prevent the dog from causing injury or injuring others (such as biting or causing traffic accidents), and to prevent the destruction of property and wildlife.

It is crucial that all pet heroes understand their responsibility as dog owners in public and to be courteous, respectful and aware of the needs of their dogs as well as other members of the public – and *their* dogs.

To give your dog the opportunity to be comfortable when out in public with you, it will be *beneficial* to consistently work on your loose-leash training as well as commit to socialisation classes or playdates with other dogs in a controlled environment. This will help your dog to relax around other canine pals – enough to ensure friendly, brief greetings in public, even with unfamiliar dogs.

## **DoodleHatch Interactive Art Museum**

### **Podcast Filming with Orlaith and Quigley, November 30<sup>th</sup>**

Kathy Lewis

The DoodleHATCH tv show is a streaming, YouTube/Patreon show dedicated to educating and entertaining children in grades one-to-five. The show is modeled based on Sesame Street with costumed humans and puppets. It teaches Math, Reading, Phonics, Emotional Health, Animals, Science, Physical Health, Dance, Music, Arts, and Crafts.

Quigley and Orlaith are part of the “i Episode” along with Jodie and I. The hounds were filmed today, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>! The filming was done in segments and will be spliced together. First, we talked about Irish wolfhounds, then we were asked questions by two young people, Oliver and Miriam. Miriam, Orlaith and I posed to show how big a wolfhound is and then Quigley did some tricks with Jodie.

The folks at DoodleHatch were lovely and quite welcoming. The art museum is women owned and Leigh Anderson, the chief owner, was quite lovely. I for one, will be going back! Note, Leigh is a dressmaker! She has some lovely items for purchase, think fairie costumes. She most generously gifted Jodie a top and she gifted me with a beautiful, summer dress!



**Grandma Got Run Over By A Wolfhound**, printed with permission from Wolfhound Poetry, Philip Santilhano, 15 December 2024

**Philip Santilhano**

Grandma got run over by a wolfhound  
walking in the garden Christmas eve  
the neighbour's cat shot past her in the shadows  
the hounds in pursuit felled her we believe

She'd been in the kitchen drinking eggnog  
for a breath of air outside did go  
standing in the pathway in the moonlight  
she was sent flying face first in the snow  
in the dark we searched for many hours  
Christmas morning light revealed her back  
muddy paw prints all over her jumper  
following small ones left by the cat

Grandma got run over by a wolfhound  
walking in the garden Christmas eve  
the neighbour's cat shot past her in the shadows  
the hounds in pursuit felled her we believe

The roast goose is now steaming on the table

a salad and a pudding by it's side  
potatoes golden crispy in a large bowl  
so much gravy the moon causes a tide  
there was once a gammon glazed and shiny  
now just a puddle in which to slide  
with a trail of grease drops out the back door  
which is why the hounds are locked outside

Grandma got run over by a wolfhound  
walking in the garden Christmas eve  
the neighbour's cat shot past her in the shadows  
the hounds in pursuit felled her we believe

We all wondered what happened to grandma  
on that dark, dark night in snow she fell  
the neighbours are out searching for that damn cat  
perhaps the wolfhounds chased it to the well  
it will not be Christmas without Grandma  
snoring by the fire after the cake  
one thing we won't miss, though, is her farting  
sometimes it felt just like an earthquake

Grandma got run over by a wolfhound  
walking in the garden Christmas eve  
the neighbour's cat shot past her in the shadows  
the hounds in pursuit felled her we believe

Grandma got run over by a wolfhound  
walking in the garden Christmas eve  
the neighbour's cat shot past her in the shadows  
the hounds in pursuit felled her we believe

**Dougal [D.Lit]**

*(Dad's note: A blast from the past. The late, much missed Dougal wrote*

*this one for Candy Canzoneri as an alternative to a Christmas song that she really does not like. However, I am not sure that this is any improvement at all. Sorry Candy.)*

## **Holiday Party at The Montgomery's December 8<sup>th</sup>**



## **Celtic Solstice 5-mi Run at Druid Hill, December 14<sup>th</sup>**









## **Benefits of Bone Broth for Dogs**

By **AKC** Staff, Updated: May 28, 2024

When you were a child and you caught a cold or had a stomachache, did someone who cared for you serve you a bowl of soothing and nourishing chicken soup? Bone broth is the dog-safe substitute for chicken soup you can safely serve your dog when they are sick and even as a preventative measure when they are well.

