

IWCC Rescue Policy Paper

- Reviewed June, 2024 following Special Meeting regarding Rescue held March 24, 2024.

Assumptions

- The IWCC Members are a ready and available pool of IW fanciers, who are members in good standing and may be available at the time of need to facilitate foster care and provide resources in the event of a rescue in Canada.
- The first point of contact for Rescue is the IWCC Secretary, who works directly with the National Coordinator to notify the Membership and seek assistance in the area in which the Rescue is located.
- Members of the Rescue Committee will ideally consist of (5) volunteer representatives from across the Country who are IWCC members in good standing, either regular or associate members.
- Rescue is restricted to purebred Irish Wolfhounds (as best as can be determined) and the Committee will not get involved in rescuing an IW Cross or IWs found on Public Media Sale Platforms such as Kijiji, Marketplace, or Auction houses.
- Canadian citizens should be considered priority for adoption.

Policy Paper (final revision June 16, 2024)

The following edits to the policy and operating framework for Rescue, resulted from the outcome of the Special Meeting held March 24, 2024. Draft minutes of the meeting were sent to participants on April 15, 2024 and Membership feedback requested by email on May 02, 2024.

The purpose of IWCC Rescue is to operate within the club's jurisdiction to help Irish Wolfhounds in need. Further, IWCC Rescue will network with other Irish Wolfhound rescue operations to secure help for Irish wolfhounds outside of our jurisdiction.

IWCC Rescue is actively working to create a national directory of volunteers known as the "Friends of Rescue". We recognize that all Members (in good standing) potentially could help, depending on the circumstances and will be the eyes and ears of IWCC Rescue in their respective communities. They will also be a volunteer pool to turn to for foster care,

transport, home checks and awareness/fundraising campaigns. This initiative also gives IW fanciers who may not show or course their hounds a way to be active in the club and support the club's mandate to protect and preserve the breed.

IWCC Rescue has downloadable PDF Forms and an online fillable form on the IWCC Website to be used to either apply as a home to adopt, foster or surrender an IW. Anyone interested in adopting an IW through IWCC Rescue must complete the Application Form and permit a home visit. We only consider applicants if they have a securely fenced yard.

We place IWCC rescue hounds in the home that best suits their individual needs, and a minimum \$700 adoption donation applies. This fee goes directly back into the rescue account to cover expenses for volunteer's expenses, vet fees, food etc. This fee can be waived if exceptional circumstances apply which is at the committee's discretion.

Should an IWCC Rescue placement of a hound fail, the adoptive home is under contract to return the hound to IWCC Rescue for re-homing. If the IWCC Rescue committee agrees, the surrendering, adoptive home may work with the committee to achieve a re-home that meets the committee approval.

The Rescue Contract is signed and witnessed and contains the new owners basic contact information and provides direction for payment. It outlines the rescue relationship including a privacy statement. It offers the Adoptive home a free IWCC membership if they currently are not a member, for one year so they can benefit from the Club resources.

Upon completion of the Rescue Process, the National Rescue Coordinator is responsible for ensuring the Rescue Contract is signed, witnessed and sent to the Club Secretary for storage under the Rescue Folder on the iCloud. The Adoption Form with the potential home's personal information will be destroyed.

The Club Treasurer is responsible for reporting Rescue income and expenditure along with the Club's Financial Monthly reporting.

Role and Responsibilities of the Rescue Committee

During a Rescue Situation

Club Secretary

- Receives and reviews Adoption Forms that are submitted for consideration.
- Maintains an ongoing list of individuals that would like to be considered “Friends of Rescue”
- First point of contact for news of a Rescue situation.
- Works with the National Coordinator, forwarding Adoption Forms to consider.
- Communicates with the Membership to inform about the new rescue situation and to seek needed resources such as foster care, etc.

National Coordinator and Committee Members (4):

- Notifies the Rescue Committee members and determines the next course of action to expedite surrender, foster care and veterinary care as needed.
- Ensures consensus reached by the committee for veterinary intervention (no heroics). This would include hard decisions such as euthanizing a dog or potentially high fees for veterinary procedures.
- Forwards Adoption Applications received to be forwarded and reviewed by all committee members regardless of region or province.
- Initiates vetting of homes by conducting and/or delegating to the rescue committee, interviews of applicants that are being considered for adoption and checks their references.
- Arranges home visits as is possible
- Ensures consensus reached by the committee for best fit for placement.
- Ensures
 - signing of the Adoption Contract
 - receipt of the Adoption donation
 - ensures transport from foster care to the new owner is paid by the new owner
 - offers mileage (.70 / km) to volunteers who assist while in foster care.
 - ensures all records available are transferred to the new owner
 - all records submitted to the Club Secretary are stored in the Rescue Folder in the iCloud at the time the adoption is complete
 - provides all financial transactions with receipts to the Club Treasurer for monthly reporting.

Rescue Committee, 2024 - 2026

Volunteer positions of Members in good standing who have put their names forward to be a part of this work.

Suggested Term: 2 years. Review membership around the AGM in the Fall of election year.

This Committee was re established in May 2024. Review Scheduled for Fall 2026

IWCC Club Secretary – Guylaine Gagnon QUE

National Coordinator – Laurie Rutherford AB

Committee Members:

- Emma Ross – BC
- Jill Benoit – AB
- Lani Hopf – ONT
- Cindy Kremer - AB

Chapter 14: Rescue

14.1

The IWCC Rescue Committee, with members in areas throughout Canada, will assist owners who no longer are able to care for their Irish Wolfhound. It will apply an adoption policy that ensures any rescued Irish Wolfhound will find a loving, permanent and safe home (June, 2024)

14.2

The IWCC Rescue Committee will use standardized forms for Adoption, Fostering and Surrendering and will carry out premises and reference checks for adoptive homes.

14.3

The IWCC Rescue Committee will ensure that a health assessment is done for surrendered hounds which may include, but is not restricted to, a spay/neuter if the hound is age and health appropriate.

14.4

The IWCC Rescue Committee will request any and all health records, along with a signed surrender form in the case of an owner-surrendered hound.

14.5

The IWCC Rescue Committee through the Club Secretary, will maintain a list of pre-approved homes waiting to adopt.

14.6

The IWCC Rescue Committee will fund its own activities via fundraisers, private donations, sales booth and any other appropriate method that the Committee deems necessary.

14.7

The IWCC Rescue funds will be held by the Club, but such funds will be restricted from the IWCC day to day expenses and will be noted separately on the Financial Statements.

14.8

All IWCC Rescue expenses will be paid via the restricted Rescue funds held by the Club. The IWCC will forward any payment for Rescue expenses directly to the vendor(s) or upon receipt of all invoices, will reimburse the IWCC Rescue Committee for any approved disbursements. Includes transport costs (.70/km) offered to all volunteers, while in foster care.

Transport costs from foster care to the new owner's home is the new owner's responsibility.