



October 2020
Volume 46, Issue 4

TCVESSA Board:

President:

Courtney Hansen
Spellboundess@yahoo.com

Vice President:

Liz Pike

Treasurer:

B.A.Breese

Secretary:

Alice Musburger

Members at Large:

Carmen Laing
Kathy Patregnani
Julie Roberts
Diane Slais
Tekla Viker

Newsletter Editor:

Joan Beck
beckvisuals@comcast.net

When Artificial Insemination Fails-A Cautionary Tale

By Joan Beck

Breeding dogs is often a careful ballet of timing, progesterone testing and organizing schedules, especially when the stud dog and bitch are in different parts of the country and COVID-19 prevents travel. That is what Lori Hilleren and I were trying to accomplish earlier this year and we turned to shipping fresh chilled semen and artificial insemination to try to make our dream breeding happen... but it didn't.

After nearly a month of searching for the right stud dog, working closely with the stud dog owner, two repro vets and a fairly large expenditure of cash (\$1079) the breeding failed, most likely because of the lack of a 2¢ piece of tape. We were heartbroken.

So, what happened?

When the shipped semen was unpacked at Inver Grove Veterinary Hospital, the tube with the semen sample was sitting on the ice pack instead of up on layers of brown paper where it should have been. The semen had cold shock. When sperm are cold-shocked by rapid cooling to near freezing point, motility and metabolic activity are irreversibly depressed and the acrosome (the head cap of the sperm that contain the enzymes that help it penetrate the egg) and plasma membrane disrupted. This is permanent damage. The sperm may still show decent motility under the microscope, but their ability to swim distances and penetrate and fertilize the egg cells are dramatically reduced.



Sperm hate rapid temperature changes.

This was the third time Lori and I had tried to use fresh chilled semen from proven stud dogs for breeding. Each time we used the services of reproduction vets, but all three times the sample had arrived with the semen sample on the ice and no conception resulted. That is a lot of time and money spent to have



Twin Cities
Voyageur
English
Springer
Spaniel
Association

When Artificial Insemination Fails-A Cautionary Tale

Continued

nothing to show for it. There is a good chance the failures could have been avoided if the person packing the shipping containers had used a 2¢ piece of tape to hold the sample tube on the paper where it couldn't slip off onto the ice pack. I even asked that the sample be secured with tape on our most recent breeding and the request was ignored.

During two phone interviews with Inver Grove Heights Animal Hospital's repro specialist, Dr. Lukas Wallerich, and his repro technician, Lisa, I discovered that the conception rate with intravaginal artificial insemination using fresh semen is between 80-90%. Inver Grove reports that their conception rate from a single trans cervical AI from shipped semen is around 60% and for two AI procedures it is around 70%.

Lisa, Dr. Wallerich's technician, said that upwards of 40% of the semen samples that come to their offices are improperly packaged and likely contributes to the lower conception rates and here is why.

Semen doesn't like abrupt temperature changes – either cold or warm. It causes permanent changes to the cell structure of the sperm. When semen is collected for shipping it is usually spun down to concentrate the sperm and then a warm, body temperature extender consisting of egg yolk, glucose or fructose and a pH buffer is added to protect the sperm. Then the sample tube should be placed in a water bath inside a beaker and slowly cooled down to 4°C (40°F) inside a refrigerator. 40°F seems to be the optimum temperature for fresh sperm longevity. Once the sample is gently cooled, it should be placed in the shipping container with the blue ice pack on the bottom and enough crumpled brown paper or paper towels in the box so that the contents can't be jostled in a way that the sample tube comes in contact with the ice pack. A strip of cellophane tape holding the sample tube to the paper is good insurance to keep the sample in place and should be the standard of care in shipping, but from our experience is seldom done. Insisting that care be taken to prevent rapid cooling or warming of

semen samples is paramount to preserving sperm motility and key to successful conception when using artificial insemination. If you're planning an AI breeding in the future and want to reduce the risk of the breeding failure, insist that the sample be packed to prevent cold shock and that stickers are placed on the outside of the container requesting care in handling and avoiding extreme warm or cool environments.

Links and references for information contained in this article along with additional technical information are available upon request.



TCVSSA VOLUNTEER OPORTUNITIES

December 18, 19, 20, 2020

Volunteers are needed to provide ringside help for the December agility trial.

