

Fall/Winter 2023



# Quarterly Newsletter

## ANNOUNCING THE NEW IWC COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Effective January 1st, 2024, the IWC Communications Committee has been charged to streamline and support communication internally within the IWC club membership and externally with the broader community of fanciers and friends. The primary goals of the committee are to promote a positive public image of the breed and to foster a strong sense of community and engagement among members. Examples of committee responsibilities in pursuit of those goals include curating and editing the quarterly IWC Newsletter, developing guidelines for IWC Facebook groups, and leading a full redesign of the current IWC website.

The Communications Committee will meet monthly on Zoom to discuss and collaborate on current priorities. After each meeting, the minutes will be made available to club members. An annual report of the committee's achievements will be submitted to the board and officers. The charge of the committee will be reviewed and amended annually as needed to address the changing needs of the club.

Committee terms will be 3 years, renewable, with a total of 5-6 committee members at any one time, consisting of a committee chair, a board representative, and 3-4 members-at-large. Additional volunteers are welcomed and encouraged!

### Founding Members:

- Committee Chair - Jessa Michie
- Board Representative - Claire Conklin
- Members-at-Large - Emily Conklin, Chelsea Blackstone, Rel Hoffnagle, Larisa Hawley



## GOT COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS? LEND A HAND!

The Communications Committee seeks support from club members with expertise in web and graphic design, branding and marketing, public relations, digital communications, and social media management, among others. Club members are welcome to contact the committee chair if they are interested in volunteering!

Please reach out to Jessa Michie on Facebook Messenger or via email at [northernlorewindsprites@gmail.com](mailto:northernlorewindsprites@gmail.com).

*Thank you!*



# SO MUCH *Fun* TOGETHER

There is a strong sense of community at IWC events. In October, our members gathered to compete with their Windsprites at the New England Specialty Show.



## JOIN US IN 2024!

Save the date! Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code!

Many thanks to Jim Petack, Carolyn Chow, and Mike Giglia for the photos!





# CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER...

Congratulations to the following Windsprites who have earned new conformation championships + racing, rally, or agility performance titles at the 2023 New England Specialty.

## GRAND CHAMPION (GCH)

- GRCH Stone House Heart Throb "Redford"
  - Owned by Jackie Wright-Minogue

## CHAMPION (CH)

- CH Apsara's Be The Leaf of Tova "Poki"
  - Owned by Ezri Silverberg & Dexter Silverberg
- CH Aurai Angel's Landing "Talus"
  - Owned by Patricia Conklin
- CH Blue Mist Soul "Wanda"
  - Owned by Amy, Jessica, & Valerie Stier
- CH Stonehenge Comet Comes to Tova "Star"
  - Owned by Carol Thompson & Jean MacKenzie

## JUNIOR CHAMPION (JCH)

- JCH Blue Mist Moral of the Story of High Falls "Fable"
  - Owned by Jessa Michie
- JCH Blue Mist Perfect Storm of High Falls "Rayne"
  - Owned by Ashira Israel
- JCH Fairbairn's Fly Cup "Fergus"
  - Owned by Virginia Root

## STRAIGHT RACING EXCELLENT 2 (SRX2)

(20 Qs in competition)

- Stone House Kyanite "Kite"
  - Owned by Sidney Hoblit
- Stone House Light the Way "Guinness"
  - Owned by Polly Hornberger

## STRAIGHT RACING OPEN (SRO)

(3 Qs in competition)

- Blue Mist Time at Stone House "Time"
  - Owned by Sidney Hoblit
- Aurai Angel's Landing "Talus"
  - Owned by Patricia Conklin
- Apsara's Yip Yip of Tova "Appa"
  - Owned by Chelsea Blackstone
- Tova's Essential Worker "Morty"
  - Owned by Tim Burke

## STRAIGHT RACING ENTHUSIAST (SRE)

(3 Qs in individual races)

- Tova's Ben's Son of Celeritas "Bailey"
  - Nancy Brownfield

## AGILITY STANDARD LEVEL 1 (AS1)

- Brikal Willow at Stone House "Willow"
  - Owned by Sidney Hoblit

## RALLY OBEDIENCE INTRO (ROI)

- Crystal Spirit Hazel & Ilmenite Flare Innovation "Hazel"
- Tova's Goooooal of Crystal Spirit "Cowboy"
- Tova's Captain Jack Sparrow "Pyrite"
- Crystal Spirit Life Enriching Tiger's Eye "Mystic"
  - All owned by Kimberly Joy Giese Wilson

## RALLY OBEDIENCE NOVICE (RON)

- Apsara's Be The Leaf of Tova "Poki"
  - Owned by Ezri Silverberg & Dexter Silverberg
- Blue Mist Chaos Theory of Apsara "Chaos"
  - Owned by Courtney Hatton
- Stone House Swift Fly High "Moosilauke"
- Tova's Mackerel Sky From Fairbairn "Kaibab"
  - Both owned by Andrea Miville Cooper
- Aurai Angel's Landing "Talus"
  - Owned by Patricia Conklin

## RALLY OBEDIENCE ADVANCED (ROA)

- Brikal Willow at Stone House "Willow"
  - Owned by Sidney Hoblit
- Tova's Miracle Queen of Naboo from Moonshadow "Cricket"
  - Owned by Jean McCord
- Wylde Best Young Rider "Moxie"
  - Owned by Donna DeVoist
- Stone House Happy as a Lark "Ava"
  - Owned by Jackie Wright-Minogue
- Stone House Heart of Austria "Rafi"
  - Owned by Alayne Brandt

## RALLY OBEDIENCE CHAMPION VETERAN (ROCH-V)

- Tova's First Light of Aurai "Roxy"
  - Owned by Melissa LoPinto



Our apologies for this slightly delayed acknowledgement for Wylde Windswept Island Girl, "Cleo". She earned her Veteran Rally Championship at the 2023 New York Specialty this Summer. Cleo was an incredibly special girl and her legacy lives on.



