Hello again!! I hope you all enjoyed the last VAN as much as I enjoyed finishing it! I did forget to thank a few people who had a part in putting it all together, so I hope I get it right here.

Pamela Gelme for not sending me a rocket for nicking her hard work off the VICAGILITY site. It’s a great website and she puts a lot of hard slog into it. Amanda Robinson for knocking up the Southern Trial results in a very short time, big effort!

Sally Robinson for taking all the great photo’s and putting them on disc and explaining to this dope how to look at them and put them in the VAN. I must say though that there were a lot of pictures of a dodgy looking Labrador and some ‘largish’ bloke working a fine looking Border collie.

And, finally someone close to me who fixed up the editorial and proof read the whole thing before I made a complete fool of myself…..Thanks Jan.

OK, on a trialling note let’s talk about stewarding for a moment. Everyone who knows me will know that I’ve done a bit of work as a steward in the past couple of years. I’ve learned a lot in that time, first of all, never volunteer! Seriously though, it is my humble opinion that ALL triallers should, at some time, work as stewards at at least three or four trials. There are two good reasons for this opinion, the first being that if you come from a club that holds an Agility Trial you should be offering to serve as a steward in that, your own, trial! All Trial Secretaries are looking for as many Volunteers as possible to do all sorts of interesting work, vetting is a personal favourite, but if you trial you should be working in the ring.

Secondly, there is not many better lessons to be taught than that of “Close Personal Observation”. If you can sit or stand for a whole trial as a Time Keeper, Scribe or Ring Steward watching 20 to 80 people running a course without having to worry about how your going to run it and not learn something, then you just aren’t watching what’s going on!

Novice handlers can especially learn a lot by stewarding, if only about ring “etiquette”. For example, being ready when your number is called, where to start, how far back you should be from the start line (see Micheal Cowmans article in the last VAN), the importance of the Judges briefing and what you can and can’t bring into the ring. The importance of why everyone wants to know if you are in another ring and what helps a trial run smoothly. It doesn’t just happen!

All right, off my high horse. READ ON!!

Geoff

Congratulations!

NEW TITLES TO…..

Dawn Howard with TCh Vonharley Quadrille - CDX ADX JD ET ‘A” “Z’ BsCI 11 BA (Hons) - GSD
Dawn Howard with TCh Vonharley Quadrielle – CDX ADX JDX ET “A” “Z” BsCI 11 - GSD
Karoline De Graauw with Zac D - JD ADX - Assoc Kelpie
Geraldine Kisielnicki & Gateacre Choc Twirl - JDX AD BC
Kim Davidson & Bengal Ben - CDX AD JDX - Assoc ??
Emily Bisset & Silvanwood Commanche – AD - Aust Shepherd
Peter Baker & Tillson Master Key - CDX ADX JD - Aust Shepherd
Belinda Tebbet & Mawson Tebbet - AD JDX - Assoc Heeler
Bron McLean & Bangeerri Edwina - ADX JDX HIT – Australian Cattle Dog
C. Oertel & Heathclough Hellfire - CDX JDX - Cocker Spaniel
Meg Watson & Eramoo Dazzling Dion - ADX JD ET - Rottweiller
J. Napier with Kilwarrin Whiteglovfair JDX AD – Shetland Sheepdog
Bordarita Kennels with Ch Bordarita In Ya Dreams ADM JDM – Border Collie

A Big “WOO WOO” to you all!!

Ed Note: If your name’s not here, we don’t know about your new title. Please, please let us know.

Rumour has it that this photo has led to much discussion in the “Rules Department” about some dogs having an unfair “lift” or “flapping” advantage.
Croydon & Dist. Obedience Dog Club Trial
Results. Sat 10th Sept. 2005

AM TRIAL

Novice Agility – Stephen Pearson - SCT 55 sec
1st Miss J Elliott & Mr GP O’Tool & Jansilk Raminea 45.54 Q
2nd Sherran Howlett & Anaurac Kiss And Tell 35.19 NQ
3rd B McLean & Jindawan Snow Red Poppy HIT JD 49.93 NQ

Open Agility – Stephen Pearson - SCT 59 sec
1st KJ Macmillan & Tosca CD ADM JDM 44.40 Q
2nd Bordarita Kennels & Bordarita Are Ya Willing ADM ET JDM 46.50 Q
3rd Mrs MP Jewell & Sox Dog ADX JDX 48.13 Q
4th Mrs RE Davis & Bessie Davis ADM CD ET HIT JDM 54.63 Q

Open Jumping – James Browne - SCT 50sec
1st Dr RF Atyeo & Winpara Fast N Thfurious FDCh AD JD 34.99 Q
2nd K willis & Mickey ADX JD 48.38 Q
3rd Deb Harvey & Galwarri Red Rose ADM CD ET JDM 34.2 Q