Location:

Cloud Nine Training Center
Maple Grove, MN

Volunteers receive free beverages and snacks as well as a punch on their volunteer card good towards free entries to future events.

You can sign up to help at:

<https://xtremek9s.com/agility-trialsevents/>



From the Club President
October, 2020

Greetings All!



Thanks to everyone who came out to TCVESSA fall fun day! I had a blast doing agility, birds, playing with puppies, and catching up with friends. Thank you Kathy Patregnani for giving up a precious day to host and organize! I'm a bit disappointed that we had such a small group. You missed out big time by not coming.

I would like to report that all members of the current board were nominated to run for positions in 2021. Elections will take place at the Spring Awards Banquet (hopefully).



Also, please remember your annual membership dues are due at the first of the new year. Liz Pike recently sent out an email with information and you can always find the form on the club website-TCVESSA.org.



Stay safe and hug your dogs,
Courtney Hansen
Club President



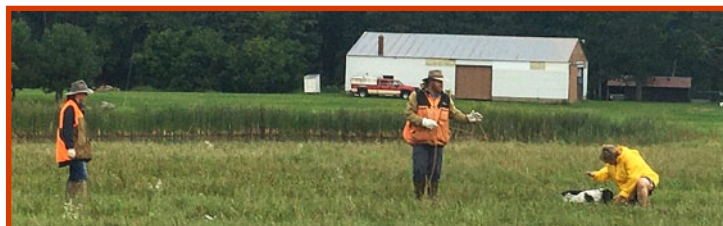
INTRO TO GUN DOG TRAINING SEMINAR-RECAP

Article and photos by Pam Laulainen



Several TCVESSA members, along with a few additional participants, enjoyed the August 22 Intro to Gun Dog Training conducted by Morgan Haglin at Pine Shadows of Brainerd MN. The 6 hour long event combined informative, often humorous quips and demos by Morgan, interspersed by actual field experience tailored for the experience level and temperament of each of the participating dogs.

It was entertaining to watch the various breeds, including English Springer Spaniels, both Bench bred and Field bred, Field Spaniels and Boykins, get exposure to pigeons, guns, water and some highly distracting duck decoys.



Both two-legged and four-legged participants had a satisfying, fun day. A huge lunch with much variety was an added bonus enjoyed by the two-footed participants:).



For those interested in getting their dogs more exposure to hunting, Pine Shadows offers open (no fee) gatherings on most Saturdays, January through Labor Day. More details are available on the Pine Shadows Facebook page and their website.





TCVESSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES ~ July 15, 2020

Courtney Hansen called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. The meeting was conducted via Zoom teleconference.

Members present: President, Courtney Hansen, Vice President, Liz Pike, Secretary, Alice Musburger, Treasurer, B. A. Breese, members at large Kathy Patregnani, Diane Slais, Julie Roberts, Carmen Laing Vox Editor Joan Beck and Club member Brian Schaffer. Members absent: Tekla Viker

The minutes from the June 4, 2020 meeting were read, amended and approved.

B.A. Breese reported a club finance balance of \$7824.54. The only expenses in the past month were for prizes purchased for the May 2020 Specialty, which was not held.

Brian Schaffer presented the layout for up coming hunt training day to be held at Pine Shadows near Brainerd. It is to be a normal training day in the North field by the pond, the Angle Field. There will be an introduction to both birds and water. Quartering will be taught. There will be a demo by Ozzie showing the skills needed for either the Working Dog or Junior Hunter Certificates. It will start at 8:00 a.m. and end with lunch. The cost will be \$40 for the day which includes two birds per dog. Both clipped wing birds and flyers will be used. Gunners for other training will be far away in another field. There will be no minimum number of dogs. Dates available are August 15, August 22 and August 29 and members will be asked to provide their preference to Courtney. The deadline to enter will be August 25.

Brian wrote an excellent article on hunt training for the VOX due to come out this week. There will be email flyers sent to club members as well as a Face Book post and a flyer in the VOX newsletter.

Courtney has been working on and proposed a two day all breed nose work seminar that our club would host this fall as a modest fundraiser. Holly Bushard will conduct the seminar and both working and audit spots will be offered. Cost, potential fees, and location were discussed. TCVESSA members will be first priority on the working spots. A Covid-19 release will be required. Diane Slais offered to help.

Kathy Patregnani offered to host an outdoor potluck at her house for club in order for club members to pick up their annual awards since the March banquet was cancelled due to the Covid-19 virus. Several potential activities were discussed.

