

# IPDGA NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2012

## Some words from Mary:

Hello Groomers and I hope you're not too knackered after a hairy summer of work. It's a case of tick tock now as we're on the countdown to our biggest **Irish Groomer of the Year** ever. With world class judges and great prizes it's the perfect way to get a new burst of enthusiasm for our job again. Sometimes it feels like you're on a long conveyer belt of dogs to be got through and it can seem you are totally on your own and it's great to chat to other groomers, pick up new tips and of course, new equipment. We have great talks to look forward to and the ever popular demonstrations. With one of our judges, Anita Bax as winner of World Poodle Stylist of the year twice, it will be no surprise that there might be a poodle in there somewhere ! Remember its October 13th and 14th. Please get your entries in asap, there is an application form and schedule enclosed. I'm nearly at the end of my 6 week spell in France. The weather has been brilliant and I came over with white skin and dark hair and I'm going back the opposite. I feel like a OAY dog in need of a trim. If its hard for me to get back to normal again it will be doubly hard for Arwen, as for 6 weeks she became a country dog. The highlight of her week was the market in Chateau where she ruled the roost. She would start at the left side where the cheese maker would offer her a degustation, then she would do a left turn to Monsieur Fresneau who would always have some pork off-cuts for her, dried hams next but her favourite stop was always Madame Collette where I'd buy chicken wings, 5 Mexican for Pat and 5 nature for Arwin. Its such a different attitude to dogs and kids there. Its expected that you bring your dog with you, its expected that your dog will behave itself and of course practically without exception they do. Ah well, vive le retrait, one more journey down Knicker Row (ask Jenny) and I'll be home.

Looking forward to seeing you all in October, Hairy Mary (I believe its Marie Poilu, in French)



## **Irish Grooming Championships**

**13th & 14th October 2012**

**Venue "Roadstone Social Club"-** (Naas Rd, Dublin West)

**We look forward to welcoming our judges**

**ANITA BAX, PETER YOUNG & SUZANNE O'SULLIVAN**

**All are highly respected within the European and International Grooming World.**

These Championships are open to all groomers.

This year we are very excited to again host the  
"Heiniger New to Grooming" and the mega popular  
"Creative Styling class"

Also in attendance our professional photographer for a special memento  
of your dog's big day out.

Association website [www.ipdga.com](http://www.ipdga.com) for further information, updates,  
accommodation, directions etc, or email [info@ipdga.com](mailto:info@ipdga.com)

## Competition Rules/Guidelines

- You are required to provide and prepare a suitable dog within the time frame laid out.
- Unnatural colouring of dogs is only permitted in creative Styling class
- Time limits for all 6 classes are 2 hours for dogs up to 18 inches. Dogs over 18 inches and any hand-strip are allowed 2 & 1/2 hrs.
- Competitors must supply and are responsible for all their own equipment- including tables, clippers, blades etc
- You are responsible for any dog you bring along. This includes a cage where required and cleaning up any mess made by your dog in or in the surrounds of the competition building. A separate cage area is provided so please use it.
- Dogs presented for all classes should be freshly washed (note hand-strip class only if required) & dried and totally tangle free.
- Pre competition trimming allowed extends to groin, hygiene area and under pads.
- Ears, nails, anal glands and de-matting should be attended to as part of the pre-competition preparation before you reach the venue
- Remember the amount of coat growth is suggested as a guideline, this can differ with the individual dog. Some dogs may need more time than the guidelines and some less. You want to have enough coat to be able to work with and to show your skills.
- The results of Classes 1 & 2 will be announced on Saturday.
- The results of classes 3,4,5 &6, "Individual Dog" trophy and Overall Irish Groomer of the Year, Best International & Best in Show will be announced on Sunday after all judging has been completed
- Judges decisions will be final. Marks are given for preparation, taking note of whether the dog is clean and well presented with nails and ears done prior to entering the competition. Neat and tidy clipping lines will carry good marks as will good technique and finish with scissoring and hand stripping. The suitability of the trim for the dog will be taken into account. Balance and shape are also very important.

