

Spring/Summer 2025



Quarterly Newsletter



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Special thanks to photographer Carolyn Chow for the use of her photos!

Club Updates

A Farewell Letter from Our Former IWC Board President

Dear IWC Members,

After 21 years as a member and 8 years as president of this club, I am happy to leave the position in the capable hands of Tricia Conklin.

When I joined the club in 2004, it was very small. Most of us could sit around two big tables to eat dinner after the Saturday conformation shows (yes, “shows” - we had one show in the morning and another in the afternoon) and discuss club business. In the intervening years, the club has grown!

In 2011 there were 52 members. In 2017 when I became president there were 134 members. Today there are 310!

In 2018 the board decided to incorporate as a 501(c)(7) corporation. It was a complicated project. We were guided through it by a team of professionals, and our application was successful. The club officially became International Windsprite Club, Inc.

Under this aegis, new breeders have been mentored, and many more litters of puppies have been bred. Windsprite members are to be found in 35 US states, in Canada, and in 11 European countries.

It's been an honor being your president and I look forward to supporting the new officers over the next two years as new structures and modalities are put in place to support the growth of our club.

Now it's time to play with my doggies. See you at the shows.

Respectfully,
Donna DeVoist



Thank you, Donna, for your years of service!

IWC Board Welcomes Unexpected New Member



Following the departure of Ezri Silverberg from the IWC Board of Directors this past July, Monica Callahan, the final candidate in the recent election, has been appointed by the IWC Board to fill the vacant seat in the interim. Welcome and congratulations, Monica, on your Board Membership! Our thanks to Ezri for their time and dedication.





We are the Champions

We apologize for the delay in the announcement of these recent achievements! The newly formed Performance Committee has been hard at work, catching up on record keeping and updating procedures! Please join us in recognizing the following titles from the IWC Specialty Shows in October 2024 (New Hampshire), May 2025 (Pennsylvania), and September 2025 (New York).



Racing Excellent (SRX)

- “Moxie” Wylde Best Young Rider - Donna DeVoist

Racing Open (SRO)

- “Yelena” Blue Mist Yelena - Jessica & Valerie Stier
- “Honey” Fairbairn’s Magic Hour - Claire Conklin
- “Linguine” Tova’s That’s Amore - Cat Seifert
- “Bonsai” Crystal Spirit Expressive Suiseki - Jenny Ford



Conformation Grand Champion (GRCH)

- “Cowboy” Tova's Goooooal of Crystal Spirit - Kim & Bill Wilson

Conformation Champion (CH)

- “Echo” Blue Mist Speed of Sound - Christine Chady
- “Stuffy” Blue Mist Mythical Creature - Jean Donnan
- “Bounce” Crystal Spirit Birch & Gabbro Merges Lives - Myra Roth

Conformation Junior Champion (JCH)

- “Yanni” Sonata's Nostalgia at the Acropolis of Stone House - Joy Gilson
- “Selkie” Blue Mist Tidal Temptation at Prairie Fire - Nikki Darga



Agility Standard Level 1 (AS1)

- “Time” Blue Mist Time at Stone House - Sidney Hoblit
- “Cricket” Tova’s Miracle Queen of Naboo from Moonshadow - Jean McCord
- “Rocky” Wylde Super Scout - Donna DeVoist
- “Chaos” Blue Mist Chaos Theory of Apsara - Courtney Hatton



Agility Games Level 1 (AG1)

- “Willow” Brikal Willow at Stone House - Sidney Hoblit
- “Chaos” Blue Mist Chaos Theory of Apsara - Courtney Hatton
- “Linguine” Tova’s That’s Amore - Cat Seifert
- “Siren” Blue Mist Sing Til Sundown - Nikki Darga
- “Kaibab” Tova’s Mackerel Sky from Fairbarn - Andrea Cooper

Agility Standard Level 2 (AS2)

- “Aela” Stone House Pierce Your Heart - Tricia Conklin

Agility Games Level 2 (AG2)