The next board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 7:15 p.m.

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Musburger



TCVESSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES ~ August 19, 2020

Members Present: Vice President, Liz Pike, Secretary, Alice Musburger, Treasurer B.A. Breese, members at large Kathy Patregnani, Diane Slais, Julie Roberts, Tekla Viker, Carmen Laing and Vox Editor Joan Beck.

Absent: Courtney Hansen (President)

In Courtney's absence, the meeting was called to order by Vice President, Liz Pike.

The minutes of the July Board meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: The current balance is \$ 8506.81 and no funds were requested.

Old Business:

Update on Introduction to Gun Dog Training

The introduction to Gun Dog Training has been scheduled for August 22 at Pine Shadows Kennel near Brainard. Currently, we have approximately 10 dogs signed up, including a number of non-club members with other flushing spaniels. Morgan Haglin will be conducting the training and club member Brian Shaffer will be assisting. Carmen Liang from the Board will be attending should there be any questions or concerns. We discussed and decided it would be appropriate to ask participants to sign a hold harmless release and Courtney will send it out to participants.

New Business

Fall Membership Meeting

In order to offer an outdoor event option, we decided to schedule our Fall Membership meeting for Sunday, October 4th. Kathy Patregnani offered to host it at her home. Several activities will be offered including agility set-up and rally course. Kathy offered to check with Lynn Hicks to see if she is available to demonstrate scent work.

Due to the current circumstances, no food will be offered and we will ask members to bring their own snacks.

Since we did not have a Spring Awards Banquet, annual awards and title certificates will be presented during this meeting. We want to make sure we take this opportunity to recognize the great achievements of our dogs and owners.

Nominating committee

In accordance with TCVESSA Bylaws, the slate of officers and members at large is presented at the Fall Membership meeting. During the Board meeting, we discussed the appointment of a nominating committee and Liz Pike volunteered to chair and Joan Beck volunteered to serve as one of the member representatives. A third member representative was discussed and Liz was charged with reaching out to complete the nominating committee.

Nose Work Seminar

We continued our discussion on the proposed Nose Work Seminar. The dates for the seminar have been set for November 21 & 22 at Canine Cabin in Clearwater. Additional discussion ensued regarding logistics and costs.

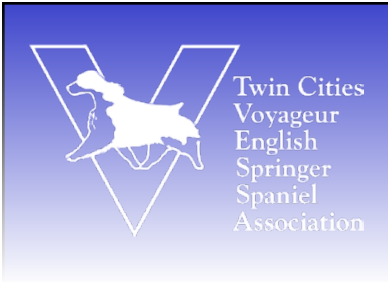
Annual Banquet

Carmen reported that our previous location for the banquet, The Roasted Pear in Brooklyn Park, has closed. We discussed possible alternative locations and the former Sunshine Factory, now Pub 42, in New Hope was suggested. Carmen will be exploring other locations.

The next Board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, September 23rd at 7:15 pm via Zoom.

It was moved and seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Pike/Acting Secretary



TCVESSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES ~ September 22,2020

The meeting was called to order by President Courtney Hansen at 7:20 pm (Via Zoom)

Members Present: President Courtney Hansen, Vice President Liz Pike (Acting secretary), Treasurer B.A. Breese, members at large, Kathy Patregnani, Diane Slais, Tekla Viker, Carmen Laing, Julie Roberts and VOX Editor Joan Beck.

Members absent: Secretary Alice Musburger.

Approval of Minutes from the August Board Meeting – will be approved at the next meeting or by email consent.

Treasurer’s Report: The current balance in the treasury is \$8,506.81 and there are no requests for funds at this time.

Membership Report: There are no pending membership applications at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

Debrief on Introduction to Gun Dog Training

There were approximately 10 people in attendance. In addition to club members, we had two Field Spaniels and two Boykins. Carmen reported that it was well done and went from 9 am to 3 pm including a lunch break. Morgan Haglin and other staff were with them the entire time and demonstrated both ground and water work. She suggested that we do it again.

The club wishes to extend our heartfelt thanks to Brian Shaffer for all of his hard work to make this opportunity available to club members.

