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<b>TO:</b>	<b>CHAIR AND MEMBERS COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE Meeting on June 20, 2017</b>
	<b>G. KOTSIFAS, P. ENG. MANAGING DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT &amp; COMPLIANCE SERVICES AND CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Outdoor Dogs/Extreme Weather Protocol</b>

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
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That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Development & Compliance Services and Chief Building Official, this report **BE RECEIVED** for information.

<b>BACKGROUND</b>
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April 6, 2016 Council resolved that:

*The Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to prepare a report and a draft potential amendment to the Dog Licensing & Control By-law, for consideration at a future meeting of the Community and Protective Services Committee, requiring animals to be brought indoors during extreme weather conditions and providing standards for outside housing structures for animals.*

The London Humane Society (LHS) operates as an affiliate of the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) and has the authority to address a dog's health and welfare.

In 2016, City Animal Services prepared a pamphlet "Your Guide to Municipal Pet Laws" (attached as Appendix A). Included in this pamphlet is information addressing extreme weather and pets and outdoor dog shelters (attached as Appendix B). London Animal Care frequently distributes or makes this pamphlet available during their day-to-day animal service activities, which includes the spring/summer proactive licensing program. It can also be found at the public reception area in Development and Compliance Services as well as in public libraries and some community centres.

Assessing extreme weather conditions (hot and cold) and the effect of such conditions on a dog may be difficult as dogs vary in body size and mass, hair length, single coat or double coat. These aspects create different tolerances to climate.

Staff recommend the Tuft Animal Care and Conditioning (TACC) scale (attached as Appendix C) as a quick assessment tool to determine the suitability of a dog to the environment. The TACC scale takes into account:

- body condition from ideal to emaciated;
- size of dog, type of coat;
- Brachycephalic (flat nose prone to breathing problems);
- physical conditions of dog - matted hair, overgrown nails, etc;
- living conditions from acceptable to filthy;
- weather scale, in conjunction with shelter, bedding, fresh water, shade.

The TACC scale identifies scientific means to assess a dog's ability to cope with the weather elements. Given the evaluation and visual observations related to distress, there could be several possible outcomes:

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1. Dog is not at risk and no intervention required.
2. Dog is not at imminent risk but proactive intervention is deemed necessary by an Animal Control Officer (ACO) to avoid potential risk to the dog. The dog owner/guardian is educated on possible risk.
3. Dog is under stress and is in imminent danger. If dog owner/guardian is not readily available, the ACO will notify London Humane Society for action.

<b>CONCLUSION</b>
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London, being a caring community, does not want to leave any animal at risk or potential risk. Although the number complaints related to dogs outdoors in recent years has been very minimal, a proactive care approach has been implemented in the area of public education.

Implementation of the TACC scale during extreme weather conditions by Animal Services, in partnership with the London Humane Society, will assist in identifying dogs at potential risk.

No changes to the Dog Licensing and Control By-law are required to enhance this continued partnership.

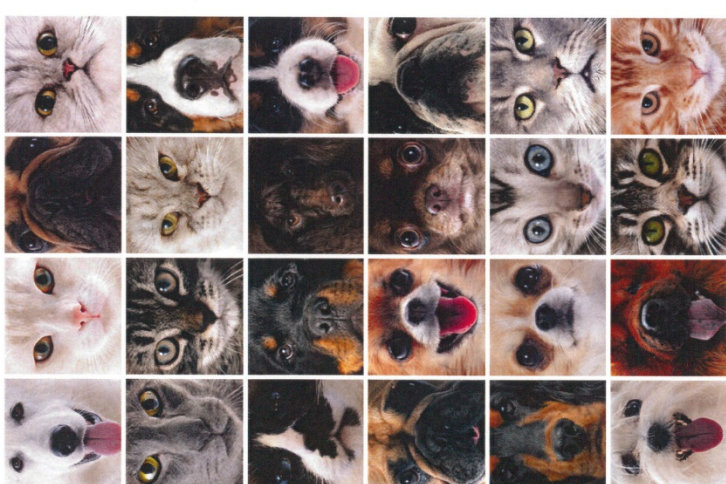
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	<b>PREPARED BY:</b>
<b>R. OKE ANIMAL WELFARE COORDINATOR</b>	<b>H. CHAPMAN, MANAGER MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES</b>
<b>CONCURRED BY:</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED BY:</b>
<b>O. KATOLYK CHIEF MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER</b>	<b>G. KOTSIFAS, P. ENG. MANAGING DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT &amp; COMPLIANCE SERVICES &amp; CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL</b>

