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On the Cover

21 How to Rescue Your Next Great Agility Dog, Part 1

Shelters and rescues are a great resource for intelligent, high-energy dogs looking for jobs. But how will you know which is the right dog? Here's some advice for how you can stack the odds in your favor when selecting a rescue for your next agility partner. By Lisa Lanser Rose

24 Channelling Drive and Building Duration

To be successful in agility, you need a dog that is motivated to do the job you ask and work with relish and enthusiasm. But what do we do when we get drive, or if we have a dog that has drive in abundance, or even in excess? By Kamal Fernandez

30 Practically Training, The Not-So-Simple Tunnel

Tunnels may be the easiest obstacle to train, but don't underestimate tunnel handling. Learning how to direct your dog in and around tunnels is more important than ever, as clever course designers create tricky tunnel challenges. By Sandy Rogers

46 Osteoarthritis in the Canine Athlete: Prevention & At-Home Care

Aside from proper diet, exercise, and weight management, there are numerous other ways a performance dog owner can help to prevent, minimize, manage, or treat OA in their canine athlete at home. By Drs. Sherman Canapp, Nicole Chun, and Debra Canapp

Features

4 Tip of the Month – A hint for staking down canopy tents at outdoor trials. By Monica Bush

5 Editorializing: Rescue Me – Are you thinking of rescuing your next agility dog? By Brenna Fender

6 Beginning Sequencing with the Tunnels – Once your training on individual obstacles is done, it's time to start sequencing! Here we'll discuss introducing tunnels in sequences as well as provide many sequences to try on your own. By Jo Sermon

13 Easing the Trials & Tribulations of the Novice A Handler –

Novice A is a tough class to be in. Everything is new and a little chaotic. Be a friendly face at a trial, a guiding hand, and an information source. Don't forget that there was a first agility trial for you. By Marilyn Pinard

17 Let's Talk About... Giving Up or Giving a Gift? By Lori Westling

18 The 25% Solution: Sequences for Small Spaces – This month's exercises fit in a 40ft. x 60ft. area and focus on working serpentines as well as table performance. By John Reid

20 Mental Management Minute: Taking the Lead – You and your dog are a team, and with any team, there needs to be someone in charge. That someone is you. When you take the lead, it takes the pressure off your dog. By Angela Jackson, Lifecoach

27 Backyard Dogs – These exercises include tunnel/table discriminations and other challenges where a choice is required. You'll need to find the best lines for your dog. By Dudley Shumate

35 Power Paws Drills: Push and Weave – Get in some work on pushing to the back of jumps before or after the weaves. There are so many ways to handle the jump before or after, try them all! By Nancy Gyes

38 Face the Fear! How to Address a Dog's Fear, Anxiety, and Stress in the Ring, Part 2 – Fear, anxiety, and stress manifest in different ways on an agility course. Some dogs zoom around; some resort to sniffing and shutting down; some dogs bark and lunge at whatever triggers them. Learn how to reduce your dog's stress so that he is happy doing agility. By Bobbie Bhambree

43 Team Small Dog Agility Humility: Winter Fix-it – In agility, a source of finding a fix-it is the seminar. A new lift to the saggy bits, a bolder way to wave an arm, kind of like the promise of ordering a custom-made leash with your dog's name embroidered on the collar. Hope stems from the new and shiny. By Laura Hartwick

Cover Dog

Jackson OA, OAJ, NF, TKN, NW2, NW1, L1C, L1E, L1I, L1V, a rescued 6-year-old mix breed owned by Kerri Nakamura of Nevada. Photo by GoDogPhoto.com