Fall Membership Meeting/ Fun Day

Kathy is ready and will have agility equipment set up and the club will provide water. She indicated that she will need additional tables and Courtney, Carmen and Diane offered bring them. Liz will post a note on FB and send an email to advertise to bring your own chair. Diane will bring rally signs for those who want to practice. We will have a sign in sheet with a hold harmless waiver.

Liz will reach out to Joan and Jean to see if one of them will be at the Fall meeting to provide the report of the nominating committee.

2020 TCVESSA VOX Publication Schedule

Issue1:

Submission deadline: Jan 10
Publication date: Jan 15

Issue2:

Submission deadline: Apl 10
Publication date: Apl 17

Issue 3:

Submission deadline: July 10
Publication date: July 15

Issue 4:

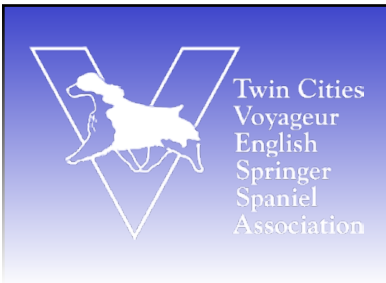
Submission deadline: Oct 10
Publication date: Oct 15

Annual awards and title certificates will be presented during the meeting.

Nose Work Seminar:

The nose work seminar by Holly Buchard is set for November 21 and 22 at Canine Cabin in Clearwater. We determined that we could offer 12 working spots (125 per day or \$200 for both days) and six audit spots (\$60 for one day, \$100 for both days). Club members will be given priority to sign up prior to October 15, after which registration will open to non-club members. Attendees will be advised to bring their own food and snacks and the club will provide water. They will also be required to sign a hold harmless waiver.

Minutes continued on next page.



TCVESSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES ~ September 22,2020

CONTINUED

NEW BUSINESS:

October Agility Trial

Our October 16, 17 & 18 trial at On the Run is filling quickly. There is some set up on Thursday but the greatest need for club help is on Sunday at the end of the trial to do minor clean up and reset the agility equipment. This is a huge savings as we don't pay a clean-up fee. Please let Kathy know if you can help! It was suggested that we give away gas cards/gift cards to those who volunteer the entire weekend since we are not able to do work raffles at this time.

Specialty Discussion:

We have previously determined that in lieu of our normal Conformation/Obedience/Rally Specialty in May, we will offer an All-Breed Obedience and Rally trial. The reason behind this decision is that the National Specialty is the week prior to our Specialty weekend and we did not feel we could draw a good entry. Given the current circumstances and the strong desire of many to find Specialty shows, we discussed options for holding designated, concurrent and/or supported entries during the summer of 2021. Our 2020 commitment to the Lake Minnetoka KC (Jordan) for a supported entry will carry over to 2021.

Volunteer Opportunities

We discussed how to best make volunteer opportunities visible to members and decided Joan will add a section to the VOX that highlights upcoming volunteer opportunities. We will also make this a standing item on the Board agenda.

Improving Communication with Members

We agreed that we need to reinstate the practice of sending a Welcome Packet to new members. Several people offered to look for what was previously included in the packet. Liz will reach out to Mary Dahl, Sunshine co-ordinator, to ask how we can improve our communication with her to make sure we don't miss major life events of our members.

We agreed that with the use of ZOOM technology, we should advertise our meetings so that members can join.

Next meetings:

Sunday, October 4 11:00 – 3:00 at Kathy Patregnani's House

Wednesday, November 4, 7:15 pm

Wednesday, December 2, 7:15 pm

It was moved by Kathy and seconded Julie to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Pike/Acting Secretary

Do You Have a Nosy Dog?



Then we have a great opportunity for you!

The Twin Cities Voyageur English Springer Spaniel Association
is hosting a

NOSE WORK

Seminar

all levels welcome to participate

Instructor Holly Buchard

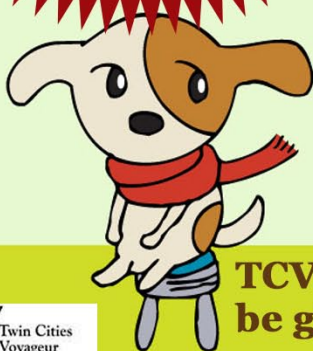
countriesidedogsports.com

November 21 & 22

9:00 - 4:30

Canine Cabin
5370 135th Avenue
Clear Lake, MN

**Register Early!
Space is limited
to 12 working
and 6 audit
spots!**



Working Spots: \$125 per day or \$200 for both days

Audit Spots: \$60 per day or \$100 for both days

**TCVESSA club members who register prior to October 15 will
be given priority.**

**Contact Courtney Hansen at spellboundess@yahoo.com or
text (651)253-2592 to register.**





LITTER ANNOUNCEMENTS (THE STORK COMMETH):

Kathy Patregnani
vinewoodess@hotmail.com

VINEWOOD ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIELS
IS SO EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE OUR
CONFIRMED BREEDING OF....

