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## Comparing the Derrett and Mecklenburg Handling Systems, Part 7: Serpentine

This month we'll compare the differences and similarities in the use of serpentine handling in both systems. By the *Clean Run* Staff



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## Foundation Fundamentals: Delegating Distance

Having a dog that works laterally off your side at a distance is a big advantage in any class if you are like me, a handler who can't run as fast as her dog. By Moe Strenfel



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## Jenny's Guide to Successful Teamwork: Front and Blind Crosses, Part 1

We're now going to look at how you can use Jenny's system in real life. In this installment of the series, Jenny explains how she uses front and blind crosses. By Jenny Damm

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Agility is a wonderful sport, but it can also be a culture of blame. Are people too quick to always blame the handler? By Nancy Walker

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Now that you know what a serpentine is, how to handle it, and how to train it, let's look at some practical applications of the serpentine that might save time on course. By Jane Killion

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Test your skills on a sequence from the USDAA Dog Agility Masters Tournament Team Standard course from a Four Star Tournament Event held in California. By Ann Croft

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While many competitors dream of earning titles, animal shelters continue to house dogs that were relinquished because they are too energetic, too smart, or too busy for most pet homes. Many of these dogs are great agility prospects. This month, meet Auggie. By Lisa Barrett

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These exercises are intended to teach the dog to perform the same sequence with different handling moves; the dog learns to read your motion cues. They also help build your decision-making skills so you know what handling moves you can use, or can't use, in different situations. By Jen Pinder

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#### Inside/Outside Loop Drills

Here is a simple concept to help trainers make quick changes to their course setups to accommodate various challenges for all levels of classes and students. By Nancy Gyes

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Handlers training their first agility dog can take inspiration from the story of Hope, the Westie, to take their time and build a strong bond and foundation with their partner before entering their first trial. By Leslie Granville-Smith

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Dogs popping out at pole #10 in the weaves is so common it is often called the "10th pole syndrome." Some trainers share their thoughts on the problem and potential solutions. By Brenna Fender



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To stretch or not to stretch before competition is a commonly discussed question among human athletes and handlers of canine athletes. By Dr. Debbie Gross Saunders

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Learn how to use both the course map and actual course walk-through to determine the most effective path for the dog and the subsequent handling methods you will use to indicate that course to your dog. By Nancy Gyes

### 64 Training Dogs to Work with Physically Limited Handlers

Physically limited handlers can have success with their dogs if they are willing to become great trainers. By developing a system where the dog learns how to accomplish tasks at a distance with limited physical cues from the handler, both can enjoy fast and thrilling agility runs. By Kristin Kaldahl

## Cover Dog

Mozart CL2-H, CL1-F, CL1-S, CL1-H, CL1-R, RL1X, RL2, RL1, a 4-year-old All-American adopted from the Charlotte Mecklenburg Animal Shelter by owner Valerie Aldred of Charlotte, North Carolina. Photo by Diane Lewis Photography, [www.dianelewis.photography.com](http://www.dianelewis.photography.com).

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