



The American Toy Fox Terrier Club

WINTER 2025

FOX TALES

President

Susan Thibodeaux
904-616-0153

Vice President

Denise Monette
530-741-3333

Secretary

Carrie Fletcher
714-292-0302

Treasurer

LeaAnn Boles
405-550-3125

Board of Directors

Chris Bowker
770-633-9437

Laura Johnson
203-209-4196

Pamela Cox
715-864-5501

Tabitha Dvorak
402-803-0435

Teresa Watson
405-535-8793

AKC Delegate

Laura Johnson

Newsletter

Chris Bowker
bowmanor@bellsouth.net



GCHB KALLMEE THE SPACE COWBOY

ASTRO!

Breeder/Owner Susan Thibodeaux

See page 2 for more

ASTRO

Front Cover - Best of Breed ATFTC REGIONAL SPECIALTY IN ORLANDO

Followed by:
CFTFTC Specialty BOB



Progressive Toy Group Show 2 Bests of Breeds



And Two Group 3's in Miami!

Advertising Rates

Front Cover.....	\$45 Full
Page.....	\$25 Half
Page.....	\$12.50

Issue Deadlines are: Spring Issue-April 1st Summer Issue-July 1st Fall Issue-October 1st Winter Issue-January 1st

Message from the Editor

Sorry the newsletter is a little late this time! I have been waiting for all the monthly minutes/financials to be approved, so they can be as up-to-date as possible. There are no December minutes as there was no Board meeting that month. During the wait period, 2 more articles and flyer with some information about an upcoming designated TFT specialty came in. Now all we need is a few more ADS!

Thank you to all who contributed or sent me articles, news and information. As always, many thanks to the always dependable Rick Lichty for receiving, working on and sending me the new titles reports!

Thank you all!

Welcome New Members!

Nena and Dan Bauman.....Reynoldsburg, Ohio

Chris Houchins & Michael Ryan.....Warren New Jersey

Matthew Proctor.....Houston, Texas

Performance and Companion News

I know I saw lists last year of the TFTs who had been invited to compete at Royal Canin in FCat and Agility, but unfortunately, I have not seen or heard of how anyone fared.

So, only a limited amount of news to tell—

The Supergirl has done it again! Ch. Foxshire Bee All You Can Be has earned 3 more titles in the space of a couple of months, and has now qualified for the High Praise Versatility Award! The rest of us have our work cut out for us trying to catch up with Bie. Congratulations!!

The only other news is my Tyler received another award in the Fetch category (see ad). Last fall, besides the FTA, he also earned the FitG title.

ATFTC HONORS OUR MULTI-TITLED TFTs!



Ch. Foxshire Bee All You Can Be
CA FCAT3 DJ RN CGCA TKP FITB ATT NAJ NF

(11 Disciplines)

High Praise Award

Jennifer Walker/Sarah Kittner/Jeffrey Kittner, Owners



This page needs news of your wins!

This page needs news of your new titles!

This page needs to see more TFTs honored with multi-titles!

Another Title for Tyler!



BOWMANOR'S PIT BOSS CD RM TKE CGC FDC FITG FTA

This past December, we decided to try for the next Fetch title, the Advanced level. This is the title AKC calls the level where the fetching gets serious! Each test requires 2 single retrieves behind blinds 70 feet away, and then a double where 2 retrieving dummies are placed behind 2 different blinds and the dog must go out to the first article and bring back to hand, then get sent to the second one still out behind the other blind. He must pick up each one as directed by the handler. Tyler passed both of his tests on the same day!

Bred, trained, handled and loved by

Christine Bowker

Kennesaw, Georgia

Join us for our big California ATFTC Specialty at
Woofstock on Sat June 7, 2025.

Great prizes and fun! Saturday is **Tie Dye Saturday!** Come in
costume and join the party!



ATFTC Designated Specialty

MB-F Dog Shows

\$34/\$23

Closing date May 21, 2025

Judges

Breed: Mrs Linda Hurlebus

Group: Mrs Patricia Proctor

BIS: Mrs Linda Hurlebus

NOHS Breed and Group: Miss Sandra Lex

NOHS BIS: Mr Phillip Booth

HISTORIAN NOTES

A couple of months ago, someone asked me if I would take on the history committee. I had held the position in 2004 and because I have an interest in club history, I said yes.

Early on, my interest was in gathering 3-generation pedigrees and pictures of the first 3 or 4 years of new champions.


More recently, I have been working on 2 other projects. One is the First TFT Title Holders in all the AKC recognized sports from breed to performance and companion events and finding pictures of all those honorees.

As the 20th anniversary of the club got closer, I started to research the early history of the ATFTC, beginning with the first Board of Directors. That turned out to be a bit of a challenge, as many of those I contacted could name only one or two. Three ladies I called have my deepest thanks: Susan McCoy, who sent me some memberships lists I didn't have along with a few older newsletters; Lynn McKee who supplied me with a name to contact that was one of the founding members of 1994; and a special thanks to Margi Hill who, while talking to me, came across an early packet of stuff to be sent to the AKC, which included the first official slate of officers and BOD! To all three of you who helped me with early history—THANK YOU!