## Continued

- Classes 1-3 will be sub-divided into **Open and Champion** sections. Places 1st to 3rd will be awarded in each section. If you have won this class previously you must enter the Champion section.
- To be eligible for the **Irish Groomer of the Year** you must enter 2 of classes 1-3; open or champion level, and be working as a groomer on the island of Ireland
- **The Novice Class** is open to competitors who have not been previously placed in previous IPDGA competitions (with the exception of the Heiniger Career Start). It is aimed at newcomers to grooming by which is meant less than 3 years in the industry.
- **Heiniger New to Grooming**. Participants in this class must provide & use a Heiniger clippers during this class. (IMPORTANT: Clippers presented on the day will not be available for use in the class) They are responsible for supplying all their own equipment including table and post. Entrants must be grooming for no more than 1 year and have not competed before.
- **Creative Styling Class** is open to all groomers. Anything goes (example- colours/shaping/props etc) as long as the dogs welfare is not affected or compromised. If any dye or other colouring is been done at the venue it is IMPERATIVE THAT THE FLOOR AREA IS COVERED BY A LARGE PLASTIC SHEET.
- The "Individual Dog Trophy" is open to competitors who just compete in one of the classes 1-3, open or champion section.
- To be eligible for the **International Trophy**, the groomer must live and work outside the island of Ireland. Our International competitors are to be awarded separate 1st to 3rd placings within the Clipped, Scissored and Handstrip classes. A "Best International" will then be decided.
- **Best in Show** will then be decided between Irish Groomer of the Year and Best International.
- No casual entries accepted on the day.
- If you have any queries about class eligibility or any of the above guidelines please contact us asap to help resolve your questions at [info@ipdga.com](mailto:info@ipdga.com) or Mary 353-1-4932792
- Generous prizes are supplied by our class sponsors (updated as confirmed on our website) along with rosettes and trophies for the winners to keep, supplied by the Association. Some of the class winners are presented with a perpetual Trophy, which is to be returned prior to the following year's competition complete with the winners name for perpetuity.

### Extra notes for 1st time competitors

- Please note that the thorough preparation of your dog prior to the competition can make a huge difference to your placing within a class.
- Carefully read and follow the guidelines laid out in this leaflet and if you have any queries please ask a committee member for guidance.
- If you are doing a breed with a fluffy coat it should be spotlessly clean & blow-dried straight to allow you to get the best finish you can.
- If you are preparing your dog the night before, once prepared your beautiful hound needs to be kept clean overnight - a crate can be useful here.
- If feet get wet/dirty while toilet needs are being attended to then they should be cleaned and/or re blow dried.
- Your dog must be parasite free.
- Any knots, tangles and mats are all to be got rid of in the preparation prior to the competition.
- At the end of your allotted time in the class the judge will expect you to clear hair and equipment off your table. You need to stand/stack your dog properly to show it off to its best. Competitors usually use a table cloth for this. A plain one that contrasts with the dogs colour is best.
- As always we are available for advice should you have any queries  
info@ipdga.com Mary 01 4932792

### Competition Entry Form

Name:

Business name:

Address

Phone number:

Email Address:

Your daily ticket covers entry to all that days activities Tickets will be available for collection at the door or can be posted out to you by including a SAE envelope with your entry. Please note the main prize giving is on Sunday following the days classes.

Please tick ticket purchase of your choice:

- Saturday only (€40 member €50 non-member)
- Sunday only (€40 member €50 non-member)
- W/end-Sat & Sun (€70 member €90 non-member)

Select one of the above

- Paid via website using Paypal/credit card and please fill out and return ( with fees made payable to (IPDGA) 119 Ballyboden Road, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14, Ireland

All forms& Competition entries to be received no later than 30th September

(date by postmark - no late entries accepted)

Please tick Classes in which you hope to compete:

- Class 1 Scissor - Champion \_\_\_ or Open \_\_\_
- Class 2 Handstrip - Champion \_\_\_ or Open \_\_\_
- Class 3 Clipped - Champion \_\_\_ or Open \_\_\_
- Class 4 Novice - \_\_\_
- Class 5 Heiniger Career Start \_\_\_
- Class 6 Creative Styling \_\_\_

I have read and fully understood the competition guidelines

Signed.....



