

**Those Toller Ears . . . .** The Toller's ear should be set high and well back on the skull, base held slightly erect, framing the face and of medium length with the leather very clean looking. Many Tollers have hair behind the ears that tend to grow kinky and long ~ which in time overshadow the "clean look" of the ear.



Get the Toller in a relaxed position (laying down on it's side is usually good). Gently pull ear forward with one hand and with the other grasp several strands of hair from behind the ear between the thumb and fore finger. Gently pull out. Do this till the remaining hair is the length you want. Remember ... only a few hairs at a time! If the dog gets fretful stop and play with it a bit - then continue on.



A special Thanks to my model - Ch Tradewinds Saltwater Taffy CDX WC for her patience! This was one Toller who hated to have her picture taken when she wasn't at her best. - G. Botner, PEC Chair

### OTHER GENERAL "DO'S & DON'TS"

DO ... give your Toller's coat a good brushing once a week. It will get rid of dead hairs and stimulate new coat growth.

DO ... add a tablespoon of Sunflower Oil to your Toller's food if the coat appears to be dry and brittle in areas (on it's back and by the base of the tail is a good check area).

DO ... walk your Toller on rough roads once in a while. It will help develop the foot and keep it tight.

DON'T ... trim your Toller's tail! This should be full and bushy not trimmed and sculpted like a Golden's tail.

DON'T ... trim the whiskers on your Toller's muzzle. Toller's use them when in the field to detect wind direction and protect their eyes.

DON'T ... back comb or add moose to add false fullness to your Toller's looks.

DON'T ... ignore good teeth hygiene!



**The Toller Foot** ... Tollers can develop a dreadful case of **"FUZZ FOOT"**. Hair between the webbed toes and around pads tends to grow long and starts to stick out at all angles giving it a very "shaggy" appearance.



Many owners prefer a cleaner looking foot. Where dogs are exposed to snow, ice and heavy muddied areas, it becomes more than cosmetic ... it is a necessity! Otherwise clumps of ice and mud can get between pads and cause injury. Burrs from fields also become a menace and can get embedded between pads.



Grooming items: A small, sharp scissors with ball tips (sometimes called a nose/ear shear) and LOTS OF PATIENCE! After trimming the excess hair from around the foot might also be a good time to do nails.

Trim the long hairs from around the pads by gently pulling them out and holding as you clip. Many dogs are ticklish. It might take a bit of getting used to on their part when feeling a foreign object against the pad. If the dog jerks its' foot away, hold the leg firmly and talk to him/her as you are clipping around the pad and reassure them it's Okay!



To trim the long hairs from the upper foot, gently run your finger above the webbing at the tip of the toes between them from front to back. Pull the long hairs up. Trim and repeat motion until no long hairs come up. Also, be sure to trim around the outside of the foot to give them a clean look when the dog is standing. **Don't forget those long wispy hairs on the back of the front legs up from the foot about 2-3".** **HINT:** if your Toller is a bit short-legged in the front - be sure to trim - will add visual length to leg; If your Toller has a bit too much leg, only neaten hair - this will give visual appearance of less leg.

- BASIC HINTS:**
1. Start handling the feet of your Toller as soon as possible - as many times a day as possible to get them used to this. Once they are comfortable with this, introduce the scissors a "clip" at a time.
  2. Give LOTS of praise and "sweet talking" as you groom.
  3. Reward them with a nonfattening treat whenever you finish - even if it is just a "clip" or two. Some Tollers love carrots!
  4. Do it on a regular basis - less trimming is involved. Don't let it get away from you. Less patience required on both yours and your Tollers.
  5. When grooming the long hairs behind the ears (on reverse side of this flyer) a good time is after a bath whe the hair is damp. It seems to "pluck" easier.

