



THE RIDGELINE

Newsletter of the New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club

Issue 3—August 25, 2020

President's Message

Summer's coming to a close so it's coursing time again! We're planning a fun event on October 24th-25th in Dartmouth; more details to come and they'll be posted on our website as soon as they're available.

We're also close to completion of our nominations for next year for new officers. That's very exciting for me as I'm off the hook! Thanks to Alan Fraser, Cheryl Cote, Julie Paul, Heidi Dommers and Rebecca Fitzpatrick for stepping up to help this year in naming a slate of officers. I know it's a thankless job and we appreciate your efforts.

Our annual meeting will be held in conjunction with what would have been our holiday party this year. It's a tricky thing to do on Zoom but we are working on a plan for November. I hope to see some of you masked and in person at our coursing trial in October.

Bonnie Johnson
www.shabani.com
C: 508-951-2989

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"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers." ~ L.M. Montgomery

New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club

Board of Directors Meeting August 2, 2020 - held via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM by Bonnie Johnson

Attendees: Alan Fraser, Bonnie Johnson, Helen McCune, Nikki Newton, Evelyn Strawn, Meghan Terwilliger, Chris Greeley, liaison to Mass Fed, Suzanne Cooney

Secretary's Report:

- Erin Capone & Dylan Todd, Newmarket, NH Family Voting
Sponsor: Evelyn Strawn
- Sally Carpenter, Woodstock, VT Single Voting
Sponsor: Meghan Terwilliger
- William Cormier, Ashburham, MA Single Voting
Sponsor: Julie Paul
- Rhonda & Nathan Lapham, Douglas, MA Family Voting
Sponsor: Julie Paul

Treasurer's Report: Alan Fraser

Directors Insurance has been renewed.

Rescue Funds	\$2,092.87
General Funds	\$8,699.44
Show Funds	\$2,305.55
Current Balance	\$13,097.86

Details available upon request.

Regional Specialty Show - Barbara Ferguson:

Nothing to report.

Mass Fed – Chris Greeley

Chris updated the BOD about legislative issues as detailed in the information provided by AKC below.

More information can be found directly at: <https://www.akc.org/author/government-relations-department/>

NEW ENGLAND STATE ISSUES JULY 2020

By AKC Government Relations

Connecticut – A Task Force on Police Transparency and Accountability has proposed three subcommittees to provide recommendations on improving police interactions, assessing resource allocations and collecting data on police actions. A final report and legislative recommendations are expected by December. AKC GR is monitoring to evaluate whether the utilization of working police K-9s is addressed.

Massachusetts – In June, the Black and Latino Legislative Caucus filed HD 5128, Relative to Saving Black Lives and Reforming Public Safety, which includes a provision prohibiting the utilization of working police K-9s. Next, Senate Ways and Means released SB 2800, a law enforcement reform proposal designating the release of a dog as a prohibited use of force unless de-escalation techniques are attempted and fail, and the use of force is necessary and proportionate to the threat of imminent harm. AKC GR's concern is the text in both bills is a mischaracterization of how working police K-9s are utilized. On July 13, AKC GR co-hosted with two expert K-9 police handlers an educational program for lawmakers on the value of purpose-bred working

dogs, police K-9 certifications, policies and procedures used to protect public safety, which resulted in acceptable K-9 text in the Senate's final bill, SB 2820. The House adopted its proposal, including the K-9 text of concern. AKC GR and the Boston Police Department's K-9 Academy have submitted a letter to the conference committee requesting adoption of the Senate's final text in any legislation to be sent to the Governor's desk.

Massachusetts – On May 8, 2020, the Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government released a committee re-draft of multiple animal bills that did not include the HB 1822 proposed ban on dogs outside and unattended opposed by AKC GR, dog owners, breeders, sportsmen and police officers that have dogs that would be negatively impacted. The committee re-draft, SB 2760 has been sent to Senate Ways and Means Committee where additional dog legislation is under consideration. It would make significant harmful changes to current law if enacted. AKC GR worked with Massachusetts advocates to create a bill summary outlining all the concerns.