Novice Jumping – James Browne - SCT 43sec
1st John Pallôt & Kiltimagh Rains Reprint CD 42.38 NQ
2nd Mrs G Baker & Brittanique Peach Chance 50.46 NQ
3rd Mrs G Baker & Rosndae Noisette 48.96 NQ

Masters Agility – Adrian Tilley - SCT 63 sec
1st Ray George & Cwind Be Kool JDM AD ET 31.85 Q
2nd KJ Macmillan & Tosca CD ADM JDM 32.00 Q
3rd Jodie Norris & Mollie Norris ADX JDX 32.59 Q
4th Mrs CA Wong & Timmar Bck Thunder CD ADX JDX 32.81 Q

Masters Jumping – Adrian Tilley - SCT 55 sec
1st Bel Adele Kennels & Aust Ch Bel Adele Nice ‘n’ Naughty CD ADM JDM ET 51.65 Q
2nd Angie Gunther & Jess Gu nfa ADM ADM JDM ET 53.88 Q
3rd KJ Macmillan & Tosca CD ADM JDM 56.32 Q
4th Mrs W Hansen & Millnazz Racy Dancer ADM ADX 57.44 Q

PM TRIAL

Open Agility – Michael Cowman - SCT 63 sec
1st k De Graauw & Zoe D CD AD ADM 46.22 Q
2nd KJ Macmillan & Tosca CD ADM JDM 48.06 Q
3rd P & D Howard & TCh Van Harley Quadrille CDX ADX JD ET “A” “Z” BsCI 11 52.16 Q

Novice Agility – Michael Cowman - SCT 57sec
1st Stephen Pearson & Hubertus Georgie Girl 36.93 Q
2nd John Pallôt & Kiltimagh Rains Reprint 45.38 Q
3rd Helen Pascoe & Miss Maya 46.92 Q
4th Mrs G Baker & Rosndae Noisette 57.00 Q

Novice Jumping – Deb Carroll - SCT 34sec
1st Roxann Eddy & Buraba Black Eddy 25.7 Q
2nd Miss J Elliott & Mr GP O’Tool & Jansilk Raminea 29.63 Q
3rd Helen Pascoe & Miss Maya 30.22 Q

Open Jumping – Deb Carroll - SCT 38sec
1st Paul Ward & Patricia Attard & Holly Golightly AD ADM JDM 29.06 Q
2nd Annette Cloughton & Great Expectations AD JD 29.92 Q
3rd Dr RF Atyeo & Winpara Fast n thfurious FDCh AD JD 30.58 Q
4th Mr V & Mrs A Thompson & OC camwyn Erik’s Girl ADM AFDCd JD 31.90 Q
5th Bordarita Kennels & Bordarita Are Ya Willing ADM ET JDM 32.16 Q
6th Belinda Tebbet & Mawson Tebbet JD AD 33.42 Q

Masters Agility – Roger Padfield - SCT56 sec
1st Mr S Fletcher & Budstaff Billy The Kid CD ADM JDM 48.44 Q
2nd Bordarita Kennels & bordarita Are Ya Willing ADM ET JDM 50.03 Q
3rd Angie Gunther & Jess Gu nfa ADM JDM ET JDM 51.28 Q
4th KJ Macmillan & Tosca CD ADM JDM 52.47 Q
5th Jodie Norris & Mollie Norris ADX JDX 53.56 Q
6th Ms S Scafocchia & Bindi Boo CDX ADM JDM 53.69 Q
7th Bel Adele Kennels & Aust Ch Bel Adele Nice ‘N Naughty CD ADM JDM ET 53.77 Q

Masters Jumping - Roger Padfield – SCT34sec
1st K De Graauw & Zoe D CD AD ADM 26.47 Q
2nd Ms S Scafocchia & Bindi Boo CDX ADM JDM 29.04 Q
3rd Pavlina McMaster & Trillian ADM CDX ET HIT JDM AFCh 29.37 Q
4th Angie Guntha & Jess Gunfa ADM JDM ET 29.78 Q
5th Ms Anne Woods & Bordarit Whatwillsheded UD ADM ET JDM TD 29.94 Q
6th Deb Harvey & Galwarri Red Rose ADM CD ET HIT JDM 30.25 Q
7th Mrs A rogers & Hillacre Hyland Blue CDX ADM JDM 31.53 Q
8th Mrs CA Wong & Timmar Bck Thunder CD ADX JDX 32.47 Q
9th Mr S Fletcher & Budstaff Wild Rose CD ADM JDM 32.88 Q
10th KJ Macmillan & Tosca CD ADM JDM 33.31 Q
Welcome to a New Van Subscriber.

Roxann Eddy
Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

This Month in the HOT seat we present another new judge SUE GONELLI

Q. When did you start competing in agility?

Q. What attracted you to this dog sport?
   I thought it would be a fun activity for my dog and a bit different to just walking around the park! Someone had dropped a flyer about “Action Dogs” under my door!

