

POST HUNT PROTOCOL :

Preventative maintenance to treat and prevent injuries and issues

It is vital to remember that our dogs perform as professional athletes during hunting season. Keep this in mind when forming a mentality on the cool down process.

1. VISUAL INSPECTION:

Take in overall appearance. Anything obvious: energy level, thirst, abrasions, matting or grime.
Remove any protective gear: topcoat, vest, chest protector or boots

2. START WITH EYES:

Flush eyes LIBERALLY with saline solution. {Contact lens rinse/storage solution}

Dogs have a third eyelid that seeds and foreign bodies behind that will be lifted with flooding from the saline solution. If the dog has been properly handled and imprinted, this is easy Saline solution is inexpensive, so feel free to use a lot of it on the dog's eyes.

3. START WITH NOSE AND WORK YOUR WAY BACK:

- nose, IN the nostrils
- mouth and throat (it is possible for sticks and grasses to get lodged)
- ears, behind the ears, brush out under the ears, clean ears as needed
- neck and down shoulders, brush out
- armpits, make SURE to check armpits well as this is an easy place to get sores from burs or matting
- front feet, check between EACH toe, top and bottom side, check nails, trim as needed (long nails can split or be ripped out and end the hunting season)
- sides of chest, brush down
- flank and back
- groin area and under belly
- back hips and legs
- male/female: check all areas. Burs may get into and cause issues
- back toes, feet and paws. Check back feet between pads and bottom of pads
- tail

Give them another complete hand rubdown, nose to tail. When finished, should take 5-15 minutes.

4. Give them a treat,—biscuit/powerbar/energy reboot, water and a potty break

5. REST UP FOR NEXT HUNT

Tools: here are things we like to keep in our kits

Eyewash: Saline solution {rinsing/storage of contact lenses}

Mars coat king brush, medium or fine

Frank's Universal slicker brush

Musher's secret

Wound wash (like Nolvasan)

Nail clippers

Q tips

First aid kit

Buck mountain balm