### **Is Bone Broth Safe for Dogs?**

Bone broth is a stock liquid made from slowly cooking animal bones at low heat for an extended period. Bones contain an abundance of minerals and vitamins, so bone broth is a safe way to get the nutrients to your dog—unlike giving your dog cooked bones, which can be dangerous and can get lodged in their throats.

When choosing a bone broth for your dog, you need to look for ones with natural, dog-safe ingredients. Some may contain additives for preservation and taste, such as onions, garlic, or salt.

The safest, simplest, and most economical solution is to buy a quality dog food specifically formulated with fresh bone broth. Most “shelf-stable” broths needed to be consumed within seven days, which was far too short for the small dog.



Paid Advertisement

## **Benefits of Bone Broth**

Responsible dog owners are always in search of ways to add extra nutrition to their dogs’ diets and keep them healthy. Bone broth for dogs is a nutrient-packed supplement that has a variety of benefits when included in a complete and balanced diet.

### **Liver Detoxification**

Many dogs act like living garbage compactors. They’ll gobble up any smelly treat they can find, including some toxic substances. It’s up to their liver to break down these toxins and keep them healthy. Bone broth supports liver health by providing high amounts of amino acids, such as glycine, that can help remove toxins that build up in the dog’s body.

### **Immune System Boost**

Bone broth contains a wide range of essential nutrients that enhance your dog’s immune system’s ability to fight diseases and hypersensitive reactions. If your pet is sick, bone broth helps them bounce back to good health. It’s also an excellent meal for dogs who require a break from solid food when they have stomach upset or diarrhea.

## **Maintain Healthy Skin and Coat**

Collagen is a protein found in your dog's skin and coat. Your dog's body will produce collagen, but this production may drop off as they get older. Bones naturally contain plenty of collagen, so including bone broth in your dog's diet will help him maintain youthful, healthy skin and coat to protect your dog from harsh elements in the environment.

## **Support Strong Joints**

Glucosamine, hyaluronic acid, and chondroitin occur naturally in bone broth and are vital in strengthening and repairing joints. The collagen in bone broth also contributes to the health and stability of your dog's joints. Bone broth won't cure joint problems without other treatments, however, so you should also contact your vet for additional solutions.

## **Improve Digestive Health**

If your dog has a condition called leaky gut syndrome, where small fissures develop in the gut lining, it may result in nutritional deficiencies, as well as allow substances such as yeast, toxins, and undigested food particles to leak out of the gastrointestinal system. A leaky gut can also cause food sensitivities and allergies. Adding bone broth to a dog's diet can satisfy those needed nutrients and help improve digestive health.

## **A Source of Essential Minerals**

Bone broth is packed with much-needed minerals for canine nutrition. These minerals, including magnesium, calcium, sulfur, silicon, and phosphorus, play a crucial role in the nervous system, heart health, muscle contractions, sleep, and hydration of your dog.



Studio Porto Sabbia

## **Fight Inflammation**

Chronic inflammation can cause severe diseases such as arthritis, diabetes, heart disease, some types of cancer, and canine dementia. Bone broth contains amino acids, including glycine and arginine, which have anti-inflammatory properties. Adding bone broth to your dog's diet can help lower inflammation and prevent these chronic diseases.

## **Enhances Hydration and Appetite**

If your dog has an upset stomach or diarrhea, he may become dehydrated. Bone broth is a flavorful liquid that can hydrate and nourish him. Senior dogs sometimes lose interest in eating, and bone broth-enhanced food may stimulate their appetite. Dogs that are sensitive to certain foods may be able to tolerate bone broth since it is low in allergens.

## **Let the Experts Do It**

Dr. Jerry Klein, Chief Veterinarian at the American Kennel Club, reminds pet owners that while bone broth is full of healthy bone marrow, cooked bones themselves are incredibly dangerous for dogs. Save yourself a trip to the emergency room and make sure no small bones escaped your notice.

# **5 Easy Pumpkin Dog Treat Recipes**

By AKC Staff, Updated: Mar 26, 2024

Autumn marks the season for all things pumpkin. Dogs, too, love the taste of pumpkin, and it can even offer some health benefits (like relief from both diarrhea and constipation). Although dogs can't enjoy pumpkin spice products, we've found five pumpkin dog treat recipes you can make this fall.

