BVSTailwaggers.com Tailwaggers Facebook



Helping The Homeless Pogs of Kern County

MATTHEW BUCK, Director of the City of Bakersfield Animal Care Center



Mathew Buck and Joshua Proctor

So, you want to or have a rescued dog. How does a dog end up for adoption? Many of us have dogs we received from rescues, like Have a Heart, STOP, or Marley's Mutts in Tehachapi, or one of the Kern County shelters. But what went into getting that puppy or precious dog into our homes? That story will unfold at the next Tailwaggers meeting as Mathew Buck, the Director of

the City of Bakersfield Animal Care Center, talks about what it takes to run and work at an Animal Shelter. He will enlighten us with information as to how these family members ended up being up for adoption.

I am thrilled to introduce you to the Director of Bakersfield Animal Care Center, Mathew Buck, and let him tell a little about himself in his own words.

"I was born and raised in a small town in Georgia. From an early age, I realized I had a passion for helping God's creation that could not take care of themselves. This journey led me to Lancaster, CA to intern at a homeless shelter while pursuing my BA in Missions and Urban Ministry. In just a couple short years, I was offered the Director position at the homeless shelter I was working at after my internship was over. I graciously accepted and continued learning the necessary skills it takes to run a nonprofit homeless shelter. Over the next several years I witnessed 100's of lives being transformed! All my study and hard work was paying off! Unfortunately funding for the homeless shelter was cut. I then transitioned to become the Director of Operations for the same nonprofit that ran the homeless shelter. We ran two low-cost thrift stores, a soup kitchen that served hot meals to the community 3 nights a week and the largest food bank in the Antelope Valley.

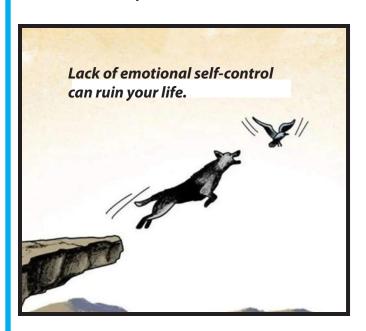
Continue on next page

Members and friends of Tailwaggers are invited come to the meeting on TUESDAY April 2, in the Equestrian Center Lounge. Doors open for refreshments at 6:00 and the meeting is at 6:30.

Helping The Homeless Pogs...con't

During this time I met my wife and we moved to Tehachapi. The commute to Lancaster was taking its toll on me, so I began looking for work closer to Tehachapi. That's when I was offered the Director position at the City of Bakersfield Animal Care Center. Although I didn't have any experience working with animals, I did have experience sheltering humans and always have had a heart for animals. I had rescued many dogs before entering the field. The skills transferred fairly easily and we were able to save over 4600 dogs in 2023, the largest amount in the history of CBACC, in my first full year! With continued support we hope to end the euthanasia of adoptable dogs and achieve our ultimate goal of becoming no-kill."

Tailwaggers invites all members and friends of Tailwaggers to Mathew's presentation on Tuesday, April 2 in the Equestrian Center Lounge at 6:00 for refreshments and 6:30 for the meeting. In addition, he will be leading a tour of the shelter for us on Thursday, April 18th at 11:00. Please RSVP with Molly Mackin at 818-512-9836 if you wish to attend the tour.



See more about this topic on page 6.

You Do All You Can

President's Message Pam Miller

Sit! Stay! Those are often the first commands of the day spoken at my house. It's breakfast time and my dog Jazzy is a thief. She will steal any other dog in the house's breakfast if given half a chance. If I remove my eyes from the situation for an instant she sees her chance! So, it means that all feed times become an opportunity to teach emotional self-control. If I watch her, and if she sits for the whole time the other dog eats till the food is gone, she will get a high value treat. If I let my focus slip for a minute and she gets the other dog's food, I get nothing but to start over at the next meal.

Emotional self-control is immensely important for dogs and for people. Lack of emotional self-control for a dog may mean death by a car. For a human, if they get angry and hit their dog, it may mean broken trust in the relationship.

