



# UNLEASHED

Volume 26 Issue 7, A publication of the Central Ohio Labrador Retriever Club July 2015

## Meeting

**Date:** September 2

**Time:** 6:00p.m.

**Location:**

Home of John & Lori Bentine  
Preparations for October Specialty

## 2015 Meeting Dates

September 2

October 7

November 4

Christmas Party TBA

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Check out Central Ohio Labrador Retriever Club

on Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/  
groups/575516432535825/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/575516432535825/)

## Specialty Update

All is moving forward, we have the final AKC approvals for both days of the Specialties at the Delaware Kennel Club show this year. Communications with Delaware Kennel Club are ongoing regarding specialty details and hotel reservations. They have been quite willing to include our judges in their hospitality efforts so remain very supportive of our involvement with their club show.

Sally and I have submitted the class prize list, many members have contributed either cash toward the prizes or items used as prizes. Cash donations are still needed so if anyone would like to contribute toward the prizes please feel free to contact either me or Chris Bell with your donation.

The September meeting will be a good chance to finalize volunteers for various specialty duties so please plan to attend and volunteer your time to help your club in its efforts to once again host a fabulous event!

See you in September!

Linda

## ***Cold Tail***

*By Julie A. Oghigian, DVM*

Cold tail, limber tail, dead tail, swimmer's tail, or tail sprain is thought to be a syndrome of the coccygeal muscles around the base of the tail. Because of exercise, trauma or exposure to cold weather or cold water, these muscles start to swell and because they are contained within a tight sheath, there is not much room for swelling to occur before muscle damage and ischemia (loss of blood flow) results. The dog then experiences a very uncomfortable condition with a flaccid tail that may last for days to weeks.

Some risk factors for this type of injury include exposure to cold weather or water, prolonged confinement such as in a crate, over-exertion, or even from a dog sitting down too hard and straining the tail. Therefore, avoiding these types of scenarios should prevent cold tail from occurring. Cold tail can occur in any dog with a longer tail, but is most commonly seen in working or hunting dogs with longer tails such as pointers and retrievers and in some of the hound breeds.

A dog with cold tail has a tail that hangs motionless and almost appears paralyzed. The tail is completely flaccid starting either at the base of the tail or even a few inches from the base, where it can be held out away from the body before hanging down. This can make a tail appear to be "broken." These dogs are often quite painful, and resist any touching or handling of their tail. They can appear depressed, listless, and dull, but without a fever, and often have difficulty getting comfortable. Occasionally, you may also see the hairs raised along the very top of the base of the tail similar to when a dog's "hackles" are raised, only much more localized to the tail.

Bloodwork of affected dogs may show a mild elevation of serum creatinine kinase, which is consistent with the muscle damage that occurs with this syndrome. Biopsies done on dogs with cold tail show damage of muscle fibers, most severely in the intertransversarius ventralis caudalis muscle group located to either side of the tail base, in one study. There are also abnormalities found during needle electromyography, thermography, and scintigraphy studies.

Other diseases that may mimic cold tail include other tail trauma and/or fracture of the vertebra of the tail, neoplasia (cancer), prostatic disease, anal gland disease, of lumbosacral vertebral or intervertebral disc diseases. Dogs with cold tail usually recover on their own, though complete recovery can sometimes take a while. Interestingly enough, affected dogs often don't experience repeated incidents of cold tail. The best treatments for a dog with cold tail include rest as well as antiinflammatory drugs, which may be prescribed by a dog's veterinarian in more severe cases.

*continued*

*(Cold Tail continued)*

References:

- 1) Steiss J, Braund K, Wright J, et al: Coccygeal muscle injury in English Pointers (limber tail). J Vet Intern Med 1999 Vol 13 (6) pp. 540-548.
- 2) Steiss J, Braund K: Frozen tail or limber tail in working dogs [letter]. 1997 Vol 141 (7) pp. 179.
- 3) Stockman M: Frozen tail or limber tail in working dogs [letter]. Vet Rec 1997 Vol 140 (22) pp. 588.
- 4) Wilkins CM: Frozen tail or limber tail in working dogs [letter]. Vet Rec 1997 Vol 120 (22) pp.
- 5) Jeffels W: Frozen tail or limber tail in working dogs [letter]. Vet Rec 1997 Vol 140 (21) pp. 564.
- 6) Hewison C: Frozen tail or limber tail in working dogs [letter]. Vet Rec 1997 Vol 140 (20) pp. 536.
- 7) Steiss JE: What Is limber tail syndrome?. Canine Pract 1997 Vol 22 (5-6) pp. 1.
- 8) Holmes GN, et al: Cold Tail, Limber Tail. 1997.
- 9) Mayo J: Limber tail. 2001.

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## **Litter Listings**

### **Valleywood MVP x Hunt Club Valleywood Easy Goer**

Black and yellow puppies due  
July 10

contact: Chris Kofron  
614-895-1923 or  
614-906-1921

### **Bellmark I'm A Keeper Too x Ashway's Black Pepper**

Black and chocolate puppies due  
end of July

contact: Rose or Bill Ash  
740-881-4326

Ashway Labradors  
ashway@columbus.rr.com

*At this time, COLRC Unleashed! Does not require listing of CERF or OFA information for Litter Box Listings. All breeders are encouraged to have hips and eyes certified on all breeding stock and to provide this information in litter listings. COLRC Unleashed! does not represent any litter listing as meeting any type of breeder's code or standard. Ask the breeder when inquiring about dogs listed*

# General COLRC Information



The **UNLEASHED!** is a publication by and for the members of the **Central Ohio Labrador Retriever Club** and others interested in the betterment of the sport and advancement of cooperative communication within the Labrador community and the dog fancy.

The articles and information contained in this publication have been deemed by the editor to be of interest to our readers but do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or the opinions of the editor or COLRC members. Reader input is actively solicited.

Please address or email all articles, announcements, comments and suggestions to [newsletter@colrc.com](mailto:newsletter@colrc.com). Unleashed is published ten to twelve times per year. Closing for each issue is the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the month prior to publication.

Dues are \$30 annually for a single membership and \$50 for a joint membership. Business cards will be placed on the COLRC website for the year at a cost of \$50 for members and non-members.

Club members who wish to utilize the Litter Listing Column of the newsletter and website will be required to pay \$50 per litter listing unless they have worked at two of our three club events during the course of the year.

**Meetings** General meetings shall take place the first Wednesday of every month unless otherwise noted.

## OFFICERS

President.....	Sally Bell	(Term expires Dec 2015)
Vice President.....	Lori Bentine	(Term expires Dec 2015)
Treasurer.....	Chris Bell	(Term expires Dec 2015)
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