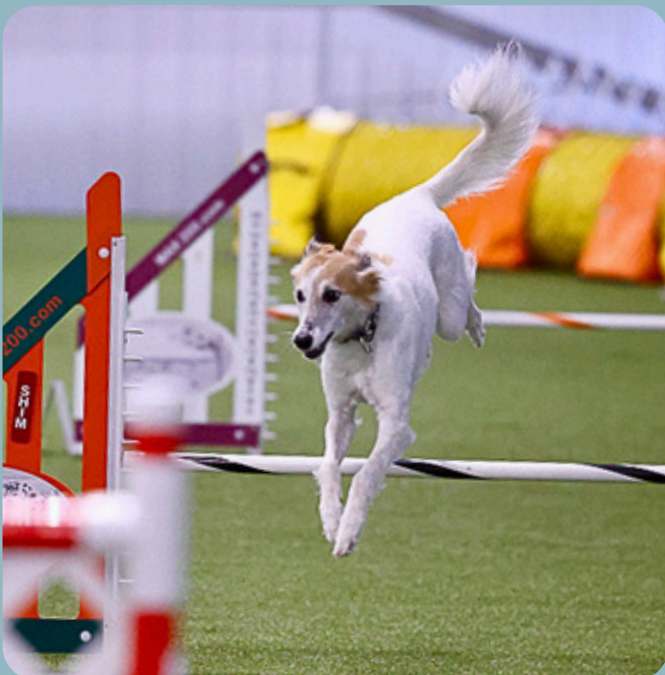
- “Trevor” Stone House Heart of Gold - Sidney Hoblit
- “Aela” Stone House Pierce Your Heart - Tricia Conklin

Agility Standard Level 3 (AS3)

- “Wink” Wylde About Them Boogie Wookie Blues - Donna DeVoist

Agility Games Level 3 (AG3)

- “Wink” Wylde About Them Boogie Wookie Blues - Donna DeVoist



Rally Obedience Champion (ROCH)

- “Cricket” Tova's Miracle Queen of Naboo from Moonshadow - Jean McCord
- “Wink” Wylde About Them Boogie Woogie Blues - Donna DeVoist
- “Ava” Stone House Happy as a Lark - Jackie Wright-Minogue
- “Simon” Aurai Treasure Island - Claire Conklin

Rally Obedience Advanced (ROA)

- “Chaos” Blue Mist Chaos Theory of Apsara - Courtney Hatton
- “Aura” Tova's Lucy at the Hop of Celeritas - Ezri Silverberg
- “Flash” Stone House Green Flash Labradorite - Lauren & Andrew Green
- “Juliet” Windchime's Rose By Any Other Name - Oluademi James-Daniel
- “Kaibab” Tova's Mackerel Sky From Fairbairn - Andrea Cooper
- “Kohaku” Aurai Into the Boreas - Rachel Waugh



Rally Obedience Champion (RON)

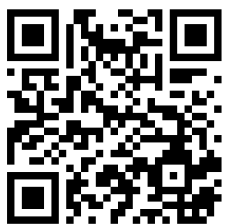
- “Chaco” Tova's The Rain in Spain of Ardmoor Farms - Andrea Cooper
- “Appa” Apsara's Yip Yip of Tova - Chelsea Blackstone
- “Peridot” Aurai Calamity Brook - Oluademi James-Daniel
- “Radish” Tova's Cumulus Dawn From Fairbairn - Jean McCord
- “Morty” Tova's Essential Worker - Kathy & Tim Burke
- “Lionel” Sonata's Dancing on the Ceiling of Stone House - Manny & Dana Diemer
- “Rocky” Tova's Wylde Super Scout - Donna DeVoist
- “Honey” Fairbairn's Magic Hour - Claire Conklin
- “Siren” Blue Mist Sing til Sundown - Nikki Darga & Valerie Stier
- “Linguine” Tova's That's Amore - Cat Seifert & Vic Gee
- “Stash” Fairbairn's Wee Sly - Jean McCord

Rally Obedience Intro (ROI)

- “Wally” Wylde Little Blues Whistler - Ezri Silverberg
- “Ally” Stone House Wish Upon a Star - Manny & Dana Diemer
- “Jolene” Propel's Your Beauty is Beyond Compare - Livia Jimenez
- “Nessa” Tova's Seeker of Fire - Andrea Rogers
- “Scarlet” Blue Mist Hybrid Electra Little Red Corvette - Christine Chady



What Makes Champions?



To find detailed explanations of the titling regulations for International Windsprite Club trials, including Conformation, Rally, Agility, and Racing, please visit the Shows & Titling page on Windsprites.org or use the QR code!



Parasiticides

Part 1: Creepy Crawlies Beware!

Parasiticide? Just the sound of the word can be scary and intimidating! How do they work? And how safe are they for us and for our pets?

