



Wallingford Dog Training Club

Watchdog!

WALLINGFORD DOG TRAINING CLUB

31 March 2020

Hello and welcome to the March 2020 edition of Watchdog Magazine.

Such unprecedented and unsettling times we are in right now. So many of us have lost any reference to normality (at best), with the country in virtual lockdown.

I was chatting (online) to friends the other day. We all seem to be putting a brave face on things, but are actually feeling rather lost. The things which we aim for, the things which make us happy – all gone for the next few months. Empty diaries. And then the feeling of guilt for worrying about things which are, in reality, inconsequential. So many people are on the front line, keeping the country safe and well as best they can. For that, they all have my eternal gratitude. Others have lost their business, jobs and income.



It's OK
not to
be OK

But it's OK not to feel OK. We should not all be expected to pull on our big girl pants and carry on.

Please make use of our Facebook group to stay in touch. To share anything you want to. To ask for help. Hopefully someone can signpost you if nothing else.

It's OK to ask for help.

For those needing help and support regarding Covid-19 in the Abingdon area, please have a look at:

<https://abingdon.help/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2625695837712362/>

Plenty of practical information about:

- Food
- Takeaway Meals
- Pharmacies
- Dentists
- Transport
- Self-isolating
- Other support
- Other businesses



And for Didcot: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/593748574570059/>

There are fabulous volunteers who are willing to help out with necessary practical matters.

I think most other areas will have similar groups. Perhaps you can post on our Facebook group if you know of any.

Thank you to all who have contributed to this edition.

Stay safe and well. See you on the other side.

Jo Maisey, Editor

watchdog@wdtc.org.uk

Online Training Resources

I've put together a list of online resources to keep us ticking over while we are unable to train. Please add any more you find to the Facebook group.

Coronagility

"A place to post sequences/courses for others to set up and run, video and discuss handling etc.

Courses and sequences must be your own or taken from other FREE resources, no training sequences or course plans can be posted from paid for, online learning provided by other trainers.

Trainers, if you have any online courses, resources or subscription services, you can advertise them on here once only."

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/527800804821155/>

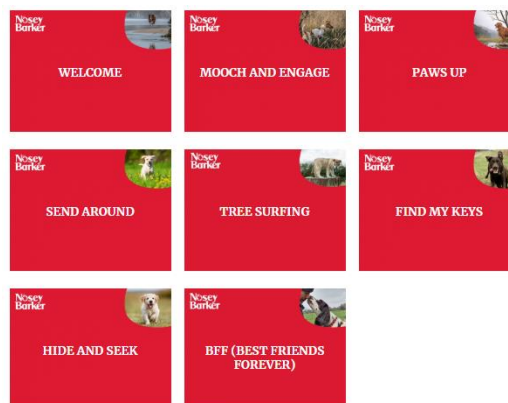
Agility Community Online Shopping

"A Place to find all of your favourite agility businesses while there are no shows running. Please support them !"

<https://www.facebook.com/Agility-Community-Online-Shopping-100444678267866/>

Wonder Walks online course absolutely free!

<https://www.nosey-barker.co.uk/newsletter/>



Home School the Dog is a project of learning, laughter and love. When our program is open you will be able to join for free using your promo code.

<https://dogsthat.com/home-school/>

- ✓ Focus on you, even when a guest shows up at your door.
- ✓ Bring you the dirty sock he has stole rather than running off with it.
- ✓ CHOOSE to stay out of the garbage and off the counter.
- ✓ Be mentally exhausted, so more content to "settle" around the house.
- ✓ Have a great foundation for walking on a loose leash.
- ✓ Listen to you EVEN if you are not bribing him with FOOD.

And YOU will have:

- ✓ An amazing new insight into the world of science based, reinforcement based training.
- ✓ TEN new games to develop your relationship with your dog.
- ✓ Learned how improving YOUR mechanics WILL improve your dog's BEHAVIOUR!

Agilitynet Training Diary

Training days and seminars. Now mostly online courses, but some free content.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/244830462618383/>

The Agility Club

Daily free tutorial videos

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/932407526791257/>

Susan Garrett

Susan is one of the most successful agility competitors of the last two decades. She has won multiple Gold Medals at National or World Championship events with every dog she has ever owned over the past 30 years.

