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Training Verbals for Distance Work, Part 2: Connection Verbals

We begin our verbal cue training with "connection verbals" which include your dog's name, a simple but often neglected part of training, as well as "Side" and "Close," cues for recalling the dog to your right and left side. By Stacy Winkler



Practically Training: Jump Around the Clock

Does your dog know JAC? These drills solidify the oh-so-key lesson of "which way do I turn, Momma?" Use JAC as a foundation training drill, a maintenance skill drill, at every practice jump before every run, and to fix communication problems. By Sandy Rogers



Collar Cues: A Positive Reinforcement Tool You Can Use, Part 2

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

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5 Editorializing: Defining Success

It's possible to have an "ugly" run and still qualify, and it's also possible to have a smooth, fluid, well-executed run and have a bar drop. Which run is the success? By Holly Krueger

20 Training Freedom: Here We Go Again!

Let's look at skills that need to be in place before starting an agility training class as well as at associations and conditioning. By Jo Sermon

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This month's drills are based on two particularly interesting courses from the 2017 AKC National Championship. By Nancy Gyes

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Tired of using duct tape to attach a reward plate or bowl at the exit end of your teeter? Make this easy to construct training aid. By Stephen McKay, CPDT-KSA

28 Sense of Self: US vs. UK Agility

Agility in the United States and the United Kingdom has some major differences, some positive and some negative. Looking at the pros of the UK agility scene can challenge us to think about some of the norms we have in US agility. By Tori Self

40 Simple Is Beautiful

Simple isn't easy. Simple isn't lazy. Simple isn't inferior. Simple is about cutting away the fat and finding the essence. So how does simplicity help you in agility? By Kathy Keats

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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

53 The Last of the Mohicans Game

This simple game can be used in class or at club events to demonstrate to more novice handlers what constitutes and causes refusals and runouts, and to remind advanced handlers the importance of staying in motion and keeping out of the dog's way. By Jeff Boyer

58 Team Small Dog Agility Humility: Nobody's Fault But Mine, Training the Led Zeppelin Way

Are you over motivational quotes from famous football coaches sprawled across dramatically lit landscape panoramas? Let's look for dog training inspiration nuggets from a less picked over source like Led Zeppelin. By Laura Hartwick

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Use this PVC pipe square to teach rear-end awareness, collection using the rear end rather than the front, impulse control, and a four-on contact behavior. By Jeannie Biggers

31 Good Footwork and How to Teach It, Part 3: S 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 S grid. By Susan Salo



50 But My Dog Knows That!

Using a simple 80% test gives you valuable information about what your dog really does know. It helps you determine if a new behavior you are training is progressing, and if a behavior you have previously trained is no longer up to your standards. By Elaine Coupé

61 Release Cues: The Ultimate Foundation Skill

Key foundation skills for sport dogs typically include things like offering behavior, targeting, self-control, body awareness, handler focus, etc. But the foundation skill of all foundation skills is actually a fluent understanding of release cues. By Sarah Owings, KPA CTP

Cover Dog

Pochi, Silver ADCH, Platinum PDCH, LAA Platinum, USDA Top Ten 2011-2015, a 12-year-old All-American owned by Mich Powers of New Hampshire. Photo by Karen Hocker Photography.

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