

Clean Run®

THE MAGAZINE FOR DOG AGILITY ENTHUSIASTS

APRIL 18 VOLUME 24 NUMBER 04



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Training Freedom: Here I Go Again!
This month all three dogs continue their work on sendaways and recalls over jumps, contact behaviors, and running on a dogwalk plank. Plus Jo and Shady go back to toy-control basics to tidy up some sloppy training. By Jo Sermon



Pressure, Part 2: Removing Pressures on You, the Handler
When we get rid of unneeded pressures in training for both us and our dogs, we can build confidence in our skills, and where confidence lives, pressure has a hard time surviving. By Tammy Moody



Starting Off Right: Rear-Foot Targeting
The rear-foot targeting skill can be used to train performance-related skills that require the dog to shift his weight to his rear legs, including two-on/two-off contacts. By Bobbie Lyons, CCFT, KPA CPT, Cert CF

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- 5 Editorializing: How Much Do We Risk?**
I have made about every mistake in the book in dog agility and I now make my living helping competitors to undo the messes we create when we enter a dog that is inadequately trained, prepared, or supported. By Sarah Stremming
- 20 Team Small Dog Agility Humility: Savvy Finances for the Fiscally Frisky Agility Handler**
This useful agility financial planning worksheet is only about dogs! Use some basic math to calculate your monthly dog costs which should help you with agility-based investment strategies. By Laura Hartwick
- 24 Managing Your Training Time, Part 3: Preparing for Your Next Big Event**
So you are motivated to train and get better. You've been inspired by your instructor, recent big events, or simply those soulful canine eyes saying "let's do this!" Where do you start? How do you know what to focus on? How do you balance training and getting better with your canine partner's fitness and well-being? By Melanie Miller
- 35 Power Paws Drills: Focus on Weaves**
The weave entries in this setup are not that difficult, but some of entries (as well as the exits), require you to keep your dog's focus on you as you find your path to the next obstacle. By Nancy Gyes
- 56 Plan of Action**
For this month's drills we reward the dog for coming to us after a tunnel and then redirecting to a jump. By Mia Grant

- 60 The 25% Solution for Fine Tuning Teamwork**
This month's drills, which fit in a 60 x 40 foot area, focus on challenging exits from obstacles and 270s. By John Reid
- 63 Training Through the Seasons**
Year-round exercise is important for the canine athlete. Most of us enjoy conditioning our dogs in the beautiful weather, but have more difficulty when harsher conditions hit. Here are some ideas to make it easy to continue your conditioning program indoors. By Drs. Nicole Chun and M. Chris Zink DVM, PhD

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Hoops are a great tool for teaching foundation handling skills. But they also have a huge advantage for more experienced teams because they allow you to focus on handling your dog at speed; your timing has to be spot on. By Robin Barber
- 28 Practically Training: Pull Cue**
The pull is one of the "big three" turn cues along with the front cross and rear cross. Never underestimate the power of a strong pull command. It is worth the work to have it. By Sandy Rogers
- 41 Distance Jump Training for Any Dog, Part 4**
Absolutely any dog can be taught to work at away from their handler! It doesn't matter how focused they are on you or how much they stare at you over every obstacle. You can overcome that with clear, methodical well-rewarded behaviors. By Stacy Winkler



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- 50 Isolating Different Types of Jumps in Training**
Different types of jumps (such as the double and tire) require different physical performances from our dog. To maximize his success and preserve his confidence, we need to isolate each type of jump in a controlled environment, without handling pressure. By Susan Salo

Cover Dog

Ebb Tide's Rooting for Romeo RE, AXP, OFP, XFP, CGC, WRD, DD1, a.k.a. Romeo, a 5-year-old Newfoundland owned by Shannon Bozeat of New York. Photo by Karen Hocker Photography

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