



SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the NARCH Spring 2022 Newsletter.

The early sunshine and yellow daffodils herald the first signs of Spring, a welcome sight for us all meaning that we will soon be able to spend more time outside enjoying drier walks with our friends, family and dogs.

There can be no doubt that the past few months have seen price rises across many commodities such as energy, fuel and food. There has been general discussion about how to budget for energy price rises in particular and the immediate solution might seem to be to contemplate increasing hydrotherapy charges in an attempt to cover some of these increases.

We would caution all our members to seek advice from your professional advisers in this context before making any changes, in order to ensure that you have considered all the options and implications, not least the possibility of breaching the VAT threshold. Your professional advisors should be able to offer guidance in this context to help you make informed decisions.

NARCH EDUCATION SEMINAR 9th October 2022 – DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

It is our intention to hold our annual Education Seminar once again this year. Please save the date – **Sunday October 9th 2022** – for a full day of lectures giving delegates **7 hours CPD**. We hope to be using the Holiday Inn, Guildford as the venue.



Please note that in order to simplify the purchasing of a delegate place, we will not be offering a discounted Earlybird price this year. However, we will be doing our utmost to keep the price of a delegate place as low as possible with NARCH subsidising the event. It is for this reason that the event will be for the benefit of NARCH members only. Places will go on sale via the NARCH website in July/August 2022.

AGM 20th November 2022 via ZOOM – DATE FOR YOUR DIARY



We propose to hold our 2022 AGM on **Sunday 20th November 2022** at 11 am via the ZOOM platform, so please save the date.

It has been agreed that the 2022 AGM will provide all attendees with **1 hours CPD** and a CPD certificate of attendance will be emailed to all members in attendance after the event.

FIRST AID REFRESHER COURSES – Attendance Based and Online courses.



We have continued to monitor the availability of attendance based courses in recent months, taking into consideration the difficulties associated with running attendance based courses during the Covid -19 pandemic.

Following a review of providers meeting NARCH requirements, it would seem that attendance based first aid refresher courses are in short supply, with some course providers offering online courses only. As a result, the Committee has agreed that from 1st April 2022, all NARCH members needing to refresh their First Aid training will be encouraged to try to find an attendance based course (that meets NARCH requirements) wherever possible. However, should this not be possible, members may take an online course providing the course meets NARCH requirements and this will be irrespective of whether their previous refresher had been an attendance based course or an online course.

Please do visit the [first aid guidance document](#) held in the Resource Library of the NARCH website, which provides a list of attendance based and online first aid refresher course providers meeting NARCH requirements.

The NARCH Committee will revisit this matter on 1st October 2022 to determine whether our first aid refresher rules can revert to pre-Covid times.

ADVANCED TREADMILL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

A reminder to members that the OCN West Midlands Level 3 Diploma in Small Animal Hydrotherapy now covers our requirements for joining, including advanced treadmill training.

Please be aware that for those members who do not have the Diploma and need to complete additional water treadmill training, you will need to have completed all three of the following units to use a water treadmill without supervision from a RCH who does hold the necessary water treadmill qualifications:

USE OF DISCLAIMERS



In order to comply with the [NARCH Guide to Professional Conduct for Registered Canine Hydrotherapists](#), section 2 'Your responsibilities for the welfare and care of patients' all RCH's must:

- obtain signed permission from the referring veterinary surgeon confirming that it is safe and appropriate for the patient to be treated with hydrotherapy.
- never treat any animal, even if only for recreation/fitness, without a veterinary surgeon's signature.
- obtain clinical history and areas of caution or concern from all veterinary surgeons involved in the patient's care.

Therefore, it is not acceptable for any patient to commence any form of hydrotherapy with just a disclaimer from the owner. [A NARCH referral form](#) can be found in the resource library section of the website.

RUFFWEAR PRODUCTS NOW AVAILABLE TO NARCH MEMBERS AT WHOLESALE PRICES

We are delighted to advise all active RCHs that you can now purchase Ruffwear products at wholesale prices. The only requirement is that you are an active RCH, on the NARCH register.

All RCH's were sent an explanatory email about this membership benefit a few weeks ago, providing a product brochure, wholesale pricelist and information on how to place your orders direct with Ruffwear and we know that several of you have already taken advantage of this offer.



SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITES – A CAUTIONARY MESSAGE



We have all read the warnings about how to conduct ourselves when using social media platforms, not only from the perspective of security and hacking, but also about what we say, how we say it and how we use photographs to illustrate our work.

Social Media is a quick and easy way to communicate with people and the written word is a powerful tool. But whenever we write anything we need to exercise caution that we are not writing something that could be misconstrued by another person. Please therefore always think very carefully about what you write. How you see a situation may not be construed in the same light by another person.

The same applies to when you upload photographs or film footage to your websites or social media platforms. Before uploading any film footage or photos, always ask yourself if the photos demonstrate accurate examples of professional and safe hydrotherapy techniques.

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