

## STANDING RULES and related information

- 1) **Club geographic boundaries** – the Greater Tampa Bay Area, north to Spring Hill (with Brooksville approved), and south to Port Charlotte are the parameters given us by AKC. Per the Bylaws, two of the three general meetings each year need to be held within the Club's boundaries.
- 2) **The leadership of the Club** - Officers, Board Members, and Rescue Co-chairs must be voting members. Their membership application is to be an individual or joint voting member(s) and is sponsored by a voting member who signs their membership application or sends a letter supporting their voting membership. Associate members agreeing to take on leadership positions must submit a new application sponsored by a voting member.
- 3) **State of Florida Solicitation Permit requires the following:**
  - a) **Conflict of Interest Policy** - As required by our State of Florida Solicitation Permit, we must have an approved conflict of interest policy. All board members must review the policy annually and sign it.
  - b) **Disclaimer** - We are required to include the following disclaimer every time we ask for donations. Therefore, it appears on our website above the PayPal donate button, and on our dues form which also has checkoffs for donations. It should also be included in any flyer or internet posting by the club that solicits donations.

**The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Greater Tampa Bay is registered as a charitable organization in Florida (Reg No. CH50498).**

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

- 4) **Rescue Membership** - to support people who rescue a Wheaten from SCWTCGTB Rescue, and introduce them to our club, we give them an introductory associate membership for the current year at no cost. If their application is to be a voting member, dues payment is required. As with anyone joining the club during the last quarter of the year, a free Rescue Membership approved on or after October 1 carries them through the following calendar year. After that, dues payment is expected to remain in good standing.
- 5) **Lifetime Members** - It is not a membership category but a special award for those few that give above and beyond. A Lifetime member can still vote but no longer pays dues. The Board awards Lifetime memberships.
- 6) **Breeders List** - To be listed on the Club's breeder list, a breeder must be a voting member.
- 7) **Murffy Rainy Day Fund** - Over the years there has been some confusion about the purpose of this fund. We asked Karen Kormos about the intended use of the Murffy

Fund. The fund has been used as Karen says below, as well as for donations to disaster relief for dogs affected by a hurricane. One president felt it should be restricted to Wheatens only, another, after receiving complaints from members donating to rescue who learned that rescue funds were occasionally used to pay for vetting of Wheaten Mixes, suggested that their vet bills be covered by the Murffy Fund. The board should address these concerns and firm up this rule.

I'll try to answer your question as best I can. As close as I recall about 12 years ago, John and I had just lost Murffy, who was a very "unique" character. He came through SCWTCGTB Rescue by way of a club member locating him in a shelter. She considered him a Wheaten. Quite hilariously, as he became a 75 pound mix of probably Chow-Chow and Retriever. Murf thought he was a Wheaten, attended all the picnics and other dog inclusive SCWTCGTB events.

Having been the Rescue Coordinator for some years, working with other small rescue organizations across the state, we found them to be considerate, helpful and communicative as far as Wheatens "found" in shelters, on roadsides lost/abandoned, etc. Many who went out of their way to house and transport Wheatens to us despite their meager funds. We thought it would be nice to "pay it forward" and give them a helping hand when we could. As a well organized club, we were in a good place to do this. It's hard to recall, but we donated small bits and pieces to vets, an independent rescue group in Miami, and Suncoast Humane Society to name a few. That's why we called it The Murffy Rainy Day Fund. It seemed fitting to set aside something for a rainy day.

My understanding is the BOD thinks this is a "Wheaten" only fund, it was never our intention. Murf was Wheaten by association only, and long time members will remember him as a big Doofus dog that was part of the club as much as our Wheaten Bailey was.

Hope this helps, and I'm sure Murffy would say "woof" and wag his big plume of a tail.  
Karen

- 8) **The Patterson Foundation matching funds** – The Patterson Foundation contributes matching funds to the dollars donated to rescue during The Giving Challenge with the stipulation the matched funds be used in Manatee, Sarasota, DeSoto and Charlotte counties.
- 9) **Title Awards** - presented at the Annual Meeting to Club Members. Awards include an engraved plaque (for first AKC title) and an attached “dingle”. Engraved ‘dingles’ are added for each additional title earned. Additional plaques may be purchased at Club cost, if desired by Club Member.
  - a) **Club Recognition of AKC Titles Achieved By Wheatens owned by or bred by Club Members-** The Awards Chairman solicits information in December about new AKC Titles achieved by Wheatens owned or bred by Club members over the past year.