“Welcome to our "Free Dog Training For Agility Workshop Group." A community of like-minded agility enthusiasts meeting to discuss Susan Garrett's latest free online workshops.

The focus of this FB group is to discuss current training videos and methodology posted by Susan Garrett and the Say Yes Dog Training Team.”

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/H360FreeAgilityWorkshop/>

Weaves

Susan Garrett's 2x2 method is one often followed. You can buy the DVDs from various places.

You don't need to necessarily start off with competition standard weaves. You could use stick in the ground poles, electric fence poles, etc. Your dog just needs to understand the concept of going between two poles to start with.

I bought these from Jesse Jump

<http://www.jessejump.co.uk/deluxe%20Weave.htm>

You'll find various videos online of how to teach weaves using the 2x2 method. Here are just a couple of them:

<https://dogagilityvideos.com/how-to-teach-weave-poles-with-the-2x2-set-up/>

<https://www.thatdogspot.co.uk/the-blog/how-i-train-dogs-to-weave>



Teach Your Collie to be Calm and Focussed

Free course from Sarah Hedderly

“Did you imagine life with a Collie was going to be all about having a faithful friend by your side through thick and thin? Did you think you were going to go on lots of enjoyable walks in the beautiful countryside? Collies are intelligent and loyal, right?

Unfortunately life is not always as rosy as the dream. Collies have so much intelligence that if it is not channelled in the right direction then they can make their own entertainment.

Course Curriculum

Teach Your Collie to be Calm and Focussed
▶ Introduction(1:07)
▶ Teaching a settle position(0:55)
▶ Mat work(4:25)
▶ Switching between excited and calm(3:16)
▶ Go Sniff!(1:30)
▶ Check in to say please(1:51)
▶ Start as we mean to go on(2:34)
▶ Bonus tips and tricks(8:30)
📄 What's next

Collies are bred to work. They have stamina to work all day, every day. They like to herd, chase and stare at things. Without the right outlets and stimulation it is easy to understand how issues such as car chasing, herding people, barking through frustration, chewing and even nipping start to appear. A common question is 'where is the off switch?'

If you need help changing your frantic fiend into your faithful friend, you have found the right place to get started.”

<https://aol.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=1d89e916c73cc0edc23025fb5&id=280a430f2c>

AgilityNerd – Tiny Space Training Sequences/Drills

From no jumps to four jumps.

<https://www.agilitynerd.com/blog/agility/courses/misc/tiny-spaces/>

Membership Stats

Sue Cuddon

When I get bored I play with numbers....

Firstly, a welcome to our new members, I thought in the absence of actually being able to see the rest of the club it might be nice to give you some idea of how varied our Club is.

So - we currently have 61 members, of whom 7 are Honorary Life members. Of these, there are 43 members currently training/working 56 dogs.

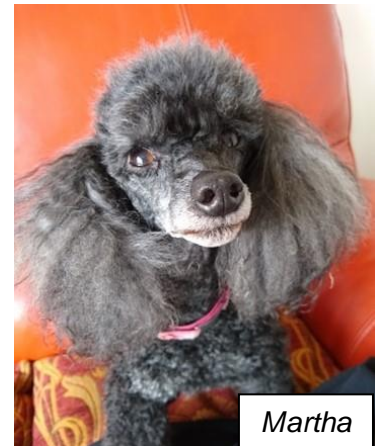
These dogs vary in size from the tiny (Pixel, Honey, Martha) to very large (Pablo, Shango)!

We have:

- 1 Yorkie X
- 5 Jack Russell X
- 2 Toy Poodles
- 1 Miniature Poodle
- 1 German Spitz Klein
- 1 Border Terrier X
- 6 Working Cockers and their crosses
- 4 Cockapoos
- 1 Shetland Sheepdog
- 1 Lagotto Romagnolo
- 1 Kelpie X
- 1 Tibetan Terrier
- 3 Springer Spaniel X
- 1 Bearded Collie X
- 12 Border Collie/Working Sheepdog/Welsh Sheepdog
- 8 Crossbreeds
- 2 Belgian Shepherd Tervueren
- 2 Labrador
- 1 Dalmatian
- 1 Hungarian Vizsla
- 1 Hungarian Wire-haired Vizsla



Pixel



Martha



Pablo



Shango

And all these dogs are spread fairly evenly between:

The four sizes – Small, Medium, Intermediate (new this year) and Large

The seven Grades – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 – except we do not appear to have any G4 dogs?? Do correct me if I'm wrong!