In 2004, there was a rumor that someone in the NW had a box of papers and history of the early days of the club; when asked if I wanted it, I quickly said yes! Unfortunately, nothing came from that. Thankfully, I have one of the most complete collections of club newsletters, so a possible history of the club could be fashioned from what has been gathered so far. A work in progress....

2003 — 11

CH. FOXFLAME HOT SUMMER NIGHTS



AKC#: TR03961001
WHELPED: July 18, 2002
CHG: Clear CLR: T/W SEX: F
BREEDER: Dick & Carole La Flamme
OWNER: Dick & Carole La Flamme

Apava Jet Setter II

Ch. Westgate Whynot a Jet Setter

Hopkin's June Rose

Windy Acres Jessica's Casanova

Foxflame Theo's Golden Image

Windy Acres Angel's Image

Windy Acres Texas Smoke

Foxy T's Missy of Foxhaven

Hopkins' Royal Adventurer

Hopkins' Angela Rose

Windy Acres Lucky Shane

Windy Acres Noels Jessica

Windy Ac-Kajun-Fox Gold Paco

Windy Acres Sharla of Tiny Tracks

Do the Dewclaws?

Chris Zink

BY CHRIS ZINK DVM PHD DACVP DACVSMR CCRT CVSMT CVA



Originally printed in the August 2023
issue of ShowSight

As a veterinary sports medicine specialist, I work extensively with canine athletes, identifying injuries and developing rehabilitation programs for dogs that required surgery due to performance-related injuries. I have seen many dogs, especially Field Trial/Hunt Test and Agility dogs, that have chronic carpal arthritis, frequently so severe that they must be retired or at least carefully managed for the rest of their careers. I noticed that very few of those dogs had dewclaws and began to wonder whether these appendages might, in fact, protect a dog from injuries. What I learned might surprise you.

First, just a tiny bit of anatomy. Check out Figure 1, which shows the anatomy of the front leg in the area of the carpus, or wrist.

There are two muscles, the *extensor pollicis longus et indicis proprius* and *flexor digitorum profundus* that are attached to the front dewclaw by four tendons (Figure 1). Each of those muscle/tendon units has a different function in movement of the dewclaw. That means that if you cut off the dewclaws, you are preventing the muscles that were attached to the dewclaws from functioning. It also proves that the dewclaws are not just passive digits—they do function in movement.

In contrast, rear limb dewclaws do not have muscle/tendon attachments, so their removal might be appropriate, except in breeds such as the Briard and the Beauceron for which the Breed Standards state that they should be retained.

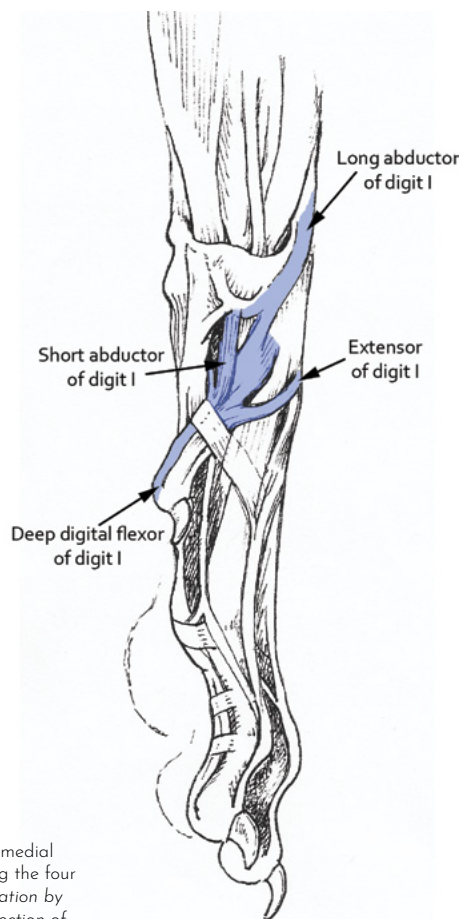


Figure 1. Anatomical diagram viewing the medial side of a dog's left front leg, demonstrating the four tendons that attach to the dewclaw. Illustration by M. Schlehr, from *Miller's Guide to the Dissection of the Dog*.

DO THE DEWCLAWS?

DEWCLAWS DO HAVE FUNCTIONS

Now that we know that there are muscles and tendons attached to the dewclaws, let's figure out how they function. Broadly speaking, dewclaws have at least two different functions:

1. *Grasp the ground to prevent torque on the forelimb.* Each time the front foot lands on the ground, particularly when the dog is cantering or galloping (see Figure 2), the dewclaw is in touch with the ground. If the dog then needs to turn, the dewclaw actively digs into the ground to stabilize the lower leg and prevent torque. In Figure 3, you can clearly see the dewclaw of a Corgi herding a sheep with its dewclaw extended, ready to grip the ground.