Learning emotional self-control makes life much more enjoyable for dog and human. I did my best with all my dogs. Yet, no matter how much better behaved they were and out of danger it kept them, I had to let go in the end.

My Nonni died March 9th and there was nothing I could do about it. My friend, Sandy, gave me a book and marked this quote for me. I find it actually comforting to know that the feelings it talks about are normal for the survivors. I'll end with this:

"...And it is exceedingly short, his galloping life. Dogs die so soon. I have my stories of that grief, no doubt many of you do also. It is almost a failure of will, a failure of love, to let them grow old – or so it feels. We would do anything to keep them with us, and to keep them young. The one gift we cannot give."

Tailwaggers Happy'ngs

General Meetings - New Week - 1st Tuesday of the month

Begining in April, our General meetings will be on the first Tuesday of every month, unless notified differently. We meet in the Equestrian Center lounge at 6:00 for refreshments and 6:30 for the meeting.

April 2, 2024

Speaker: Mathew Buck, Director of the City of Bakersfield Animal Care Center

May 7, 2024

Speaker: Gary Hill: Why I Love Agility

June 4, 2024

Speaker: Rebecca Barocas: Is Your Dog Noisy?

July 2, 2024

Speaker: MIchael Puffer from Have a Heart

Agility Division

Agility Coaching/Workshops: April 13 & 27
Contact Gary Hill, 480-216-8488,

for more information.

Dog Park Division



Therapy Dog Division

Happy Hounds and Friends Reading Program

The group will read to the Children at the Whiting Center and often will go to a senior home.

For information about the Therapy Dog Program contact Mary Thompson at 661-972-0731 or Lauren Jaimes at 818-636-9443.

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Training Division Events

NEW TRAININGS!

The dates for the next series of classes will be announced in the spring. For more information, or to sign up for up-coming trainings, text/call Molly Mackin at 818-512-9836.

NOSEWORK SERIES - Time to sign Up

Rebecca Barocas, Competitor and Trainer in Nosework for over 10 years.

Rebecca will be doing more classes for Tailwaggers in June. She is teaching Nose Work classes now in Tehachapi and other locations. Contact Rebecca at 661-435-1194 to sign up or for more information.

WalkAbouts & HikeAbouts

Walkabouts on the Nature Trail will resume officially on April 5 with Lucy Radike leading the walks. It's a wonderful way to connect with and meet new TW friends while socializing and exercising our dogs. You can join us with or without a dog. Call Lucy for more information. (661-904-3379)

Membership Prive This Year's Early Membership Winner Is Peborah Cianca-Mayer

This year, everyone who paid the membership dues by the end of February was entered into a drawing for a free membership next year.

Congratulations to Deb!

BVS Tailwaggers Minutes Pate: 3/12/24

Our TW social time started at 6:00 with many members arriving early to enjoy snacks and drinks.

Lucy staffed the Welcome Table while Jeannie took in applications for 2024 membership.

Pam opened the meeting at 6:30 by announcing the date change for the upcoming meetings for the remaining of this year. Meetings will be on the 1st Tuesday of each month starting at 6:00 for social and 6:30 for the meeting. In 2025 our meeting will return to the 2nd Monday of the month.

Pam Welcomed everyone especially our new members. Each member provided a brief history of how long they lived here and the type of dog they owned. Pam also thanked Vicki Taylor for setting up the meeting area.

Pam thanked our refreshment crew – Nancy, Lucy, Jeannie and Mel.

Pam also thanked everyone for filling out the survey sheets and for all the input they provided the group in order to make some upcoming decisions.

She went over the 7 divisions within our Club, which included Agility and introduced Gary Hill as our Leader for this event. She stated that we are planning 2 coaching sessions in April with the first one April 13 (weather permitting) being a coaching day with no

dogs. The cost for one workshop is \$20.00 and \$30 for two. He will focus on helping us with our body language so the dogs know what you want of them. Your dog needs more than just a voice command, so learning the correct movement will benefit both you and your dog. The second coaching day on April 27 will be with your dog. Again, weather permitting, and it should start at 9:00 AM.