Ezri M. Silverberg, KPA-CTP, CBCC KA

## The Trouble with Teens

Puppyhood calms down and you start to feel like you've gotten into the swing of things when your puppy is around 6 months old. At that point (usually – but not always!) potty training is going well, training sessions are productive, and bad habits are being broken. Your furniture isn't a chew toy and you haven't had to order a bottle of enzyme cleaner in a while. Things are looking up. You're getting into a routine together and can ease up on your management.

And then suddenly one day they wake up and seem to choose defiance. All those bad habits are back, manners are forgotten, and new less than ideal behaviors pop up. You might find yourself asking – what happened? The answer is simple. Your sweet, innocent puppy is now hurdling face first into adolescence.

Not a puppy anymore, but not an adult either, adolescence is the most difficult developmental stage starting around 6-9 months of age and ending with maturity around 2.5-3 years of age. During the adolescent period your puppy is going through developmental leaps and bounds. We often hear that adolescents are pushing boundaries, claiming independence, or testing limits. The behavior of teens is often blamed on them, but there's much more to it than rebellion. In fact, there are a lot of reasons we see the behavior changes that we do in our adolescent dogs.

Hormones do play a part on driving teenage motive. Suddenly some smells become much more interesting and new feelings over territory may arise. Keep in mind, neutering or spaying does not remove All of the hormones produced in your dog's body. Their adrenal glands will still produce sex hormones. Genetic behaviors are also beginning to shine through. Herding breeds are far more keen on noticing environmental changes, Sighthounds drive after leaves blowing in the breeze, Terriers turn up the tenacity, and the list goes on.

As if hormones and genetic drive aren't enough, to top it all off, their brain has not yet finished maturing. They're undergoing some major remodeling and are basically wired to make bad choices. See, the brain matures from back to front. In the back of the brain you'll find the amygdala - the section of the brain responsible for emotion, impulses, and instincts. In the front is the frontal cortex - responsible for inhibition, planning, problem solving, and regulation. That means that the adolescent's amygdala is firing faster and more efficiently than the frontal cortex.

It's no wonder that teens seem to struggle with really big feelings and regulating or calming down from those big feelings. That day that your sweet puppy woke up and chose defiance, the day you wanted to rip all your hair out over their impulsive, emotional, irrational, and behaviors seemingly driven by big feelings? On that day their amygdala took the wheel. They're impulsive because they just can't help it - right now, they're wired to be.

Some days it feels like our adolescents have forgotten everything we've ever taught them. We ask for a behavior they've done a thousand times and they confidently do the wrong thing or look at us like we're speaking cat. Perhaps on these days their hippocampus – which is responsible for memory - is undergoing a remodel.

All hope is not lost though. The first step to navigating adolescence is understanding your dog's point of view. Understanding that every day their brain is a little different, everyday they're undergoing changes, and some days are just going to be more difficult than others for both of you. But we can help them through it.

Your most important job in supporting your adolescent dog is to be their frontal cortex. They cannot make a lot of good choices right now, so you'll need to hold their hand (or, paw?) and do it with them until they're better able to do it on their own. Work on skills out of difficult contexts, and then bring them into context when things are looking up in other areas. For our Windsprites, this often looks like going back to dragging or holding long lines and avoiding trails with heavy critter populations while you work on recalls and leave-its at home and in the yard. The biggest mistake we make with teen dogs is treating them like adults. Expecting them to be able to inhibit and make better choices, when they simply can't. In this way, we set them up for failure, and often, several chances to rehearse unwanted behavior.

So, drop your expectations. Walk away from those big training plans. Find your sense of humor. Be more forgiving. And most importantly, just enjoy your dog. Think of activities you can do in which the behaviors are easily manageable. Try some new things together. Work on building your relationship for a few weeks and then re-visit training. Most importantly, don't forget to have fun! Teenagers are really good at having a good time.

Guess what?  
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educational content like this  
through SuperPup Academy!  
Visit [www.superpup.academy](http://www.superpup.academy)  
to learn more.



# Call for Submissions!

## LOOKING FOR INSPIRATION? HERE ARE SOME IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED!

Classes, Workshops, and Webinars  
Contests or Community Challenges  
Show Preparation and Handling Tips  
Nutrition, Health, and Wellness  
Polls and Surveys  
Breed History  
Interviews  
Stud Flyers  
Breeder Profiles  
Litter Announcements  
Equipment Reviews  
Toy and Treat Testimonials  
Book or Podcast Recommendations  
Member Spotlights or Shoutouts  
Member-Owned Businesses

Educational Articles  
Infographics  
Recipes, DIYs and Tutorials  
Training Techniques  
Enrichment Activities  
Stories and Anecdotes  
Poetry and Prose  
Photographs  
Arts and Crafts  
Advertisements  
Fundraisers  
Upcoming Events  
News Updates  
Recaps and Highlights  
Achievements and Milestones



Please send thoughts, suggestions,  
and submissions at any time  
to Jessa Michie on Facebook  
Messenger or via email at  
[northernlorewindsprites@gmail.com](mailto:northernlorewindsprites@gmail.com)

Thank you!  
These newsletters are not  
possible without your  
submissions!