If a dog doesn't have dewclaws, the leg will twist on its axis, creating increased pressure on the carpal bones, as well as the elbow, shoulder, and toes. A lifetime of this kind of torque and the result can be carpal arthritis or injuries and/or arthritis of the other joints of the front leg. Remember, the dog is participating in the activity regardless, so there will be concussion and twisting of the leg. If the dewclaw is not present to help to stabilize it, those pressures will be transmitted to other areas of the leg, especially the joints.

2. *Grip objects.* We have all seen dogs using their dewclaws to grip an object such as a ball or bone (Figure 4). I've even seen many photos of Agility dogs gripping the Agility teeter for stability (Figure 5). But did you know that the dewclaws' gripping ability can, in fact, save your dog's life? Check out the video "Dewclaws Do Have a Purpose" at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4XflsMEk-k&t=9s> for "gripping" views of dogs attempting to get out of water onto ice without the help of those ice picks on the inside of their legs. The video also shows dogs using their dewclaws to grip the ice and escape from a potentially fatal situation. I have known several dogs that drowned after falling through ice in the winter. None of them had dewclaws. If they had, perhaps they would have survived and spared their owners the incredible heartache of watching their dogs die unnecessarily.

ARGUMENTS FOR REMOVING DEWCLAWS

1. *The dewclaws will get injured.* This is the most common reason I hear for removing dewclaws. A friend of mine had such a severe dewclaw injury in one of her dogs that she swore she would remove them on all the dogs she bred subsequently.

But the data indicate that dewclaws are not injured very often. A study published in 2018 showed that the dewclaw was the LEAST likely toe to be injured in Agility dogs, in which landing and turning from jumps and other obstacles put the toes at risk for injuries. Another study showed that you would have to remove the dewclaws from 200 dogs to prevent a dewclaw injury in just one dog. For these reasons, it makes no sense to remove the dewclaws because of risk of injury. And, of course, no one would consider removing the fifth digits on the outsides of the front feet, which are by far the most commonly injured toes.

2. *Owners forget to trim the dewclaws.* Surely this is a matter of education. Do we really want to remove a functioning digit in all dogs just because some owners need to be reminded that they must trim the dewclaws?
3. *Dewclaws make the forelimb look less straight* when viewed from the front in Conformation. The AKC states: "The Breed Standard describes the characteristics of the ideal dog to perform the function for which it was bred." While we could have long discussions about the veracity of this statement, it is interesting to note that there are VERY few Breed Standards that require dewclaw removal.

A PLEA

So, here's a plea to retain dogs' dewclaws. They are a functioning digit. They are the toe least likely to be injured. Isn't this enough to convince us not to do the dewclaws? ■



Figure 2. In this galloping dog, the dewclaw is in touch with the ground. If the dog needs to turn to the right, the dewclaw will dig into the ground to stabilize the lower leg and prevent torque.



Figure 3. Corgi using its left dewclaw while herding. Photo by Jessica Viera.



Figure 4. Dog using left dewclaw to grip a food toy. Photo by Samra Elser.



Figure 5. Kelpie gripping the teeter for stability. Photo by TTL Action Photography.

NEW BREED TITLES SEPTEMBER 2024

Dog Title	Dog Name	Date Titled	Owners Name
Champion	CH Accolade Charisma Adventure	21-Sep-24	Mrs. Pamela Rhea Cox & Carolyn Lichty & Mr. Anthony Lee Cox
Champion	CH Azefer Snocrest Opal	7-Sep-24	Sandra Noe
Champion	CH Dynasty Topfox Little Bit Of Sass	15-Sep-24	Nena B Bauman & Daniel A Bauman
Champion	CH Noteworthy Showgirl	7-Sep-24	Beth Howe
Champion	CH Tylaur's Valcopy Ain'T My Last Rodeo	7-Sep-24	Mrs. Laura A Johnson
Grand Champion	GCH CH Foxshire & Lilly's Christmas Vacation	21-Sep-24	Sarah A & Jeffrey M Kittner & Mona & Rick Lilly & Jamie Wardlow
Grand Champion	GCH CH Lalique-Valdon How Legends Are Made	29-Sep-24	Cheyenne Mech & Joan Krumm