At **Dogggrooming.ie** in conjunction with **Pet Care Trade Assoc.** we are standardizing our practical external exams dates to help candidates prepare.

Our next date is going to be **Monday 12th Nov 2012** & as of next year we wish to have a standing date of the Monday after writtens so 2013 should be **18th June 2013 & 12th November 2013**

To apply to sit these practical's exams you must link with Pet Care Trade Assoc with your City & Guild number which you will have from doing your 7763 level 3 Intro or your centre assessed hand-strip module.

Any queries contact Jenny  
01 6274025 (003531 6274025}  
087 2500287 {0035387 2500287}  
[jenny@dogggrooming.ie](mailto:jenny@dogggrooming.ie)  
[www.dogggrooming.ie](http://www.dogggrooming.ie)

**Note: If anyone completed City & Guilds 7760 this year, please notify Mary Toland**



## **Canine First Responder Course**

Saturday, 22 September 2012

@ Positive Dog Training Centre

Full Details & booking information can be found at [www.caninefirstaid.ie](http://www.caninefirstaid.ie)

Learn how to deal with an emergency situation involving your canine friend. The content of this one day course far exceeds other more basic courses out there yet it is taught in a fun way that makes learning easy.

It is the only Canine First Responder Course with a globally recognised two year certificate.

It provides realistic CPR practice on a canine manikin.

During this course you will learn Primary and Secondary First Aid skills

Our Instructors are trainers and professionals in the Canine World

Our Canine First Responder Course Curriculum is the Only Course Approved by Emergency First Response, the Fastest Growing Certification Agency Worldwide for First Aid and CPR training



2013 IPDGA Window Stickers will only be available to paid-up Members and must be collected at an IPDGA Seminar from October 2012 and onwards.

New generic Window Stickers (not Year Specific) are also available at a cost of €5 each and can only be bought in person at an IPDGA event

## IPDGA Membership

The aims of the IPDGA are to promote better communication between professional groomers and to encourage members to improve their skills and to establish better public relations.

We believe there is great value to be had by being a Member and by participating in the various events during the year. Also by meeting other Members and sharing ideas, skills and experience.

In recent times, the use of <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/groups/IPDGA/>

has resulted in a huge increase in the level of communication between Members, who may never have met, but have one thing in common:

### Dog Grooming

If you want to join the Facebook Group, which is by invitation only, just send a mail to [info@ipdga.com](mailto:info@ipdga.com)

Please encourage any new Groomers to join and also remember to renew your own membership on 1st October 2012.

- |                                  |      |
|----------------------------------|------|
| • 1st Time individual membership | €60  |
| • Individual renewal             | €40  |
| • 1st Time shop membership       | €100 |
| • Shop renewal                   | €70  |

New Membership and Renewals can be made on [www.ipdga.com](http://www.ipdga.com)

Membership renewal can be paid via the WebSite, using Credit Card or PayPal, can be paid at the October Seminar or can be sent to :

**Pawsperous Grooming,  
57 Emerson Court,  
Prosperous,  
Co. Kildare**

Please keep in mind that the administration and management of the IPDGA is done on a voluntary basis by the Committee Members, so we would ask you to make the renewal process and payments as painless as possible.

Consideration is being given to the automation of the maintenance of the Members Listing, which will mean that if annual membership subscriptions are not received by end of November, membership will lapse.

We feel that IPDGA membership is of value to your business and the IPDGA values your membership. Let's work together on this one.

**Hey, I wanna Sticker**



**Should we have a common De-Matting Policy to display in our salons ?**

**Here is a sample - views welcome**

Our policy is to groom humanely. We will attempt to de-mat a coat if we feel that the animal will not suffer pain. .