- Attach: Appendix A
- Attach: Appendix B
- Attach: Appendix C

## APPENDIX A



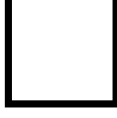
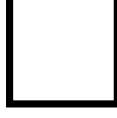
WHO TO CALL?	
<b>London Animal Care Centre</b> • for general assistance • to report stray animals or injured animals • to report dog bites & by-law contraventions • to purchase cat ID & dog licences • to inquire about lost pets or to adopt a pet • for 24 hour emergency services	<b>519-685-1330</b>
<b>Middlesex-London Health Unit</b> Rabies, Quarantine & Inspection	<b>519-663-5317</b>
<b>By-Law Enforcement</b> To report barking dogs	<b>519-661-4660</b>
<b>City Works Department</b> To pick-up dead animals on City property	<b>519-661-4965</b>
<b>Kennel Zone Restrictions</b> City of London Zoning Office	<b>519-930-3510</b>
<b>Wildlife Concerns</b> Healthy Wildlife/Coyote Concerns	<b>519-661-2500</b> <b>x4865</b>
<b>Provincial Offences Office</b> Information on fine payments	<b>519-661-1882</b>
<b>Ministry of Natural Resources</b> (Aylmer) Wildlife	<b>519-773-9241</b>
<b>London Humane Society</b> To report animal cruelty, neglect, and abandonment	<b>519-451-0500</b> <b>x225</b>
<b>London Animal Care Centre</b> 121 Pine Valley Blvd., London ON N6K 3T6  <a href="http://www.accpets.ca">www.accpets.ca</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LondonAnimalCare">www.facebook.com/LondonAnimalCare</a> for further information on Adoptions, Lost & Found and By-Law information.	<b>519-685-1330</b>



A Dog Licence or Cat Identification is required for every pet over the age of 6 months. The City of London by-law applies to all dogs and cats, even if they never leave your home or yard.

Licence Fees	DOG	CAT
Unaltered	\$55.00	\$45.00
Spayed/Neutered	\$31.00	\$20.00
Spayed/Neutered & Micro-chipped	\$25.00	\$15.00
Guide Dog (Certificate Required)		\$0.00
Seniors receive a \$5.00 discount on fees		

Note: All first time dog licences & applications for restricted Pit Bull breeds/Pit Bull mix breeds must be made in person at the London Animal Care Centre. Pit Bull/mix fee: \$60.00



**Animal By-laws protect both people and pets**

London Animal Care Centre (LACC) is a corporation under contract with the City of London to provide animal control, dog licensing, cat identification and by-law enforcement. Additional responsibilities include impounding stray dogs/confined cats and responding to calls where animals are in distress or are injured.

**Stoop & Scoop**

London requires any person who owns, harbours or possesses a dog to immediately remove and properly dispose of any excrement. This by-law is applicable everywhere including your own property.

**Leash Law**

All dogs must be kept on a leash unless the owner of the land consents to the dog being on the property, and the dog is tethered such that the dog cannot leave the property, or the land is enclosed by a fence. If a dog is not controlled by means of a leash, the owner or guardian may be fined.

**Dog Bites**

If a person or a domestic pet is bitten by a dog, the incident should be reported to LACC immediately. An Animal Control Officer will proceed with an investigation to document the circumstances of the incident. If a dog has bitten, the owner may be issued an order which requires them to muzzle and microchip their dog.

**Barking Dogs**

Barking that is an annoyance falls under the City of London Noise By-law which is enforced by Municipal Law Enforcement Officers within a specific complaint process. Contact enforcement@london.ca

**Bill 132 Dog Owner's Liability Act.**

In 2005 the Ontario government made changes to the Dog Owner's Liability Act. This Act is primarily associated with the banning of Pit Bulls in Ontario. It also addresses biting incidents and aggressive behaviour of all dog breeds.