Q. What breeds of dogs have you trained/competed with?
   Just one! A mini Labradoodle.

Q. What were some of your best moments in Agility?
   Finally getting my first agility pass in Novice at Warrnambool 2002. Dougal finally understanding what “weaving” is all about! Qualifying for the Victorian team in 2004 and winning the team’s event. Qualifying for Top Dog in 2004.

Q. To what do you attribute your success?
   To some fantastic instructors, a great dog who is smart and loves agility, determination and an ability to laugh at myself!! Also, a passion for agility, a thirst for knowledge and a willingness to try new things.

Q. What was your worst moment in Agility?
   Dougal deciding that James Brown (judge) shouldn’t be in “his” ring, rushing and barking at him, and disqualifying in James’s ring every trial for nearly 12 months!!

Q. Is there a trialer or trainer who has strongly influenced your training or performance?
   I would have to say Carole Denehey and Fiona Brain.

Q. What are your future goals in Agility?
   To continue to have fun with my dog first and foremost. To qualify for Top Dog and to get a pass at the Royal (Dougal has crowd issues at the Royal!!!). To continue to develop my skills as both a handler and a judge.

Q. What made you apply to become a judge?
   It seemed like the next logical step. I wanted another challenge and enjoy course design. I believe Judges are the key to progression of the sport in designing courses that are challenging, fun and push competitors to continually improve their handling skills.

Q. Anything else you would care to comment on?
   To the person who dropped that flyer under my door in 2002 – I will always be in your debt. Thank you for introducing me to this wonderful sport in which I have met so many great people.

Important Events for Your Dog Events Diary

Entries Close East Gippsland ODC
30th September

Knox ODC Single Agility/Jumping Trial
1st October

WA State Agility/Jumping Titles X 2
8th October

Entries Close Gippsland ODC
14th October

Entries Close Warrnambool DTS
14th October

East Gippsland ODC Two Day Double Agility/Jumping Trials
15th/16th October

Agility Nationals Perth WA
15th/16th October

Club Team Challenge Agility
22nd October

Warrnambool DTS Double Agility/Jumping Trials
29th/30th October

Entries Close Warragul K&O Club
1st November DON’T FORGET!

Gippsland ODC Double Agility/Jumping/Obedience Trials
6th November

Warragul K&O club Two Day Double Agility/Jumping Trials
12th/13th November

Geoff’s Birthday 25th November
(presents please, beer will be fine, VB stubbies preferred)

Warringal ODC Double Agility/Jumping Trials
26th November

Portland ODC Double Obedience/Agility/Jumping Trials
27th November

VCA Twilight Agility/Jumping Trial Equipment Fundraiser Hosted by K9 AC
3rd December

“If there’s anybody here who knows why these two should not be wed...”
## Hastings & District Obedience Dog & Duck Club
### Double Open Agility & Jumping Trials
#### Saturday, 17th September, 2005

### Novice Agility AM
**Judge: R. Padfield**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>R. Atyeo</td>
<td>Yeoville Magic Reaction</td>
<td>36.78 NQ</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>M. Moore</td>
<td>Tooneynbank Te Olympus JD</td>
<td>33.95 NQ</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>J. Elliot</td>
<td>Jansilk Raminea</td>
<td>45.74 NQ</td>
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</tr>
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### Open Agility AM
**Judge: R. Padfield**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Kennels</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Ashamber Kennels T.Ch Kadnook Kcee</td>
<td>T.Ch Kadnook Kcee UD JD ET AD Lab Retriever</td>
<td>52.12</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>K. Hall</td>
<td>Mornhaven Harry Potter CD AD JD</td>
<td>Cav. K.C. Spaniel</td>
<td>63.62 NQ</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>P. Ward</td>
<td>Holly Golightly AD JDM HIT</td>
<td>Assoc.</td>
<td>49.38 NQ</td>
<td></td>
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### Open Jumping AM
**Judge: J. Browne**

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<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>E. Monahan</td>
<td>Tahlia ADX JDM ET</td>
<td>Assoc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>R. George</td>
<td>Cwind Be Kool JDM ET AD</td>
<td>B.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>M. Moore</td>
<td>Tooneybank Te Olympus JD</td>
<td>Shetland Sheepdog</td>
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### Masters Agility AM
**Judge: J. Browne**

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<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Kennels</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>P. McMaster</td>
<td>Trillian ADM JDM CDX ET HIT AFCH</td>
<td>Assoc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>P. Ward Holly</td>
<td>Golightly JDM AD HIT</td>
<td>Assoc.</td>
<td>25.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>K. Howard</td>
<td>Just Tipsy ADM JDM CDX</td>
<td>Assoc.</td>
<td>27.18</td>
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### Masters Jumping AM
**Judge: B. Pearson**

