

Meeting summary for May Coffee Morning - Replacement session (05/24/2024)

Quick recap

The team discussed potential attendees for a future event, the limitations of a certain membership program, and personal updates regarding their pets' health and behavior. They also planned for an upcoming trip with their dogs, discussed the potential sensory overload for dogs in secure fields, and shared their concerns about animal welfare laws in the UK following the upcoming election. Lastly, they discussed the importance of pet tags and microchips for identifying lost dogs, and Rachel offered to lend Emma a crate and share updates about Philippa's plans on the group website.

Next steps

- Philippa will try to get Loki to meet the other dog in a secure field on Monday and report back on how the interaction goes.
- Emma will look into getting a crate for Eric and let Rachel know if she needs one.
- Rachel will follow up with the team handling the Puppy Academy app to understand why users cannot access training resources.

Summary

Event Planning and Crate Training Videos

Rachel and Emma discussed the potential attendees for a future event, with Rachel mentioning that Laura and Luna usually attend. They also discussed the possibility of needing a crate for their dogs. Rachel offered her spare crates, which she found while cleaning her garage. They also discussed the new availability of Rachel's crate training videos on the Puppy Academy app, which was a pleasant surprise for Rachel. The team

Rachel Rodgers MSc, BSc(Hons), PGCE
Clinical Animal Behaviourist
Full member of the APBC – Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors
Animal Training Instructor with PACT – Professional Association of Canine Trainers

Tel: 07506059019
Email: info@nosetotrail.co.uk
Web: www.nosetotrail.co.uk



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also engaged in some light-hearted banter about Rachel's appearance in the app's promotional material.

Rachel's Frustration With Membership Programs

Rachel expressed her frustration about the limitations of a certain membership program, which she had invested in but was not profitable due to issues with contracts and dissatisfaction from certain parties. She also discussed the challenges she faced with the Copy Academy and Vista Trail membership. Rachel attempted to use the example of a puppy academy to illustrate her point, highlighting the limitation of only being able to access classes and not resources. She expressed her disappointment and intended to seek clarification on why these restrictions were in place.

Personal Updates and Pet Vet Experiences

Rachel, Emma, and Philippa shared personal updates and discussed Eric's recent visit to the vet. Emma shared that Eric seems to dislike the vet visits but enjoys the attention and treats he gets afterwards. The group also had a light-hearted conversation about their own pets' experiences at the vet, with Rachel mentioning her dog Rico's positive association with the vet due to the cheese he receives. Philippa expressed a preference for her pet staying on the floor during vet visits.

Managing Gardens and Pet Safety

Rachel and Emma discussed the difficulties of managing their gardens while also ensuring the safety of their pets. Rachel mentioned the potential danger of toxic plants and shared her intention to use an app that identifies poisonous plants for dogs. Philippa's upcoming trip was also discussed, and she mentioned that they had two different dog walkers to manage their pets while she was away.

Dog Reactivity and Behavior Modification Strategies

Philippa and Rachel discussed their concerns about their dog's reactivity towards other dogs and the need for a pet sitter in September. They considered behavior modification strategies, including avoiding areas with aggressive dogs and seeking the help of professional dog walkers. They also discussed the importance of consistency in training procedures for the dog walkers and the dogs' motivation for attention-seeking behavior. Lastly, they proposed a strategy to improve the dog's behavior using high-value treats and positive reinforcement.

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Planning Upcoming Trip With Perman

Rachel and Philippa discussed their plans for an upcoming trip. Philippa shared that they would be exploring and having walks with a dog named Perman, who was older and might need frequent breaks. Rachel suggested visiting places like Kielder Forest and the Forest of Dean, highlighting their beauty and emptiness. Philippa expressed some frustration about only being able to see certain dogs during their trip but affirmed it was better than nothing. They planned to go for walks and then spend time in a secure field with a long line for Perman.

Managing Dogs in Secure Fields

Rachel, Philippa, and Emma discussed the potential sensory overload for dogs when brought to secure fields. Rachel suggested using a long line to manage the dogs until they calm down and offered to assist Philippa by keeping an eye on the situation and analyzing the dogs' body language. They also discussed the dog's behavior with male dogs versus female dogs, with the agreement that the dog in question gets along well with female dogs. Rachel advised Philippa on managing dog interactions, recommending short, frequent breaks to prevent overstimulation and potential conflicts. Rachel shared her observations on dog behavior and warned Philippa about the potential for frustration and overstimulation during unleashed dog socialization sessions. No explicit decisions, action items, or next steps were discussed in this segment of the meeting.

Reviewing Events and New Members

Rachel and Emma discussed the previous week's events, including an incident in Queen's Park and a text from a missing person. Rachel sought feedback and requests for the current month, confirming that no one needed any specific resources. They also touched upon the recent addition of new members to their group. Lastly, they mentioned a dog-related news item, though the details were not provided.

UK Animal Welfare Law Changes Discussed

Rachel and Emma discussed potential changes to animal welfare laws in the UK following the upcoming election. Concerns were raised about the fate of draft bills, with some potentially not progressing further due to dissolution. However, they noted that some bills, like the pet abduction bill, may be enacted, bringing stiffer penalties for theft. The possibility of more people needing dog lawyers was also highlighted due to the complexity of the legal processes. Rachel and Emma also expressed hope that new legislation would be

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implemented before the election, despite challenges, and shared frustration about having to repeat training due to lack of legislative updates.

Dog Tags, Microchips, and Scammers Discussion

Rachel discusses the usefulness of pet tags and microchips for identifying lost dogs. She shares a humorous story about pretending to scan her dogs with a TV remote when traveling. Emma and Philippa mention the prevalence of dog scammers and the potential of QR code tags. Rachel also describes an incident where her dog Maisy vomited in her car, covering her other dog Rico. She mentions needing to get Maisy a new tag and hoping the dogs can go out again soon after being cooped up. Finally, Rachel offers to lend Emma a crate and says she'll share updates about Philippa's plans on the group website.

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