Our First Agility Day will be May 18, followed by Jun 8. More information will be out in the newsletter and emails from Pam, so watch for them and you can contact Lucy or Gary for more information and signing up to attend.

Pam showed some dog coats for sale, small is \$15.00, larger is \$20.00.

Lucy noted that she would be passing around the refreshment sheet and if you like to bring something to the meeting please sign up. It would be great if we could get 3 people per meeting, that way you only need to bring a small amount of treats.

Lucy also asked who would be interested in purchasing Polo shirts and vest. Most of the members would like one. She will be doing more research on colors and prices.

Continued

In Memory of Nonni



Condolences to Pam Miller. Nonni was rescued at 2 years old and was quite a character. Jazzy and I am missing her a lot.

Minutes, con't

Our next division is our Therapy group, the coordinator is Mary Thompson, who arranges reading with dogs and children at the Whiting Center.

Jeannie is the Treasurer and asked if the members who signed up to make an Easter Basket for the Family Day Bingo at the WC see her after the meeting. She also reminded everyone that anyone could donate candy to the WC for their Easter Egg Hunt.

Jeannie also asked for help with selling bake goods or with baking some goods for the May 18 Bake Sale.

Pam introduced Molly Mackin who runs our Training program and started Project Hope. Molly reported that the Club has taken on providing funds to purchase beds, blankets, buckets, as well as members going to the Shelter to help socialize the dogs, and find foster and forever homes. Recently, working with another program, the shelter has been able to ship out over 100 dogs to Canada to foster homes and new owners.

Pam next introduced Terry Albert, our Guest Speaker for the night. Terry is a known Artist in our community and author of books on raising and training dogs. She spoke about all the stages of raising a puppy.

Our meeting ended with handing out several door prizes.

Respectfully submitted, *Jeannie Alvarado*



Treasurers' Year End Report March Financial Report - 2024 By Jeannie Alvarado

Checking Account Beginning Balance

INCOME

 Membership
 270.00

 Ads
 50.00

 Donation
 30.00

 Total
 350.00

EXPENSES

Newsletters300.00Office Supplies8.63Audit Process60.00Printing117.24

Total \$512.08 Ending Balance \$5,414.49

As of March 28, 2024

Tailwaggers Provide Easter Baskets for Families at the Whiting Center



Thank You to Vicky Laier and Nan Bullard for putting the baskets together for the families.

Featured Article:

How to Teach Your Dog Emotional Self-Control

Stephanie Gibeault, MSc, CPDT



Does your dog jump all over you when you're trying to put down the food bowl? Do they paw and whine for attention? What about rushing out the front door or pulling on the leash? These are all common dog behaviors because dogs do what works for them in the moment. They're not particularly patient. In other words, they don't naturally have emotional self-control.

Learn the Benefits of Emotional Self-Control

Emotional self-control, also known as impulse control, is something most dogs need to be taught. Impatient and demanding <u>puppies</u> don't magically mature into patient and restrained adults. In fact, if you don't teach your puppy some level of impulse control, by the time they reach adolescence, it's likely they will have already developed some bad habits. Many <u>annoying dog behaviors</u> are related to poor self-control.

For example, a dog pulls on the leash because they simply can't wait for you to keep up. Or they burst out the door of their <u>crate</u> because they're eager to be free. They don't know how to wait to get what they want. Their frustration can lead to all kinds of rude behavior, especially in exciting situations.

If you teach your dog self-control, they will be more pleasant to live with. A patient dog is better behaved and less demanding. But it's also great for your dog. Rather than feeling frustrated by their need for instant gratification, they will feel calmer and more in control of their environment. They will learn how to get what they want instead of struggling against you.



DeStefano/Shutterstock

Understand How to Teach Emotional Self-Control

There are a few key elements to teaching your dog self-control. First, show them that <u>rewards</u> come from you rather than just the environment. These rewards can be <u>treats</u> and toys or life rewards like a <u>walk</u> or access to the yard. Show your dog that by giving you what you want, they will get what they want.