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>S. Fletcher</td>
<td>Budstaff Wild Rose CD ADM JDM</td>
<td>Staff. Bull Terrier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>W. Hansen</td>
<td>Millnazz Racy Dancer JDM ADX</td>
<td>B.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>K. Macmillan</td>
<td>Tosca CD ADM JDM</td>
<td>Assoc.</td>
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### Novice Jumping AM
**Judge: R. Padfield**

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<th>Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>R. Atyeo</td>
<td>Yeoville Magic Reaction</td>
<td>19.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>M &amp; J. Widelock</td>
<td>Sing. Ch. Cartmel Lua Do Mar (Imp Sing)</td>
<td>Port Water Dog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>R. Ashman</td>
<td>Beladele Magic Melody CD ET ADX</td>
<td>B.C.</td>
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### Open Agility PM
**Judge: B. Pearson**

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<td>Staff. Bull Terrier</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>E &amp; T. Booth</td>
<td>Aussielab Rising Star CDX AD</td>
<td>Labrador Retriever</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>K. De Graauw</td>
<td>Zac D ADX JD</td>
<td>Assoc.</td>
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### Masters Agility PM
**Judge: J. Browne**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>R. Ashman</td>
<td>Ch Beledale Magic Melody CD ADX ET B.C.</td>
<td>54.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>E &amp; T. Booth</td>
<td>Aussielab Rising Star CDX AD Labrador Retriever</td>
<td>54.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>M &amp; J. Widelock</td>
<td>Sing Ch Cartmel Lua Do Mar (Imp Sing) Port. Water Dog</td>
<td>55.10</td>
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### Novice Agility PM
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<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>P. Jordan</td>
<td>Ashiya Jaspar CD</td>
<td>Golden Retriever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>D. Hoffrichter</td>
<td>Henry Crun</td>
<td>Assoc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>A. Woods</td>
<td>Bordarita Dreamtineatcher</td>
<td>B.C.</td>
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### Novice Jumping PM
**Judge: R. Padfield**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>V &amp; A. Thompson</td>
<td>OC Camwyn Erik’s Girl ADM AFCh. JD ET B.C.</td>
<td>36.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>J. Napier</td>
<td>Kilwarrin Whiteglofair JD AD Shetland Sheepdog</td>
<td>38.00 Title</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>M. Jewell</td>
<td>Sox Dog ADX JDX</td>
<td>Assoc.</td>
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### Open Agility PM
**Judge: R. Padfield**

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<td>P. McMaster</td>
<td>Trillian ADM CDX ET HIT AFCH</td>
<td>Assoc.</td>
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### Masters Agility PM
**Judge: J. Browne**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>R. Ashman</td>
<td>Ch Beledale Magic Melody CD ADX ET B.C.</td>
<td>28.47</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>E &amp; T. Booth</td>
<td>Aussielab Rising Star CDX AD Labrador Retriever</td>
<td>28.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>M &amp; J. Widelock</td>
<td>Sing Ch Cartmel Lua Do Mar (Imp Sing) Port. Water Dog</td>
<td>33.63 NQ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*Title: Hastings & District Obedience Dog & Duck Club Double Open Agility & Jumping Trials*
Hastings Trial (Cont.)
Masters Jumping PM  Judge: J. Browne
SCT 45 secs
1st  K. Howard & Just Tipsy CDX ADM JDM Assoc.  31.18
2nd  Jo Lucas & Tamtarn Pipers Star ADM JDM ET Bearded Collie  41.85
3rd  R. George & Cwind Be Kool JDM ET AD B.C.  43.84
4th  K. De Graauw & Zoe D CD AD JDM Assoc.  43.97

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PHYSICAL CAUSES OF JUMPING PROBLEMS
by Suzanne Clothier

NOTE: This article is the second in a 4 part series on jumping that first appeared in Off Lead magazine.

Dog sports today require that dogs be able to jump, and to jump often and well if they are to be competitive and to stay sound. Jumping problems are common, but rarely viewed as the dog’s way of saying, “I’m doing the best I can.” Whatever your approach to teaching a dog to jump, whether you choose to check, chum, shock, drag, trip, trick or click the dog in an attempt to fix a problem, the truth may be the dog physically can’t do the job. Unfortunately for dogs, most training is predicated on a big assumption - that the dog can do what we’re asking. We probably wouldn’t write a check without making sure there were funds to cover it, but we rarely investigate if our dogs are physically capable of jumping!

To get a sense of how jumping ability is affected by physical limitations whether structural (your dog’s skeletal framework) or functional (your dog’s muscles, etc.) let’s take a brief look at the basic mechanics of jumping and how the dog’s body responds both structurally and functionally.