These substances target parasites in an attempt to prevent the transmission of various bug-borne diseases. Most paracitcides indended to kill external parasites function by exploiting the differences between mammalian and insect nervous systems in order to incapacitate the insect while keeping the pet or person safe. Without functioning nervous systems, the parasites are effectively paralyzed and killed.

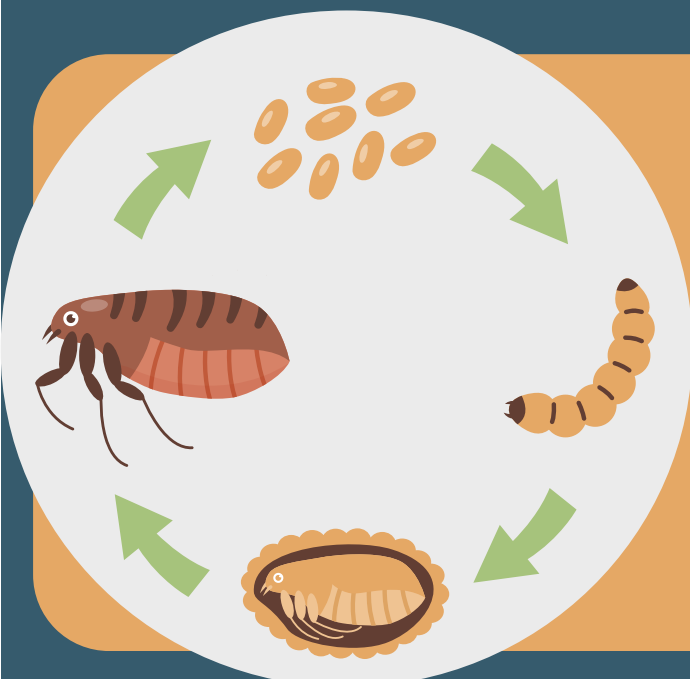
The Most Common Paracitcides on the US Market

Isoxazolines

These are one of the darlings of the veterinary parasiticide world, and for good reason. While FDA approved for fleas and ticks, some of these drugs are highly effective against a variety of mite species (including mange mites) with fewer side effects than currently approved treatments. Because the speed of tick kill is so rapid, some of these products are also labeled for the prevention of Lyme disease.

These drugs work by interfering with the insect's neurotransmitter receptors. These medications are typically well-tolerated, but side effects can include GI signs (as with all oral medications) or skin irritation (with topical products). There is a low risk of neurologic signs (tremors, seizures) due to the possibility of the drug interacting with one mammalian receptor, although the medication is specifically designed to preferentially target several of the parasites' receptors.

Examples of drugs in this class include afoxolaner (Nexgard), sarolaner (Simparica), fluralaner (Bravecto), and lotilaner (Credelio). These medications may be given orally or topically, but both forms are systemically absorbed—parasites need to bite the dog in order to ingest the medication and die.



Got Fleas?

The flea life cycle can take as little as 14 days or as long as several months to complete. Most flea infestations involve multiple generations of fleas, which is why treating flea infestations requires addressing all stages of the life cycle, including eggs, larvae, pupae, and adults. Environmental control measures, such as vacuuming, washing bedding, and using flea insecticides, are essential for breaking the cycle and ridding your pets and your home of fleas once and for all!

Pyrethroids

These medications target a variety of parasites, killing fleas, ticks, mosquitoes, and some mites. The original pyrethroid, pyrethrin, was originally isolated from some chrysanthemum species; Persian cultures used the flower extracts for thousands of years as naturally occurring insecticide! The molecule was modified to make longer-lasting parasiticide treatments used on both animals and humans.

The pyrethroids interfere with ion channels on parasite neurons. These compounds can also have an insect repellent effect. These topical medications are usually well tolerated, although skin irritation can occur. While not relevant for your Windsprite, this can affect some of your pup's furry housemates—some synthetic pyrethroids can be highly toxic to cats.

There are many pyrethroids on the market, often in combo products. Some examples include permethrin (Advantix) and flumethrin (Seresto collar).

Neonicotinoids

These popular flea and lice treatments artificially trigger nicotinic neurotransmitter receptors on the parasite's neurons. Most neonicotinoid products are topical, so skin irritation is the most common side effect, although pets that lick the medication can also have vomiting, drooling, or tremors.