Grade	Small	Medium	Intermediate	Large	TOTAL
1	2	2	4	3	11
2	2	1	4		7
3		1	1	3	5
4					0
5	1	1	3		5
6	3	1	1	2	7
7	2	2	1	2	7
Not competing	2	7	3	2	14
TOTAL	12	15	17	12	56

Hope you are all keeping safe and finding ways to keep your dogs occupied and to do some basic foundation training if nothing else.

Fingers crossed that we can get back to training fairly soon, and that shows restart at some time.

Sue

Product Review

This will be a regular feature, so if you have a product you would like to review, please email your article to: watchdog@wdtc.org.uk

It can be anything we may find useful, eg:

- Collars
- Leads
- Harnesses
- Dog coats, drying coats, jumpers, pyjamas
- Coats, boots, running shoes, trousers for people

Otherwise you will just end up with my recommendations!

Thank you

Crufts March 2020

Was it really only earlier this month? Seems like a lifetime ago!

Thursday

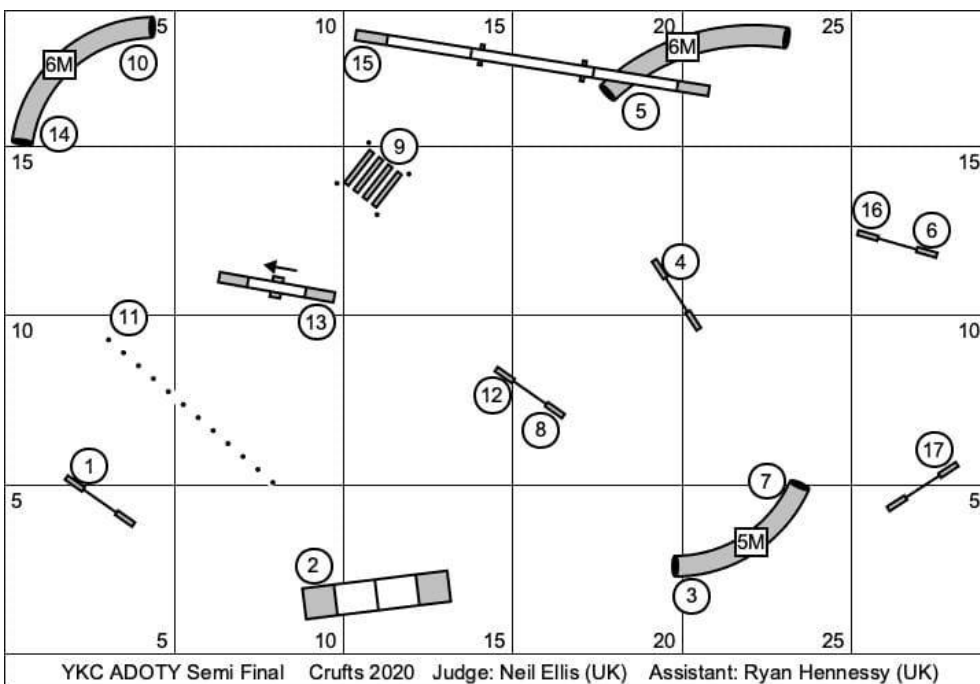
Rory Tidmarsh

2020 was my 7th year at Crufts and an amazing year for me too. I had qualified to compete in 3 YKC classes at Wallingford Show - Agility Dog of the Year (Sonic), Jumping (Sonic) & Pairs (Dude).

The Agility was on the Thursday, with a semi-final in the morning, and final in the main arena in the evening. I won the semi-final for U18 large dogs. We had the fastest time in the final, but Sonic flew his A-frame contact, so we ended up 8th.

3	Sophie	Fenland Mad Star
4	Jack	Zenro Royal Mint
5	Thomas	Laugh Out Loud
6	Max	Soldaze Out Of The Blue

Crufts is an amazing show with lots of people and different dogs. However, it is really busy and sometimes is hard to navigate through, especially if you have a dog that tries to eat every food stand it can smell!

