

# Warm Weather Policy

A common sense approach should be taken when it comes to warm weather and our pups:

- If it's too hot for you, it's too hot for them.
- The pup should not be exercised if the temperature is over 32 degrees
- Avoid walking or exercising pups in the middle of the day when it is hot. Instead, walk them in the early morning or the cool of the evening. While we do often hold our training sessions in the middle of the day, please know we always try to ensure plenty of shade and water, allow for regular rest breaks, and will cut our sessions short if we deem it too hot for the pups.
- Always be aware that different surfaces have the potential to hold the heat, some more than others, e.g. metal road plates, grates, asphalt etc. It is always a good idea to lay the palm of your hand on the surface for at least 5 seconds to test if it is too hot for the pup to walk on. If in doubt, walk around it.
- Never leave a pup unattended in a vehicle.
- Ensure that fresh water is available to the pup at all times and, if left outdoors for any length of time, make sure there is more than one water source, just in case one gets tipped over or paddled out.
- Ensure the pup has access to shade and shelter if left outdoors for any length of time. In extreme heat conditions pups should be kept inside in the cool.
- Pups may cool down by placing their feet into their water bowl or a paddle pool



## **Heat Stroke**

Heat stroke can be a life threatening condition, and requires immediate veterinary care.

### Signs Of Heat Stroke

- Panting heavily.
- Excessive drooling.
- Pup may appear distressed, restless, disorientated, unsteady on its feet.
- Gums may go pale (look blue/grey), or bright red.

### What To Do If Heat Stroke Is Suspected

- Remove pup from hot environment.
- Place wet, but NOT cold, towels over pup's neck, armpits, and groin. A fan can also be used to help cool it down.
- Seek urgent veterinary advice.