Make sure you offer only canned and pureed pumpkin, not canned pumpkin pie mix, which has added sugars and spices. As with any treat, give your dog these snacks in moderation.

## **Pumpkin Dog Treat Recipes**

Here are five simple pumpkin recipes for dogs. Each has just a few ingredients, all of which are dog-safe.

### **Frozen Pumpkin Dog Treats**

#### Ingredients

- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1 cup canned pumpkin puree

#### Directions

1. Mix pumpkin and yogurt together in a bowl.
2. Divide the mixture evenly into an ice tray or molds.
3. Freeze for 24 hours.
4. Pop the treats out of the mold and put into a freezer bag for storage. You can also leave them in the ice tray if you have space in your freezer!



Lilun\_Li via Getty Images

### **Peanut Butter and Pumpkin Dog Treats**

#### Ingredients

- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup canned pumpkin puree
- 1/2 cup dog-safe peanut butter (Make sure it has no xylitol, an artificial sweetener toxic to dogs.)

#### Directions

1. Preheat your oven to 375°F.
2. In a large bowl, mix together the pumpkin and peanut butter.
3. Stir in the flour and combine the mixture into a dough.
4. Roll out the dough onto a floured surface.
5. Cut the dough into shapes with your favorite cookie cutter.
6. Place the treats 1/2 an inch apart on an ungreased cookie sheet.
7. Bake for 12 minutes.



©zphoto83 - stock.adobe.com

## **Banana Pumpkin Dog Treats**

### Ingredients

- 3 cups whole wheat flour (and extra for dusting the counter)
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup canned pumpkin puree
- 1 banana, mashed

### Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Mix together eggs, banana, and pumpkin. Add flour and mix until all the flour is incorporated.
3. Lightly dust the counter and a rolling pin with flour, then roll out dough to approximately 1/8 of an inch in thickness. Cut out the treats with a fun cookie cutter.

4. Lay on a baking sheet and bake for approximately 20 minutes. Let the treats cool completely before giving to your dog.



Michele M Vogel/Shutterstock

## **Pumpkin and Carrot Treats**

### Ingredients

- 1 cup flour (If you substitute coconut flour or potato flour, your batter will be a little more crumbly.)
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup canned pumpkin puree
- 1 4-ounce jar pure carrot baby food
- 1 4-ounce jar pure green bean baby food (optional)

### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Add all ingredients together and mix. If the batter seems wet and sticky, add a little more flour. If it seems crumbly, add a little water.
3. Scoop out a spoonful of dough onto a parchment-lined baking sheet. The batter should make around 24 treats. If your batter is relatively dry, then you can try forming the dough into shapes (like a pumpkin). To create a green stem on the pumpkin shape, add the green bean baby food to a little bit of the dough.
4. Bake for 35-40 minutes or until edges start to brown.



5. Allow treats to cool completely, and then give them to your dog to enjoy.

## **Pre-Made Dog Pumpkin Treats**

Life with dogs can be busy. Thankfully, there are plenty of pumpkin treats for your dog that you can buy instead of cooking. Your dog may enjoy doggie health bars baked with cinnamon and pumpkin or soft and chewy pumpkin and blueberry snacks. Puppies can even get in on the fun, thanks to pumpkin-flavored teething ring treats.

## **From Jodie Jeweler**

It's official! Quigley IrishWolfhound got mail! He is now an official Companion Dog!



Congratulations, Quigley! Well done!

## **Happy Tail Syndrome in Dogs: Signs, Symptoms, Treatments**

By Caroline Coile, PhD, Published: Sep 11, 2024 **AKC**

You love to see your dog wagging their tail. When they greet you, when they're excited, when they're playing – you know your dog is in a good mood when their tail is wagging! But too much tail wagging can actually be

dangerous, and lead to a condition known as “Happy Tail Syndrome.” Despite the name, it can be pretty serious and painful for your dog.

### **What Is Happy Tail Syndrome?**

In happy tail syndrome, dogs wag their tail so vigorously that it smacks into walls, furniture, brambles, or anything that causes it to split open. It’s not only painful for your dog — it’s also hard to heal.



©tyurina - stock.adobe.com

The condition most often affects dogs with long, slender, short-haired tails, like Greyhounds. A study also found that working breeds were at higher risk for happy tail syndrome than non-working breeds. But many other breeds, such as Great Danes, Irish Wolfhounds, Labrador Retrievers, German Shepherd Dogs, Dalmatians, Pointers, English Springer Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels, and bully breeds are at increased risk.