Second, show your dog how to earn those rewards. The behavior you choose is up to you. You might want your dog to <u>sit</u> or you might want them to lie down. But something as simple as standing with four paws on the floor can work too. Just be consistent and set the bar where your dog can succeed.

Play Games to Teach Emotional Self-Control

Although teaching emotional self-control sounds like a huge undertaking, it's best trained through games. Games with rules geared to impulse control will teach your dog that patience brings rewards.

Continued...

Emotional Self-Control, Con't

Try the following: **Wait for Your Food Dish**Mealtime is a golden opportunity to do a
little training. Teach your dog that their polite
behavior makes dinner happen. Here are the
rules for this game:

- 1. Hold your dog's food bowl high enough that your dog can't reach it. Wait for your dog to settle down and sit or ask for a sit.
- 2. Once your dog is sitting, begin to lower the food bowl. As soon as your dog's bum pops off the floor, raise the bowl again and either wait for the sit or request one again.
- 3. Continue to lower and raise the bowl with your dog's bum until your dog figures out that their butt is like a light switch on the ground brings the food closer and in the air makes the food go away.
- 4. Once your dog remains sitting until the bowl is on the ground, add your release cue and let your dog eat.



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Leave It

Leave it, is excellent for safety, as it can prevent your dog from eating dangerous items. It also teaches your dog that ignoring a reward is the very behavior that will earn it. The following steps will teach your dog to leave it:

1. Place a treat in your fist and hold your fist in front of your dog.

- 2. Allow your dog to paw and sniff at your fist as much as they want. As soon as they back away, reward them with a treat from your other hand.
- 3. When your dog can ignore your fist, start opening your hand so they can see the treat. If they approach, close your fist again. If they back away, re-open your hand. Once your dog ignores your open hand, reward them with a treat from the other hand.
- 4. Now try placing the treat on the floor and covering it with your hand or foot. Again, reward your dog when they back away.

Wait at the Door

You can teach your dog to wait at the crate door, the car door, or a door in your home, but in the beginning, this is best trained in the house. The following exercise will teach your dog to wait:

- 1. Wait for your dog to settle down then begin to open the door a crack. As soon as your dog approaches the door, close it again.
- 2. Repeat this until your dog either backs away or stays still and waits. Now you can slowly increase the amount you open the door, again closing it whenever your dog moves toward it.
- 3. Once you can open the door completely, add your release cue and allow your dog to go through.



Continued...

Emotional Self-Control, Con't

Settle on Cue



A game of tug-of-war, a flirt pole for chasing, or even just wrestling with your dog are all great ways to teach them to settle down. Simply add moments of calm into the middle of the fun. Once your dog understands what you're expecting, you can add a cue like "Settle Down" or "Relax." Here are the rules for this game:

- 1. Start with gentle play. You don't want your dog too excited before you ask them to settle down. In the middle of the game, stop playing and ask your dog to sit or lie down. Once they do, reward them immediately by starting up the game again.
- 2. When your dog is sitting or lying down consistently, stop asking for the behavior and wait for them to offer it when you stop playing. Again, reward by restarting the game.
- 3. When your dog is offering the sit or down, you can start to slowly increase the intensity of the game before stopping for a settle break.

Choose the games that suit your dog's personality and you'll be amazed how fast they learn to control their impulses. But on top of these games, don't forget to reward calm behavior whenever you see it. Anytime your dog is showing restraint, be sure to give them a treat or kind word so they know it's worth their while to control their emotions.

PETS POINT OF VIEW

My life is likely to last 10 to 15 years. Any separation from you will be painful for me. Remember that before you get me.

Don't be angry with me for long, and don't lock me up as punishment. You have your work, entertainment, and friends. I only have you.

Talk to me sometimes. Even if I don't understand your words, I understand your voice.

Be aware that however you treat me, I'll never forget.

Please don't hit me.

Before you scold me for being uncooperative, obstinate, or lazy, ask yourself if something might be bothering me. Perhaps I'm not getting the right food, or I've been out in the sun to long, or my heart is getting old and weak.

Take care of me when I get old. You too will grow old.