**Pit Bull By-Law for the City of London**

Due to the Provincial mandated ban on Pit Bull breeds the City of London created a by-law that specifically addresses the Pit Bull breed and the responsibilities of the owners. "Restricted Pit Bulls" are Pit Bull dogs that were owned by a resident of Ontario prior to August 29, 2005 or those Pit Bull dogs born in Ontario within 90 days after August 29, 2005. To legally own a Pit Bull in London the dog must be "grandfathered". This means that the dog must fit the definition of a "Restricted Pit Bull" and the owner must possess a current City of London licence. "Grandfathered" Pit Bulls must also be spayed or neutered, vaccinated for rabies, micro-chipped and wear a muzzle at all times except when in an enclosed area on the property of the owner.

**Dog Licences**

A maximum of 3-dogs (six months of age or older) may be kept in a dwelling unit regardless of who owns the dogs. Licence costs vary depending on whether your dog is spayed or neutered and micro-chipped. There are some licensing incentives offered on adoptions through a City approved Fostering Organization. Licences are valid for the year in which they were purchased and expire on December 31st. Failure to purchase a licence may result in penalties (increased licence fee, a fine or a summons to appear in court). Licences are available from LACC. At the time of purchase you will be asked to provide veterinary proof of the breed, a current rabies vaccination and a spay or neuter certificate if the dog has been surgically altered.

**Cat Identification Tags**

All cats in London must be registered and wear a City of London identification tag. If the cat owner, upon licensing, provides proof of a microchip then the cat will not be required to wear the tag. Identification costs depend on whether the cat has been spayed or neutered and micro-chipped.

**Cats not Permitted to Trespass**

Cats are not permitted to trespass or be at large.

**Cat Limitation**

The number of cats permitted in a dwelling is regulated in a number of ways. Are they spayed or neutered? Are they in a single detached building or in a building containing more than one dwelling unit? Are they owned in combination with dogs? The number ranges from three to eight depending on the answers to the questions above. It is important to be clear on the regulations of By-law PH-3.

**Stray Dogs and Cats**

Strays received at LACC are sheltered and may be claimed by an owner with payment of the fee during the redemption period. Redemption fees are put in place by the City of London to cover impound charges and board. In accordance with Provincial Law the owner of a dog or cat not claimed within four days of impound relinquishes ownership of the pet to LACC. All unclaimed pets after the redemption period for adoptability. Potential adoptors are screened through a "Meet Your Match" application process.

**Rabies**

All dogs and cats require a current rabies vaccine. Vaccinations range from yearly protection to two and three year protection. Save your rabies certificate as the information will be required when licensing your pet.

**Prohibited Animals**

Animal by-laws are specific about which animals can be legally kept within the city. There are a number of the restricted animals. Thoroughly examine City of London By-Law PH-3 before acquiring a pet.

**Extreme Weather and Pets**

Keep pets safe and healthy indoors with you. The happiest dogs are taken out frequently for walks and exercise, but kept inside the rest of the time. Dogs tethered or penned outside, exposed to extreme weather conditions, or left in hot cars are at serious risk. Information about the "ideal Doghouse for Ontario's Outdoor Dogs" and "Cold Weather Safety Brochure" can be found on the OSPCA Resource page. [www.ontariospca.ca/media-centre/publications/resources.html](http://www.ontariospca.ca/media-centre/publications/resources.html)

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**APPENDIX B**

**IF YOU KENNEL YOUR DOG OUTDOORS, THE ONTARIO SPCA STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT:**

- Dogs should NOT be chained. Severe physical injury, even death, can easily result. Chained dogs also suffer psychologically and they are 80% more likely to bite. Fence your yard, don't chain your dog!
- A dog that is kenneled outdoors should always spend time indoors with the opportunity for socializing and play.
- Ideally the roof of your doghouse should be removable to make cleaning the interior of the doghouse easier.

**ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Some breeds of dogs can live outside during the winter, if they are provided with an insulated doghouse of the proper dimensions. The dimensions are directly related to the size of the dog and are critically important if the dog is to maintain warmth in the doghouse with its own body heat.