Signs can range from a sore tail tip, with hair loss or broken skin near the tail tip, to all degrees of bleeding. While these signs can be caused by other problems, the dog is usually spotted wagging its tail to the point that it bangs into hard surfaces.

### **Treating Happy Tail Syndrome**

A bleeding tail can be hard to heal, and the closer the damage is to the tail tip, the harder it is to fix. The tail is extremely difficult to bandage correctly. Sutures don’t work well there and even with surgical glue the wound may split back open. Follow these steps to clean and bandage wounds on a dog’s tail if you can’t get them to a vet or are delayed in taking them.

- Cleanse the wound with saline or a medical wound cleanser. Flush away debris and clip away hair.

- Keep the wound moist. If it's already moist, apply ointment and a wet saline bandage. If it's dry, moisten it with a hydrophilic gel covered by a medical grade foam dressing. Ideally, an airtight hydrocolloid dressing that holds in moisture can then be applied. Your veterinarian may suggest newer antimicrobial dressings that will speed up healing. The Irish Wolfhound Club of America has a detailed list of medicated coverings to use in happy tail wound healing. When changing a bandage, make sure the outer layer of the wound isn't stuck to it. If it is, wet the bandage until it comes loose.
- Finally, wrap the entire area with an elastic bandage or Vetwrap to hold it in place. These wraps get tighter after you apply them, so be careful and never overstretch them. Always check bandages to make sure they're not constricting the blood flow to the tail, which could cause the tip of the tail to become gangrenous.



cunfek/Getty Images Plus

By shaving the fur on the tail you can tape the bandages to the tail, but some dogs will still rip them off. You'll need to use one of the methods below to protect the tail, or have the dog wear an Elizabethan collar. Your vet may recommend sedation or pain medication may help prevent the dog from biting at it.

### **Preventing Happy Tail Syndrome**

The obvious solution is to prevent the tail from whacking into hard surfaces. You may want to refrain from crating your dog if wagging inside the crate is a problem. Or you can try removing all your hard furniture from your dog's happy areas — for example, remove any tail-height chairs or

tables near the front door or kitchen. You can also cover corners and edges with foam pipe insulation or sheets of foam. However, that can be hard to do all over your house, and some dogs really enjoy just ripping up the foam.

Dog owners have devised many methods to protect a dog's tail. For example, foam pipe insulation can be used to wrap the tail, as can empty toilet paper rolls, hair curlers, pool noodles, heavy tube socks, baby socks, and thick gauze padding. However, some owners caution that a cushion that's too thick can attract the dog's attention, encouraging them to catch and chase the "toy" at the end of their tail.

Other preventives center around preventing the tail from wagging. Retired veterinarian and current AKC judge Camille McArdle D.V.M. treated so many happy tails through the years she improvised several easy inexpensive ways of dealing with them. "I'd have the owners buy kids' pajama bottoms of the appropriate size for the dog, and feed the tail down one leg ... use a duct tape 'belt' and 'suspenders' and keep it on at all times except when safely through the door to go out to potty. Velcro the 'suspenders' together over the withers, so you can easily take them on and off," she explains. "An option to the pants is to use wide adhesive tape to connect the tail to the thigh, but this requires diligence on the owner's part to keep the dog from pulling at the tape. Either method is much better than bandaging, which can cut off circulation if messed with by the dog."



©tankist276 - stock.adobe.com

## **Methods of Tail Protection**

Rita Stackable has had three Greyhounds with happy tail syndrome. Stackable also prefers immobilizing the tail over bandaging it. Her method is to create a sling for the tail by first placing a loop of material around the

dog's waist. She then hangs an eye-bolt clip from the bottom of the loop (just wrap a leash around the belt and let the clip hang down). The tail is bandaged with a ring (like a key-ring) attached to the bandage so that when the tail is brought forward and under the dog, the clip can be attached to the ring, holding the tail beneath the dog.

"The sling around the waist gives them tail movement enough to potty," explains Stackable. "That's why the only tight part is just the Vetwrap on the end of the tail. I usually pull the Vetwrap through the ring a couple of times, so it's secured to the tail."

Several store-bought products are also available, including the Happy Tail Saver, which uses a harness and straps to contain the tail within a padded bag-like container. The Lewis Bright-Sight Tail Cover is specifically designed to protect the tails of gun dogs in the brush. It's a long piece of hollow plastic that slips over the dog's tail and is taped into place.

