

Feel free to share.

As another dog sport competitor put it so well, we are always making calculated risk decisions about our dogs. We make these calls every day, trying to do what's best for our dogs yet not live in a state of paranoid fear.

I am sharing because the owner of the dogs has asked that people learn from this. I ask you to read this with compassion rather than judgment. Many dog sport competitors leave their dogs in their vehicles (including RVs) with the A/C running, assuming they will be safe, but this demonstrates how easily that can change.

There was an awful tragedy on June 26th after the end of a flyball tournament in North Carolina. A competitor left his 3 dogs in his car with the air conditioning running while he packed up his stuff from the crating area. The car overheated and the A/C stopped functioning, which overheated the dogs. One dog was fine, one spent the night at NC State vet hospital, but the 7-month-old whippet puppy didn't make it. A GoFundMe page has been set up to help with the vet bills: <https://www.gofundme.com/2bhrbwh8>

If you do leave your vehicle running, there are a few things you should do:

1. Make sure you are parked away from other vehicles that have windows and doors open, so that your exhaust is not going into other vehicles.
2. Leave 1 or 2 front windows cracked to allow the carbon monoxide to not build up, because that can happen as well, even with the AC running.
3. Open your hood! It allows the heat from the fan to dissipate much more efficiently and therefore it is much more difficult for the car to overheat.
4. Check on your vehicle constantly.
5. Check your engine's temperature gauge to make sure that it isn't rising.

There is a Facebook group called "Dog Sport Vehicle Ideas & Set-ups" where traveling with dogs is frequently discussed along with methods to keep dogs safe in hot weather with specific product reviews. Below are some links to products you might find useful. There are other places you can purchase them; use Google if you wish to compare pricing.

Clean Run has a lot of items:

Shade: https://www.cleanrun.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=category.display&category_ID=254

Ventlocks: <https://www.cleanrun.com/index.cfm/product/879/ventlock-tailgate-locks.htm>

Remote

Thermometer: https://www.cleanrun.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=product.display&product_ID=2860&ParentCat=927

Also check out these:

Breeze Guards: <http://www.petexpertise.com/dog-safety/breezeguard-safety-screens-for-car-windows.html>

https://www.amazon.com/AboveTEK%C2%AE-Dual-Head-Auto-Cooling/dp/B010CESJTC?ie=UTF8&camp=1789&creative=9325&creativeASIN=B010CESJTC&linkCode=as2&linkId=KZPFVU2ZGHFTINK3&redirect=true&ref=as_li_tl&tag=thcobud-20

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01AEQ9X9I/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_awd_O6Z0wbT5C94R9

<http://nimblewireless.com/rv-monitoring/>