Every breeder should have a written plan BEFORE whelping.

Whelping is a very stressful time. It may be in the middle of the night. You will forget everything you know during the stress of whelping. This template is to help you write out your plans and your contingencies so that you have them for reference.

All of us will have different rules based on our own preferences, experiences, and discussions with our repro vets. They may also change over time. Create your own here.

Create them well ahead of time. Print them out and hang them in your whelping room.

# VET

Name, address, and phone of emergency vet (be sure to ask for the after-hours number)

Day phone number:

After hours phone number:

How many minutes to reach this location in an emergency? \_\_\_\_

# BACKUP VET

Name, address, and phone of backup vet (be sure to ask for the after-hours number)

Day phone number:

After hours phone number:

How many minutes to reach this location in an emergency? \_\_\_\_

# MENTOR

Phone number:

Any time restrictions?

# ROOM RULES

Who will be in the room during whelping?

Where will kids and other pets be? Set rules for your kids (or adults who need management) during whelping whether they are in the room or not.

# DUE DATE

How late after due date before calling vet?

# STAGE 1 LABOR

How long in stage 1 labor before calling vet?

# WHELPING PAUSE

How long of a whelping pause before calling vet?

# ACTIVE LABOR (STAGE 2)

How long in active labor before calling vet?

# STUCK PUPPY

What do you consider a stuck puppy?

What are your plans for handling a stuck puppy (wheelbarrow maneuver, manipulation etc)?

When do you call vet about a stuck puppy?

# BLEEDING

How much bleeding is too much?

# CALCIUM

How much calcium will you give? (refer to bit.ly/dogcalcium for the Midwoofery chart)

# REVIVING AN UNRESPONSIVE PUPPY

What is your puppy revival protocol? You will forget when there is stress. Write it down here.

How long will you attempt to revive a puppy?

# DEAD PUPPIES

Never fun, but a reality. How will you handle a dead puppy? Will you dispose of it (how) or send it for necropsy. If you are sending it for necropsy, do you have a way to package and refrigerate the remains until you can get it to the vet?

# OXYTOCIN

Will you use oxytocin? If so, what are your rules. Write them down here.