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Out Spot Out! What Cues Your Dog Really Pays Attention To

Understanding what you are *really* telling your dog on course can greatly improve your communication and enhance your success in the sport. The cues that you use remain fundamentally the same whether you are working your dog from 5' away or 50' away. By Lorrie Reynolds



Head-Turning Turns, Part 2

Turns are the unsung hero of the agility world. They can make or break a run, or your dog, if they aren't done well. Teach your dog to organize himself for turns so he can move smoothly, with balance and speed, over challenges in a course. This month we'll focus on turns when jumping at full height. By Jenni Shelegy



Living Room Agility: Two-on/Two-off Contact Training

Having a solid stop at the bottom of contact obstacles requires physical and mechanical skills as well as understanding of the desired behavior. Most of the skills the dog needs can be taught and practiced without contact equipment, and in a relatively small amount of space. By Frankie Joiris

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5 Editorializing: Abuse of Power?

People who are coaches and instructors in dog sports are in positions of power, and must treat that responsibility with the utmost respect. Coaches can empower or crush a person with a single statement. By Kathy Keats

10 Awesome Paws Drills

You need to be able to look at a sequence and envision all possible ways to handle it. The goal this month is to find multiple ways to handle these simple drills and then try them to see which way works best for you and your dog. By Linda Mecklenburg

29 Improving Your Dog's Endurance with Dynamic Ball Work, Part 2

This month's ball work focuses on intermediate and advance level exercises. The goal is still to strengthen the dog's Type I muscles, which produces many benefits, including improved stamina and endurance. By Dr. Debbie Gross Saunders, DPT, MSPT, OCS, CCRP

32 Class Challenges for Rising Stars

Rather than working on your contacts by putting your dog over the contact obstacles again and again, try progressive contact training. It's a way to run a course while still allowing the major emphasis to be on contact performances. By Stuart Mah

36 Can You Handle It?

Here's an analysis of the winning runs in Team Large Jumpers at the 2012 FCI Agility World Championships as well as sequences based on the course that will fit in a 60' x 80' training space. By Marquand Cheek

45 Training with the Stars: Dana Pike

As a trainer and competitor, Dana Pike doesn't fit into any molds. She runs very different dogs and always looks for the methods that will work for the dog in front of her at the moment. By Sally Silverman

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12 Nutrition for the Canine Athlete, Part 1

To keep our four-legged athletes healthy and help them have a long injury-free career, we need to identify what classification of exercise that they do so we can provide them with the proper nutritional requirements for their sport. By Dr. Julie Mayer



51 Knowledge Equals Speed: Introducing Tunnels

Most dogs ultimately enjoy the open tunnel, but there are some that never really drive to it and some that don't know how to locate the entry if the approach isn't straight on. Here's a method to introduce tunnels so that your dog enthusiastically finds the tunnel entry and drives through the obstacle. By Dawn Weaver

54 Teen Angst: Handling Your Puppy's Moments of Insecurity

How you handle your developing puppy's moments of insecurity can have a great impact on his ability to trust you, his repertoire of behavioral choices, and his future success in life. Here are some things to know and games to play to help you navigate your puppy's teen months. By Catherine Steinke

63 Power Paws Skills: Rear Crosses

Some dogs seem to pick up rear cross skills very easily while others struggle with understanding the handler's intent. But every dog can be taught a rear cross if you understand the groundwork and foundation skills needed. By Nancy Gyes

Cover Dog

Ch Folklore's Free Spirit CD, RE, SE, OA, OAJ, a.k.a. Arlo, a 10-year-old Norfolk Terrier owned by Sheila Foran of Connecticut. Photo by Lesley Mattuchio, www.pbbase.com/lesleylou

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