

# Clean Run®

THE MAGAZINE FOR DOG AGILITY ENTHUSIASTS

PHOTOS © VOSM, KAT FAHIE, LONNY ELSON



## Achilles Tendinopathy in the Agility Dog

Quick turns, landing jumps, and jump-turn combinations can place soft tissue under extreme stress and can result in an Achilles injury. By Brittany Jean Carr, DVM and Sherman O. Canapp, DVM, MS, CCRT, DACVS, DACVSMR



## Use Proofing to Build a Better Performance

By exposing your dog to both typical and unusual distractions while he's performing different agility tasks, he will learn to maintain proper performance criteria no matter what is going on around him. By Brenna Fender

MAY 15 VOLUME 21 NUMBER 05



## Power Paws Skills: Beyond a Basic Retrieve

With some continued retrieve work, you can start to enjoy all the associated games and tricks that come along with having your dog like to pick up, hold, carry, and deliver any item you choose anywhere you like. By Nancy Gyes

## Features

### 5 Editorializing: The League

There is work going on to create a national dog agility league, something inexpensive and recreational. Everybody in the league, no matter where they are in the country, will put up the same courses and run as many dogs as they can round up. By Bud Houston

### 19 Keep It Simple for Success

Are we making agility unnecessarily complicated? Does success on course really lie within increasingly complicated cue combinations? Let's look at simple and straightforward handling solutions for a complicated course. By Daisy Peel

### 23 Maximizing Nutrition for Your Dog's Unique Needs, Part 1

The scientific application of animal nutrition has been directed at trying to correct or prevent nutrient deficiencies. Less consideration has been given to the biochemical balance of these nutrients; the most important of which are the trace elements. By Julie Casper, L. Ac.

### 35 K9 Conditioning: Exercises for Hind Limb Lateral Stability

Activities such as running, jumping, turning, and negotiating equipment rely on the strength and stability of the psoas. This month's exercises are for strengthening the psoas as well as the hips and hind limbs. By Bobbie Lyons, Cert CF

### 48 Training with the Stars: Dawn Weaver

Ask Dawn which handling system she uses and she'll tell you "the dog's." Throughout her agility career, she has strived to take her cues from her dogs and adapt her handling to them, rather than the other way around. By Sally Silverman

### 55 Class Plans from Happy Dog Ranch

One of the challenges instructors face each week is designing exercises and courses that require little moving of equipment between groups and challenge all the students in the class while not making it so difficult that they cannot be successful.

By Kristy Netzer

### 58 Being an Innovative Dog Trainer: Arousal, Part 1—The Basics

Arousal taints (for better or worse) every choice our dogs make and can even result in them being unable to make a choice. But everywhere we expect our agility dogs to perform is highly arousing, so it's critical to understand arousal and how to work with it. By Tom Mitchell

### 64 When "Run Faster" Isn't an Option, Part 4: University

The obstacle training required for distance handling is much more than just training your dog to send away from you. You need the dog to fully understand the names of the obstacles and perform them with a high level of confidence and independence. By Helen Grinnell King

## Columns

### 6 Tip of the Month

By Deborah Davidson Harpur

### 7 Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Agility... By Brenna Fender

### 13 Backyard Dogs By Mia Grant

### 61 The Judge's Debriefing By Gill Chapman

## Cover

### 8 Feet First, Part 1: Handling Solutions

If you work on it, you can make your feet do whatever you want them to do. And, when that happens, agility gets much easier. Your footwork can become second nature, leaving your brain juice for remembering the course and handling your dog. By Sandy Rogers

### 15 Everyone Out of the Pool

Excessive water intake can lead to a rare but life-threatening condition called water intoxication. Protect your water-loving dog by learning to recognize the symptoms and taking precautions when using toys in the water. By Denise Flaim



### 28 As the World Turns: Flick

The flick is a technique in which the dog turns away from the handler and the handler does not turn at all. There is no side change in the flick, although it can be followed with a blind cross. By Mary Ellen Barry

### 51 Improving Your Dog's Motivation and Speed, Part 2

Knowing what is rewarding for your dog is one of the keys to success in any aspect of dog training. This month the author focuses on building food drive, transferring value to create toy drive, self-rewarding behaviors, and restraining games. By Katarina Podlipnik

## Cover Dog

MACH12 Kadell's Cuevo Gold W, RN MXC3, MJS4, a.k.a. Big Sur, an 8-year-old Standard Wirehaired Dachshund owned by Beth Klucher Whitney (handler) and Ross Whitney of Colorado. Photo by Ken Gee Photography

Clean Run (ISSN 1089-8506) is published monthly by Clean Run Productions, LLC. Principal office: 17 Industrial Dr., South Hadley, MA 01075. Periodicals postage paid at South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075-9902 and additional offices. © Copyright 1995-2015 Bud Houston and Clean Run Productions, LLC. All world rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Clean Run, 17 Industrial Dr., South Hadley, MA 01075.