



## First Aid for your Boxer

This little talk aims to help you preserve your Boxer's health, and life, when catastrophe happens. I regard it as a given that you'll seek a veterinarian in most events and will not further commend it. **Move fast, do what I suggest, without pondering alternatives.**

Here are some items that you might usefully keep at hand and together.

Sturdy gloves. A 12" piece of at least 5/8 inch garden hose. A pair of panty hose. A large gastric, or enema tube 38" French. **Benadryl**, tablets or ampoules, 25 mgm or 50 mgm.

### **Asphyxia.**

Wedge open the dog's mouth. Sweep in your (gloved) fingers to remove any foreign body. Pull his tongue out of the mouth, down, and as far forward as possible. Insert the piece of garden hose, snugging his flews around it. Blow into the hose attempting to inflate the chest; keep trying. Thump the chest to stimulate the heart if you can't detect a pulse; try for the carotid.

### **Bleeding.**

Restrain the dog. If necessary; use panty-hose muzzle. Use heavy , direct pressure. Use a tourniquet as a last resort; if you have to use one, loosen it every 15 minutes to avoid nerve damage. Try to keep dog quiet.

### **Bloat.**

This is seldom now seen. It is life threatening. Due to several reasons, the dog's belly distends largely. Wedge the dog's jaws open and try to pass a big, gastric tube. If unsuccessful, get to the veterinarian with all speed.

### **Burns.**

Place burned area in the coldest water available. Keep it there until pain seems to lessen. Cover with a sterile, antibiotic water-soluble cream.

### **Electrocution.**

Turn off electrical power, if possible. Carefully, not using metal or wet material, pull dog away from site of electrocution. If he's not breathing treat as for asphyxia.

### **Fights.**

Separate the dogs! Spraying with hose doesn't work. If alone, attempt to get yourself and one dog on the other side of a gate, or door. If you have help, each person should grab a dog's rear end, lift it off the ground and pull the two of you to the other side of a gate, or door.



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### **Fights. Contd.**

Crate all participants and check them for injuries. Scream, yell and let them know what bad dogs they are and how upset you are. This is no time to be lovey-dovey and sweet! They must be told how unacceptable that sort of behaviour is.

### **Overheating**

This can lead to death and should be regarded seriously. The easiest, and most efficient, way to reverse it is to lay the Boxer down and to run cool water, continuously over him. A garden hose is good but steady streams from buckets will work. Cloths that are kept really wet in this manner work well.

Ice is OK, but, is less readily available and can overcool the dog.

### **Poisoning.**

The best home remedy is to get that poison out of the Boxer's stomach; one caveat, it shouldn't be used for corrosive poisons.

Syrup of ipecac is available at most pharmacies or you can use hydrogen peroxide, mustard or salt. They all work.

If he won't swallow it by pouring it in his lip, use that gastric tube, having wedged his mouth open.

### **Snake Bite.**

Carefully detach snake. Save for ID, if possible. Give 50 mgm to 100 mgm of Benadryl to the Boxer .. by mouth is OK, by injection is better (either IM or IV.).

Watch Boxer for signs of asphyxia and treat as needed.

I do hope that this has been of some use for you. Thank you for your attention.

Any questions?