

Clean Run®

THE MAGAZINE FOR DOG AGILITY ENTHUSIASTS

MAY 17 VOLUME 23 NUMBER 05

PHOTOS © VICTOR STEEL PHOTOGRAPHY, INC., SANDY ROGERS, BELLA WEISS



Distance Handling in Action

It's time to take the distance skills you have been working on and apply them on course. This month we look at distance handling opportunities on an AKC Master/Excellent Jumpers with Weave course. By Kristy Netzer



Practically Training: One Jump Two Jump Revisited

When your dog doesn't understand something you thought he knew well, do you know what drills to revisit in order to straighten him out? By Sandy Rogers



Agility on Wheels

Agility is full of challenges, but imagine handling without full use of your limbs. Despite the training challenges, a number of agility handlers around the globe are making agility on wheels a reality. By Sally Silverman

Features

- 5 Editorializing: Less Competitive**
Does a taller A-frame, higher jumps, and spread jumps really make a class more competitive? Why is USDAA Performance thought of as a "step down" from Championship? By Lori Westling
- 11 Power Paws Drills: Novice and Beyond**
This setup was used in a seminar for novice to excellent level teams and features tunnel traps in close proximity to a jump line as well as call-offs and challenges you're likely to face in a typical AKC weekend of competition. By Nancy Gyes
- 16 As the World Turns: Reality Lines vs. Fantasy Lines**
Many handlers believe that the dog is capable of unrealistic, "fantasy" lines. When analyzing a course, it is important to understand the dog's "reality line" so that you can properly determine your position on course. By Mary Ellen Barry
- 34 Team Small Dog Agility Humility: Dog Agility Spring Makeover Recipe**
Spring is here! Or at least it's on its way. We're finally emerging from the winter doldrums. Here are seven useful tips for your dog agility spring makeover. By Laura Hartwick
- 37 Training Freedom: Here We Go Again**
This month we look at Shade's training progress between the ages of four and five months. Training for new skills such as learning not to grab at treats and settling on a mat begins. By Jo Sermon
- 58 The Construction Zone: PVC Gate Easel**
Here's an easy-to-build piece of equipment to help you keep your trial organized. By Sandy Cody

- 62 What's Old Is New**
Cycles happen in agility. We've switched the "correct" arm to cue a turn umpteen times, decided standing straight was the right way to handle a turn, then crouching was better, then standing. Handling and training styles go in and out of fashion. By Kathy Keats
- 64 Training Center Spotlight: Countryside Agility**
With 50-60 classes per week, six instructors, and more than 30 trials in the facility each year, Countryside Agility is a thriving business. Owner Denise Thomas offers some insights on the business of running a large and successful agility training center. By Brenna Fender

Columns

- 4 Themes Like a Good Idea** By David Bozak
- 6 Tip of the Month**
By Deborah Davidson Harpur
- 7 For Your Information...** By Brenna Fender
- 25 Backyard Dogs** By Mia Grant
- 32 Courses for a Small World** By Judy Reilly
- 45 My Favorite Jumping Exercise**
By Scott Lovelis
- 56 What's My Line?** By Ann Croft
- 60 The Judge's Debriefing** By Rob Bardenett

Cover

8 Good Footwork and How to Teach It, Part 2: Advanced Ladder Grid

Much of jumping success for a dog comes from good, balanced footwork on an agility course. You can use ladder grids to instill good footwork in your dog. This month we'll discuss the advanced ladder grid or advanced plyometric exercise. By Susan Salo

20 Collar Cues: A Positive Reinforcement Tool You Can Use, Part 1

Using a leash for the actual training of behavior is a rarity in positive reinforcement. Why not make use of the leash connection with our dogs, take the leash a step beyond a management instrument, and make it a positive training tool? By Michele Pouliot



27 Agility Inch by Inch

There is one skill required for agility performance that seems to be one of the least understood and trained skills: getting your dog accustomed to being measured for competition. By Lisa Potts

53 Training Verbals for Distance Work, Part 1: Reward Principles and Practice for Effective Training

Training verbal cues to fluency is a critical part of successful distance handling. This month we'll discuss concepts that are important to understand if you want your cue training to progress as efficiently as possible. By Stacy Winkler

Cover Dog

Topline River!Run StarBright Right as Rain MX MXS MXJ MJS XF T2B2 CA CGC, a.k.a. Rainy, a 4-year-old Belgian Tervuren owned by Nancy Brissette of Michigan. Photo by Cathi Winkles Photography.

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.**