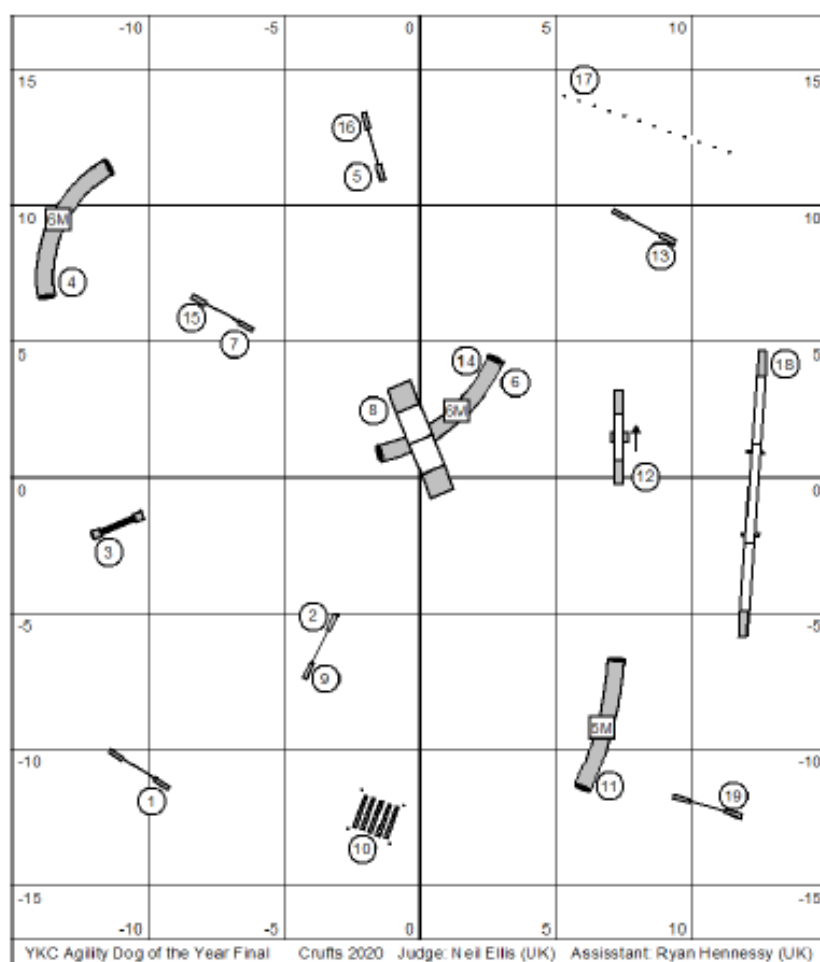


— Agility 12-17 Large		
PLACE	Handler	Dog Name
1	Rory	Delanor Creme De Menthe
2	Emily	Bombs Away Buzz
3	Sophie	Fenland Mad Star
4	Jack	Zenzo Royal Mint
5	Thomas	Laugh Out Loud
6	Max	Soldaze Out Of The Blue



Young Kennel Club Agility Dog of the Year Crufts			
Final Result			
1	Fenland Mad Star Sophie Atkinson	0	37.185
2	Happy Pappi of Many Tears Rosie Sawyer	0	38.484
3	Pop Stayley Stephanie Jones	0	39.524
4	Frostie's Pocket Rocket Stacey Frost	0	39.956
5	Blazecroft Dark Moon Grace Williams	0	41.362
6	Lyrichaline High And Mighty Ruby Strutt	0	41.486
7	Izzy's Little Lunatic Isabelle Wakefield	0	56.692
8	Delanor Creme De Menthe Rory Tidmarsh	5	36.029
9	A Message To You Rudi Will Bacchus	5	37.232
10	Aint He Sweep Chloe Cooper	5	39.117

11	Rohamki Taylor Made Taylor Lyon	5	39.926
12	Birkcross Thunder In The Sky Ty Knight	5	41.002
13	Marrytudog Twist And Shout Chloe Burnett	5	57.091
14	Woodleighs Prince Oscar Scarlett Benson	15	54.136
15	Black Knight Of Wessex Emma Greenshields		elim.
15	Bombs Away Buzz Emily Rice-Stringer		elim.
15	Castomya Epic Enchant Mint Yvie Thompson		elim.