At takeoff, the dog brings both hind legs well under his body, deeply flexing the joints (hips, stifles and hocks) while bringing into play the powerful, complex muscles of the hind legs. If any of the hind limb joints (hip, stifle, hock, pasterns and feet) are poorly structured, the dog will have problems. Our fixation on hips sometimes leads us to forgetting that the dog has 238 other joints, which must also be in working order. It is possible to have an OFA excellent hips and have poorly constructed knees or hocks. "But his hips are good!" is the equivalent of saying that a car that’s not running well has brand new tires.

Though not as obvious, the muscles of the pelvis, lower back and abdomen are also involved at takeoff. The very strong back muscles work in tandem with the abdominal muscles to coil the dog’s body (and help control the body and hind quarters during the descent phase). These muscles also interplay with the complex muscle groups of the pelvis. If any of these muscles are sore or weak, or there are structural problems within the spine or pelvis, the dog’s jumping style and ability will be affected.

At takeoff, the dog’s front end lifts and begins to fold, literally tucking the landing gear out of the way for the duration of the flight. By time the dog’s body has reached the highest point of the jump arc, the legs are as tightly folded as they can be. As the dog passes the highest point of his trajectory, the front limbs begin to unfold during the dog’s descent. The dog lands on one foot, quickly followed by the other front leg, and then the hind legs.

Structurally and functionally, the dog’s front end takes the greatest stress of jumping and thus needs to be sound, strong and flexible. With every landing, there is a moment where one front foot supports the full weight of the dog and then some; every ounce of the dog’s body weight is multiplied by factors such as the height of the jump and the dog’s speed. (Handlers with overweight dogs need to keep in mind that every extra pound on the ribs translates into many more on the paw when the dog is jumping.)

The front end is designed to absorb the force of landing. Any stiffness in the joints of the front leg (right down to a jammed toe) will impact the dog’s jumping. To get a sense of how the effects of a limited joint can be felt, take a look at how the front foot is folded during the landing - the head and neck play an important role in adjusting the dog’s centre of gravity. Full range of motion in this head and neck also points to flexibility of the muscles deep within the neck and chest which are responsible for the workings of the front limbs. These muscles are often not considered since they are hidden beneath the shoulder blade. A lack of flexibility in the front legs, neck and/or chest will result in a number of jumping difficulties, particularly in folding up the legs and in absorbing landing forces.

A limitation may not affect the dog’s jumping ability at every level, just like certain mechanical problems will not be problematic in a car unless you exceed a certain speed or drive under certain conditions. The greater the demand, the more the limitations become apparent. At a moderate level of performance, a dog with problems might be able to compensate for a long time without having obvious jumping problems. When demands become more intense, limitations not recognized earlier may become apparent, leaving handlers scratching their heads over this sudden jumping problem. The limitations have probably been there all along; the mere intensity of demand simply made them obvious.
Generally speaking, dogs can more readily compensate for hindquarter limitations than any problems in the front, since by design the dog normally carries well over half his weight on his front. But such compensation means additional stresses that, over time, begin to destroy the dog’s front end. I've met dysplastic dogs whose handlers continued to jump them despite the known hip problems. In compensating for the limitations of their hind end, the ligaments of these dogs’ front feet had stretched, leaving the feet very noticeably flattened and unable to function properly. This in turn meant all other joints in the front end were now taking an even heavier load, thus accelerating their eventual breakdown, thus affecting other parts of the dog’s body and so on.

It’s a rare dog that doesn't have some limitation somewhere, so it's important to understand how physical limitations affect a dog’s jumping style and ability. When trying to evaluate how serious a limitation may be or whether it is a limitation that be minimized or improved, here's a tip: if the bones or joints are hidden under the visible masses of muscles, then the function of that area may be able to offset or partially compensate for structural problems (thus dysplastic dogs can be kept quite functional provided the muscling is maintained or improved.) Function can be improved, so limitations in an invisible bones area may be agreeable to change. If the bones are easily seen or felt, the structure of that area had better be right. You won’t be able to improve much if anything.

Dogs jump according to the best of their understanding and to the best of their ability. Dogs hit jumps because they can’t find a way to avoid doing so - I’ve never met a normal animal that tripped themselves or banged their feet because it felt good. Jumping problems need to be resolved. But before rushing to find another technique, take time to see what the dog himself will tell you through his own body. Very often, you’ll find there is a structural or functional problem at work. Read all in this series: Why Fluffy Can’t Go Hup | Can or Can’t? | I Think I Can! | Just Right Jumping

K9 AGILITY CLUB
Trains on Thursday evenings at KCC Park
www.geocities.com/k9agilityclub
Membership Secretary: 97736246
Or
Amanda on 0428 161 298
For a weather report from KCC Park

TRAINING TIPS WITH A HOST OF YOUR FAVOURITES!

Q. My dog keeps popping out of the weavers, but not always in the same place. What can I do?

A. Sue Gonelli
I would recommend retraining with guides so the dog gets it right. Weaving is about muscle memory as much as the dog learning what to do. If you can’t use guides then I would take the training a step back and reward each correct “weave”. I would also look at your body language. Are you crowding the dog, stepping into their path or turning away too quick? Are you leaning over them? Are you standing upright?