New Performance Titles September 2024

Dog Title	Dog Name	Date Titled	Owners Name
Master Agility Excellent	Icefox In A Class Of His Own MX MXJ MJB OF BCAT	29-Sep-24	Dr. Mary Alice Doyle
Master Agility Excellent	Terra Baltika Cherry Pie MX MXJ MJB CA FCAT TKI	29-Sep-24	Leigh-Anne Congdon
Master Gold Agility	MACH2 Ultra Quest Just A Flying Wallenda MXG MJC XF T2B	29-Sep-24	Sharon Kihara, Kasey Mando & Julie Sandoval
Master Silver Agility 3	AGCH MACH9 Robrex's Mr. Chili Pepper CDX MXS3 PDG MJS3 PJS MFC TQX T2B7	22-Sep-24	Sherry Bohman
Master Agility Excellent Preferred 6	PACH The Noggin BN RN MXP6 MXPS MJP4 MJPB PAX MFP T2BP FCAT	14-Sep-24	Deborah J. Franks
Master Bronze Jumper	Icefox In A Class Of His Own AX MXJ MJB NF BCAT	20-Sep-24	Dr. Mary Alice Doyle
Master Bronze Jumper	Terra Baltika Cherry Pie AX MXJ MJB CA FCAT TKI	1-Sep-24	Leigh-Anne Congdon
Master Gold Jumper	GCHB CH MACH Valcopy Pipin Hot Niklby MXS MJG	15-Sep-24	Betty J Cuzzolino/Dana L Plonkey/Michelle Starry
Master Bronze Jumper 11	AGCH MACH37 Icefox Pick Me Up MXG9 PDS MJB11 PJS MFG TQX T2B5 TKA	15-Sep-24	Dr. Mary Alice Doyle
Master Excellent Jumper Preferred 8	GCH CH PACH Westgate All-Star Tell Me No Lies AX AXJ MXP3 MXPB MJP8 MJPG PAX DCAT	28-Sep-24	Wendy Lynn Howard & Julie Sandoval
Agility FAST Open	Icefox In A Class Of His Own MX MXJ MJB OF BCAT	29-Sep-24	Dr. Mary Alice Doyle
Agility FAST Open	CH MACH Niklby Hot Stuff N Then Some Valcopy MXS MJG OF T2B	21-Sep-24	Betty J Cuzzolino
Agility FAST Excellent	MACH2 Ultra Quest Just A Flying Wallenda MXS MJC XF T2B	21-Sep-24	Sharon Kihara & Kasey Mando & Julie Sandoval
Master Agility Champion 2	MACH2 Lillys Can You Handle This MXS MJC XF T2B CA RATN	7-Sep-24	Jennifer E Canfield
Master Agility Champion 38	AGCH MACH38 Icefox Pick Me Up MXG9 PDS MJB11 PJS MFG TQX T2B5 TKA	20-Sep-24	Dr. Mary Alice Doyle
BCAT	Fritzfox Crazy In Love FDC BCAT FITB	14-Sep-24	Lisa McGowan & Lea Ann Boles
BCAT	Hiles Jessie'S Little Rocky BCAT	22-Sep-24	Debbie M Hiles
BCAT	Plea's Painted Wildflower @ Flair BCAT	22-Sep-24	Karen McMillen
BCAT	CH Starfox Makin' Some Noise BCAT	7-Sep-24	Barbara Tuttle, Katherine E Tuttle & Sheryl Irwin
BCAT	Ttk Attack On Titan BCAT	29-Sep-24	Darian Stern
DCAT	CH Tnt Swamp Buck Stout At Natchez DCAT	20-Sep-24	Sally Waltrip & Gail Flynn
FCAT	Watch Me Release My Savage Side. FCAT CGC	15-Sep-24	Jacala Marie
FCAT3	CH Foxshire Bee All You Can Be CA FCAT3 DJ CGCA TKA ATT FITB FTI	8-Sep-24	Jennifer R. Walker & Sarah A & Jeffrey M Kittner
Scent Work Handler Discrimination Adv.	Dar-Rich Rhythm Of The Heart SWNE SWA SHDNE SHDA CGC TKN	28-Sep-24	Glenn and Ronda Lee
Scent Work Container Advanced	GCH CH Dar-Rich Rhythm Of The Range SWA SHDA	28-Sep-24	Darlene Teter & Shelley Erdman
Scent Work Exterior Advanced	Dar-Rich Rhythm Of The Heart SWNE SWA SHDNE SHDA CGC TKN	28-Sep-24	Glenn and Ronda Lee
Scent Work Advanced	Dar-Rich Rhythm Of The Heart SWNE SWA SHDNE SHDA CGC TKN	28-Sep-24	Glenn and Ronda Lee
Scent Work Advanced	GCH CH Dar-Rich Rhythm Of The Range SWA SHDA	28-Sep-24	Darlene Teter & Shelley Erdman
Trick Dog Intermediate	CH Westgate Wings Of An Angel RN CGCA TKI	30-Aug-24	Barbara Kelley
Trick Dog Advanced	Dynasty Topfox Return Of The Jedi BN MX MXB MXJ MJB MXF T2B2 DCAT CGC TKA	15-Sep-24	Mrs. Kimberly R Dillon
FIT Dog Silver	CH Heartland's Midnight Joker FDC DCAT RATN ATT FITS FTN	6-Sep-24	Lisa McGowan & Terry L McGowan
Fetch Novice	Fly'N Fox-Shire Sabre Tooth Tigerrr FCAT4 FTN	28-Sep-24	Anne L Dupuy & Duane Dupuy
Fetch Intermediate	Bowmanors Pit Boss CD RM FDC CGC TKE FITB FTI	1-Sep-24	Christine Bowker