Saturday

Sue Cuddon with Topsy came 2nd in a big post-graduate class, then 1st in Good Citizen.



Sunday

Rory and Dude, with Lucas and Kaos – YKC Pairs – 5th

Pairs Agility (12-17) Results - Large	
1	Erin & Rhianna with Skye & Dash
2	Benjamin & Morgan with Rueben & Havannah
3	Blair & Dylan with Rosie & Sweep
4	Georgia & Zoe with Chance & Gem
5	Lucas & Rory with Kaos & Dude
6	Chloe & Joe with Gem & Murphy



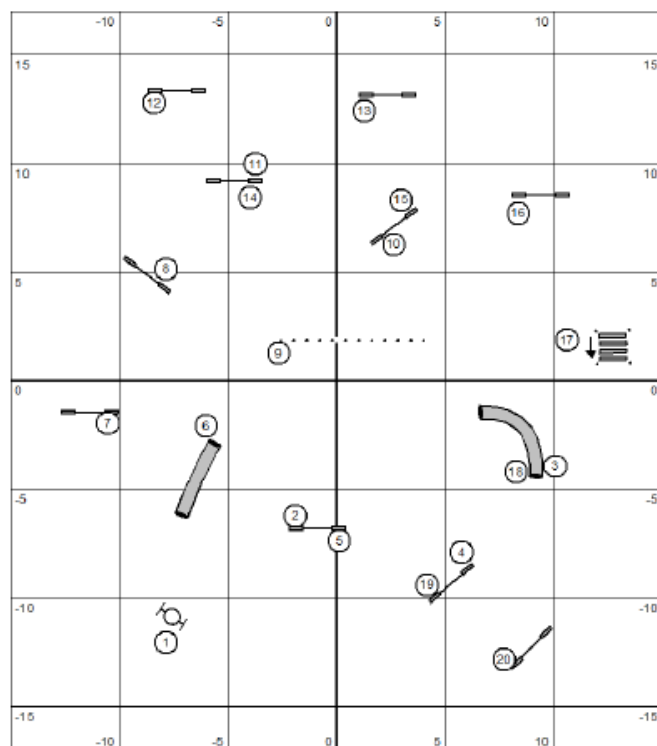
Debby Simons and Dobby – Champ

If any of you watched this on the livestream, you'll know how exciting it was!

Dobby had an unlucky pole down in the jumping round. Still had the fastest time!

Agility Championship - Large				Crufts
Final Result - Round 1 - Jumping				
1	Ag Ch Comebyanaway Reddy For Fame Dave Munnings	0	34.837	
2	Ag Ch Comebyanaway Redefined Dan Shaw	0	35.091	
3	Devongem Quick Time Euan Paterson	0	35.606	
4	Ag Ch Ferdi's Mirror Image Sian Illingworth	0	35.653	
5	Ag Ch Nedlo Flipping Shiny Pebble Natasha Wise	0	35.668	
6	Ag Ch Borderpaws Secret Surprise Martin Reid	0	35.779	
7	Lilhaze Secret Pleasure Martin Reid	0	35.830	
8	Ag Ch Lalapaws Taken By Surprise Marita Davies	0	36.285	
9	Elswish Dark Legend Jane Seller	0	36.687	
10	Mendipstar Coy Oaty Snuggly Lee Windeatt	0	37.902	

11	Ragamuffin Rockstar Andrew Priestley	0	40.057	
12	Famous Falcon Of Mogwai's Castle Debby Simons	5	34.387	
13	Lalapaws Turn Up The Jukebox Gemma Haycock	5	36.080	
14	Gitdoon Gee Uz A Giggle Jennifer Hart	5	36.970	
16	Shanowl Wholey Moley Stuart Harmes	5	38.541	
17	Ag Ch Chikaramor Born Performer AW(G) Alan Wildman	5	39.866	
18	Neon Oxide Dalton Meredith	5	40.866	
19	Ag Ch Morgansr Digital Demon Steven Richardson	10	37.887	
20	Soldaze One Summer Dream Pia Glover	10	39.305	



Class: Championship - Jumping **Judge: Jackie Gardner**
Sunday 8th March 8:45 **Medium/Large/Small**