### **What Happens if the Wound Doesn't Heal?**

If your dog keeps experiencing Happy Tail Syndrome over and over again, or their wound doesn't heal, a vet might suggest amputating the tail. McArdle cites a few reasons that could potentially lead to amputation as the best choice. "[Amputation] might be an option if there isn't enough skin to close the wound using surgical glue, or if the distal tail became gangrenous."

"So much depends on owner compliance in changing the environment to prevent recurrence," she notes. "Some owners, confronted with the need for all this, will just opt for docking the tail to get it over with. I had a 180 pound Mastiff that I had to sit on the floor to dock the tail because he didn't fit on our surgical table. This was the dog's third time and the owner had had enough. It was quite a surgery."

# How to Get Rid of Stinky Dog Breath

By Anna Burke, [AKC](#)

Sponsored by PetLab Co. Updated: May 24, 2024



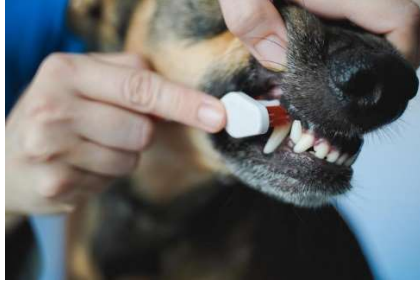
Few smells are as unpleasant as a dog with bad breath. Your dog might think that you appreciate their kisses, but if they have bad breath, then getting up close and personal is the last thing that you want to do. Bad dog breath isn't just gross — it could also be a sign of a health problem. Before you pop your dog a doggy breath mint, take a moment to do a little research into the possible causes of bad breath and what you can do to treat and prevent it.

## Causes of Bad Dog Breath

Dog owners tend to dismiss bad dog breath as just “dog breath,” but there is usually a very good reason behind the odor. This can range from needing to brush your dog's teeth more often, to more potentially dangerous effects. Check with your vet to get to the bottom of your dog's bad breath.

## Oral Hygiene and Periodontal Disease

The most common causes of bad breath in dogs are bad oral hygiene and periodontal disease. Just like in humans, the build-up of plaque and tartar can lead to the development of the bacteria that cause bad breath. If your dog is not a chewer and you do not regularly brush their teeth or have their teeth cleaned, then the likely cause of their bad breath is plaque build-up. Over time, poor oral hygiene can lead to periodontal disease. Too much plaque and tartar build-up can push the gums away from the teeth, exposing new areas for bacteria to develop. This not only inflames the dog's gums, but it can lead to cavities, infection, tissue destruction, tooth loss, and even pus formation. Needless to say, it also leads to very, very bad breath.



©Vane Nunes - stock.adobe.com

## **Unpleasant Dietary Habits**

Dogs can be gross. Sometimes their habits translate directly into bad breath. If your dog regularly gets into the garbage, or has access to decomposing animal remains, then their bad breath could be the result of unsupervised snacking. Dogs also universally seem to love cat poop, and a household with cats can offer too much temptation for your dog to resist. Not only is this smelly, it is also unhygienic. As if cat poop wasn't bad enough, some dogs eat their own poop or the poop of other dogs, a condition called coprophagia that causes bad breath in dogs and occasionally mild nausea in their horrified owners.

## **Diabetes**

If your dog's bad breath has a sweet or fruity smell to it, you need to make an appointment with your veterinarian. Sweet, fruity breath is a symptom of diabetes, a serious but treatable condition. Talk with your veterinarian about the other symptoms of diabetes to look out for, like more frequent drinking and urination, and set up an appointment to get your dog examined.

## **Kidney Disease**

A dog that eats poop might have breath that smells like poop, but if your dog's breath smells like urine, it is most likely not because they have been drinking pee. A urine odor to your dog's breath is a warning sign of kidney disease, and warrants a visit to your veterinarian. Kidney disease is serious and could be a symptom of a larger medical problem.

## **Liver Disease**

If your dog's breath is truly foul and they're also vomiting, exhibiting a lack of appetite, and has a yellow tinge to their gums, they may have liver disease. Like kidney disease, liver problems can be a sign of a serious condition, and it is vital that you get your dog into the veterinarian or emergency clinic as soon as possible.

## **Treating Bad Dog Breath**

As important as it is to understand the underlying issues behind malodorous doggie breath, what we really want to know is how to get rid of it. Curing bad dog breath depends on the cause, but luckily there are quite a few treatment options out there.

