

COCKER SPANIEL SPECIALTY CLUB ENRICHMENT IDEAS

Specialty clubs that thrive do more than put on dogs shows. Providing education and enrichment to club members is good for everyone: members, their dogs, and the club.

Making sure your enrichment programs are varied and address the interests of all members is important. The list of available topics is long. Below are some suggested topics but in no way reflects all the ideas to help your members stay engaged, educated, and realize the value of membership.

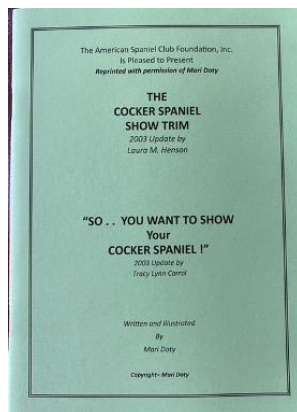
GROOMING DEMONSTRATIONS:

Have an experienced groomer (club member/breeder or professional groomer) walk through the process of grooming for both the show ring and the couch. You can do this several ways, including a live grooming demonstration, a video, or a combination of either one followed some group grooming time. Have everyone bring a hairy dog and grooming table and tools and then groom the dog based on what was learned in the presentation. Keep comments positive and in the interest of learning. Remember – it is hair, and the mistakes will go away with time!!!!

You can order more copies of Mary Doty's green book "The Cocker Spaniel Show Trim" from the [ASCF store](#).

THE COCKER SPANIEL SHOW TRIM

Originally written and illustrated by Mary Doty and later updated by Laura Henson, a pillar of the breed, this book is the perfect guide illustrating how to trim and present your Cocker Spaniel. From bathing to drying and trimming, it describes how to groom to obtain that "trim" that highlights the dog's attributes to show the best in your dog. The final section shows the proper ring procedure and presentation to compete with the professionals. These grooming techniques also apply for the more casual pet trim for home or performance dogs.



Single Copy Cost:

- \$15 USD includes shipping in the US,
 - \$17.80 USD for Canada includes shipping
 - \$20 USD elsewhere includes shipping
- To order email name, address and number of copies desired to ascf.trimbook@gmail.com for payment details.

COCKER SPANIEL STANDARD REVIEW/DISCUSSION

Provide members and guests with a copy of the Cocker Spaniel Standard. Review the standard. Have a Q&A session. Bring dogs for members to examine and discuss their traits vs. the standard. This should include a movement segment with a discussion on how form follows function.

FIRST AID

Invite a veterinarian technician or veterinarian, or have a member pull together information on canine first aid for common situations that may require first-aid. You could also include a shared example of a good first aid kit for your dogs.

The AKC has a webpage dedicated to Canine First Aid supplies/kits.

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/dog-first-aid-kit-essentials/>

TACK BOX BASICS

Have people bring their tack boxes and share their list of “essentials” for a tack box.

HEALTH TESTING

Discuss the benefits of health testing and the different type of tests suggested for cocker spaniels.

CAER / OFA EYE EXAMS (cataracts)

ODA Hips, Elbows, Patellas

Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA)

DNA Testing (Full Panel, Specific/Targeted Genetic tests)

OFA Recommended testing for Cocker Spaniels

This list will continue to be expanded over time.