- b) Jackie Kase Memorial Service Award** - Jackie Kase was one of our Club's founding members. She lived in the Pensacola area, but attended as many of our Club events as possible. She was an active breeder and her dogs were shown in many Florida, Georgia, and Alabama shows. She was a great resource to anyone who called her, spending a lot of time talking to the novice and sharing information with everyone. Jackie was also very active in the National Club. Besides being a very knowledgeable Wheaten breeder, Jackie was a wonderful person, with a great sense of humor - always willing to laugh at herself. She made everyone feel welcome and valued. When she passed away, our Club unanimously renamed our annual service award in her honor. She is missed and thought of fondly!

Nominations for the Jackie Kase Award are solicited from the membership at large by the Awards Chairman through a notice in the December Newsletter and an email blast to the membership. A dingle (and plaque if needed) is presented to the recipient at the Annual Meeting.

- c) Rescue Award** - The Rescue Co-Chairs nominate an outstanding rescue volunteer for this annual award. Rescue Awards are frequently given to non-members who have made significant contributions to the Club's rescue efforts. This can include veterinarians who have discounted rates and services for rescue Wheatens. One or two awards may be given annually, and includes the plaque (if required) and appropriate 'dingles'.

- d) Gail Richvalsky Memorial Award** - Gail Richvalsky was a Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier owner who unconditionally loved her Wheatens and eventually became an Owner Handler in the conformation ring. Gail was always happy for all winners and was never seen without a smile on her face both inside and outside the ring. Anyone who needed a helping hand would always find Gail ready and willing to step up. Gail left the Wheaten World a little less bright when she passed away on May 2, 2019.

The award is a dingle (and plaque if needed) presented to the recipient and a \$100 donation, contributed by Kathi Elliot, to SCWTCGTB Rescue will be made in Gail's memory.

This award will be presented when deemed appropriate (but not more than one per year) to a member in good standing of the SCWTCGTB who participates as an Owner Handler in Conformation or Performance events. The recipient should epitomize the generous spirit, and positive image of Gail and reflect those qualities that perpetuate a positive image of the Club and the sport of conformation. Participation in the Owner Handler class is not a requirement, but the owner of the dog must be the handler at least 75% of the time the dog is shown.

A committee made up of Tom Richvalsky, a SCWTCGTB Board member and a conformation participant (either current or having participated in the past two years), will select the recipient and inform the Board by January 15 of each year for the

previous year. When Tom steps down from this committee he will be replaced by another member in good standing.

The award presentation will be made at the Annual meeting by Tom Richvalsky or the Club President.

- b) **Meet the Breed (MTB)** - The SCWTCGTB assists SCWTCA by organizing the MTB efforts at the Royal Canin AKC Nationals, when held in Florida. SCWTCA rules governing MTB must be followed. This is an educational event and the SCWTCGTB may present their materials/brochures if current and in keeping with SCWTCA.
- c) **Supported Entries** - No member participating in an official SCWTCGTB capacity shall have any influence on judge selections for any event in which they are participating. This does not include SCWTCGTB fun events. If input regarding judges is requested by an organizing body such offer should be declined due to the appearance of impropriety.

**d) Rescue**

**The Rescue Coordinator:**

The Rescue Coordinator shall be a member in good standing of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America, as well as a member in good standing of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Greater Tampa Bay. The Rescue Coordinator shall be responsible for:

- a) Maintaining the complete Rescue files. These files consist of Applications for Adoption, Conditions of Adoption, Placement Agreements, Transfer Agreements and Foster Home applications. The files also consist of dogs placed in rescue, as well as potential adoptive homes. The Rescue Coordinator is also responsible for expense sheets for dogs in foster care, reviewing and approving allowable expenses, and seeing that the Club's Treasurer reimburses foster families in a timely manner.
- b) Maintaining a current email address and/or phone number that will be posted on the National Club website as well as the website of the SCWTCGTB, and answering all inquiries in a timely manner.
- c) Screening potential rescue situations prior to intake via phone or in person. Making sure dogs are of sound temperament, in the best possible health and not suffering from a chronic or terminal illness, acquiring the necessary veterinary and registration paperwork, and securing a signed and completed Transfer Agreement.
- d) Maintaining an Excel worksheet of information on all rescue dog reimbursable expenses and donated services.
- e) Shall work with the Rescue Committee and Foster Family in prescreening families for potential placement of a rescued Wheaten and making sure the family has the proper support and guidance as the dog makes the transition to its new home. This can be done either by phone, in person, and/or email.