New Breed Titles October 2024

Dog Title	Dog Name	Date Titled	Owners Name
Champion	CH Greenjeans Believe In Taking A Chance In Life	18-Oct-24	Catherine Fortney & Mary Bowlan
Champion	CH Hurricanedeck The Devil To Pay	13-Oct-24	Rebekah A. Rivera, Amaya Rivera, Reena Fair & Cindy Enroughty
Champion	CH Miss Liddie's Precious Jade	13-Oct-24	Mrs. Liddie Cooper & Mr. Quey James Cooper
Champion	CH Stormin's Finding Moon	20-Oct-24	Marie C Stenberg
Grand Champion Bronze	GCHB CH Watsons Sirius The Thin Blue Line	20-Oct-24	Michelle Sinclair Coleman

New Performance Titles October 2024

Dog Title	Dog Name	Date Titled	Owners Name
Rally Novice	CH Foxshire Bee All You Can Be RN CA FCAT3 DJ CGCA TKA ATT FITB FTI	4-Oct-24	JENNIFER L WALKER & Sarah A Kittner & Jeffrey M Kittner
Premier Agility Dog Century	AGCH MACH9 Robrex's Mr. Chili Pepper CDX MXS3 PDC MJS3 PJS MFC TQX T2B7	12-Oct-24	Sherry Bohman
Master Gold Jumper 3	AGCH MACH9 Robrex's Mr. Chili Pepper CDX MXS3 PDC MJG3 PJS MFC TQX T2B7	18-Oct-24	Sherry Bohman
Agility FAST Novice	CH Foxshire Summer Squall OA OAJ NF	26-Oct-24	Suella Lory & Sarah Kittner
Time 2 Beat	Icefox Up For One More Time MX MXJ MJG XF T2B FCAT	27-Oct-24	Dr. Mary Alice Doyle
BCAT	Stone Lea Dress To Impress BCAT	19-Oct-24	Kimberly G Mitchell & Denise E Brown
FCAT2	PACH The Noggin BN RN MXP6 MXPS MJP4 MJPB PAX MFP T2BP FCAT2	12-Oct-24	Deborah J. Franks
FCAT4	GCHB CH Icefox Wyoland Up For A Story FCAT4	12-Oct-24	Janora Baltz
FCAT6	Joseph Alan FCAT6	6-Oct-24	Judy Kay May
FCAT7	CH Westgate Upstart FDC FCAT7 SWA SCM SEE RATN TKN	20-Oct-24	Wendy Howard
Scent Work Exterior Novice	Pretty Boy AX AXJ DCAT SWN SCA CGC TKN	5-Oct-24	Terlyn Nowell
Scent Work Buried Novice	Precious III CA DCAT SWN SIA SEA CGC TKN	5-Oct-24	Terlyn Nowell
Scent Work Novice	Precious III CA DCAT SWN SIA SEA CGC TKN	5-Oct-24	Terlyn Nowell
Scent Work Novice	Pretty Boy AX AXJ DCAT SWN SCA CGC TKN	5-Oct-24	Terlyn Nowell
Scent Work Buried Advanced	Pretty Boy AX AXJ DCAT SWN SCA SBA CGC TKN	6-Oct-24	Terlyn Nowell
Canine Good Citizen	GCHG CH Tnts Mind Your Own Biscuits CGC	28-Oct-24	Tabitha Dvorak & Kathryn Sue Sunnenberg & Troy Dvorak & Alessandra Wagner
FIT Dog Silver	Bowmanors Pit Boss CD RM FDC CGC TKE FITS FTI	3-Oct-24	Christine Bowker
Fetch Novice	GCH CH Westgate Great Expectations FDC RATN CGC TKN FTN	27-Oct-24	Jennifer Baerresen
Novice Barn Hunt	Westgate Great Expectations FDC RATN	6-Jun-21	Jennifer Baerresen

New Breed Titles November 2024

Dog Title	Dog Name	Date Titled	Owners Name
Champion	CH Azefer Snocrest Dallas	24-Nov-24	Greggory Lester & Mrs. Lila Fast
Champion	CH Dynasty's Tiz The Time	2-Nov-24	Amanda Halsey
Champion	CH Fritzfox Man O'War @ Heartland RN	7-Nov-24	Mary Bowlan & Lea Ann Boles
Champion	CH Maldonfox Pretty In Pink At Blue Line	10-Nov-24	Michelle Sinclair Coleman
Champion	CH Tnts N Tocute Midnight Symphony	2-Nov-24	Patricia Schindler & Tabitha Dvorak
Grand Champion	GCH CH Barbary Good Golly Miss Molly	30-Nov-24	Perry Corder & Denise Monette
Grand Champion	GCH CH Foxlace Farms Seven Pounds	8-Nov-24	Tammy Peterson & Tamara Wallace
Grand Champion	GCH CH La Isla Once Upon A Dream At Modistee	24-Nov-24	Jennifer Burg & Jennifer McCloud & Shirley Peter & Izabelle Burg
Grand Champion	GCH CH Snocrest Azefer Niko	7-Nov-24	Lila Fast
Grand Champion	GCH CH Tnt & Toybox's Parcheesi	24-Nov-24	Pamela Savoye & Jenna Baseler & Ricky McKean & Troy Tabitha Dvorak
Grand Champion	GCH CH Tnt N Tocute Pretty Little Poison	23-Nov-24	Tabitha & Troy Dvorak & Kathryn Sue Sunnenberg & Alessandra & Ashton Wagner
Grand Champion Bronze	GCHB CH Starfox Here Comes My Girl	16-Nov-24	Sheryl Irwin & Jerry Barlet & Ted Vida
Grand Champion Silver	GCHS CH Hurricanedeck Super Bass	16-Nov-24	Sharon Weaver

