

Clean Run®

THE MAGAZINE FOR DOG AGILITY ENTHUSIASTS

MARCH 15 VOLUME 21 NUMBER 03

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Being an Innovative Dog Trainer: Reinforcement Strategy, Formula 2

If you want to supercharge your dog's behaviours and get more speed and motivation, the key is reinforcement strategy. There are six components of reinforcement. We'll talk about transitions, reinforcers, and rate of reinforcement this month. By Tom Mitchell



The 6 Reasons Handling Errors Happen

Errors on course are inevitable; after all, this is an unforgiving sport at times! Success comes when you can identify exactly what you did on course and what you should have done to avoid the error. By Rachel Sanders



Teaching the Seesaw the DogLogical Way, Part 3: Troubleshooting and Overcoming Fears

No matter how meticulous your training, you will inevitably encounter challenges along the way. Included here are some of the most common questions that arise as well as suggestions for overcoming fears. By Lynne Stephens

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A Magic Pill for Dog Training?

What if it's not the finding of the magic pill that is the problem, but the temptation and journey to seek the magic pill that is actually the root of the trouble? By Stacy Winkler

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To train great distance skills, you first need to build a great foundation which includes the Choose Me game, directional, sit-stays, acceleration and deceleration, and more. By Helen Grinnell King

30 K9 Conditioning: A Proper Warm-Up

When muscles and joints are warm, it increases efficiency of movement and reduces the chance of injury. A proper warm-up will also increase mental focus and enhance your dog's overall performance. By Bobbie Lyons, Cert CF

44 Class Plans from Happy Dog Ranch

One of the challenges instructors face each week is designing exercises and courses that require little moving of equipment between groups and challenge all the students in the class while not making it so difficult that they cannot be successful. By Kristy Netzer

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This month you will work on teaching independent entries and reliability, which includes adding handler motion and changing handling locations while the dog is weaving. By Ann Croft

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A full-time student, Tori manages to find time to train her own dogs as well as teach others. She believes one of her strengths as a teacher is understanding the struggle that one can have with motivating a dog and getting the dog to love the sport. By Sally Silverman

62 Keep It Simple for Success

Are we making agility unnecessarily complicated? Does success on course really lie within increasingly complicated cue combinations? Let's look at simple and straightforward handling solutions for a complicated course. By Daisy Peel

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The Lotus Ball is a treat-dispensing toy that has many uses for agility training, including building your dog's motivation, drive, obstacle focus, and distance skills. Learn how to make the most of this useful tool. By Sherry Kluever

17 As the World Turns: Backside Tunnels

There are times on course when a dog needs to turn away from the direction of the curved tunnel so that he is headed to the "backside" of the tunnel when he exits. Learn how to teach this valuable skill to your dog. By Mary Ellen Barry

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You can have a reliable and enthusiastic retrieve even if your dog does not regularly play with toys. Retrieving is one of the most valuable training tools used in teaching agility. By Nancy Gyes



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Here's a simple method for training a stand-stay that you can do in your living room every night while you are watching TV. There aren't a lot of rules to remember and it's forgiving if your timing isn't perfect. By Carla Simon

Cover Dog

San's Branco's Best Bet GCH, CD, BN, RE, NAJ, NA, a.k.a. Breeze, a 5-year-old Belgian Sheepdog owned by Alissa Levine of Kentucky. Photo by www.rickknechtphotography.com

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