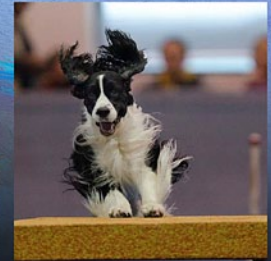
SPLASH

& MEME

THE WATER LITTER

DUE 10-21-20

VINEWOOD ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIELS
KATHY PATREGNANI
VINWOODESS@HOTMAIL.COM
612-718-2093



CH OTCH MACH8 TOPGUNS
VINEWOOD MAKIN' A SPLASH
UDX₃ OM6 VER RAE₂ MH



VINEWOOD ME, MYSELF & EYE

The Musical litter

SIRE: GCHSegre's Brown Derby
DAM: GCHB Dartek's Eldamar Lyrical Journey

Tekla Viker
(dartek@fmwildblue.com)

Is Your Dog's Dish Safe?

Here's what you need to know

I wouldn't be surprised if you have noticed a thick, slimy residue on your dog's water and food bowls when you pick them up to wash or refill them. The technical name for that slime is "biofilm" and it is teeming with bacteria and potentially algae, molds, and fungi.

Saliva and bacteria are left behind on surfaces when your dog eats or drinks. Over time, the bacteria can build up to a level where they can cause illnesses and health issues in both dogs and people.

Studies conducted by National Science Foundation International and the National Sanitation Foundation looked into the absolute grossest places in people's homes and ranking in the top five nastiest areas were pet's food and water bowls.



One reason for the germ build-up is that dog owners don't clean food and water bowls after each use. This is especially common in households where dogs receive only dry kibble. They refill the food and water bowl each day and only wash it on occasion. It is also common in homes and kennels where water pails are attached to kennels/crates and difficult to reach, so they are not cleaned frequently. No one is trying to make their pet sick on purpose. It's just that they're unaware of the health risk caused by biofilm.

When dogs eat and drink out of unclean bowls, the bacteria present in their mouth continue to build and eventually contaminates their fresh food and water. Anyone who touches the unclean bowls is also at risk of acquiring harmful bacteria if they don't wash their hands after doing so.

And yes, dogs have a strong acid in their stomachs that kill a large number of pathogens; but, Joseph Kinnarney, DVM, president of the American Veterinary Medical Association says that it is the bacteria in the pet's mouths that is the primary issue here. Periodontal diseases are the number one health issue in small animals. Bacteria that form biofilm can cause dental plaque that leads to dental calculus formation, gum diseases, and dental caries. In addition, because the connective tissue of the lower jaw passes through the neck and into the thoracic cavity, biofilm can eventually lead to systemic diseases like heart disease and systemic inflammation. Bacterial infections in the mouth can lead to urinary tract infections and chronic kidney disease when dogs attempt to clean themselves.

In humans, infectious processes that have been linked to biofilms include bacterial vaginosis, urinary tract infections, catheter infections, middle-ear and sinus infections, the formation of dental plaque, gingivitis, coating contact lenses, and less common but more lethal processes such as endocarditis, infections in cystic fibrosis, and infections of permanent in-dwelling devices such as joint prostheses and heart valves."

To prevent harmful bacteria, wash your dog's food and water bowl each day in hot, soapy water. Be sure to designate one sponge or cloth for the job so you don't accidentally transfer germs to the dishes you and your family use. At least once a week, place the dog bowls in the dishwasher to completely disinfect them.

Continued on next page

To Your Dog Dish Safe -- Continued

If you don't have a dishwasher, combine bleach and water at a 1:50 ratio and allow the dish to soak for 10 minutes. Set them out on a counter to dry. Bleach works best to kill harmful bacteria as it dries. Then rinse the bowls thoroughly and let them dry again. Another alternative is to combine baking soda, salt, and warm water in equal amounts to create a thick paste. Scrub the bowls with the paste and then rinse them clean and let them dry. Drying is important to kill off any remaining bacteria.