Massachusetts – Two pet retail ban bills HB 800 and SB 175 were re-drafted by the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure. The re-draft, SB 2592, Reforming the Sale of Cats, Dogs and Rabbits in the Commonwealth does not ban pet stores from selling dogs or cats. Instead, it establishes health certificate requirements, consumer protections and standards for all animal transfers whether made by a pet store, animal shelter, rescue or breeder. AKC GR is generally pleased with SB 2592 and will advocate for clarifying amendments when the General Court resumes normal session procedures.

Massachusetts – SB 2158 would create a civil infraction for presenting a pet dog as a service dog and authorize the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development to prepare and make available to businesses upon request: (i) a decal suitable for posting in a front window or door stating that service dogs are welcome and that misrepresentation of a service dog is a violation of Massachusetts law; and (ii) a brochure detailing permissible questions a business owner may ask to determine whether a dog is a service dog, acceptable answers to those questions, and guidelines defining unacceptable behavior. It was favorably reported from the Joint Federal Affairs Committee on April 21, 2020 and sent to Senate Ways and Means for consideration. AKC GR supports this bill.

Massachusetts – HB 4230 and SB 2423 ("Nero's bill") would allow EMTs to treat and transport law enforcement K9s injured in the line of duty. Grassroots support from the Massachusetts dog clubs has been significant. AKC GR continues to work with bill sponsors to pass the legislation this session.

Massachusetts – SB 595 would prohibit insurance companies from denying homeowners or renters insurance, or from requiring a higher premium based upon breed, size or weight of a dog owned. On April 27, 2020, the bill was reported favorably by the Joint Committee on Financial Services Bill and was referred to the committee on Senate Ways and Means. The Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs and AKC GR support it.

New Hampshire – HB 1234 swiftly incorporated multiple bills pending before COVID-19 shortened the legislative session. Included was the establishment of a state Animal Health Certificate Database to track any transfer of a dog, cat, or ferret by those required to submit health certificates to the Department of Agriculture. Although improvements to the original bill had been made, the text included in HB 1234 had limited sanctions for breaches of data confidentiality and other issues. Governor Sununu vetoed HB 1234 on July 28, 2020.

Vermont – The Vermont Legislature committed to review formal recommendations by the Vermont Animal Cruelty Investigation Advisory Board. After informal discussions, including with the Vermont Federation of Dog Clubs with input by AKC GR, the House Agriculture Committee introduced HB 940 establishing animal cruelty investigation, training and certification for animal control officers. The bill has been posted to the notice calendar for House consideration. AKC GR will continue to work closely with the Federation on bill text.

Vermont – HB 636 requires a dog trainer to inform his or her client of the methods and equipment that will be used to train the client's dog and of the risks and benefits of those methods and equipment, and to require the dog trainer to obtain the client's consent to that training. AKC GR plans to contact the bill sponsor to understand the rationale for the measure once the pandemic emergency subsides.

Vermont – Animal rescues and shelters are asking Governor Scott for authority via emergency orders to resume importing animals into the state and considering breeding animals to meet the demand for pets. In 2016, registration and oversight requirements for animal importers and shelters were eliminated. The Vermont Federation of Dog Clubs sent a letter to the Governor on May 21st stating that public health and safety requires registration, vaccination and quarantine by these organizations. AKC GR issued an alert encouraging emails be sent to the Governor in support of the federation's letter and forwarded a similar request to him on June 3, 2020. No action has been taken.

Historian – Cathy Ford

There was some discussion about whether Cathy wants to continue as the Historian. Evelyn will contact her to clarify.

Membership Care – Jack and Trish Hamilton

Nothing to report.

Rescue – Cheryl Fraser

Mara (still) remains in foster care and would love a home to call her own - Mara has been in foster care for 2 plus years. As previously reported, Mara is a special needs Ridgeback.