New Performance Titles November 2024

Dog Title	Dog Name	Date Titled	Owners Name
Beginner Novice	Flair's Walking On Sunshine Toriana BN RN RATO	17-Nov-24	Edithmary Stenz
Rally Novice	Flair's Walking On Sunshine Toriana RN RATO	8-Nov-24	Edithmary Stenz
Rally Advanced	Triples Keeping The Peace Of Ranmar BN RA AX OAJ MXP2 MJP NFP DCAT CGCA CGCU TKI	17-Nov-24	Jodi Pangman
Open Agility	GCHB CH Dar-Rich All Star ETS Endell Be All OA OAJ BCAT	10-Nov-24	Wendy Lynn Howard
Master Century Agility 9	AGCH MACH38 Icefox Pick Me Up MXC9 PDS MJB11 PJS MFG TQX T2B5 TKA	30-Nov-24	Dr. Mary Alice Doyle
Master Agility Excellent Preferred 4	GCH CH PACH Westgate All-Star Tell Me No Lies AX AXJ MXP4 MXPB MJP8 MJPG PAX DCAT	16-Nov-24	Wendy Lynn Howard & Julie Sandoval
Master Bronze Jumper 2	MACH3 Ultra Quest Just A Flying Wallenda MXG MJB2 XF T2B	3-Nov-24	Sharon Kihara & Kasey Mando & Julie Sandoval
Master Agility Champion 2	GCHB CH MACH2 Valcopy Pipin Hot Niklby MXS MJG	23-Nov-24	Betty J Cuzzolino, Dana L Plonkey & Michelle Starry
Master Agility Champion 3	MACH3 Ultra Quest Just A Flying Wallenda MXG MJC XF T2B	1-Nov-24	Sharon Kihara & Kasey Mando & Julie Sandoval
BCAT	Dynasty's Watch Your Countryside Pride BCAT	10-Nov-24	Mrs. Vanessa Ann Ippoliti
DCAT	Hiles Jessie'S Little Rocky DCAT	3-Nov-24	Debbie M Hiles
Agility Course Test 1 JWW	Plea's Painted Wildflower @ Flair BCAT ACT1J	8-Nov-24	Karen McMillen
FCAT6	GCHB CH Kincardene Oliver's Twist Of Fate FDC FCAT6 SWN CGC TKN	24-Nov-24	Ms. LUANA LYNN BALL
Scent Work Buried Excellent	GCH CH Dar-Rich Rhythm Of The Range SWA SBE SHDA	9-Nov-24	Darlene Teter & Shelley Erdman
Canine Good Citizen	Blackstar Hibiscus Tea For You N Me CGC	7-Nov-24	Mary Dillingham
AKC Temperament Test	Fritzfox Crazy In Love FDC BCAT ATT FITB	15-Sep-24	Lisa McGowan & Lea Ann Boles
FIT Dog Gold	Bowmanors Pit Boss CD RM FDC CGC TKE FITG FTI	21-Nov-24	Christine Bowker
Fetch Novice	Stone Lea Dress To Impress FTN	21-Sep-24	Kimberly G Mitchell & Denise E Brown
Novice Barn Hunt	CH Fritzfox Love's An Open Door RATN	2-Jul-23	Lea Ann Boles

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

*This article first appeared in the **AKC Gazette** and is reproduced here with permission*

Do you never sell a show prospect to anyone who has not already been showing dogs for years, or do you refuse to breed to a quality bitch if the owner isn't part of your tight little circle? Why must newcomers be forced to hire a handler rather than show their dogs themselves? Does it matter how long it takes for a dog you sold to finish, so long as the novice is trying and learning and having fun doing so?

Maybe your dog won't earn the record as that year's top producer, or his offspring's faults won't be camouflaged in the ring by skillful handling. What is more important than having a novice experience the same the joy you did when you owner-handled your first Shih Tzu to his title?

Newcomers who genuinely care about our breed and enjoy our sport ought to be encouraged. Too often,

exhibitors stand at ringside criticizing the novice and his or her dog rather than trying to be welcoming and helpful. Of course, if a dedicated newcomer learns the ropes, it means more competition. Yet almost all of us were once beginners, even if it was decades ago.

If we don't practice good sportsmanship and mentor newcomers, one day the sport we love so much will die of old age, and it will be in large part our own fault.

—Jo Ann White,
joawhite@juno.com
American Shih Tzu Club

Toy Fox Terriers

"HOW SMALL IS YOUR DOG?"