Go with me on difficult journeys. Never say "I can't bear to watch," or "Let it happen in my absence."

Everything is easier for me if you are there. Remember ...I LOVE YOU.





Can Pogs Eat Cat Food?

Dr. Debra M. Eldredge, DVMMarch 16, 2024



Your dog will be attracted to your cat's food, so it's best to set the cat food bowl away from the dog's reach. Credit: Ruslan Dashinsky | Getty Images

For many dogs, getting some cat food, especially canned cat food or wet cat food, is a gourmet treat. Canned cat food tends to have more protein and often more fat than dog foods. Is is it safe though, can dogs eat cat food?

This is partly because cats are obligate carnivores, meaning they must eat meat to reach their nutritional requirements, while dogs are omnivores, which means they can meet their needs with both plants and meats.

Cat foods have a higher protein level than dog foods because cats use protein for energy and need the amino acids from meat to support their muscles and body functions.

Dogs Can Eat Dry Cat Food

Dogs can eat dry cat food, too. It's richer than dry dog food and makes nice, small, tasty training treats. Just don't overdo it. It's easy to do because most dogs really like cat kibble.

Dogs Can Eat Wet Cat Food

Wet cat food can come in handy for a dog with a poor appetite due to cancer, age, or any chronic health conditions. The added protein and fat make cat food smell better and taste better than many canine options. Used short term for these problems, it can help to turn a dog around who was not eating.

Cat food should not be your dog's normal diet though. The higher levels of fat can lead to gastrointestinal upsets and even pancreatitis in susceptible dogs (looking at you, Schnauzers!). In addition, the extra protein can be difficult for a dog with liver or kidney problems to safely metabolize.

Cat Food Is Safe for a Dog

Still, if your dog snatches a little cat food occasionally, his biggest risk is getting a swat on the nose from your irritated cat.

The bottom line is not to panic if your dog makes a raid on your cat's food bowl, but don't encourage him to do so. Use cat food if you need to tempt your anorexic dog, but don't use it as daily meals once he has recovered. If your dog is on a special/prescription diet for a health condition, avoid using any cat food at all unless you consult your veterinarian.



We Need Fosters

We have several people in the club that foster dogs and puppies. Here is a poem from Terry Albert who is one of those heroes.

I Never Was a Mother

I never was a mother With children of my own. But small creatures needing loving hands found their way into my home.

My brother's cat, the neighbor's dog, An AIDs victim's last request... For each and every one of them I tried to do my best.

Sad eyes behind the shelter bars, A beloved pet was lost. I knew that I must get him out No matter what the cost.



This type of work fills my heart As each I get to know They stay to rest, grow healthy, strong Then I must let them go

To new homes and new lives with prayers for love-filled years I watch my charges leave one day As I hold back my tears

Someone assigns us each a part to play in life's great game.

No, I never was a mother

But the role was near the same.

Create a Springtime Egg Hunt Your Pog Will Love

By Anna Burke

Egg hunts are a memorable springtime tradition for kids, but children aren't the only ones who like hunting for treats. Setting up a dog-friendly "egg hunt" is a great way to test your pup's sense of smell and scent game skills. Best of all, egg hunts can be assembled in your own yard, or even inside your home if you get creative. Egg hunts with your dog are a fun activity for the whole family, so long as safety remains a top priority. Here are some tips to help get your own canine egg hunt rolling this spring.



Assemble Your Dog-Friendly "Egg Hunt"
Any good plastic egg hunt needs at least
two things – treat-filled eggs and willing
participants. Plastic eggs are an ideal option
for hiding little snacks for your dog. They can,
however, pose some risks for dogs that you
can avoid with some planning. Choose plastic
eggs that are large enough to ensure that your
dog cannot swallow them whole. If your dog
insists on chewing on the plastic eggs, simply
hide the Easter treats around your home or
yard without using them. You could also use
an alternative, such as a Kong toy. The idea is
the same, and the game is still just as fun and
enriching.

Continued...

