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Plan of Action

Mia and Rich start final preparations for the 2018 AKC National Agility Championship by revisiting the "little black dress of agility," double box work. It's a classic and appropriate for all occasions. By Mia Grant



Tick-Borne Diseases in Agility Dogs

If your dog has a waxing and waning history of a single-limb lameness that is not responsive to rest and anti-inflammatory medication, tick-borne illness should be considered. By Matt Brunke, DVM and Nicole Chun, DVM



Training Freedom: Here I Go Again!

It's time to incorporate the dogwalk into speed circles, offset the jumps in sendaways, add more lateral distance to one-jump work, and continue work on turns, contacts, and socialization. By Jo Sermon

Cover

6 The Seven Sins, Part 1

The seven "sins" are the causes of many agility problems, regardless of which handling method a team is using. They are little things we do in training and competition that hold us back from progressing. By Simone "Tig" Stephenson

10 Power Paws Drills: Do You Need Verbal Direction Cues in Agility?

Motion cues often speak louder than words, but when paired with a verbal you get the best of both worlds. Let's look at the verbal direction cues you may want to consider adding to your toolbox. By Nancy Gyes



20 Conversations with Novice A Handlers

It's not these handler's goals that define them or their dogs, but the love they have for their dog and the game. Novice A handlers are a wonderful reminder of why most of us started agility in the first place. By Tammy Moody

47 Practically Training: Lateral Motion

The lateral motion cue is used when you need to turn the dog sharply and keep him on the same side while you go in a new direction quickly to get somewhere else in a hurry. In this situation every step counts and even the first step needs to take you toward the next on-course obstacle. By Sandy Rogers

Cover Dog

Magic Suiter, SS, SSA, CL3-S, CL3-F, CL3-R, CL3-H, TKN, TKI, TKA, a.k.a. Magic, a 3-year-old Whippet owned and handled by Paulette Suiter of California. Photo by Photography by M.

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5 Editorializing: On the Cusp of a MACH

Pressure comes in many forms, internal and external. It whispers in your ear and lays mental traps. It tries to suck the joy out of the moment. The pressure starts early and reaches a crescendo when a championship is within reach. By Holly K. Krueger

15 Team Small Dog Agility Humility: Are You an Agility Curmudgeon?

Are you a sour old agility curmudgeon yet? Take this quiz to find out! By Laura Hartwick

18 25% Solution for Fine Tuning Teamwork

This month's drills, which fit in a 60 x 40 foot area, focus on backsides and managing obstacle discriminations at speed. By John Reid

25 Distance Jump Training for Any Dog, Part 6

Absolutely any dog can be taught to work 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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