A young female, Lucy, is in rescue in Vermont. She is doing very well in foster care. Lucy has a potential adoption by her foster family. Contact Faith Martin for more information fmartin@ridgebackrescue.org

Two Ridgebacks were picked up as strays by a shelter in CT the end of May. A foster home was secured for the dogs, Harry & Lily. The dogs were vetted, microchipped, brought UTD on vaccines and Harry was neutered. After a few more weeks with the foster couple, the fosters asked to make their home a permanent home for Harry & Lily. Hurrah... Harry & Lily have a new home and family!

FOSTER HOMES NEEDED - Rhodesian Ridgeback Rescue, Inc. (RRRI) remains in great need for **foster homes**. We continue to scramble when a dog is in need to find a foster home willing to provide foster care. Please consider giving back to our beloved breed by volunteering to be a foster home.

HOME CHECKS – With the ongoing pandemic, we have reverted to performing **virtual home checks**. The use of Zoom and FaceTime and other virtual means are being used. If you would be able to perform home checks for potential adoption applicants, please let us know. We have a checklist of questions to ask applicants while virtually visiting them in their home. Help is always needed to vet adoption applicants.

All Rhodesian Ridgeback Rescue, Inc (RRRI) booth appearances in New England, have to date, been cancelled due to the pandemic. Maybe next year.

RRRI is accepting photo submissions for their 2021 Ridgeback-a-Day Calendar. Details can be found at this link <https://www.ridgebackrescue.org/calendar/orders/order.php> Questions about the calendar can be sent to calendar@ridgebackrescue.org

NERRC Website – Meghan Terwilliger & Cheryl Fraser

The Website is up to date.

NERRC Policy & Procedures – Cheryl Fraser

The Ways & Means P & P needs to have an amendment that funds raised at the NERRC club show auction are to benefit rescue and show expenses. Cheryl Fraser will consult with Barbara Ferguson to draft the wording change and submit to the Board for approval.

Alan will update the job description and responsibilities of the Treasurer's position.

Ridgeline – Helen McCune

The Ridgeline is sent out four times a year. There was some discussion about the timing of the remaining two issues. It was agreed that one should be sent out prior to the September Board meeting in order to publicize the lure coursing event. This may result in five issues being sent out this year.

Ways and Means – Cheryl Fraser

The club is planning to hold a lure coursing event in October. There is very little inventory so that an order needs to be put in. Nikki is storing these remaining items. She will do an inventory and confer with Cheryl.

Some new items that were suggested included:

- Crate pads (could be purchased from Helen's sister who makes them)
- Lure coursing magnets; not Ridgeback specific
- Facemasks with an RR motif

By Laws – Alan Fraser

Nothing to report.

Social Media – Meghan Terwilliger

Nothing to report.

Regional News (for The Ridgeback Magazine) – Bonnie Johnson

Bonnie submitted a report the club's activities and it was included in the most recent edition of the magazine.

Lure Coursing – Nikki Newton and Chris Greeley

There was consensus that the club should go ahead with the lure coursing event scheduled for the weekend of October 24/25. The site is yet to be confirmed but the plan is to hold it at the same place in Dartmouth as has been used for previous events. Nikki and Chris are working hard on the details including securing a lure operator, two judges and two field chairs. They have developed a safety plan that conforms to state requirements which will be shared with the membership. It was definitely agreed that everyone should have fun lure coursing but also be safe.

The board discussed what would be needed to make future lure coursing events run smoothly. There was consensus that having a club member be a lure operator would be a definite plus. The possibility of hosting a lure operator seminar one day and a judging seminar the next day was discussed. The committee was encouraged to explore the possibility of holding these one weekend in the spring. It was suggested that the lure operator day could also be a fun day for people interested in trying lure coursing and that would bring in some money to offset the costs associated with these seminars.