Imidacloprid is by far the most popular in this drug class—Advantage, Seresto collars, and Advantix are the products most associated with imidacloprid. Less common drugs include nitenpyram (Capstar) and dinotefuran (Vectra).

Fipronil

The only commonly used medication in its drug class, fipronil is EPA labeled for fleas, ticks, and lice. The medication also works by blocking ion channels on parasite neurons.

Fipronil is one of the parasiticides that has been successfully tested in breeding and lactating dogs. Most side effects are limited to topical irritation, although some pet owners dislike the oily spot on the coat that can last for 1-3 days after application. The classic fipronil medication is Frontline.

Insect Growth Regulators

These drugs are not designed to kill the existing parasites; instead, they interfere with reproduction so the parasites eventually die out. There are multiple different types of these drugs, most often used in combo medications. Some IGRs include pyriproxyfen (Advantage) and lufenuron (Sentinel).



All things in life have pros and cons! Any microbial infection, parasite infestation, or administered medication can cause adverse effects on pets and people. However, these drugs have substantially decreased parasite-related suffering and death of pets and people worldwide. Your pet's lifestyle, life stage, and geographic location all affect what medication might be best for your dog. As always, your veterinarian is a great resource to make customized recommendations for



Dogtor Luca

your Windsprite!

Community Corner

Midwest Windsprites Make AOK9 Racing Debut

One of the most exciting main events at larger regional specialty shows sanctioned by the IWC is AOK9 straight racing. The race consists of 2-4 dogs making a 200 yard dash after a lure attached to a motorized system of pulleys. As IWC shows have historically been held in the Northeastern part of the country, the breed has not been seen at AOK9 events in many other regions. However, this Summer, a handful of Windsprites were entered into AOK9 sprint racing for the very first time in the Midwest region, at a trial hosted by the Northland Amateur Racing Club (NARC)! NARC members were very welcoming and excited to meet our

beloved breed. The organizers even made a point to share a special announcement about our racing debut during the awards ceremony at the end of the weekend! We look forward to racing with NARC again as the Midwest Windsprite community grows!



Pictured above: Young future racers and adult dogs who qualified to race in this debut!
Photographs courtesy of Erin Rachel Wagner. Many thanks!

Happy Birthday to Pitch's Amazing Eleven!



To the wind at my side — Happy Birthday, Meadie!
By Christina Hughes, to the tune of “Tiny Dancer”

Soft as sunlight on the carpet,
Fawn and sable, wild and bright,
Black-masked eyes that hold the moonlight,
Gentle heart and squirrel-sprung might.
She's the queen of post-poop prancing,
Leaves her mark with subtle style,
In my mother's compost mound—
Yes, she poops with flair and guile.
Oh, she's silly in her silence,
And a genius in disguise,
With her bubble-tea eyes gleaming,
Like boba moons in twilight skies.
Hold me closer, tiny Meadow,
Birthday girl with golden shadow,
Born on one July twelfth morning,
Out of eleven stars, you came.
I will always walk beside you,
Through each season, just the same.
She's a comet when she's chasing,
But a poem when she's still—
Makes the smallest room feel sacred,
With a glance that bends your will.
She's a friend to cats and children,
Wise and weird and always kind,
Tiny Meadow knows her purpose—
With a grace the winds assigned.
Oh, she's silly in her silence,
And a genius in disguise,
With her bubble-tea eyes gleaming,
Like boba moons in twilight skies.
Hold me closer, tiny Meadow,
Sable sprite with windswept tempo,
You have taught me grace and wonder,
With a paw and with a spark.
In your orbit, I feel lighter,
You're the soul that lifts my heart.

New York Windsprites Represent at Canine Expo



Windsprites wowed attendees at the recent New York Canine Expo where club members hosted a table at the event's "Meet the Breeds" gathering and introduced their dogs to the public! In addition to being excellent ambassadors in this regard, Windsprites also participated in a number of performance sports activities throughout the weekend, including AKC FastCAT, Happy Ratters, Dog Parkour, and SpeedWay Agility! Thank you to those who attended and represented our lovely breed!



WE NEED YOUR CREATIVITY!

IWC COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE



The IWC Communications Committee is seeking submissions for the coming issues of the quarterly newsletter! Please reach out to Jessa Michie on Facebook or send an email to internationalwindspriteclub@gmail.com! Remember, these aren't possible without your help. All ideas are welcome!