Springtime Egg Hunt, con't

Choose Your Dog Treats

Your dog relies on their nose to find rewards, so choose treats with an enticing smell that you know your dog enjoys. As you progress throughout the hunt, reward your dog for discovering new "eggs" or treats with an excited voice to keep them motivated. You may also want to select smaller-sized snacks, so your pet isn't eating too many treats in a short amount of time. Small, chewy treats that your dog can sniff out are a great egg hunt option. If your dog has a foundation in AKC Scent Work already, you can always have your dog hunt for scent instead of treats, and reward them accordingly when they find what the "egg" hides.

Watch and Manage Your Dog During the Hunt

If you're doing your own "egg hunt" at home, and have your dog safely contained, then a leash is optional. For a publicly-organized dog "egg hunt," participants will likely have leash rules they must adhere to. Keeping your dog on a leash is usually required by law, but it'll also help reduce the risk of accidental plastic egg ingestion.

It also helps reduce the risk of unwanted interactions with other participants (human or canine) at a public event. Leashing your dog also allows you to help guide your dog toward hard-to-find eggs or treats. If you have your own fenced-in yard, off-leash egg hunts are OK. Just be sure to watch your dog to prevent them from ingesting anything you don't want them to.

Not all dogs enjoy hunting for eggs with other dogs around. Dogs with resource guarding behaviors, or who don't get along well with other dogs in general, would do better with an individual egg hunt that gives them

more space to enjoy the activity. Just set up individual "egg hunts" with each dog's favorite treats and create plenty of space between each participant. Take turns if you have multiple dogs participating.



Not All Egg Hunts Are Created Equal

"Egg hunts" can be a fun activity for the whole family, but just be certain you don't mix up the chocolate you use for children's egg hunts with your dog-treat "eggs." Keep dogs inside and safely away from egg hunts when candy is involved so your dog doesn't unintentionally ingest any human treat that could be toxic to them, or doesn't sneak away with a plastic egg that a child may have dropped. You may also want to count your dog hunt "eggs" to make sure your dog has found them all. Doing this will ensure they don't discover any later and chew up or swallow the plastic.

Now that you're set with all the knowledge you need about egg hunts, it's time to get started. Happy hunting!



Treasurer

Jeannie Alvarado

661-917-1915

Mission Statement

The BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club is dedicated to responsible dog ownership/guardianship. We are a body of people who care about their dogs and want to be with like-minded responsible people who feel the same. We are committed to sharing and learning. The club will provide experiences through education, training, fun events and social activities. It is designed to improve handler skills and be an information center for owners presenting issues and subjects based on our members' needs.



The club will provide support for local rescues in Kern County.

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TW membership form 20.docx

2024 BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Annual Dues: \$30.00. Make checks payable to: BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club. Please print Name: ____ Home Phone: Street Address: _____Tract & Lot _____ Cell Phone #(s) Mailing Address (if different from above):_____ E-mail address(s): May we publish your name, phone numbers and e-mail address for club use? Yes No Please provide family members' names. Give the current ages and birth dates of your children who may be participating in Tailwaggers' activities. **All minors must be accompanied by and under the supervision of a parent or parent-designated adult (in writing) while attending or participating in Tailwaggers' activities. The BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club exists to represent canine interests in BVS, to promote responsible, informed dog ownership, and good fellowship of dog owners and BVS residents, to promote fun dog-related activities, including training, to improve and maintain dog-related facilities within BVS, and to support local canine rescues. Membership is open to adult property owners and residents in good standing with the Bear Valley Springs Association (BVSA). ACCIDENT RELEASE: My signature below hereby releases the Bear Valley Springs Tailwaggers Dog Club and the BVSA and all persons connected with these aforementioned groups from any liability/responsibility for any loss/injury/damage to either myself, my family, my dog(s)/or my equipment while I am/we are participating in, assisting with, or working on any event/activity sponsored by the BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club. Pursuant to Section 305 of the BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB By-laws, all adult family club members signing below hereby agree: (a) to take physical and financial responsibility for any dog under my custody or control; (b) that if participating in any BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB event with a dog that is not my own, they shall be liable for damage or injury inflicted by any such dog(s); and (c) that the Board of Directors or designated Event Coordinator or Trainer of BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club has the right to exclude any aggressive, unruly, or unmanageable dog and their handler from any BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB event. All adult family club members signing below further agree to sign and maintain on file with BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club a current year's Waiver, Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk form. ALL adult family club members must sign. (Parents must sign for minor child) Mail to: BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club, 29800 Jamaica Dunes Dr., Tehachapi, CA 93561 Tailwaggers Office Use Only Dues Paid \$_____ Date Paid: _____ Cash/Check#_____ Liability release/waiver signed: Yes No ~ 15 ~

BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB

WAIVER, RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK TO BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY EVERY CLUB MEMBER

All club members must sign one of these forms. Please read and be certain you understand the implications of signing.

In consideration of my participation in activities arranged by BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB (BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB), I hereby release and covenant not to sue BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB, its owners, shareholders, directors, officers, employees, representatives, agents, and lessees and their successors from any and all present and future claims whatsoever, which the undersigned and any of them and the heirs, representatives, executors and administrators thereof, or any other persons acting in behalf, or on behalf of their respective agents, have or may have resulting from ordinary negligence and inherent risk of my participation in any activities or arrangements and the use of the facilities and equipment of BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB and Bear Valley Springs Association (BVSA) and Bear Valley Community Services District (BVSCSD), including but not limited to any loss, injury, damage, illness, sickness, or liability sustained by me while on or about the premises of the BVSA, the BVSCSD, or the BVS TAILWAGGERS DOB CLUB.

Express Assumption of Risk Associated with CANINE-RELATED ACTIVITIES. I, whose name and signature appear below, do hereby affirm and acknowledge that I have been fully informed of the inherent hazards and risks associated with canine activities and sports, including training, showing, competitions, exhibitions, events, meetings, play days and other activities. Inherent hazards and risks include but are not limited to:

- 1. Risk of injury from the activity and equipment utilized in canine activities of all kinds is significant including the potential for permanent disability and death.
- 2. Possible equipment failure and/ or the malfunction of my own or other's equipment.
- 3. My own negligence and/or the negligence of all others, including employees, agents, independent contractors or representatives of the BVSA, BVSCSD, and BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB, including but not limited to operator error.
- 4. The propensity of a canine (dog) to behave in dangerous ways that may result in injury or death to the participant or others or their dog(s) regardless of the dog's previous training and past performance.
- 5. The inability to predict a dog's reaction to sound, movements, unfamiliar environment, objects, persons, or animals.
- 6. Propensity for a dog to bite, fight, run, scratch, make unpredictable movements, jump, push or shove without warning or apparent cause.
- 7. Collars, harnesses, leashes and other equipment may loosen or break, which may result in accident, injury or death.
- 8. The domesticated animal may also react in a dangerous manner when condition or treatment is considered hazardous to the welfare of the animal.
- 9. The potential for a participant or others to fail to exercise reasonable care, or take adequate control when engaging in a domesticated animal activity, including failing to maintain reasonable control of the animal or failing to act in a manner consistent with the person's abilities.
- 10. Broken bones or severe injuries which may result in severe impairment or even death.
- 11. Pursuant to Section 305 of the BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB By-laws, I agree to take physical and financial responsibility for any dog under my custody or control; that if I am participating in any BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB event with a dog that is not my own, I shall be liable for damage or injury inflicted by any such dog; and that the Board of Directors or designated Event Coordinator or Trainer of BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club has the right to exclude any aggressive, unruly, or unmanageable dog and their handler from any BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB event.

I understand the description of these risks is not complete and that unknown or unanticipated risks may result in injury, illness, or death.

I agree that immediately prior to participation in any activity arranged for me by BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB I will inspect the facilities and equipment to be used and if any defect is apparent I will not use the facility or equipment and I will notify the management of the BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB of the defect.

I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE WAIVER, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING THIS WAIVER, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY.

Name:	Signature:	Date:
ADDRESS:		PHONE:
Any person under the age of 18 y	years must have a parent or guardian co-sign this	form.
Name:	Signature:	Date: