



DOG TRACKS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER ~ FEBRUARY 2026

IT'S OFFICIAL!!! 501(c)4 STATUS APPROVED.

After over a long year of work, our tax status has successfully changed from a 501(c)7 to a 501(c)4!!

A huge thank you to Marsi Newman and Cindy Sarmiento for all their hard work on the tax status committee in completing this process.

It was a very complex issue and we are all so very happy it's now done and we are legal in all our operations.

All state and federal reporting for 2025 have been submitted as well. Good for another year.



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by Martha Ho

Hi Everyone,

The SJDTC Tracking tests are almost upon us. The Tracking Tests will take place the weekend of April 4-5 which is also Easter weekend. The tests will take place at Camanche Hills Hunting Preserve in Lone, CA.

HELP is needed! If you can help as a Tracklayer or Cross-tracklayer, contact Thalia Rott at <thaliathalia@sbcglobal.net> or 209-754-5211. Thalia has commitments from some Tracklayers and Cross-tracklayers but still needs a few more.

We still need drivers for the weekend. You will need to be able to carry two passengers and some 6-ft tracking flags in your vehicles. We have a commitment for a driver for the judges but still need drivers for the Tracklayers and Cross-tracklayers. If you can help please let me know at <martha.ho@att.net> or 209-329-3591.

DRIVERS

Ideally the TD/TDX Test will have at least 4-5 drivers.

The judge's driver is assigned to the 2 Judges for both Plot Day and Test Day. This driver will drop the judges off at the start of each track, stay in the vicinity while the judges are in the field, and then pick them up at the end of that track. On Test Day the driver and vehicle will also provide the Judges with shelter from the weather and allow the Judges a place to sit and work on their maps until it is time for the next track to be run.

Two drivers are assigned to transport the TDX tracklayers to their track, stay in the vicinity while the tracklayer (TL) is in the field, and then pick them up at the end of that track, stay with them while they re-walk their track on Plot Day (Saturday) and take them to their track and pick them up at the end of the track on Test Day (Sunday). Because CHHP is so spread out Driver 1 will be assigned to transport and stay with tracklayer-1, tracklayer-3 and the Alternate tracklayer. Driver 2 will be assigned to transport and stay with tracklayer-2 and tracklayer-4.

Two drivers are assigned to transport the TDX cross-tracklayers. Driver 1 will be assigned to transport and stay with the Primary cross-tracklayer for Track-1, Track-2 and Track-3 on Plot Day. On Test Day they will take both the Primary and Secondary cross-tracklayer out together. Driver 2 will be assigned to transport and stay with the Primary cross-tracklayer for Track 4 and the Alternate track on Plot Day. On Test Day Driver 2 will take both the Primary and the Secondary cross-tracklayer out together.

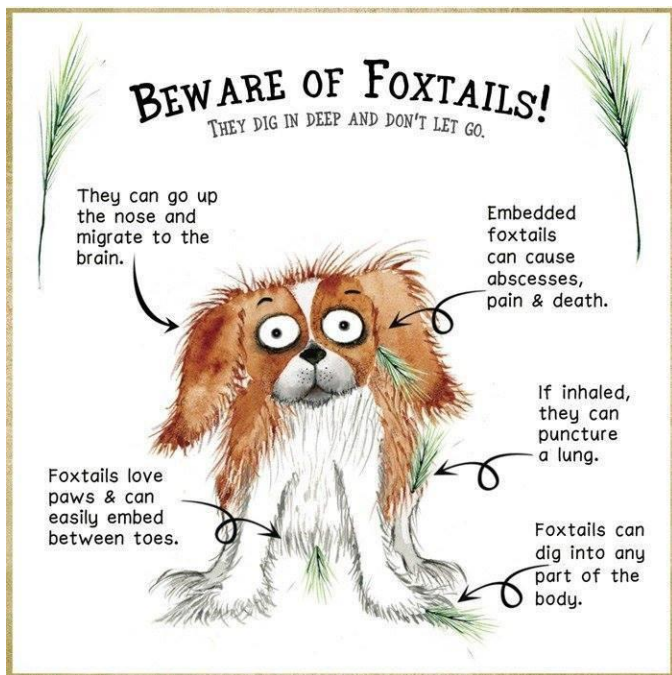
For safety purposes, a driver should ALWAYS be in the vicinity of any TL or X-TL while they are in the field.

Upcoming SJDTC Events Mark Your Calendars

March 13	Ltd Rally Trial – Dream Big
March 14	Ltd Obed Trial – Dream Big
March 22	Scent work trial – Dream Big
April 7	Board Meeting; 6:00pm
April 7	General Meeting; 7:00pm
April 5	Tracking Test – Comanche Hills
May 16	Scent work trial – Dream Big

And don't forget to check out the Sniff and Go sessions at Dream Big, be sure to email sniffytrialesec@gmail.com and ask to be put on the email list for upcoming sessions. Signups are done online and it's very easy and probably one of the best opportunities to practice in a trial-like setting and each session is different.





Health tips by Doc Tailwagger

Dental Care Is Preventative Care

March 5, 2021 / [General Health](#) / By Hemopet

We get it. Brushing your companion dog's teeth is not the most pleasant activity. We also get it that routine veterinary dental cleanings done properly can be expensive. To dispel any myths, dental cleanings are *NOT* a ploy by veterinarians to increase their revenue.

Both practices – brushing your dog's teeth and routine dental cleanings – are important preventative care, as periodontal disease in all species can lead to many other systemic disorders, if not controlled.

How do you know brushing and dental cleanings are preventative care? From published and ongoing research.

Research has shown that periodontal disease in dogs is linked to increased risks of liver disease, chronic kidney disease, diabetes, obesity, heart disease and even cancer in dogs.

A 2009 study compared 59,296 dogs with periodontal disease to the same number of dogs with no history of periodontal disease. The study revealed that cardiovascular conditions such as endocarditis and cardiopathy were linked to the severity of periodontal disease.

A similar comparative study from 2011 demonstrated a significant association between periodontal disease and chronic kidney disease.

Compared to humans, dogs are even more prone to periodontal disease. Why? Because their mouths are less acidic, which promotes plaque formation. Compounding that, many dogs are not having daily brushings, or regular preventive dental care starting in early adulthood.

If you think your dog is in the clear, look at the prevalence. According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), more than 80% of dogs over 2 years of age have [periodontal disease](#). Additionally, many dogs with periodontal disease do not express oral pain, although they often have foul smelling breath.

Preventative Measures

Yes; there are specially designed chews, treats and raw bones, as well as a variety of Veterinary Oral Health Council (VOHC) approved dental products, that can help reduce plaque and tartar buildup. While these products are not replacements for a daily brushing and dental cleanings, the VOHC listed products are proven to be helpful in reducing the biofilm buildup and plaque on the teeth.

A practical choice is the VOHC-approved water additives and gel products that are specially designed for dogs and cats.

By the way, we do not recommend using [rawhide](#) chews at all.

Products

We, at Hemopet, do not recommend or suggest specific products. To be completely transparent, Dr. Dodds has helped with the testing of [products](#) that meet and have been accepted by the VOHC.

If anything, we recommend that you make sure the product you choose is an accepted product by VOHC. Products have to meet certain requirements and complete dental trials to meet VOHC's rigorous standards.

Do we use and prefer all of the VOHC-accepted products? No, but please remember that the VOHC program requires companies to demonstrate that their products help control plaque or tartar by completing two trials that are reviewed in support of this claim. We support the standards, thresholds and testing protocols established by the VOHC.

Dear Miss Penny Paws



Dear Miss Pennypaws,

I just love people. I get so excited when people come to visit or I see them when we're out and about. I want everyone to pet me. My owner makes me sit still when people come to talk to her and very seldom lets me get petted. And when they are allowed to pet me, they stop if I don't stay sitting. How can I lick their faces if I have to sit?

Signed,
Love Bug

Dear Love Bug,

I know you won't believe this, but not everyone wants a dog to jump on them and lick their face. Gasp! It's true!

Try to behave and you'll get much more attention than if you're jumping up. If you're young, it will take a while for you to be able to control your impulses, but keep trying and you'll get the hang of it quickly.

It may seem cute when you're a tiny puppy, but when you grow up, you'll likely weigh enough to knock someone down so it's really important to learn good manners now.

Just remember – four on the floor!
Miss Penny Paws

when you take your makeup off and he still calls you pretty