There was also consideration given to the need for upgrading the club's equipment. Bonnie is storing the equipment and she will provide an inventory. Once it is clear what still works a budget can be developed for purchasing additional items. In the meantime, the Bobinator should be sent out to a small engine professional for servicing prior to the October event.

Unfinished Business

Zoom platform seems to have worked for this meeting. Therefore future Board meetings will continue on Zoom for the foreseeable future.

A nominating committee has been formed. The members are Alan Fraser, Chair, Cheryl Cote and Julie Paul. Heidi Palladino and Becca Fitzpatrick are alternates. The committee is charged with putting together a slate for the positions of president, treasurer and the two board seats currently filled by Meghan and Nikki. They both have expressed interest in continuing. Bonnie has served two terms as president and due to the term limits in our by-laws cannot serve another term. She will continue to serve on the board in an ex officio position.

Finding a candidate for the president position poses some challenges since the person is required to be a voting member of NERRC and a member of RRCUS. The board also strongly recommended that the person nominated have served on the NERRC BOD in the past or had similar experience on the board of another dog club.

Traditionally the annual meeting is held in August in conjunction with a summer BBQ/picnic. Since there was no public gathering this summer it was agreed to postpone the annual meeting until November when there may be a holiday party. If that does not take place the annual meeting will be combined with the November BOD meeting.

The holiday party has been scheduled for November 15 at the Fireside Grille in Middleboro, MA. Meghan will be in touch with the restaurant to discuss current rules for social distancing and to find out what would be the cutoff date for rescheduling so that we would not lose our deposit. It was agreed that once Meghan had that information we should survey the membership to see if anyone would be interested in attending an in person event.

Note: Subsequent to the board meeting, Meghan checked with the venue for the Holiday Party/Annual Meeting. Given the space restrictions in their banquet room and the updated guidance from the Commonwealth the board was in agreement that this event should not be held this year.

New Business

None was brought up.

Next Meeting: September 13 – 10 AM via Virtual/Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Strawn

NERRC Secretary

Addendum – Additional First Reads

Jeremiah & Dawn Walsh, Mashpee, MA Voting Family

Sponsor: Nikki Newton

Peter & Sharon Faust, Taunton, MA Voting Family

Sponsor: Nikki Newton

On line motions

On June 17 it was moved by Evelyn and seconded by Helen that the upcoming BOD meeting and annual meeting be held on the Zoom platform. It was a unanimous vote in favor therefore the motion passes.

On June 22 Evelyn moved and Barbara seconded that we authorize the treasurer to renew the NERRC Directors and Officers Insurance Policy at a cost of \$829 for the year August 15, 2020 to August 15, 2021. The vote having been unanimously in favor the motion carries.

On August 4 Evelyn moved and Helen seconded approval of the minutes of the August 2, 2020 BOD meeting. It was a unanimous vote in favor so that the motion passed.

Anticipatory Grief: What is it and How to Cope

by Andria Corso, MS

"I feel like we just brought one-year-old Hokie home from the shelter, and now he's suddenly a senior dog with a terminal illness. I can't imagine my life without him" ~ Debra G.

If you're a pet owner, chances are you've experienced a thought or feeling similar to the above statement. *How do our young pets suddenly become gray-faced seniors with limited days left on earth?* If all goes according to plan, most pet owners will outlive their pets; yet, we don't like to think about their end-of-life, and we usually don't think about it until we have no choice.

Anticipatory grief is grief that begins *before the actual loss of a loved one* (Allen & Gore, 2020). *This grief is common in pet owners dealing with an aging pet or who receive a diagnosis of a beloved pet's terminal illness. Anticipatory grief is frequently defined in research as:*

"The phenomenon encompassing the processes of mourning, coping, interaction, planning, and psychosocial reorganization that are stimulated and begun in part in response to the awareness of the impending loss of a loved one (death) and the recognition of associated losses in the past present and future." (Rando, 1986, p. 20)

This is real grief that produces real feelings in pet owners. It is important for pet owners to know how to cope with these feelings. The remainder of this article will outline the triggers of anticipatory grief in pet owners, how it feels, and strategies for coping with these feelings.

