

# Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of the Rockies Newsletter

Winter 2025



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

2/13 Thursday

### **Working Dog Specialty Show**

Peak to Peak Working Dog Association of Colorado  
Denver, CO

2/14-16 Friday - Sunday

### **All Breed Dog Show**

**Obedience and Rally Trials**  
Colorado Kennel Club  
Denver, CO

2/14-16 Friday - Sunday

### **Barn Hunt Trials**

Rebel Ratters  
Denver, CO

2/20-23 Thursday - Sunday

### **Barn Hunt Trial**

Rebel Ratters  
Castle Rock, CO

3/16 Saturday

### **Denver St. Patrick's Day Parade**

GSMD Club of the Rockies  
Denver, CO

4/4-6 Friday - Sunday

### **All Breed Dog Show**

Obedience and Rally Trials  
Terry-All Kennel Club  
Brighton, CO

4/27-28 Sunday - Monday

### **Herding Trial**

Buckhorn Valley Kennel Club  
Wellington, CO

## MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS BENEFITS!

Becoming a member of the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America (GSMDCA) and the regional Club of the Rockies, offers numerous advantages for owners of a Greater Swiss Mountain Dog. Membership provides access to a wealth of resources and a supportive community dedicated to the well-being and advancement of our breed.

For those interested in engaging their dogs in various activities, the Club of the Rockies hosts or co-hosts a variety of events for working dog activities and socialization opportunities with other Swissy owners in our region. Our parent club, GSMDCA, offers support through dedicated committees for drafting, herding, hiking, weight pulling, agility, and obedience. Members also gain the opportunity to participate in the annual National Specialty, a premier event celebrating the breed. This gathering, hosted by various regional clubs or individual groups, serves as a focal point for showcasing the versatility and talents of Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs.

Another set of benefits is access to information, such as this newsletter for GSMD Club of the Rockies members and The SENNtinel, the official GSMDCA publication released three times annually. This magazine is rich with club news, insightful articles, and captivating photographs, keeping members informed and engaged with the latest developments in the Swissy community.

Most importantly, our club members are a community of Swissy owners who share a love of the breed.

GSMD Club of the Rockies



GSMD Club of the Rockies  
Meet the Breed at  
Colorado Kennel Club, 2023

## Braggs and News

**Congratulations to Tux** (GCHS Cornerstone's Undercover Lover) finished #15 Swissy Owner Handled and #19 Breed. Owner handler: Ted Bovey



**Congratulations to Kali** (Kali Bear Rijn McCloud, BCAT, CGC) on earning her Canine Good Citizen title. Owner handler: Michele Lee



**Congratulations to Koda** (Alpenblick's It's Not Just Black&White at Calpyso, STAR, CGC) on earning his Canine Good Citizen Title! Owner handler: Patricia Brown



**Congratulations to Ace** (Calypso's Indianapolis ACE) on earning Best of Winners (Colorado Springs Show) and his Novice Working Pack Dog Title! Owners: Carena and Mike Nelson



Send your news or brags for inclusion in future newsletters to [GSMDCRockies@gmail.com](mailto:GSMDCRockies@gmail.com)!

## Club Event Spotlight

We had a terrific time at the Club's Swissmas Pawty and gift exchange this year (photo)! New and old members alike gathered to celebrate the holiday season with our Swissies.

Join us for our next gathering on Friday, February 14, 2025 at 12 PM for our Meet the Breed session at the Colorado Kennel Club Dog Show!



# Enjoying Winter in the Rocky Mountains with Your Swissy

In the heart of the Rocky Mountain region, winter transforms the landscape into a playground for both humans and their canine companions. The crisp mountain air and snow-covered trails offer a plethora of activities that strengthen the bond with your Swissy.

## Snowshoeing Adventures

Snowshoeing is a fantastic way to explore the serene winter wilderness with your dog. Trails like the Bear Creek Trail to Panorama Point near Idledale provide moderate loops through forests and meadows, culminating in panoramic views of the snow-draped Rockies. The soft snow is gentle on paws, and the tranquil environment offers a peaceful retreat.

## Skijoring Excursions

For the more adventurous, skijoring—a blend of cross-country skiing and dog sledding—offers an exhilarating experience. This activity involves being towed on skis by your dog, combining physical exercise with teamwork. It's essential to ensure your dog is well-trained and conditioned for this high-energy sport.



## Winter Hiking Trails

Many trails remain accessible during winter and are perfect for hiking with dogs. The Coyote Song Trail in South Valley Park near Littleton offers an easy loop with stunning views of red rock formations contrasting against the white snow. Similarly, the Turkey Trot Trail in Mount Falcon Park provides moderate terrain with rewarding vistas, making it a favorite among locals.

## Indoor Retreats

On days when the weather is less accommodating, Denver and its surrounding areas boast several dog-friendly indoor venues. Fiction Beer Company in Parker welcomes well-behaved dogs indoors, offering a cozy spot to relax after a brisk walk. Lazy Dog Restaurant & Bar in Denver provides a heated outdoor patio, ensuring comfort during the colder months.

## Safety Considerations

Regardless of the activity, it's crucial to prioritize your dog's safety. Ensure they are adequately hydrated, even in cold weather, and monitor for signs of fatigue or discomfort.

Embracing the winter months in the Rocky Mountain region with your Swissy not only provides physical exercise but also deepens the companionship between you and your furry friend. Whether trekking through snowy trails or enjoying a warm indoor setting, the opportunities for shared adventures are abundant and rewarding.

REFERENCES:  
<https://www.bringfido.com/blog/state/colorado/tag/dog-friendly-winter-activities/>;  
<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/unique-winter-activities-dogs/>;  
<https://hiredoggie.com/dog-friendly-winter-activities-denver-keep-your-dog-active-and-healthy/>

*Thank you for reading!*

**GREATER SWISS MOUNTAIN  
DOG CLUB OF THE  
ROCKIES**

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