- Dogs should be acclimatized to outdoor living when they are young and the weather is warm.
- During severe weather, dogs may have to be brought inside the family home.
- Aged, young or infirm dogs should not be housed outdoors, especially during cold weather.
- Dogs with short coats are prone to frostbite and can not endure the cold temperatures very easily.

Doghouse exteriors should be finished with a weatherproof material or nonleaded paint. Changing the location of the doghouse will allow you to control the effects of the sun, shade and wind.

Bedding material should be put in the sleeping area, straw is recommended. It is not advisable to use blankets. Change the bedding every 1 to 2 weeks and keep the house interior clean.

A burlap or canvas outside flap should be used to provide more weather protection in the winter and can be removed in the summer.

The house should be elevated on bricks or cinder blocks to keep the floor dry and it may then be necessary to provide a low base platform which will allow the dog access into the raised house and an area off the ground on which to lie when outside its house.

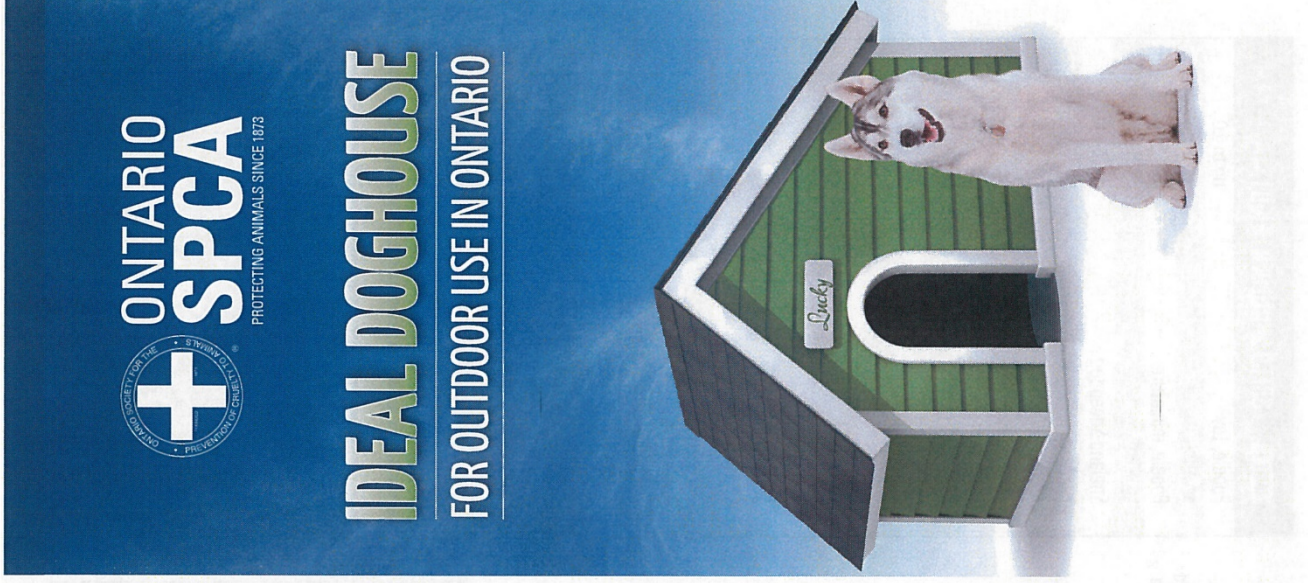
If your present doghouse has a peaked roof and is large enough, it may be possible to install an insulated ceiling and a separate hallway, making it warmer in the winter and preventing ice jams on top. In addition, a small rainproof vent could help to dissipate any moisture inside, thereby reducing the possibility of mould.

Your local Ontario SPCA Community:

Through its province-wide network of 50 plus Communities, the Ontario SPCA is one of the largest, most responsive animal welfare organizations in the country, providing care and shelter for tens of thousands of animals every year.

The Ontario SPCA is unique amongst animal welfare organizations in Ontario: the Ontario SPCA Act mandates the Society to enforce animal cruelty laws and provides Society Branch and Affiliate investigators with police powers to do so.