- f) Will be available to all new Rescue Families for the lifetime of the dog to answer questions regarding health, diet, training, grooming, and other pertinent questions regarding the welfare of the dog.
- g) Shall along with the Rescue Committee make final decisions regarding the rescue or placement a Rescue Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier
- h) Shall file all pertinent reports as requested, to the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America in a timely fashion.
- i) Shall report to the SCWTCGTB Board of Directors, make reports to the membership at all general meetings, and will be responsible for newsletter articles updating the membership as to all rescue activities; and
- j) Shall be responsible for appointing the Rescue Committee.

**The Rescue Committee:**

The committee shall be made up of three to five members in good standing of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Greater Tampa Bay. The purpose of the Committee:

- a) Is to consult on rescue situations that may be complex and dire.
- b) Shall establish the guidelines and procedures of the SCWTCGTB - Rescue in accordance with National SCWTCA standards for rescue.
- c) Consult with families placing their dog into rescue and obtaining pertinent information on the dog prior to intake.
- d) Be available to foster families to answer questions and give advice on dogs in Foster care, and;
- e) Act as Rescue Coordinator as necessary at the request of the Coordinator in times he or she is not available. (1)

*(1) Acting Rescue Coordinator shall be a member in good standing of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America.*

**The Rescue Foster Family:**

The Foster Family shall:

- a) Be a member of good standing of the SCWTCGTB, and have a Foster Family Application on file with the Rescue Coordinator.
- b) Have a fenced yard, or dog run enclosure.
- c) Keep the dog within the home environment so that they can evaluate the dog for training, emotional and health needs.
- d) Obtain the necessary medical care such as, neutering/spaying, shots, treatment for minor illness, with consultation from the Rescue Coordinator or Rescue Committee.
- e) Is responsible for general grooming such as brushing, combing, nail and ear care.
- f) Is responsible for feeding a high quality brand of dog food in accordance with the dog's needs.
- g) Shall provide transportation on pick up and delivery, under the direction of the Rescue Coordinator or Rescue Committee. Transportation is a reimbursable expense.
- h) Will work with the Rescue Coordinator to make necessary arrangements for potential families to visit with the Rescue Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier. Should this become a

- problem, the Rescue Coordinator or Rescue Committee will make the necessary arrangements for placement visits with cooperation from the Foster Family, and;
- i) Shall submit approved reimbursable expenses, and/or donated services in a timely fashion to the Rescue Coordinator who will then sign off on the form and forward to the Club Treasurer for reimbursement. No dog's medical expenses shall be a financial burden on the Foster Family. Should the dog need extensive medical care, financial arrangements will be made directly with the veterinary office.

**Procedure Guidelines:**

Calls in reference to a rescue situation shall be forwarded to the Rescue Coordinator or a member of the Rescue Committee.(2) If that person(s) is not available, the person fielding the rescue call shall request the owner *prepare for intake* by obtaining the following (this is no guarantee the dog will be accepted into Rescue):

- Phone number(s) and name of the person releasing the dog to rescue. Obtain phone numbers where they can be reached during the day and evening hours, as well as location of the dog.
- Obtain the name and phone number of the dog's veterinary clinic.
- The dog's complete veterinary history shall be faxed to the Rescue Committee at a number, which can be obtained from a member of the Rescue Committee. This shall be obtained from the dog's veterinary clinic.
- The dog's complete paperwork from time of purchase, such as registration papers, pedigree, and puppy shot history. AKC Registration shall be signed over by the owner at time of intake.
- A completed Transfer Agreement shall be obtained. This gives SCWTCGTB-Rescue the legal rights to the dog.

*(2) Current Rescue Committee consists of Melissa Nelson, Jody Greene and Deborah Scurr.*

**The Rescue Coordinator, Rescue Committee, or the person who is acting on behalf of the Rescue Coordinator, (3) shall then handle the intake, coordination of transport, foster care, veterinary care, and placement of the dog.**

The *SCWTCGTB - Rescue* will accept dogs into the rescue foster care/placement program under the following guidelines:

- a) The dog has no history of aggression, either dog-on-human, or severe dog-on-dog aggression.
- b) The dog has a reasonably clean bill of health. Should there be a question as to health issues SCWTCGTB - Rescue shall request a complete Blood Organ Profile be run on the dog prior to intake.
- c) The dog is a pure bred Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier. Wheaten Terrier mixes will be assessed on a case by case basis.
- d) The person relinquishing the dog is the proven owner or caretaker of the dog and will complete and sign a Transfer Agreement.