It is the owners duty of care towards their pet, to maintain their pets coat between professional groomings. If owners fail to attend to their pets coat, then in the interests of the animal, we will shave off a matted coat, to prevent unnecessary suffering due to neglect.

We will be more than happy to show you how to look after your dogs coat. Please note: our normal grooming charge does not include de-matting, any possible de-matting may be charged for as an extra.

When a dog is presented to us in a severely matted condition, it is our policy to shave the whole coat using electric clippers with a close blade. To de-matt would cause the animal tremendous stress and discomfort, often leaving a very thinned and damaged coat. Shaving the coat is quicker and more gentle on the animal. Many animals are traumatised by unnecessary hours of de-matting, putting them off grooming for life. We consider shaving an act of kindness.

**A SEVERELY MATTED DOG CAN SUFFER MANY CONDITIONS**

- Hotspots & sores
- Fungal & bacterial infections
- Yeast infections
- Flea infestation
- Moist eczema
- Mites & lice
- Maggot infestation
- Urine & faeces scalding
- Eye & ear infections
- Severe itching

Once the coat is removed, the skin can be red due to the lack of air circulation and dirt that has accumulated underneath. Occasionally there are sores or infection, this may need veterinary treatment. Dogs tend to scratch and rub their skin after shaving - this is normal, however some can over scratch and this may lead to broken skin. If in doubt speak to your vet

# Juggling Grooming and Mothering

I've two girls a 5 year old and a 21 month old. I was really lucky in that I had really healthy pregnancies and was able to work right up to the day on both babies with my hubby doing a lot of the bathing. I took on someone then just to wash and dry and some prep work after I came out of hospital. I managed to get back doing a few dogs about a week after each of the girls were born but it was mainly trimming only, as I had Cathriona to wash and dry. I was down on income a bit as had to pay her but at least my

clients weren't going elsewhere. I breastfed and co-slept with both my babies so my sleep wasn't too disturbed and I also had my child-minder come to the house for the first year so I was able to just run inside to feed or pump while Cathriona worked on the dogs and I just had to finish them then. The fact that I work from home was also a bonus now as I think back. My working week is usually 3/4 days so I wasn't under too much pressure with dogs lined up out the door! It worked out really well for me and

with that extra bit of support we all managed quite well!!! Anyone who's thinking about having a bambino go for it!! Don't worry or put yourself under too much pressure, baby always comes first but it can be done with that bit of extra help!

**Thanks to Audrey Hayes**

I decided to keep the grooming salon open when I fell pregnant and had my little boy Ethan. When I fell pregnant I had a girl working with me doing all the washing and drying and that worked out well. I trained her in and things were going great and about 4 months into the pregnancy she came in one day and told me that " She too was pregnant and would have to leave after 6months or so. I couldn't believe it and was so worried I wouldn't find anyone else. Luckily though, after advertising on the ipdga page, I got a quick response from another groomer looking for work. I trained her in over a four month period and was really pleased with her work so had the two girls working opposite days to each other and I worked alongside one of them right up to about 8 months. For the

last month I just kept an eye on things and finished heads. I had Ethan in November and only shut for 2 weeks. The girls re-opened the salon and worked away until one of them left to have her baby and the other kept things going while I took time out for 7 months. It was so great to have the time off and keep the salon open but I was constantly juggling baby and the salon. It was hectic. Also the customers were constantly texting me about appointments when I was off which was really difficult in the first few weeks after having baby. Looking back If I were to go again, I would probably shut for at least 8-10 weeks and take the much needed time out to rest and not have to think about the salon. Also, I learned in the year after that some of my customers weren't that happy with some of the grooms from one of the girls. As much as I

tried to make sure the standard of the grooming was high when you're not constantly in the room it's impossible to know for sure. I now work part-time, 3 days a week and Ethan goes to Creche 2 of those days. I have a new girl washing and drying and we get through between 18 and 21 dogs over the 3 days. I spend Mondays and Fridays with Ethan and feel I have a good work life balance. The only thing you will battle with juggling baby and work is the tiredness but would I do it all over again? Absolutely. It can and does all work out