We get the question on social media and in puppy inquiries: "How big are your Toy Fox Terriers?"

Responses from pet owners range from 4 pounds to 18 pounds. Then the conversation segues into the various sizes of current and past Toy Foxes they've owned. Inevitably someone will say they asked for the

"runt" to make sure they got a small one. Often photos of the really large ones show they aren't Toy Foxes at all.

So, what is the story on size in Toy Fox Terriers? These little dogs were bred down originally from Smooth Fox Terriers, a breed which normally weighs about 15–18 pounds and stands about 15½ inches tall. Using the smallest Fox Terriers and incorporating several toy breeds, they brought down the size and made it consistent. By the 1930s, the Toy Fox Terrier breed was established. The initial desired weight for the breed was 3 to 7 pounds.

In 2003, the AKC recognized the Toy Fox Terrier and admitted it into the Toy Group. The American Toy Fox Terrier Club developed the breed standard for this newly admitted breed—and instead of weight, as done previously, the new standard defined size by height. The breed standard states the ideal Toy Fox Terrier is



First, we must remember that behind them are the genes of larger dogs, and those genes may still express themselves. People often say that they want the “runt” in the litter, to ensure they get a tiny dog. However, neonatal size is more a result of position and nutrition in utero than a predictor of adult size. With proper care, most puppies born with low birthweight will grow to the normal adult size.

In my last litter I had a three-ounce puppy, much smaller than the rest of the litter. I supplemented her with puppy formula around the clock for the first weeks to ensure her survival until the puppies were on puppy food. She not only survived, she thrived and is now 7 pounds at a year and a half.

Neonatal puppy size is governed by the size of the dam, position in the uterine horns, the number of other puppies, and nutrition. Adult size is governed by genetics.

While Toy Fox Terrier



Above: A Toy Fox Terrier from 3 ounces at birth, to seven pounds as an adult; top: Toy Fox Terriers 9 and 11 inches—both ideal size.

9 to 11 inches tall, with 8½ to 11½ inches acceptable. Any height outside of those parameters is a disqualification, and the dog cannot be shown.

Because the breed was defined by height instead of weight, the weight has slightly increased, and many breeders agree that the average weight for Toy Fox Terriers today is between 5 and 9 pounds.

Still, people considering a Toy Fox Terrier often have questions about the size.

TOY GROUP

breeders strive to breed for dogs to mature in the ideal range, it is possible to occasionally get a very large or very small dog. Height and weight in the breed are also not determined by gender, and females can, as adults, be same size or larger than their male littermates.

If you are concerned about size when looking for a Toy Fox Terrier, inquire about the height and weight of the parents and the grandparents and the adult size of any puppies produced from them. That will give you the best idea of the sizes to expect from puppies in the litter. Don't automatically gravitate to the smallest puppies, because they might not be the smallest as adults.

Whether 9 inches or 11 inches, the Toy Fox Terrier is a wonderful dog, full of love and fun and loyalty and will fit in your home and in your heart.

—Susan Thibodeaux,
president@atftc.com
 American Toy Fox Terrier Club

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Bichons Frises

HOLIDAY HINTS

December is upon us, bringing the holiday season, with its joys as well as its dangers. We get bombarded with caveats this time of year, but here are some simple ideas to help make the holidays safer for our Bichon buddies.

Most of us won't place puppies in their new homes in December, perplexing our potential buyers to no end. Of course we give all the usual reasons, such as how the excitement of the season is just too much for a little one, how impossible it is to monitor a pup during the festivities, how dangerous it can be, and so on.

Many breeders like to offer suggestions for announcing that a new puppy is joining the family in the new year. There are wonderful Bichon Frise books available that would be great to read before the puppy's arrival and which would make lovely gifts. How about tucking a gift certificate for one of the local pet stores inside,

with a promise of a shopping trip to pick out items for the new puppy? Perhaps a certificate to attend a class at the local dog-training facility could be put inside a book on the subject. And a stuffed-toy Bichon with a certificate good for a visit to the breeder might be just the thing.

The breeder is undoubtedly going to want to meet the whole family before placing one of their babies in a new home anyway, so the promise of a trip to see the puppy as soon as possible would be great for everyone.

Holiday plants present their own mélange of problems. The tree is full of or surrounded by tantalizing ornaments, presents, and electric cords and may be sitting in a base full of "delectable," chemically laden, brackish water. One year we put a little tree out of reach on top of a card table, but putting the tree behind an ex-pen has worked the best for us.

LET'S TALK ABOUT TOY FOX TERRIER COLORS

By Susan Thibodeaux



Tricolor. *photo by Vicki Holloway*



White and tan. *photo by Jennifer Baerensen*

There are many things to consider when breeding, exhibiting, and judging Toy Fox Terriers. Shoulder and rear angulation, squareness of the dog, proportions, coat texture, ear placement, headpieces, and so forth. But by far and away the two questions I get most involve color and size. I am going to address color today.