For more information about the Ontario SPCA, its programs and services, please explore our website at [ontariospca.ca](http://ontariospca.ca) or call 1-888-668-7722



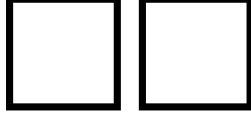
**ONTARIO SPCA**  
PROTECTING ANIMALS SINCE 1873

16586 Woodbine Ave  
RR3, Newmarket, ON  
L3Y 4W1

- 1 (888) 668-7722
- [www.ontariospca.ca](http://www.ontariospca.ca)
- [info@ospca.on.ca](mailto:info@ospca.on.ca)

The Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Ontario SPCA). Protecting animals since 1873, the Ontario SPCA is a registered charity comprised of over 50 Communities relying primarily on donations to fund animal protection, care and rehabilitation, advocacy and humane education. The Ontario SPCA Act mandates the Society to enforce animal cruelty laws and provides Society investigators with police powers to do so – making the Ontario SPCA unique among animal welfare organizations in the province. The Ontario SPCA is an affiliate with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Adopt – Volunteer – Donate!  
Charitable Business Number 89699 3044 RR0002



### DOGHOUSE CONSTRUCTION

The doghouse illustrated in Figure #2 can be simply made from readily available materials. Basically, it is a frame of 2" x 2's, with a 1/2" or 3/4" weatherproof plywood exterior. It has an entrance and hallway that are separated from a sleeping area. Walls, floors and ceiling of the sleeping area are insulated with 1 1/2" styrofoam sheets which, in turn, are covered on the inside with a panelling of 1/4" hardboard or similar material.

### SIZE OF SLEEPING AREA FLOOR SPACE

For each inch of your dog's height (measured from top of shoulder to ground), allow 36 square inches of floor space. For example, a dog 12 inches tall needs 432 square inches of floor space, or a floor area of 16" x 27" = 432 square inches.

### HEIGHT OF SLEEPING AREA

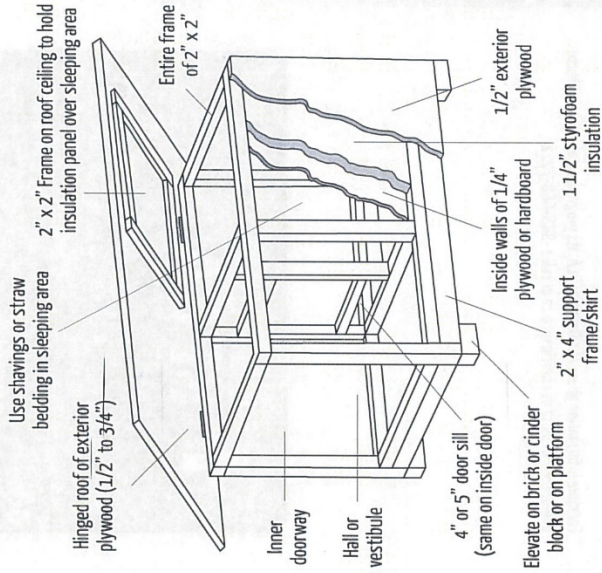
Add 1 or 2 inches to your dog's measurement when in a sitting position (from top of head to ground), in order to determine the ceiling height. For example, a dog 12 inches tall will have a sitting height of about 14 inches and the doghouse ceiling should be 15 or 16 inches high.

### OVERALL DOGHOUSE DIMENSIONS

For example, a Dalmatian (20" tall, sitting height 23") doghouse should measure: sleeping area - 20" x 36"; hall area - 12" x 20"; ceiling height - 25"; doorways - 10" square; roof - 36" x 72".