If plaque, tartar, and periodontal disease are behind your dog's bad breath, then the best thing you can do is to schedule an appointment with your veterinarian to see if your dog is a candidate for a dental cleaning. Your veterinarian will run bloodwork to make sure your dog can handle anesthesia, and this appointment is also a great time to rule out any other potential causes for your dog's bad breath. During the cleaning, your veterinarian may have to remove loose or damaged teeth, depending on the scope of the periodontal disease.

When it comes to unsupervised snacking, securing the trash and limiting your dog's access to unpleasant outdoor finds, like roadkill, will resolve this issue. Placing the litter box outside of their reach is a simple solution that eliminates cat feces consumption, unless the cats are also pooping outside, and cleaning up directly after your dog can help prevent coprophagia.

Diabetes, kidney, and liver disease are all conditions that require treatment from a veterinarian. Once the underlying issue is resolved, your dog's bad breath should go away, too.

## **Preventing Bad Breath in Dogs**

The simplest way to prevent bad dog breath is to clean your dog's teeth on a regular basis. Teeth brushing reduces plaque and promotes better oral hygiene, much as it does in humans, and with a little training, most dogs learn to enjoy having their teeth brushed. Dog toothpaste is formulated for



dogs. Never brush your dog's teeth with toothpaste meant for people, as it may contain ingredients that are toxic to dogs, like xylitol.

Providing your dog with plenty of chew toys and dental treats helps them take care of their teeth naturally. Chewing prevents plaque and tartar build-up and relieves boredom, keeping your dog healthy and happy. Just make sure you pick dog chew toys appropriate for your dog's size and age.

Small breeds may require more dental care than large breeds as they are more prone to periodontal disease, according to the AKC Health Foundation. Smaller breeds tend to have teeth that are closer together, which promotes plaque and tartar build-up, so make sure you provide them with plenty of chew toys from a young age and brush their teeth regularly.



©Alesya - stock.adobe.com

Feeding your dog a quality, balanced diet, providing them with plenty of exercise and taking them to the veterinarian for regular check-ups can help prevent systemic disorders like diabetes. Plus, keeping your dog healthy helps avoid a host of other health problems, and can help your veterinarian pick up on the underlying cause of your dog's bad breath before it gets too bad.

There are other oral health products aside from canine toothpaste on the market, including special oral health diets, dental powders, and water additives. Talk to your veterinarian about the products they recommend.

Say goodbye to your dog's bad breath today by making an appointment with your veterinarian to discuss the possible causes for your dog's bad breath and your treatment options. As with most health problems, prevention is the best cure, so pick up a tube of dog toothpaste and start brushing your dog's teeth at least once a day to prevent oral decay.

## **Types of Products that Help Bad Dog Breath**

### **Dog Dental Powder**

If you're in need of a no-hassle cleaning solution, dog dental powder is a great choice. Dog dental powder cleans hard-to-reach places in your dog's mouth. Dental powder effectively targets tartar buildup, yellowing teeth, and of course, bad breath. You just need to give your dog one scoop of dental powder before, during, or after their meal for effortless oral care.

### **Dog Dental Sticks**

Dogs love a treat, and dog dental sticks are great alternatives. Flavored dental sticks are probiotic treats that are safe for everyday use. Dental sticks support fresh breath, gum health, oral hygiene and overall health from within, thanks to the added prebiotics. When used daily, these yummy dental sticks can help with the root cause of bad breath: plaque and tartar buildup.

### **Dog Dental Water Additives**

You can improve your dog's oral health by adding dental water additives. Dental water additives for dogs are substances that clean and freshen dogs' mouths and help improve oral hygiene. They work by cutting down the harmful bacteria that hide in the mouth. If there's too much of this bad bacteria, it can cause tooth decay and gum disease, and seep into your dog's bloodstream. This can also harm their organs, and trigger disease and infection.

PetLab Co. helps give our best friends the richest, healthiest lives possible through the power of scientific nutrition. To date, they've impacted the lives of over three million dogs and counting. Their products are vet-reviewed, NASC-approved, and manufactured in the USA in GMP-compliant facilities with global and domestic ingredients. To *learn more* visit [www.thepetlabco.com](http://www.thepetlabco.com).

