

# Clean Run®

THE MAGAZINE FOR DOG AGILITY ENTHUSIASTS

MARCH 17 VOLUME 23 NUMBER 03

PHOTOS © GENE ABRAHAMSON, DENISE TITZER, KEN GEE PHOTOGRAPHY



## The Evolution of Agility from the Judge's Perspective

From simple, figure-eight layouts to complex courses; agility has changed a great deal in its 40 or so year history. Some judges who have been in the game since early on share their thoughts on how agility has evolved. By Sally Silverman



## Is There Really a Difference? My Story of Going from Training a Border Collie to a Chihuahua

Instead of being limited by the differences of a nontraditional agility breed, re-focus your training to improve the areas that your dog is in need of to become a great agility dog. By Kama Rueschenberg



## Working With Shiba Inus in Agility

With a personality that cannot be forced into action, it may take more effort and creativity to engage them, but the long-term results of training with a Shiba are a loyal partnership that is consistent, with much potential for personal growth as well as success in agility. By Malley Bragg Heinlein

## Features

### 5 Point to Point: Show Me the Money

Crowdfunding requests from the agility community seem to fly onto our computers at Mach speed. But is the anonymity of crowdfunding creating inappropriate requests? By Cindy Deak

### 22 Stimulus Control Without Frustration, Part 2

By taking a more thoughtful, in-depth approach to teaching what training cues actually mean, and rethinking how we teach for stimulus control right from the beginning, we can achieve great stimulus control. By Sarah Owings, KPA, CTP

### 29 Training Freedom: Here I Go Again!

There are so many things to think about with a new pup. This month we'll discuss training during walks, creating fast responses during shaping, and working on foundation cues, including send aways. By Jo Sermon

### 49 3 Secrets of Connecting With Your Dog, Part 2: Don't Run the Course, Feel It!

You know you need to do a better job of "connecting with your dog," but you aren't sure exactly what that means and how to do it. Let's look at the second of three key ingredients for connection that will improve your teamwork, and your results. By Kathy Keats

### 57 Team Small Dog Agility Humility: How to Attend a National Event

When you talk about the Nationals around agility folk, they're pronounced with a capital N. When you put the word National in front of other words, they fluff up like Jiffy Pop, bursting with fancy. By Laura Hartwick

### 60 Power Paws Trials and Tribulations of a Novice Dog

More trials and less tribulations this month as Mojo performs his running contacts for the first time in competition. By Nancy Gyes

### 63 The Construction Zone: Pool Noodle Tunnel Stabilizer

This inexpensive solution works well for stabilizing a tunnel outdoors or in a dirt arena. By Sheryl Hohle

## Columns

### 6 Tip of the Month By John Reid

### 7 For Your Information... By Brenna Fender

### 8 My Favorite Jumping Exercise By Amanda Nelson

### 19 What's My Line? By Ann Croft

### 35 Small World By Judy Reilly

### 28 Beware the Ides of March By David Bozak

### 54 The Judge's Debriefing By Bill Pinder

### 65 Backyard Dogs By Mia Grant

## Cover

### 13 As the World Turns: Jumping on a Slice

The slice is one of the most misunderstood jumping efforts in agility. It is misunderstood by competitors, judges, and instructors alike. Handling does not change the dog's landing point unless the handler changes the dog's takeoff point by shaping the approach. By Mary Ellen Barry

### 37 Good Footwork and Why It Matters

If your dog's strides on course are cleanly and smoothly executed, it means he is moving in balance. Not only will a well-balanced dog cover the course efficiently and jump well, he has far less risk of injury. By Susan Salo



### 51 Nail Care and Dewclaws for the Agility Dog

Studies suggest that the toes are among the three most common sites for injuries in agility dogs. Proper care of the nails and dewclaws reduces the risk for sport-related injury, and can help improve performance. By Brittany Jean Carr, DVM and Chris Zink, DVM

### 46 Practically Training: I'm Afraid That...

Dogs have to be taught. So embrace your role as your dog's teacher. You no longer have to hope to someday be a better dog trainer. Being a good teacher to your dog will get the job done well and soon. By Sandy Rogers

## Cover Dog

Magick Man McMorris CL2-R, CL3-H, CL3-S, CL3-F, TD, a.k.a. Magick, a 10-year-old Shih Tzu owned by Joyce McMorris of Maine. Photo by Barry Rosen, [www.barryrosen.com](http://www.barryrosen.com)

Clean Run (ISSN 1089-8506) is published monthly by Clean Run Productions, LLC. Principal office: 17 Industrial Dr., South Hadley, MA 01075. Periodicals postage paid at South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075-9902 and additional offices. © Copyright 1995-2017 Bud Houston and Clean Run Productions, LLC. All world rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. **POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Clean Run, 17 Industrial Dr., South Hadley, MA 01075.**