

# Clean Run®

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## Knowledge Equals Speed! Teaching Verbal Directional Commands, Part 2

When you get behind your dog, you need to provide him with information to allow him to continue with the course or he will have to slow down and head-check back to see what you want. This month we'll look at verbal commands to turn your dog right and left. By Dawn Weaver



## Puppy Agility Games, Part 2

These games teach your puppy some of the most important aspects of our sport without any agility equipment. This month you'll learn the advanced stages of the games you taught your puppy in Part 1, and put the games together to teach your puppy brilliant responses to your handling maneuvers as he interacts with "obstacles." By Anne Stocum



## Living Room Agility: Come, Out, and Go

To successfully navigate an agility course with you, your dog needs to clearly understand where he's going. Verbal cues can help you be more precise. This month in your living room you'll work on a recall to side cue, a cue to tell the dog to move laterally away from you, and a cue for the dog to go on ahead of you. By Frankie Joiris

## Cover

### 10 Power Paws Skills:

#### Lead-out Pivots

No matter what handling system you use lead-out pivots should be taught for a variety of a lead-out scenarios. The teaching of the LOP focuses on some important skills all dogs should understand. The foundation exercises are presented here as well as some advanced LOPs for you to perfect. By Nancy Gyes

### 18 Eating to Win

At trials, do you lose focus and energy as the day goes on? It could be that high sugar and carbs are literally stealing your energy. A competitor and judge shares her experiences about the effect of her food choices. By Alison Bryant

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By Linda Aloï
- 32 Awesome Paws Drills**  
Many handlers ask, "which way is faster, the inside or outside path?" The only way to find out is to time you and your dog running the sequence. This is a simple setup for you to use to time different handling strategies.  
By Linda Mecklenburg
- 45 Class Challenges for Rising Stars: Snooker Roulette**  
One particular skill a handler playing Snooker needs is to be able to adjust to changes in what she planned because of what is happening on course. Here's a game to help you learn that skill. By Stuart Mah
- 48 Competing in Different Championship Events**  
Unlike 20 years ago, there are many venues to choose from when trying to qualify for a national championship event. Whether your focus is distance and speed, or you like more technical courses and the different games, there is a big event for everyone! By Amber Abbott

- 55 Can You Handle It**  
Here's an analysis of the winning runs in Small Individual Agility 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
- 59 Ultimate Instructors: Lesson Planning & Foundation, Part 1**  
To be effective, a lesson plan does not have to be an exhaustive document that describes every possible classroom scenario. Instead it should provide the instructor with a general outline of teaching goals, learning objectives, and the means to accomplish them. By Lauren Langman

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The iliopsoas has a dynamic role in movement. Canine athletes and working dogs that accelerate quickly (like sprinters), jump, brake abruptly, make tight turns, or twist in the air are prone to iliopsoas strains and injuries. By Dr. Julie Mayer

### 62 Out Spot Out! Teaching Independent Obstacle Performance, Part 1

Independent obstacle performance is the ability of the dog to complete an obstacle and maintain criteria regardless of your motion and position relative to the obstacle. It is an essential skill for all facets of agility, but is particularly important for distance work. Tunnels are a good place to start. By Lorrie Reynolds

## Cover Dog

MACH 3 Whytestar Million Dollar Baby, MX, MXJ, OF, T2B2, a.k.a. Hillary, a 7-year-old Yorkshire Terrier owned by Susan Poirier of Rhode Island. Photo by Lesley Mattuchio, [www.pbase.com/lesleylou](http://www.pbase.com/lesleylou).

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