**Thanks to Jean Gregg**

I stopped grooming before baby arrived and I got most of my regulars in for a groom or a top up. I also let people know when I would be back grooming and yes they did have to go somewhere else for at least one groom but that's what I had to do. Generally people get 6 months I took 3. I wasn't fussed on once a year guys looking to get a groom tomorrow!! I looked after regulars didn't go into lifting big dogs straight away as my pelvic floor wouldn't allow it so I suppose you have to think should I take on a helper?? Part timer ?? Will I keep then salon going with some one else while I'm gone ?? I had my baby in November thought I might open again for Xmas but night feeds every 3 hours, dictated other wise so give yourself chance don't make any promises if baby, God forbid, gets sick etc grooming dogs won't be on your mind

**Thanks to Sinead Dowling**

# Classifieds

Fabulous Premises for rent at our Cattery & partnering Dog Boarding Kennels in South Dublin for experienced Dog Groomer wishing to set up business, or mobile groomer seeking a set up additional grooming salon, or successful dog grooming businesses wishing to extend their outlets.

200 Sq foot work area with kitchen & wet room, separate reception/waiting room/office, and storage area upstairs.

Readymade customer base from our Cattery & Dog Boarding Kennels, and all groomers in the area booked out with 3 week waiting list - so lots of immediate business

Full Marketing support available from website development to online marketing, business cards, local advertising, posters and leaflet drops to over 20,000 houses in the immediate area. Accountancy service can be arranged

Premises can be fitted out with all the dog grooming equipment & facilities, or empty if you would like to design your own salon

Available from September 1st - This is an opportunity not to be missed

Contact Details: Suzanne Bosscher

Phone : 086 6062665

[www.stepsidecattery.ie](http://www.stepsidecattery.ie)

[info@stepsidecattery.ie](mailto:info@stepsidecattery.ie)

## Facebook - 'Waggy Tails Dog Collar Bows'



Small Satin Paw Print  
€0.18 each or €18 for 100

(A €2 coin was used in these pictures)



Medium Satin Paw Print Bows  
€0.20 each or €20 for 100



Large Satin Paw Print Bows  
€0.30 each or €6 for 20

Organza paw Print Bows  
€0.20 each or €20 for 100



I will be at the I.P.D.G.A. October seminar in October . See you all there, Debbie

## Dog Grooming Salon For Sale

Dog Grooming business for sale based in Swords North County Dublin. All fixtures, fittings and furniture included. It is a leased property. The shop is fitted out to a very high standard specifically laid out for a dog grooming salon. There is a big reception area and large open grooming floor with two grooming tables and a cabin dryer. The shop has the added bonus of a Self Service wash room where customers come and wash their own dogs. The self service has a bath, table and blaster for drying, this amenity is very popular and busy in the salon. The main bathing room has a large bath and table with blaster. There is a spacious room for storage and this has six cages for dogs. There is also a canteen with a fridge, kettle, a washing machine and a dryer for towels.

There is ample free customer parking outside the shop. Its placement is in the busy shopping village of Applewood in Swords. This has ensured plenty of business from the surrounding areas of Swords, Malahide, Donabate etc. and is great for passing trade. The business has a huge customer base and a great reputation in an area where it is a very valued service.

The shop also has huge potential for expansion as I have been there on my own so there is only so many dogs I could do myself and I have to turn business away on a weekly basis. There has been no advertising since I first opened three years ago, there is no website and the business is still thriving.

My reason for selling is I am moving into a different career in animal care but would hate to see such a profitable business go to waste in an area where it is badly needed. A prospective buyer would be welcome to any support needed taking over the business.

**Asking Price: €28,000**

**Turnover: €40,000 - €50,000 +**

**Leasehold Rent: €12,000 per annum**

For any queries or to arrange a viewing contact Martina on 01-8971243 or 0863233985.

