Clean Run

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On Course with Ani'k a Dušánková Ani'k a is just seven years old and already an accomplished agility competitor with an impressive measure of

already an accomplished agility competitor with an impressive measure of determination and self-confidence. The Czech native has been at it for more than half of her life, since before she was four years old. By Sally Silverman



Underfoot, Part 4: Our Second Look at Artificial Turf

Artificial turf comes in many different forms; some with infill and some without, different types of backing, varying degrees of drainage effectiveness, different blade height, etc.

By Brenna Fender



Biceps Injury in Agility Dogs

Problems affecting the biceps tendon are a frequent cause of forelimb lameness. Biceps tendinopathy is often seen in agility dogs and working dogs due to the repetitive nature of their sport or work. By Lauri-Jo Gamble DVM, David Dycus DVM

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Retiring an older dog when they are still running successfully and competitively can be a difficult decision, but retirement for your agility companion can be as golden for you as for them.

By Erin J. Knotek

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This setup fits in a 50' x 50' area and has some easy as well as very challenging weave entries to practice. Plus learn about Nancy's new weave pole rule for her students. By Nancy Gyes

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These are many challenges in agility we all must pull together to solve, not break apart and choose sides—even if someone on the other side got their dog from a breeder you think is creepy or used a reverse spin at the purple jump. Lift up the red, white, and blue curtain and take a look at what's behind. By Laura Hartwick

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Here are instructions for building the miniature dogwalk featured in the *Puppy Culture* and *Puppy Party* DVDs, which is a perfect addition to your puppy play equipment. By Jane Killion

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Good Contacts Gone Bad

The very nature of competing can, and will, erode many behaviors, not just contacts. There are ways to minimize the deterioration of a stopped contact performance and there are ways to accelerate it. By Sandy Rogers

22 Puppy Skills for Total Team Performance: Building Focus

A few simple tweaks to your training patterns can create more focus rather than less, and setting up a puppy for success in all endeavors will build speed and drive faster than any amount of just "encouraging speed" ever will. By Frankie Joiris and Chris Ott

24 Sense of Self: Mental Game, Part 1—Failure

Because mental game doesn't apply merely to sport, but rather all aspects of life, establishing and growing a solid mental game is actually vital to *living*, much less competing. Facing failure is a reality for all of us. So how do we actually deal with failure? How *should* we deal with failure? Is there a speciÿc way that is correct? By Tori Self



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The Twist is similar to running on the dog's line but is recommended when the dog is turning around the wing more than 45° because the handler's movement naturally cues the dog to change leads. By Mary Ellen Barry

Cover Dog

MACH2 Kips Valentine BN, CD, TD, VCD1, MXG, MJS, MXF, TQX, T2B, GCA, CATCH1 a.k.a. Kip, a 3-year-old Nederlandse Kooikerhondje rescue handled by Alison Studer of Ohio. Photo by Cathi Winkles Photography

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