Take your weave training back to the beginning and keep it fun and happy. Remember to stand upright.

Michael Cowman
I think it is important to make the weaves fast and simple for starters. Set them up offset and slanted so the dog can fly through them. Make it a fast and enjoyable game before you start straightening them and bringing the poles into line. I would also put ‘guards’ of the weaves. In other words have a light barrier joining weaves 1 and 3, 2 and 4, 3 and 5, 4 and 6 etc, so that the dog can’t make a mistake and must enter the weaves correctly and also complete all the weaves. You are doing is conditioning the dog so that it doesn't make errors, and eventually it won't, the correct performance will become ingrained in the dogs’ memory.

Karen Howard
The answer depends on whether this is a novice dog or not. A novice dog may not really understand what is required of it therefore it doesn't complete the obstacle. The way to fix this is to go back in training and train. Once you believe the dog understands weaving then give the dog the command to weave and put yourself in different positions ie. in front, behind, lateral distance. If the dog is open/masters level it could be due to handlers body position, excitement to go forward, injury or just plain attitude.

The way to fix this would depend on whether the dog is only doing it in trialing or both trialing and training. Extra weave poles can help also guides have been useful in these circumstances.

Ron & Heather Diamond
There is neither one answer nor one solution, for this question.

Weave pole training alone can creative discussion on the many methods of training the weaves. Every trainer has their personal favourite. A trainer that we both admirer for her Weave Pole training is Anne Woods. Anne has successfully inspired her dog to do the weaves with joy and speed.

So in that observation, lays some of the answer to the question if your dog isn’t naturally joyful, fast or attentive, then you the handler should be aiming to build these qualities into the dog.

The handler and dog will need to be evaluated. What’s causing the dog to “pop” Is the dog distracted, under stress, avoidance or a shutdown due to fear, does the dog really understand the weave. Is the handler contributing to the problem by giving false body signals, under stress, changing the way they train when they are competing?

Lorraine Mackay had a great day at the State Trials with “The Understudy”. They managed to have the Highest Aggregate for the day tripped off with a car load of goodies.
Training Tips (Cont.)
The physical condition of both the dog and handler also needs to be evaluated.
After everything is evaluated there will be 98% odds that the answer will lead “Back to Basics”. The handler will need to return to basics. The basic tool for teaching any dog is reward. The reward given is only limited to the handlers imagination.
The main rewards handlers often used are food, toys or a game with the dog.
Retrain the skill required, keeping the time of training short, intense, successfully keeping the dogs confidence with loads of reward, play and praise

Trish Attard
This is a common question which could be causes by many things and is difficult to answer without seeing the dog and handler actually working together. The problem could either be with the handler's body language or the dog not knowing what the criteria is ie dog must enter the weavers from the correct side and keep weaving until the end regardless of where the handler is. Let's presume it is the latter (I know we usually blame the handler!).
In this case, I would suggest going back to basics. Start with 4 or 6 weavers and stagger the poles so that the dog has every chance of getting it right. Keep the training short and sweet (no more than 5-10 minutes per day working on both sides) with lots of encouragement especially at completion when done it correctly. Try not to react if the dog misses a weaver and never stop in the middle and start again.
I feel this causes the dog to be unsure of what you want him to do and could make him hesitate through the weavers, which in turn could be the cause of him popping out.
At this stage, the dog should not be pushed for speed, only accuracy. Once the dog is weaving confidently, start adding more weavers at a rate of two at a time. Always reward well passed the weavers so that the dog doesn't start to stop or slow down as it gets closer to the end. When the dog is running through all weavers without popping out, start bringing the poles closer until they are in a straight line.
All dogs learn at a different pace, so the re training could take anything from one week onwards. When the dog is working through the weavers correctly, you can start speeding it up with motivators.

Rules for Gamblers
Please note that these rules were lifted from the “Agility Regulations” 7th Edition 2004 ADAA. They may not be the ‘actual’ rules that we will go with next year but it will give you a general idea of what a “Gamblers “ Game is all about.

1. Purpose of Gamblers.
The purpose of Gamblers is to demonstrate strategy and to test the handler and dog team’s ability to work at a distance from each other.

2. Object of Gamblers.
The object of Gamblers Class is to accumulate as many points as possible during to opening sequence and successfully complete the Gamble (without course fault of refusals) during the closing sequence.

3. Overview of Gamblers.
A Gamblers Class shall consist of two distinct segments, the opening and the closing 9Gamble) sequence. The dog accumulates points during the time set by the time set by the judge for the opening sequence by undertaking obstacles as directed by the handler. During the closing sequence (Gamble) specific obstacles must be completed with the handler at a distance from the dog in the correct order/direction as set by the Judge.