For other breeds' doghouse dimensions, see Table 2

FIGURE 2



Poodle, toy	up to 10"
Scottish Terrier	10"
Poodle, miniature	10" to 14"
Welsh Corgi	11" to 12"
Shelard Sheepdog	13" to 16"
Fox Terrier	15" to 15 1/2"
American Cocker	15" to 15 1/2"
Poodle, standard	15" to 16"
Dalmation	20" to 23"
Boxer	22" to 24"
Collie	22" to 24"
Retriever	22" to 25"
German Shepherd	22" to 26"
Old English Sheepdog	22"
Airedale	23"
Doberman	25"
St. Bernard	25" to 27 1/2"
Newfoundland	26" to 28"
Great Dane	28" to 30"
Russian Wolfhound	28" to 31"

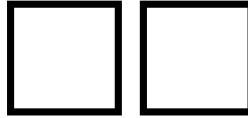
### THE OSPCA ACT - STANDARDS OF CARE REQUIRES OUTDOOR DOGS TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING:

- (1) Every dog that lives primarily outdoors must be provided with a structurally sound enclosure for its use at all times (2) The enclosure must be weather-proofed and insulated. (3) The size and design of the enclosure must be adequate and appropriate for the dog. (4) A chain, rope or similar restraining device used to tether a dog that lives primarily outdoors, (a) must be at least three meters long; (b) must allow the dog to move safely and unrestricted (except by its length); and (c) must allow the dog to have access to adequate and appropriate water and shelter.

Ontario Regulation 60/09 - Made: February 24, 2009

### DOGHOUSE DIMENSIONS FOR DOGS OF VARIOUS SIZES

Areas and ceiling heights are inside measurements	10" - shoulder 12" - sitting Toy Poodles Scottish Terriers	12" - shoulder 14" - sitting Miniature Poodles Welsh Corgis	16" - shoulder 18" - sitting Shelard Sheepdogs Cocker Spaniels	20" - shoulder 23" - sitting Dalmations Pointers	24" - shoulder 27" - sitting Retrievers Collies	28" - shoulder 32" - sitting Newfoundlands St. Bernards
SLEEPING AREA	15" X 24"	16" X 27"	18" X 31"	20" X 36"	22" X 39"	25" X 43"
HALL AREA	11" X 15"	12" X 16"	12" X 18"	12" X 20"	14" X 22"	16" X 25"
COMBINED AREA (Sleeping & Hall)	15" X 35"	16" X 39"	18" X 43"	20" X 48"	22" X 53"	25" X 59"
CEILING HEIGHT	14"	16"	20"	25"	30"	36"
DOORWAYS	7" square	8" square	9" square	10" square	11" X 13"	12" X 16"
ROOF	25" X 48"	26" X 54"	34" X 62"	36" X 72"	38" X 78"	41" X 86"
PLATFORM (if used)	25" X 48"	26" X 54"	34" X 62"	36" X 72"	38" X 78"	41" X 86"









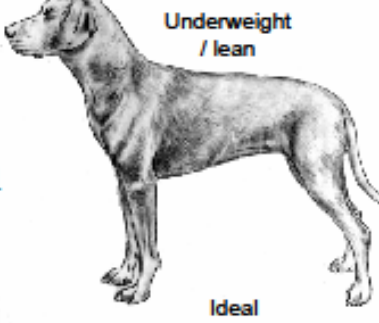



APPENDIX C

**Tufts Animal Care and Condition\* (TACC) scales for assessing body condition, weather and environmental safety, and physical care in dogs**

\*A tool developed for veterinarians, animal control officers, police, and cruelty investigators by Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy. Published in: Patronek, G.J. Recognizing and reporting animal abuse ~ a veterinarian's guide. Denver, CO: American Humane Association, 1997.

**I. Body condition scale (Palpation essential for long-haired dogs; each dog's condition should be interpreted in light of the typical appearance of the breed)**