The following types of bowls are highly recommended—clear glass (Pyrex type), or white (Corningware type) bowls, or stainless-steel bowls. Don't use plastic bowls. They absorb odors, grease, saliva, and old food particles and are difficult to keep truly clean. Be sure not to scrub stainless steel bowls with anything abrasive, as that causes scratches that can allow the biofilm to grow.

The fact that we can prevent major health conditions in our pets simply by keeping their bowls and toys clean and sterile is sobering. A little bit of effort for a large return!

Note: This article was adapted from four online articles on the subject by Joan Beck. For more information, please place the terms "Biofilm in Dog Bowls" in your favorite search engine.



Awards and Brags



Sheila Koon reports:

**VinEwood Bright Lights N Action VCD2 AX AXJ
"Zeva"
Got her TDX (Tracking Dog Excellent)
October 18, 2020**





Awards and Brags



Erika Brookshire reports: My daughter Riley had a big weekend at the Fargo Dog Shows. She got all three of her Novice Junior first place wins and moved up to Open Junior. So proud of how well she did!! And then there is Marlow, her novice, untrained juniors dog. To make the weekend even sweeter, Howard and Heidi Huber took Riley under their wings in Fargo. Riley helped groom and prep Reserve Best In Show winning GCH Cerise Bonanza “Teddy” for his win photos



and Howard even gave Riley a lasting memory and memento from the weekend – Teddy’s Group First and Reserve Best in Show ribbons! And one more thing, our little, third generation dog handler got a small write-up on the Canine Chronicle web page along with Howard and Heidi.



Mary Dahl reports:

GCHB CH Signature’s Leap Of Faith CD BN RA THDN CGC TKA “Lily”
has two new titles - Bronze GCH and Trick Dog Advanced
and

Signature’s Devine Grace RN CGC TKN “Grace”
has a new Rally Novice Title and obtained a 4 point major at
the Fargo dog shows



Awards and Brags



Alice Musburger reports:

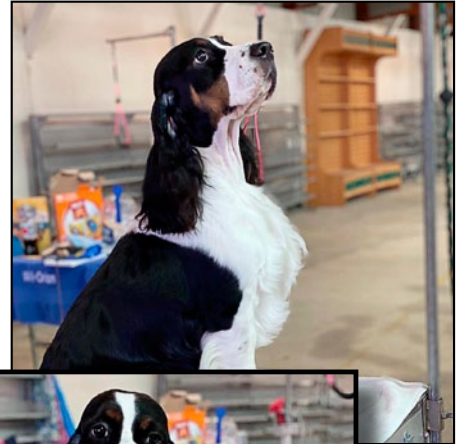
Wil-Orion's Bits' N Pieces "Reese"
(Owned by Alice Musburger and Janice Johnson)

Fargo Moorhead Kennel Club

Friday September 25, 2020 WB/BOW 3-point major
Sunday September 27, 2020 WB 3-point major

Mason City Kennel Club

Saturday September 10, 2020 Morning Show WB
Saturday September 10, 2020 Afternoon Show WB/BOS
4-point major



Carmen Laing reports:

Eldamars Paws Upon A Star CGCA BN CD RE DJ AX OAJ TKI RATM.
"Elsa"

Sept 19 ESSFTA Agility trial
Time to Beat
Excellent JWW - 2nd leg
Masters Standard- 3rd leg

10/16-18. TCVESSA AGILITY
Fri - Masters Standard
Sat - Masters Standard, Time to Beat, Novice Fast
Sun - Time to Beat



TCV
ESSA

Awards and Brags



Kayla Nyvold reports:

**VinEwood's I'm Your Huckleberry ACT1 CGC TKN
"Doc"**

had an amazing weekend in Mason City Iowa.

Mason City Kennel Club, Inc. (2) Saturday, 10/10/2020
BW/BOB/BOBOH/OHG1 3 Point Major

Ft Dodge Kennel Club, Inc. (1) Sunday, 10/11/2020
BW /BOB/G1 5 Point Major

Ft Dodge Kennel Club, Inc. (2) Sunday, 10/11/2020
BW/OS/BOBOH/OHG1/BISOH



Kathy Patregnani reports:

**VinEwood's Minnesota Miracle
"Diggs"**

Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club (2) 9/13/2020
Winner's Dog – 3 point major