When does it start and how long does it last?

Anticipatory grief can set in when you begin noticing signs of aging in your pet such as moving slower than they used to and becoming grayer in the face. Their aging process may trigger your awareness that their end of life is getting closer to becoming a reality. The diagnosis of a pet's terminal illness may also trigger anticipatory grief - regardless of the pet's age - and may propel you into feelings of grief about the expected loss of your pet.

Anticipatory grief can be long-lasting and can go on for as long as someone is awaiting the loss of their pet whether due to old age or illness. For example, a pet owner - whose cat is diagnosed with terminal cancer and then passes away a month after diagnosis - may experience anticipatory grief throughout that last month of time that they spent together with their pet. For another owner whose dog is in a slow decline for the last two years of her life, the anticipatory grief may be prolonged over that two-year period of time. The timeframe depends on the anticipatory grief trigger point and when the pet passes.

How does it feel?

Anticipatory grief impacts pet owners emotionally, cognitively, and physically (Cox, 2017). Guilt is a common feeling of pet owners as they question whether they are doing enough to help their pets, whether their pet is suffering, and when it will be time to say goodbye (Hewson, 2014). The pending euthanasia decision is one that causes many pet owners to feel deep sadness and despair. Having to make the decision to end their pet's life is one decision that many pet owners struggle with, and that struggle is exacerbated during anticipatory grief (Laing & Maylea, 2018).

Anticipatory grief also has physical impacts - stress impacts a pet owner's physiological state, sleep patterns, and the way they live. Many pet owners change the way they live daily life to accommodate their sick or aging pet. For example, they limit time away from home because they need to administer medication to their aging or sick pets and forego vacations to properly care for their pets. Pet owners acclimate their lives to take care of their pets and are often unaware of how these life changes decrease their own quality of life over time. Although pet owners may not recognize or feel the effects of these life limitations while immersed in their caregiving, the realization becomes apparent when they look back or reflect on what their life was like as they dealt with their aging or sick pet.

Anticipatory grief often strengthens the human-animal bond, and feelings of closeness to one's pet grow and deepen. Pet owners dedicate more time and energy to caring for their pets, tending to them physically, as well as spending more time with them in anticipation of their death. This can deepen their bond with their pet. For example, when Matt's basset hound became too frail to walk up and down a flight of stairs, he began carrying her up and down the stairs a few times a day, every day for over a year. Those daily walks up and down stairs with a 50-lb basset hound in his arms deepened his love for her and made it even more difficult to anticipate the end of her life.

How can you cope?

If you're experiencing anticipatory grief, know that your feelings are normal and justified. Even if others don't understand what you're experiencing, you are a pet-parent, and your feelings related to the expected loss of your pet are real and valid.

There are a few things you can do to help cope with your anticipatory grief.

First, take care of yourself so that you can best care for your pet. It may be easy to sacrifice your own well-being and do everything to ensure your pet is comfortable and well-cared-for; however, if you are not well, you can't provide the best care for your pet. Practice self-care by getting good sleep, eating well, and spending time in nature. Or, if you enjoy yoga, a massage, or meditation, take time for those things. You must be fully healthy to best tend to your pet's needs.

Second, feel your feelings. Whatever you're feeling - whether sadness, anger, guilt, or frustration - feel it without any judgment. Emotions are energy and need to move through your body, so that they don't get stuck and create additional stress. By acknowledging your sadness or anger and giving yourself space to express it, either through talking to someone about it, writing about it, going for a walk, or a run to release it, you give those feelings space to move. That's part of coping with negative emotions – feel them so that they can move through your body.

Third, spend quality time with your pet. You best know your pet and know what they love to do. You also know what they can do comfortably during this time. What can they do that they love to do? Spend time doing those things with your pet.

