

Clean Run®

THE MAGAZINE FOR DOG AGILITY ENTHUSIASTS

NOVEMBER 14 VOLUME 20 NUMBER 11

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When Play Isn't

Play as a prerequisite for agility training might be one of the few things that most trainers agree on. Play in agility training has a practical purpose, but all that practicality and seriousness can really spoil play for the dog.

By Sandy Rogers



Raising Your Pup 2 Perfection: Troubleshooting Play

After working on your play skills, you've found some holes in your training or something isn't going as you would like. Here's help for troubleshooting some common play problems.

By Lauren Langman



Stress: the Good, the Bad & the Ugly

The term stress has a negative connotation in normal usage. We tend to think of it as a bad thing to be avoided at all costs, but that's not always the case. Let's look at the science behind stress. By Denise Fenzi and Deborah Jones, Ph.D.

Features

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Animosity Toward Border Collies

Border Collies are, as a general rule, flashy, fast, and abundant at agility events. Plus, they win a lot. But some BC owners say that owning the breed means facing animosity from some owners of other breeds. By Brenna Fender

21 The 10-Minute Trainer

This month's exercises are designed to improve your dog's comfort with spread jumps as well as your comfort in handling spreads using different cue combinations. By Daisy Peel

28 Power Paws Drills: Weave Discrimination with Tunnels and Jumps, Part 2

Weave discrimination has more variability than other obstacle discrimination challenges. You can have an obstacle discrimination challenge on the entry, a proximity challenge while the dog is weaving, and yet another challenge at the exit. By Nancy Gyes

50 Training with the Stars: Dave Grubel

Experience has made Dave more and more comfortable running dogs at the international level. And, he thinks the fact that he is not a professional works in his favor. By Sally Silverman

63 Secrets to Perfect Timing: Summing It Up

Great timing is not a magical concept understood by only a select few gifted handlers. It can be learned by anyone if you pay attention to identifying *why* you are late. By Kathy Keats

65 Got Game? Pole Jacks

Pole Jacks is a game of strategy, comparable to Snooker, and creates an atmosphere for intensive work on the weave poles. The game requires consistent performance and pits the dog against the poles with a variety of entries and velocity of approach. By Bud Houston

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By Brenna Fender

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By Christie Bowers



We apologize to Arlene and "Blitz" for identifying the dog as "Bitz" in the October cover credit. It should have read: CH UCH MACH17 VersNATCH CATCH Burmack's HVN Hi V Bobi CD, RN, MXC4, MJ55, FTC1, MFB2, TQX, T2B, AGII a.k.a. Blitz, a Toy Manchester Terrier owned by Arlene Spooner of New Jersey. Photo by M. Nicole Fischer Photography.

Cover

18 Playing Without Tugging

Play is critically important when trying to engage, motivate, and reward our dogs. While tugging may be one of the easiest ways to play with dogs, there are many other options. By Amanda Shyne

34 The OneMind Dogs Methodology: Keys to Success

Whether you aim to complete a championship title, win a local competition, or become a World Champion, certain key factors can help you succeed and reach your goal. By Janita Leinonen and Jaakko Suoknuuti

41 As the World Turns: Backsides, Part 1

Backsides are used in situations where the handler and dog are approaching a jump from the landing side and the dog needs to be sent around the jump to the takeoff side, while the handler remains on the landing side. By Mary Ellen Barry



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59 Alternatives to Traditional Spay and Neuter

You want to spay or neuter your performance dog, but you're worried because the traditional surgeries available eliminate hormones that may help keep your dog sound and extend his life. Should you be looking at alternative procedures? By Sherri Russell DVM, CVA

Cover Dog

E-Z Does It LAA/ADCH Platinum, a.k.a. E-Z, a 10-year-old Border Collie owned by Mary Ellen Barry of Pennsylvania. Photo by Lynne Brubaker Photography, Inc., <http://www.brubakerphoto.com>.

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