***EXCITING Announcement:*** From Susan Wine

Aulynn, Adam and I attended

**Holiday Cocktails & Songs of the Season**

Monday, December 16 at the Capitol Club in Washington, DC. The event featured world-renowned tenor Anthony Kearns of the Irish Tenors. Kevin Corke, Senior Washington Correspondent of Fox News Network and formerly ESPN/CBS was the Emcee. We were guests of the 69th Regiment NY - The Fighting Irish. We helped lead a toast to American Military and Veterans with Colonel Tierney, Retired. Aulynn was even listed on the program.

**Colonel Tierney has invited us to march with them in the New York City St Patrick's Day Parade March 17, 2025!** It is the oldest St Patrick's Day Parade in the world. It would be a wonderful experience to do it at least one time in a lifetime. If you are interested, please let me know. I will hopefully get more details as we get closer. March 17 is a Monday so does not overlap with any of the parades we have on our schedule.

**- PVIWC January Meeting** will be held January 12 at 1:00pm. If you would like to host this meeting, please let me know.





Dear Friends of the Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club,

The Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club's (PVIWC) Specialty is scheduled to take place March 30-31, 2025. Every year members, friends, and exhibitors financially contribute to sponsor trophies and ribbons, either in whole or in part. It has been through these generous contributions that the PVIWC specialty is a success.

Many individuals contribute in various ways: some work up front under the main tent; some work behind the scenes to ensure the rings, tables and tents are up for the shows and help breakdown the same, after the final show; some make donations to the raffle; and some through monetary donations. On behalf of the PVIWC, I express great appreciation to past contributors.

I ask you to consider sponsoring or making a financial donation to this year's general trophy fund. Your donation(s) will help sponsor the trophies and ribbons this year. There is no such thing as a donation too small.

To contribute, please complete the enclosed form and send it along with your financial donation (check payable to PVIWC) to:

Christina Buckner  
PVIWC Treasurer and Show Secretary  
1348 Sycamore Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403

Your donations for the 2025 Specialty are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continuing generosity.

Sincerely,

Virginia Bañales Thackston  
PVIWC Trophy Committee

**Ribbon and Trophy Sponsorship Specification and Guide**

Sponsorship of First in each class-\$18.00

Sponsorship of Third in each class-\$12.00

Sponsorship of Second in each class-\$15.00

Sponsorship of Fourth in each class-\$10.00

**Or Sponsor** the entire class for \$50.00

\_\_\_\_\_ 6-9 mo. Dog    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ 6-9 mo. Bitch    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ 9-12 mo. Dog    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ 9-12 mo. Bitch    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ 12-15 mo. Dog    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ 12-15 mo. Bitch    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ 15-18 mo. Dog    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ 15-18 mo. Bitch    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Novice Dog    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Novice Bitch    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ AOH Dog    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ AOH Bitch    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Bred-By Dog    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Bred-By Bitch    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Am-Bred Dog    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Am-Bred Bitch    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Open Dog    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Open Bitch    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Veteran Dog    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Veteran Bitch    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Stud Dog    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Brood Bitch    1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Obedience - \$50

\_\_\_\_\_ Rally - \$50

**Trophy Sponsorship/Mementos to Challenge Trophies Donation**

\_\_\_\_\_ Best of Breed            \$125  
\$50

\_\_\_\_\_ Reserve Winners Dog

_____ Best of Opposite \$50	\$115	_____ Reserve Winners Bitch
_____ Best of Winners \$30	\$100	_____ Bred-By-Exhibitor Dog
_____ Winners Dog \$30	\$100	_____ Bred-By-Exhibitor Bitch
_____ Winners Bitch \$40	\$100	_____ Best BBE
_____ Am-Bred Dog \$30	\$30	_____ Am-Bred Bitch
_____ Open Dog \$30	\$30	_____ Open Bitch
_____ Best Puppy \$30	\$75	_____ Veteran Bitch
_____ Best in Sweeps \$50	\$75	_____ BoS to BI Sweeps

---

\_\_\_\_\_

Name Phone

---

\_\_\_\_\_

Address E-mail

---

City, State Zip

**To secure recognition in the Premium/Catalog, donations must be received no later than 14 November.** Please make known the class you wish to sponsor in preferential order. All attempts

at accommodating your request will be made. If you have no preference place an "X" in the no preference box.

First Choice Class Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Choice Class Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Third Choice Class Donation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Preference:

No

Feel free to contact Christina Buckner via e-mail at: [ckallay@verizon.net](mailto:ckallay@verizon.net)