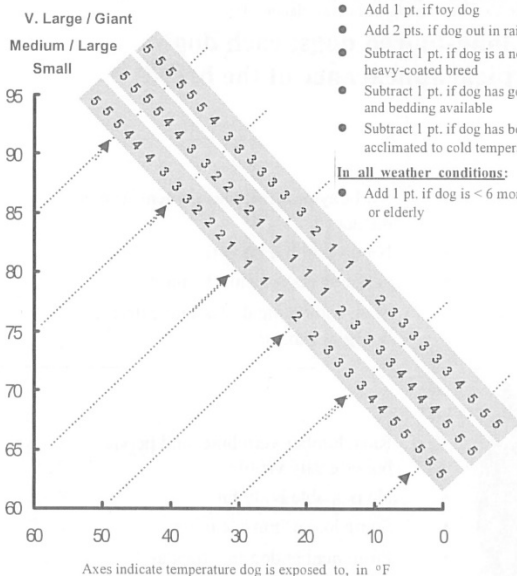
5	 <p style="text-align: center;">Emaciated</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All bony prominences evident from a distance</li> <li>• No discernible body fat</li> <li>• Obvious loss of muscle mass</li> <li>• Severe abdominal tuck and extreme hourglass shape</li> </ul>
4	 <p style="text-align: center;">Very underweight</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ribs, lumbar vertebrae, and pelvic bones easily visible</li> <li>• No palpable body fat</li> <li>• Some loss of muscle mass</li> <li>• Prominent abdominal tuck and hourglass shape to torso</li> </ul>
3	 <p style="text-align: center;">Thin</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tops of lumbar vertebrae visible, pelvic bones becoming prominent.</li> <li>• Ribs easily palpated and may be visible with no palpable fat</li> <li>• Obvious waist and abdominal tuck</li> <li>• Minimal loss of muscle mass</li> </ul>
2	 <p style="text-align: center;">Underweight / lean</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ribs easily palpable with minimal SQ fat</li> <li>• Abdominal tuck evident</li> <li>• Waist clearly visible from above</li> <li>• No muscle loss</li> <li>• May be normal for lean breeds such as sighthounds</li> </ul>
1	 <p style="text-align: center;">Ideal</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ribs palpable without excess SQ fat</li> <li>• Abdomen tucked slightly when viewed from the side</li> <li>• Waist visible from above, just behind ribs</li> </ul>

Body condition scale adapted from Laflamme, DP. Proc. N.A. Vet Conf 1993, 290-91; and Armstrong, PJ., Lund, EM. Vet Clin Nutr 3:83-87; 1996. Artwork by Erik Petersen.



## II. Weather safety scale

Read score off diagonal bars, by dog size:



To determine score, draw a line up from the current temperature and parallel to the dotted lines, and read score on bars. Common sense must be used to take into account the duration of exposure to any given temperature when assessing risk; even brief periods of high heat can be very dangerous, whereas a similar duration of exposure to cold temperatures would not be life-threatening.

### In warm or hot weather:

- Subtract 1 pt. if water is available
- Subtract 1 pt. if dog is in a shaded area protected from full sun
- Add 1 pt. if dog is brachycephalic
- Add 1 pt. if dog is obese

### In cool or cold weather:

- Add 1 pt. if toy dog
- Add 2 pts. if dog out in rain / sleet
- Subtract 1 pt. if dog is a northern or heavy-coated breed
- Subtract 1 pt. if dog has good shelter and bedding available
- Subtract 1 pt. if dog has been acclimated to cold temperatures

### In all weather conditions:

- Add 1 pt. if dog is < 6 months of age or elderly

## Interpretation of the TACC score from scales I - IV:

The Tufts Animal Condition and Care (TACC) score is assessed from the number of points read off either the **Body Condition Weather Safety, Environmental Health or Physical Care** Scale. When multiple scales are evaluated, the highest score on any scale should be used to determine the risk of neglect. Multiple high scores are indicative of greater neglect, risk, or inhumane treatment than a single high score.

Score	Body condition, physical care, environ. health scales	Weather safety scale
≥ 5	Severe neglect and inhumane treatment. An urgent situation that justifies an assertive response to protect the animal.	Potentially life-threatening risk present. Immediate intervention required to decrease threat to the animal (provide water, shelter).
4	Clear evidence of serious neglect and / or inhumane treatment (unless there is a medical explanation for the animal's condition). Prompt improvement required.	Dangerous situation developing. Prompt intervention required to decrease risk (e.g. provide water, shade, shelter, or bring indoors). Warn owner of risk and shelter requirements.
3	Indicators of neglect present. Timely assessment; correction of problems and/or monitoring of situation may be required.	Indicators of a <i>potentially</i> unsafe situation, depending on breed, time outdoors. Inform owner of risk and proper shelter requirements.
2	A lapse in care or discomfort may be present. Evaluate, and discuss concerns with owner. Recommend changes in animal husbandry practices, if needed.	Risk unlikely, but evaluate the situation, and if warranted, discuss your concerns and requirements for proper shelter with the owner.
≤ 1	No evidence of neglect based on scale (s) used	No evidence of risk

**Disclaimer:** The TACC score is intended to be a simple screening device for determining when neglect may be present, for prioritizing the investigation of reported animal cruelty cases, and as a system for investigative agencies to use to summarize their case experience. The TACC score is not intended to replace definitive assessment of any animal by a veterinarian or law enforcement agent. A low TACC score does not preclude a diagnosis of abuse, neglect, or a dog requiring veterinary care upon more careful examination of an animal and its living situation.