The obstacles are placed in a random order, rather than laid out in a sequential manner as expected in an Agility/jumping Test. In a Gamblers Class rather than being penalised for an obstacle negotiated incorrectly, points are gained for obstacles correctly negotiated.

The course design should provide risk/reward sequences to challenge handler strategy. The Judge should set higher point obstacles apart so they cannot be performed in an easy flowing sequence. The Judge may enhance the complexity of the Opening Sequence by setting an additional performance or handling restriction, known as the “Joker”.

Obstacles are allocated points as shown in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obstacles</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hurdles</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunnels, Tyre and Board Jump</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Obstacles or less than 10 Weave Poles</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weave Poles (10 to 12)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joker Combination</td>
<td>Bonus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Value of Obstacles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No individual Obstacle in a course shall be valued at more than 4 Points. There will be no more than one Joker in the Course. There shall be no more than one 4 Point obstacle in the course. There will be no more than four 3 point Obstacles in the course. No spread hurdles are to used

The Joker, if used, must have a combination of at least two And no more than four obstacles. The Joker combination May be in sequence, one after the other, or spread around The course (for example, an obstacle in each corner). No contact obstacle may be used in a Joker. No more than One set of five or six Weave Poles may be used in a Joker. The Joker may include a handler restriction zone.

Next Month; Strategic Pairs. (If I can find some rules)
Geoff

NADAC
Congratulations…..
To Donna Merrilees and Jaspah for their big year at NADAC! The following is a list of awards Jaspah received for NADAC trials in 2005.
Dog Of The Year 2005 – Veteran Division
Highest Scoring weavers Dog 2005 – Standard Division
Highest Scoring Jumpers Dog 2005 – Veteran Division
Highest Lifetime Gamblers Dog – Veteran Division
He also received his Superior Elite Jumpers Certificate – Veteran (S-EJC-V) in May and his Elite Weavers (WV-E) in August.
And Amanda Robinson and Jade who gained their Superior Novice Jumping Title and also their Novice Weavers Title.

Well done all!
NOTE THIS!!
Entries for the Warragul Agility/Jumping Trial
Close on the 1st November. This date was left off
The Flyer in the October VAN and the one that
has been posted to all Clubs....Some clown didn’t
Proof read his work!

LATE BREAKING NEWS!!
Some more Titles no less!!
Janice Dedman & OC Melawindy Melody
AD JDM - Border Collie
Neal Meadows & Vonraypark Smokin Haze ADX
JDM - Border Collie

MELBOURNE ROYAL SHOW
Friday 23/9/05
Judge: Mr J (Skeeta) Ryan (Qld)

Novice Agility SCT 49
1st G Kisielnicki & Bordercheck Roxy Lass JD - BC - Q
2nd D Mitchell & Bobthekelpie - Assoc - Q
3rd L Saxton & Casey Saxton - Assoc - NQ
4th E Bissett & Silvanwood Commanche - Aussie - NQ
5th Mittinga Knls & Mittinga Blue Echo - BC - NQ

Open Agility SCT 65
1st K Luxford & Miss Jedda ADM JDM - Assoc - Q
2nd N Dunn & Yotclub Maximus ADX JDX - Poodle (Mini) - Q
3rd S Scafocchia & Bindi Boo CDX ADM JDM - Assoc - NQ
4th JR Lucas & Tamtarn Pipers Star ADM JDM - Bearded - NQ
5th HJ&RK Diamond & Ima Dandydoodle CD
ADX JDM - Assoc - NQ

Master Agility SCT 56
1st HJ&RK Diamond & Ima Dandydoodle CD
ADM JDM - Assoc - Q
2nd S Scafocchia & Bindi Boo CDX ADM JDM - Assoc - Q
3rd S Fletcher & Budstaff Billy The Kid CD
ADM JDM - Staffy - Q
4th SA McLeod & Santecho So Im Zoro CDX
ADM JDM - Sheltie NQ
5th JR Lucas & Tamtarn Pipers Star ADM JDM - Bearded - NQ

Novice Jumping SCT 40
1st E Bissett & Silvanwood Commanche - Aussie - Q
2nd R Ashman & Ch Beladele Magic Melody
CD ET ADX - BC - Q
3rd G Baker & Rosndae Noisette - Griffon - NQ
4th J Eggleton/R Sloan & Ch Abbiestar
Thrillseeker ET - Vizsla - NQ
5th L Saxton & Casey Saxton - Assoc - NQ

Open Jumping SCT 38
1st G Kisielnicki & Gateacre Choc Twirl AD JD - BC - Q
2nd P McMaster & Trillian ADM CDX ET HIT
JDM - Assoc - Q
3rd J Dedman & OC Mallawindy Melody AD
JDX - BC - Q
4th A Robinson (C Denehey) & TCh Echuca
Jade CDX AD JDX - Assoc - Q
5th S Gonelli & Dougal ADM JDM - Assoc - Q
6th S Scafocchia & Bindi Boo CDX ADM JDM - Assoc - Q
7th R George & Cwind Be Kool JDM ET AD - BC - Q