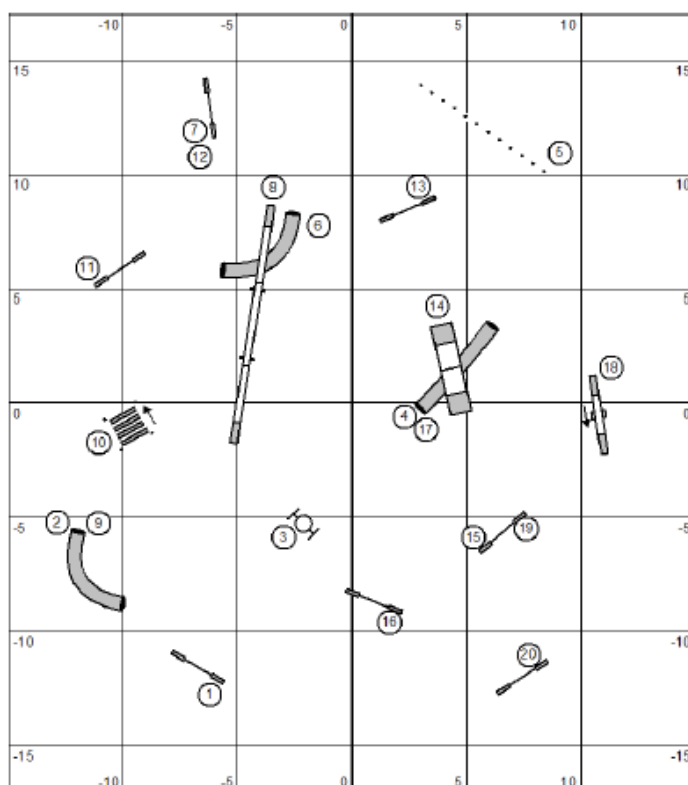
Competitors
& Equipment

Then onto the agility round. A stunning performance and they took first place!

Qualified for the evening's final.

Agility Championship - Large			
Final Result - Round 2 - Agility			
1	Famous Falcon Of Mogwai's Castle Debby Simons	0	37.098
2	Ag Ch Comebyanaway Reddy For Fame Dave Munnings	0	37.445
3	Devongem Quick Time Euan Paterson	0	37.810
4	Lalapaws Turn Up The Jukebox Gemma Haycock	0	38.503
5	Ag Ch Ferdi's Mirror Image Sian Illingworth	0	38.894
6	Ag Ch Comebyanaway Redefined Dan Shaw	0	39.931
7	Soldaze One Summer Dream Pia Glover	0	40.195
8	Lilhaze Secret Pleasure Martin Reid	0	40.855
9	Ag Ch Chikaramor Born Performer AW(G) Alan Wildman	0	43.940
10	Ragamuffin Rockstar Andrew Priestley	0	44.245

11	Neon Oxide Dalton Meredith	5	37.555
12	Ag Ch Nedlo Flipping Shiny Pebble Natasha Wise	5	38.278
13	Ag Ch Morgansr Digital Demon Steven Richardson	5	38.897
14	Mendipstar Coy Oaty Snuggly Lee Windeatt	5	39.902
15	Ag Ch Borderpaws Secret Surprise Martin Reid	5	39.993
16	Ag Ch Lalapaws Taken By Surprise Marita Davies	5	41.397
17	Elswish Dark Legend Jane Seller	5	41.971
18	Ag Ch Borderspirit Bright Star Lucie Hinchley	5	43.100
19	Lilhaze Dark Pleasure Naarah Cuddy		elim.
19	Shanowl Wholey Moley Stuart Harmes		elim.
19	Ensorcell Back In Black Joanne Tristram		elim.
19	Gitdoon Gee Uz A Giggle Jennifer Hart		elim.
19	Avonwolf Beanies Dizzy Dora Jessica Clarehugh		elim.



Class: Championship - Agility
Sunday 8th March 10:35

Judge: Jackie Gardner
Large/Small/Medium

↑
**Competitors
& Equipment**



Dobby has a crown on his head!