Fourth, plan ahead, if possible. If you're planning to euthanize your pet, discuss this with your veterinarian so you know where it will happen and who will be there. Also, talk to your vet about how to know when it's time. There are several quality of life scales that you can use to assess your pet's quality of life and to determine when it might be the right time to say goodbye. Remember, you may always question whether it's the "right time," but having a plan about where it will happen and what to look for when making the decision may help with your anticipatory grief.

Finally, seek support. Many pet owners have experienced and are experiencing the same anticipatory grief as you. Attending a [pet loss support group](#) with others in a similar situation can help you cope with your anticipatory grief. The process of sharing your feelings with others who understand - because they've been there - can be extremely helpful and healing. You can also seek individual support from a professional grief counselor if you prefer a one-on-one setting.

Our pets bring so much joy to our lives, and most pet owners always wish they had more time with their fur-babies. Unfortunately, saying goodbye to them is part of the cycle of life. Anticipating that goodbye is also a difficult reality of being a pet owner. Remember - all that you feel as you await the end of your pet's life is real. It's a reflection of how much you love them and how much they love you. Be kind to yourself and trust that the love you have for your pet will guide you through and help you make the best decisions at the end of their life.

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Article Source: <https://www.vetvine.com/forums/topic/1195/anticipatory-grief-what-it-is-and-how-to-cope>

Save the Dates!

**NERRC's
Fall Lure Coursing Tests and Trials
October 24th and 25th**

Location: Viveiros Field

Behind 795 Hixville Road, Dartmouth, MA 02747



- Join us for 2 days of coursing !
- JCs and QCs will be offered both days as well
- COVID safety standards will be upheld!
- For a link to the premium list and more information visit www.NERRC.org!

Lure Coursing Committee Needs Your Help!!

We need NERRC Members to fulfill a variety of roles at our annual (and maybe more in the future) lure coursing trials! Our next trial is scheduled for Oct 24 & 25 in Dartmouth, MA. We need more people to apprentice the following roles so that we have more experienced workers to help with future trials. Lure coursing is so much fun! You do not need to have any experience to come to a trial and your dog can be a novice too. Please consider apprenticing at our trial. It is very helpful to have an idea ahead of your plans for scheduling purposes, but we also can accommodate day-of volunteers. As an apprentice you can shadow someone for part or all of a day, it's up to you. You can bring your dog and enter them or you can come without a dog! The starred roles are ones we really need members to apprentice and have experience with. Please email or text Nikki Newton with questions or to volunteer: nikknewton@gmail.com 508-245-8543.

* **Field Chairman**—chair of the field committee (in the case of misconduct or injury and there is an Event Hearing), must be present all day until the trial concludes, assures that all necessary items are on-site, and all plans and rules are followed. The main responsibility of this role is to answer questions and direct participants to the appropriate place/person/action. Most of the planning/inventory takes place by the Club Field Trial Committee months in advance of the trial.

* **Field Secretary**—Collects all entries for the event, generates list of dogs for roll call, responsible for the “draw” of hounds. Is responsible for all of the paperwork throughout the course of the trial, and makes the final submission of paperwork to AKC.

Field Clerk- Ferry score sheets between judges and field Secretary, posts scores after each run, assists the Field Secretary.

* **Huntmaster** - is at the start line and responsible for assuring all participants are informed of the rules, and follow safety procedures, cuts the line in case of anything dangerous, informs judges and lure operators of any issues with hounds, inspect and replace the lure. This role requires training and experience for the safety of the hounds.

** **Lure Operator**—sets the course and operates the lure. This requires a lot of apprenticing and experience, our club could really use some members who are willing to learn this vital role.

* **Roll Call** (Inspection and Measuring Committee)- checks each hound (with a team) for lameness, in season, and breed disqualifications at the start of the trial.

Paddock Master-Insure that participants are ready with their hounds.

