

Clean Run®

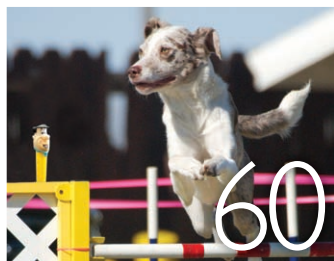
THE MAGAZINE FOR DOG AGILITY ENTHUSIASTS

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Helpful Tips for Running a Great Trial
Gone are the days where you could expect competitors to enter a trial just because you were the only show in the area. With so many different venues and trials for competitors to choose from every weekend, clubs and organizations need to look for ways to draw people to their trials. By Tinna Brown



Instructing Outside the Box: Handling Games to Get Students Thinking and Having Fun
Rather than always doing the same thing in your agility classes, shake things up a bit by playing games that are designed to get students thinking outside the box and get them involved in class. By Tracy Sklenar



NADAC Tunnelers Strategy and Tips
Tunnelers is a NADAC game where teams run a course consisting of tunnels, tunnels, and more tunnels. While we'll discuss game-specific strategy in this article, we'll also look at strategies for handling and training tunnels that can be applied to any agility course that includes tunnels. By Andrea Dexter

Features

5 Editorializing: When Is Enough Enough?

When a dog has an injury, at what point do you look in the mirror and ask yourself who you're really doing agility for? Does your dog really care if he only needs one more Double-Q for a MACH5? And does earning that title change your relationship with your dog? If a dog needs medication for pain, then he does not need to be trialing. By Debbie Brooks, DVM

16 Challenges at CR Central

Weave pole foundation training often neglects to thoroughly test a dog's understanding of entries early in the process. Instant recognition of entries at speed, given any circumstance or set of variables, should be trained and tested long before a dog is weaving 6 or 12 poles. These drills all have challenging weave pole entries and exits. By Annie Pyle

30 Challenges for Rising Stars

This month's exercises concentrate on the handler's and dog's ability to rapidly shift from obstacle focus to handler focus multiple times. They also provide the freedom for handlers to create their own courses rather than dictating a set exercise pattern. By Stuart Mah

45 Ready, Set, Trial! How to Find and Enter Trials

Finding and entering trials requires attention to detail and can be confusing for newcomers to the sport. Here we discuss the basics of finding and entering agility trials in the U.S. By Jamie McKay, CPDT KA

53 Agility Organization Leaders, Part 2

Many competitors don't know anything about the people who help organize and orchestrate most aspects of this well-loved sport. This month you'll meet Linda Eickholdt (CPE), Jim and Mary Kay Mills (DOCNA), Laura Derrett (UKI), and Carrie DeYoung (AKC). By Brenna Fender

72 Sera's Story: Musings from An Agility Journey

All of us have to face that our dog's agility career is going to end. But how do we know when it's time? Maybe when it's time, the moment will present itself; so perhaps it's better to focus on the journey and day-to-day living. By Carolyn Canizaro-Orlowsky, DVM

78 Shelter Champs: Panic

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 Panic, a mixed-breed dog. By Lisa Barrett

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12 Balance in Training

Balance in agility training is important. Not only do you need balance in the actual behaviors that you work on with your dog, but you also need balance in the philosophical way that you approach dog training and agility in particular. By Daisy Peel

22 You Know Your Dog Is Aggressive If... Part 4

Once you have built your foundation skills to a high level, you can add them into your daily life. Here are the most common ways to set up desensitization sessions for you and your dog. By Pamela S. Dennison



38 Early Takeoff: A Program for Managing the Problem

There are no y'es for early takeoff problems. But with hard work and going back to square one with foundation jumping grids, you can manage the problem and increase the dog's confidence, making the game of agility fun again for both handler and dog. By Susan Salo

47 How Overtraining Affects Us and Our Dogs

Too much training can decrease athletic performance and cause physical and mental stress as well as injuries in both humans and dogs. Learn how to avoid overtraining so that you and your dog can compete at your best and also enjoy what you're doing. By Debbie Gross Saunders, DPT, MSPT, OCS, CCRP

Cover Dog

Tribute's Return Engagement NAC, NJC, NGC, TAM, TMAG, TSAD, TACH, AX, AXJ, NF, PII, CL4-F, CL4-H, CL4-S, CL4-R, a.k.a. Chip, a 7-year-old Chihuahua owned by Linda DesMarais of New Hampshire. Photos by Lesley Mattuchio, www.pbase.com/lesleylou.

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