## III. Environmental health scale

- 5 Filthy** - many days to weeks of accumulation of feces and / or urine. Overwhelming odor, air may be difficult to breathe. Large amount of trash, garbage, or debris present; inhibits comfortable rest, normal postures, or movement and / or poses a danger to the animal. Very difficult or impossible for animal to escape contact with feces, urine, mud, or standing water. Food and / or drinking water contaminated.
- 4 Very unsanitary** - many days of accumulation of feces and / or urine. Difficult for animal to avoid contact with waste matter. Moderate amount of trash, garbage, or clutter present that may inhibit comfortable rest and / or movement of the animal. Potential injury from sharp edges or glass. Significant odor makes breathing unpleasant. Standing water or mud difficult to avoid.
- 3 Unsanitary** - several days accumulation of feces and urine in animal's environment. Animal is able to avoid contact with waste matter. Moderate odor present. Trash, garbage, and other debris cluttering animal's environment but does not prohibit comfortable rest or normal posture. Clutter may interfere with normal movement or allow dog to become entangled, but no sharp edges or broken glass that could injure dog. Dog able to avoid mud or water if present.
- 2 Marginal** - As in #1, except may be somewhat less sanitary. No more than 1-2 day's accumulation of feces and urine in animal's environment. Slight clutter may be present.
- 1 Acceptable** - Environment is dry and free of accumulated feces. No contamination of food or water. No debris or garbage present to clutter environment and inhibit comfortable rest, normal posture and range of movement or pose a danger to or entangle the animal.

"Environment" refers to the kennel, pen, yard, cage, barn, room, tie-out or other enclosure or area where the animal is confined or spends the majority of its time. All of the listed conditions do not need to be present in order to include a dog in a specific category. The user should determine which category best describes a particular dog's condition.

## IV. Physical care scale

- 5 Terrible** - extremely matted haircoat, prevents normal motion, interferes with vision, perineal areas irritated from soiling with trapped urine and feces. Hair coat essentially a single mat. Dog cannot be groomed without complete clipdown. Foreign material trapped in matted hair. Nails extremely overgrown into circles, may be penetrating pads, causing abnormal position of feet and make normal walking very difficult or uncomfortable. Collar or chain, if present, may be imbedded in dog's neck.
- 4 Poor** - substantial matting in haircoat, large chunks of hair matted together that cannot be separated with a comb or brush. Occasional foreign material embedded in mats. Much of the hair will need to be clipped to remove mats. Long nails force feet into abnormal position and interfere with normal gait. Perineal soiling or irritation likely. Collar or chain, if present, may be extremely tight, abrading skin.
- 3 Borderline** - numerous mats present in hair, but dog can still be groomed without a total clip down. No significant perineal soiling or irritation from waste caught in matted hair. Nails are overdue for a trim and long enough to cause dog to alter gait when it walks. Collar or chain, if present, may be snug and rubbing off neck hair.
- 2 Lapsed** - haircoat may be somewhat dirty or have a few mats present that are easily removed. Remainder of coat can easily be brushed or combed. Nails in need of a trim. Collar or chain, if present, fits comfortably.
- 1 Adequate** - dog clean, hair of normal length for the breed, and hair can easily be brushed or combed. Nails do not touch the floor, or barely contact the floor. Collar or chain, if present, fits comfortably.

All of the listed conditions do not need to be present in order to include a dog in a specific category. The user should determine which category best describes a particular dog's condition. This scale is not meant for assessment of medical conditions, e.g., a broken limb, that clearly indicate a need for veterinary attention.