Master Jumping SCT 40
1st ERL&BA Monahan & Tahlia ET ADX JDM - Assoc - Q
2nd J Dedman & OC Mallawindy Melody AD
JDX - BC - Q
3rd N Meadows & Vonraypark Smokin Haze
ADX JDX - BC - Q
4th JR Lucas & Tamtarn Pipers Star ADM JDM
- Bearded - NQ
5th J Williams & Yargenhund Fire N Ice UD
ADX JDX - Munster – NQ

(Thanks to Pamela Gelme and her excellent website for
supplying the results which I unashameably nicked!)

Here’s the photo Gallery, thanks to Sally Robinson. (570 Pics taken!)

The incomparable Dawn Howard who was MC for
the day.
The Judge for the day Mr J. (Skeeta) Ryan (QLD)

1st Place Masters Jumping – Liz Monahan & Tahlia ET ADX
JDM seem here with Judge (Skeeta) Ryan

1st Place Open Agility – Kerrilee Luxford & Miss Jedda ADM JDM

1st Place Masters Agility – Heather Diamond & Ima dandydoodle
CD ADM JDM

1st Place Open Jumping – Geraldine Kisielnicki & Gateacre Choc Twirl AD JD

1st Place Novice Agility – Geraldine Kisielnicki (again! Big
day out.) Bordercheck Roxy Lass JD
Here are some results from Sth Melbourne, GO BLOODS! Sorry Tasmania. The Trial Was held at The Tasmanian Dog Training Club, Launceston and ably Judged by Robyn (Wendy)

Dockers AM TRIAL

MASTERS JUMPING CLASS
1st MR. A. PAYNE GOLDEN RETRIEVER MONTANAGOLD NIKOMAY UD JDM ADX ET 31.35 NQ
2nd MISS A. PECK BEARDED COLLIE BEARDIEWE LORD KRAMER CD AD JDX 37.78 NQ
3rd MR. P. HOFTO BORDER COLLIE GR CH BORDERFAME IMA BELIEVER CDX JDX ADX TDX ET 29.81+25 NQ

OPEN JUMPING CLASS
1st DR. M. HOPE BORDER COLLIE SARASOTA SOLEMNIA CD AD JD 36.91 Q
2nd MRS. C. GOLDING AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD HOTOZ WILD OPINION JD AD 37.72+5 NQ
3rd MRS. J. BROCKLEHURST ASSOCIATE KAYCEE JD ET 36.66+10 NQ

NOVICE JUMPING CLASS
1st MISS. B. DUKE BORDER COLLIE KHAYOZ SWEET SOUL MUSIC HIT 31.72 Q
2nd G. RICKARD POINTER CH TINGLEWOOD DARE TO SPY CD ET 45.28+11 NQ
3rd MRS. E. STANLEY CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL UNDERACLOUD JOHNNY DEPP 57.28+18 NQ

MASTERS AGILITY CLASS
1st MR. A. PAYNE GOLDEN RETRIEVER MONTANAGOLD NIKOMAY UD JDM ADX ET 48.00+10 NQ
2nd MISS. D. JEFFREY SHETLAND SHEEPDOG KOZANI LOCHCALLAWAY ADX JDX 61.99+10 NQ
3rd MR. P. HOFTO BORDER COLLIE GR CH BORDERFAME IMA BELIEVER CDX JDX ADX TDX ET 62.99+25 NQ

OPEN AGILITY CLASS
1st MR. A. PAYNE GOLDEN RETRIEVER MONTANAGOLD NIKOMAY UD JDM ADX ET 63.44+10 NQ
2nd DR. M. HOPE BORDER COLLIE SARASOTA SOLEMNIA CD AD JD 53.22+5 NQ
3rd MISS. A. PECK BEARDED COLLIE BEARDIEWE LORD KRAMER CD AD JDX 70.66+16 NQ

Masters Agility SCT 51
1st Montanagold Nikomay UD ADJX ET GR 59.16 Payne
2nd Kozani Lochcallaway ADX JDX Sheltie 63.71 Jeffrey

NOVICE AGILITY CLASS
1st MRS. E. STANLEY CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL UNDERACLOUD WICKED GAME JD 47.35 Q
2nd G. RICKARD POINTER CH TINGLEWOOD DARE TO SPY CD ET 47.69+5 NQ
3rd MRS. P. CAMPBELL SHIH TZU HARRY JD 57.28+5 NQ

PM TRIAL

NOVICE AGILITY CLASS
1st MRS. E. STANLEY CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL UNDERACLOUD WICKED GAME JD 50.84 Q

“THAT’S ALL FOLKS”