**No dog shall be admitted into rescue without the permission of the Rescue**

**Coordinator, Rescue Committee, or the person acting as the Rescue Coordinator. Any dog taken into Rescue without the permission of the Rescue Coordinator or the Rescue Committee will be the sole responsibility of the person obtaining the dog and it is not guaranteed placement through the SCWTCGTB Rescue, or reimbursement of expenses.**

**SCWTCGTB is not a rehab or training facility and seeks to help place the most temperamentally sound dogs, as well as the healthiest dogs. Dogs with terminal illness will not be accepted into rescue.**

### **Rescue Rules**

Rescue is 100% self-supporting. *Rescue funds* consist of adoption fees, private donations and grants given in the spirit of rescue. No monies from membership dues and/or club events go into the line item of Rescue. The Rescue Coordinator along with the Rescue Committee can request raffles and auctions can be held on behalf of rescue with those proceeds going to line item Rescue at the discretion of the Board of Directors of SCWTCGTB. Should Rescue become financially dependent and unable to meet their obligation to the care and placement of Rescue Wheatens, the Rescue Coordinator shall make a motion to the Board of Directors for a temporary loan of General Funds until which time funds can be solicited from the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America Board of Directors, through the National Chairperson for Rescue. This motion shall be brought to the membership of SCWTCGTB for a vote on the amount and duration of the loan of General Funds. Monies given in the spirit of rescue shall remain in rescue funds. Rescue funds shall be used to pay for the Rescue insurance premium of the SCWTCGTB. The Rescue Committee will have access to the line item "Rescue" funds for the pertinent care of dogs in immediate foster care.

**The members of the Rescue Committee will have access to Club credit cards in order to pay vet bills and other valid bills directly.**

*(3) The person acting on behalf of the Rescue Coordinator will be an appointed person that is acting as the Rescue Coordinator should they be out of town, or unavailable in an emergency. That person shall be a member of the Rescue Committee, and preferably also a member of SCWTCA.*

The Rescue Committee will decide reasonable rescue allowances for reimbursement:

- Shots/General Vet Care

That rescue will work with local vets for the most reasonable charges possible, as a National Breed Club *recognized* rescue organization. When rescuing a Wheaten from a local shelter or humane society, it is recommended that we take advantage of their low cost spay/neuter programs, shots and pay whatever their "placement" charge if that charge is less expensive than having a vet perform the services.

- Grooming

Whenever possible a donated grooming session is the most desirable. However, it is not expected that the foster family always donate the grooming session. It is recommended that we have a list of club members who will donate grooming services on a rotating

basis, or allow a minimum of \$35 for a grooming session with a groomer (which would include the foster family if they are knowledgeable about grooming Wheatens). **Routine brushing, comb out, baths, nail and ear care should be provided by the foster family as part of the "boarding" line item on the Rescue Reimbursement Form.**

- Boarding

Rescue will work with local boarding facilities for the most reasonable charges possible, noting, we are a recognized National Breed Club rescue organization.

- Room and Board to Foster Family

A minimum of \$3 a day shall be paid for room and board. This reimbursement includes the cost of a premium dog food.

- Mileage

The IRS or National Club recommended mileage will be paid for travel to pick up or deliver a Rescue Wheaten.

- Postage/Phone Bills

All postage and phone bills related to rescue will be reimbursed with proper submission of an expense form with receipts.

- Microchipping

All rescues will be micro chipped by SCWTCGTB Rescue, or there will be a requirement that microchipping be done as a condition of adoption prior to placement.

- Spaying/Neutering

All dogs placed through the SCWTCGTB Rescue Program will be spayed or neutered. Should a dog be too young for the veterinary procedure prior to placement, a Spay/Neuter agreement will be secured as part of the placement agreement. Follow up by the Rescue Coordinator/Rescue Committee will be mandatory and a veterinary receipt shall be obtained. SCWTCGTB Rescue can reimburse for this procedure as part of the adoption placement agreement with proof of paid receipt.

Rescue will use funds for ribbons, awards and raffles to be presented to Rescue Families and club members at SCWTCGTB events.

Rescue will use funds to join other rescue organizations (i.e., All Breed Rescue and others), when such dues are required.

The Rescue Committee will have complete decision-making on each rescue case that is presented to us for possible rescue based on available information and history of the dog.

The Rescue Committee has the discretion to waive adoption fees on rescues being surrendered.

The Rescue Committee has the discretion to raise or lower the adoption fee in special cases, keeping in line with National guidelines for adoption fees.