For detailed descriptions of each role, look on pg. 9-13 here: <https://images.akc.org/pdf/rulebooks/RELURE.pdf>



COVID-19 GUIDELINES for:

NERRC Lure Coursing Trial

October 24-25, 2020

Viveiros Field, Behind 795 Hixville Road, Dartmouth, MA

1. Club officials, participants are required to follow state, local and facility guidelines that apply to the area and site where the event is held
2. Practice social distancing consistent with current guidelines both on the field and off
3. Avoid congregating to the extent possible
4. Wearing face masks is required when checking in, during roll call, lining up to run your dog or when 6' of social distance is not possible. Refusal to wear a mask will result in dismissal.
5. Plenty of sanitizer will be available but also please bring your own
6. Consider wearing disposable or washable gloves
7. Wash hands as frequently as possible. Avoid shaking hands or other contact.
8. Avoid touching dogs that are not yours
9. Avoid commonly used pens/pencils—Bring your own. Pens and pencils will be provided at registration along with sanitizer as needed.
10. Port-a-Potties will be available during the trial. Use at your own risk.
11. Bring your own chairs, dog crates, etc. Nothing will be provided.
12. No food will be available at this trial. Bring your own.

Signed Waiver of Liability/Informed Consent Covid-19 Waiver must be returned with entries. This is not an option.

Waiver of Liability and Informed Consent COVID-19 Waiver

Hereinafter, the New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club, Massachusetts will be referred to as NERRC.

I attest that to the best of my knowledge I do not have COVID-19 at the time of entering a NERRC trial or attending a NERRC event, and understand the risks of unknowing exposure to this and other illnesses by or to myself, my family, other participants and third parties. I have not been tested and found positive, am not waiting for test results, and do not have symptoms. I agree that I will not knowingly expose others to any illness I may have or be at risk to have. I will follow all NERRC rules and requirements to reduce any exposure and possibility of contracting or spreading the virus. I will also fully cooperate with and follow any City, County, or State guidelines that have jurisdiction in the area in which the event is taking place. If any of the above should change prior to my arrival at a NERRC event or during the completion of a trial or event that is the subject of this consent, I will inform NERRC and proceed accordingly in light of the new information. I agree that I am attending a trial or event at NERRC field trial in Dartmouth, MA entirely at my own risk and assume all risk and full responsibility for my own health, wellbeing, and safety during this trial or event. I fully agree that NERRC, the officers, board members, and volunteers are in no way liable for any present or future COVID-19 exposure incurred at any time by any person in attendance or not in attendance, during or after this event. I hereby waive and release NERRC, the officers, the board, members, volunteers, from any and all liability for damages or personal injury to me, my dogs, or my property. Further, I hereby indemnify and hold harmless NERRC, the officers, the board, members, volunteers, from any and all claims or liability to any third party arising out of my participation at a NERRC trial or event. Any liability to anyone for an incident involving myself, the location, or those pets or actions of other participants and spectators will be my sole responsibility and I assume all financial liability and will also assume all and any financial costs associated with my actions.

Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____

Upcoming Webinars: Management of Canine Pyometra

Management & Antibiotic Considerations in Canine Pyometra

In this presentation veterinary reproduction specialist Dr. Karen Von Dollen will provide an overview of pyometra in the bitch, as well as discuss recent research that is helping us to better understand the disease and management strategies. Medical management, including appropriate case selection, will be highlighted. It is the intent for the audience to learn how to diagnose and approach canine pyometra, gain an understanding for the behavior of bacteria in the uterus, and principles underlying medical management.

To be available for viewing On Demand: **Tues, September 15, 2020 @ 12p ET / 11a CT / 9a PT**

Registration compliments of: **AKC Canine Health Foundation**

Veterinary Professionals can earn AAVSB RACE, NY State, and NJVMA-approved CE credit on a *pay-per-view* basis or inclusive of a [VetVine Premium Membership](#).

For more information visit: <https://www.vetvine.com/article/666/akcchf-management-of-canine-pyometra>



“Everyone must take time to sit and watch the leaves turn.”
~ Elizabeth Lawrence