Toy Fox Terrier color is an important part of their breed type. The Breed Standard is very specific about the allowed colors and where the colors should be. Heads are always primarily solid and bodies are always primarily white. In fact, it is a disqualification if a Toy Fox Terrier's body is not at least 51 percent white, and conversely, if their head is more than 50 percent white.

The Toy Fox Terrier has four accepted colors. First, and the most common in the breed, is Tricolor: this color has a predominately black head with sharply defined tan markings on cheeks, lips, and eye dots. I was asked about the lips by a person studying to judge our breed because the Standard states the tan markings are on the lips. The lips themselves are black, but the lip section of the muzzle must have tan. The body is over 50 percent white, with or without black body spots.

The second most common color found in the breed is the White and Tan. White and Tan dogs have black eye rims and black noses, and dark eyes. The tan color should be rich and clear, free from black hairs interspersed in the tan, which, in fact, would be considered sable. Less frequently encountered are the White, Chocolate and Tan Toy Fox Terriers. These have a chocolate head with sharply defined tan markings. Chocolate and tan dogs' eye rims and noses should be self-colored. Please note that there is not a color of solid chocolate without the tan mentioned in the Standard. Once again, the body is mostly white, and if there are spots they are chocolate.

Occasionally seen in the ring, and with some representatives who have really stood out in the past, is the White and Black. As it sounds, they have black heads, and if there are any spots they must be black with no tan fringe.



White with Black. *photo by Luana Ball*



Chocolate and Tan. *photo by Bergman*

No matter what the accompanying color is, the Toy Fox Terrier body is over 50 percent white, with or without spots. The body includes the underside. Not too long ago there was quite a stir when a judge disqualified a lovely Toy Fox Terrier for not having enough white, but refused to look at the underside. Judges need to take the entirety of the dog's body into consideration when determining if the dog is more than 50 percent white, including the underside and belly of the dog. Please note, however, that there is not a preference for a completely white dog with no spots. This mistaken belief is occasionally encountered. When judging the dog, do not reward a dog simply for having more white or solid white, as the Standard clearly says with or without body spots.

A question that occasionally gets asked is about the color of the body spots. The spots follow the head color. If it is a White with Black and Tan (Tri-color) then the spots must be black; body spots on chocolate-headed tri-colors must be chocolate; dogs with a tan head can only have tan spots, and Toy Fox Terriers with solid black heads can only have black spots. Both colors that have tan points, the black with tan and the chocolate with tan, can have a slight fringe of tan alongside any body spot near the chest and under the tail as seen in normal bi-color patterning. Bi-color patterning refers to the black and tan typically seen in breeds like the Doberman Pinscher, Manchester Terrier, and Black and Tan Coonhound.

While heads must be predominately colored, it is not uncommon to see markings of white or blazes on the head. These are acceptable, but blazes may not touch the eyes or ears.

Another question frequently asked is about ticking. Clear white is preferred, but a small amount of ticking is not to be penalized. A personal observation I have had is that many veterans get ticking or increased ticking as they age. Also, many lines of Toy Fox Terriers begin graying early and there is no fault for this. Many senior Toy Fox Terriers have their color nearly white by the time they attain their teen years.

Another frequent cause of confusion is color, other than ticking, that extends below the elbow or the hock. This is a fault and not a disqualification.

There are, as mentioned above, disqualifications in the Breed Standard specific to color. They are:

- A blaze extending into the eyes or ears.
- Any color combination not stated above.
- Any dog whose head is more than 50 percent white.
- Any dog whose body is not more than 50 percent white.
- Any dog whose head and body spots are of different colors.

The Toy Fox Terrier is a beautiful dog and its coloration makes it easy to find in the Toy Group. Their colors, combined with their balance, athletic appearance, glossy short coat, grace, agility, and that spirited and animated attitude, make them a joy to watch in the ring. If you have questions regarding the colors of a Toy Fox Terrier, the link for the ATFTC Illustrated Standard can be found on the bottom of the ATFTC website's Breed Standard page. ■



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Susan Thibodeaux began showing dogs in 1978. Eleven years ago, after decades in the Sporting Group showing primarily Vizslas, Cocker Spaniels, and English Cocker Spaniels, she made the decision to segue to the Toy Group and now has Toy Fox Terriers and Toy Manchester Terriers. She is President of the

American Toy Fox Terrier Club, on the Board of the Brevard Kennel Club, Secretary of the Florida Association of Kennel Clubs, and a member of the American Manchester Terrier Club and the Toy Dog Club of South Florida. In addition to showing, Susan can be found having fun in various events such as Rally, Fast CAT, and Barn Hunt, stewarding, teaching handling classes for BKC, and judging sweepstakes and matches.

Mark your Calendars!



Puget Sound Toy Fox Terrier Specialty Shows

TWO TFT Specialties with
Sweepstakes on 8/14/25,
Three All Breed Shows at the
same location 8/15-8/17!

The Olympic Kennel Club has
also been selected as the
host for the Northwest
Regional NOHS competition
which will be held August
16th!

Come join us!!!!

