

Clean Run®

THE MAGAZINE FOR DOG AGILITY ENTHUSIASTS

JUNE 12 VOLUME 18 NUMBER 06

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Knowledge Equals Speed! Positive Training Routines

This month we look at how you can make your agility training and competitive experiences positive and enjoyable for your dog, from the start line right right through to the finish line. By Dawn Weaver



Building Blocks: Building Skills Around the Tunnel

The first set of exercises uses a straight tunnel and the goal is to cue the direction you want the dog to exit the tunnel as he enters it. There are also obstacle discrimination exercises with a curved tunnel. By Rachel Sanders



Control Unleashed Solutions and Answers: Shy & Overwhelmed

Targeting games can help shy dogs navigate a stressful environment like an agility classroom or trial, and deal with seeing and hearing triggers that may otherwise take away their confidence. By Leslie McDevitt MLA, CPDT, CDBC

Features

5 Editorializing: The Other Bank Account

Are you making too many withdrawals and too few deposits into your dog's "fun account." Don't run the account dry. Learn what activities build up the most interest in your dog's fun account. By Tina Eastman

10 Awesome Paws Drills: Skills Checklist, Part 3

These drills will challenge you to perform a variety of cue combinations and provide you with a skills checklist. For each drill, you will be directed to perform a specific skill or combination of skills. The skills required are very basic at first, but quickly progress to an advanced level. By Linda Mecklenburg

18 Challenges for Rising Stars

Dogs are extremely good at figuring out patterns. In these exercises, our objective as trainers is to allow the dog to learn certain jumping patterns (such as pinwheels) so that we can handle more effectively by allowing the dog to help us. By Stuart Mah

32 Analyze This!

Challenges from international courses are making their way into U.S. courses with increasing frequency. This month we look at a jumping agility course designed by Natalie Kirkwood of Australia. By Laura Manchester Derrett

40 Perfecting Nutrition for Performance Dogs

Dogs in competition often push themselves to the limit, loving the excitement of the game. So it's particularly important for working dogs to get all the supplementation they need to maintain their health, along with their drive, tenacity, and intelligence. By Dr. Deva Khalsa VMD

59 Agility Mind Gym: Visualization

Handlers often joke about how good we would be if we could run the course a couple of times before we had to compete. By improving your visualization skills, you can have this same advantage. Your mind can't tell the difference between a vividly imagined experience and real life. By Kathy Keats

Columns

6 Tip of the Month By Anita Sacrey

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

8 Backyard Dogs By Mary Ellen Barry

55 From Hoof to Woof: What Riders Can Teach Handlers By Holly Newman

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13 On the Road Again: Safety Measures for Driving with Your Dog

Most of us wouldn't consider getting in a car without buckling up. Or taking the kids along without the proper restraints. So why doesn't your agility teammate get the same consideration? Here are some options for keeping your dog safe in the car. By Sally Silverman



21 Proofing Your Dog's Weave Pole Performance:

Teaching your dog to weave independently of your speed and position allows you to focus on getting to the next obstacle. This skill can give you a competitive advantage, but it's critical if you aren't able to keep up with your dog. Proofing can also be fun! By Lee Windeatt

44 Why Dogs Sniff and What to Do About It

Sniffing is a common behavior that many handlers struggle with in their agility dogs. There are many reasons why dogs might sniff rather than drive around the course with focus. Let's look at some of those reasons and at options for motivating dogs to keep their noses off the ground. By Tracy Sklenar

56 New & Common Therapies for Treating Injuries in the Canine Athlete

Learn about the therapies available for injured dogs to help expedite the healing process and quickest return to competition. By Audrey DeClue, DVM

Cover Dog

Afterhours Frosted Mocha, MX, MXJ, XF, AD, a.k.a. Ashbee, a 9-year-old German Wirehaired Pointer owned by Diane Philibert and Mark Rosenblatt of Florida. Photo by Pix'n Pages.

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