Onto the final in the evening. Nail biting stuff! So exciting watching each dog and handler. Then it was Debby and Dobby. They were going brilliantly and so fast! We were watching them from home, willing them on. Shouting at the telly. Onto the final line. Just three obstacles to go and in touch with the time... And a very unlucky refusal. So brilliant. So close. Such a massive achievement. Next year!

16 L3 Agility Championship - Large - Final OFFICIAL RESULT

FINAL

Sunday March 08th 2020

Rank	DOG Handler	Nat.	TOTAL PEN	TOTAL TIME
1.	AG CH COMEBYANAWAY REDEFINED Dan Shaw	GBR	0.00	34.245
2.	DEVONGEM QUICK TIME Euan Paterson	GBR	0.00	34.320
3.	AG CH NEDLO FLIPPING SHINY PEBBLE Natasha Wise	GBR	0.00	34.358
4.	LALAPAWS TURN UP THE JUKEBOX Gemma Haycock	GBR	0.00	34.514
5.	AG CH BORDERPAWS SECRET SURPRISE Martin Reid	GBR	0.00	34.679
6.	ELSWISH DARK LEGEND Jane Seller	GBR	0.00	35.173
7.	AG CH COMEBYANAWAY REDDY FOR FAME Dave Munnings	GBR	5.00	33.779
8.	FAMOUS FALCON OF MOGWAI'S CASTLE Debby Simons	GBR	5.00	36.850
9.	RAGAMUFFIN ROCKSTAR Andrew Priestley	GBR	5.00	41.312
10.	LILHAZE SECRET PLEASURE Martin Reid	GBR	10.00	39.060
11.	MENDIPSTAR COY OATY SNUGLY Lee Windeatt	GBR		eliminated
11.	AG CH LALAPAWS TAKEN BY SURPRISE Marita Davies	GBR		eliminated
11.	AG CH FERDI'S MIRROR IMAGE Sian Illingworth	GBR		eliminated

Wallingford Show

Jo Tidmarsh

It seems so much more than a fortnight ago where we were wondering if we might have to cancel the show. Now it is inconceivable that we were ever having those thoughts!

So how was the show shaping up! It was on track to be our biggest ever show:

- 13 rings on Saturday
- 12 rings on Sunday
- 1,969 dogs entered
- 1,122 FPP accounts entered
- 7,947 dog runs
- 352 YKC runs
- 90 Veteran Handlers.
- 245 camping units
- Turnover of just under £35,000



So what happens now?

It is all cancelled! However we have to pay some fees – First Place Processing had done their job as far as processing entries, and need paying. We need to pay First Contact a partial payment for the equipment. Oh and the Showground – well best I say nothing further other than ‘we are still talking to them – just’. They are insisting on applying the full Terms and Conditions which say we have to pay the full amount if we cancel less than 3 months in advance.

As soon as I can complete my negotiations we can get the refunds sorted.

Whatever happens, the club certainly won't have any profit from this year's show to re-invest in training and new equipment.

I was looking forward to a great weekend.

Thank you so much to all who had helped so far, and given up so much time, and thank you to all those who had offered help.

A Bit of Light Relief!

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<https://www.facebook.com/perennialstarter/>



Sitting in the sun yesterday afternoon, we could have been forgiven for believing the world was normal. The birds were singing, the daffodils were doing yellow; the grass was looking more green than brown and the lads from the farm opposite were screaming around the fields on their off-road bikes. A rural idyll, as long as you had a set of ear plugs and a high tolerance for petrol fumes.

Whilst enjoying the view, I wondered how long it would be before I became thoroughly sick of it. After all, agility folk are almost nomadic for part of the year and aren't used to spending every day of every week at home. Until now.

Looking at our campervan parked on the drive, I hatched a plan. You can all join in if you like. In order to ring the changes, why not sleep in your caravan, camper or tent? Then, when you wake up in the morning, you can draw back the curtains and see a totally different view of your next door neighbour. If that becomes old, try making up the bed the other way around so you are rotated through 180 degrees and you get yet another new view. Once that novelty has worn off, why not turn the van around on your drive so it's pointing the other way? Endless opportunities for mixing it up - well not strictly true, probably only a couple of versions are realistic for most driveways. I suppose the ingenious amongst you could enlarge a photo of your favourite show ground and put it behind the curtains for a nice surprise in the morning.



If you have the space, you could even set up your garden and put your fairy lights out. No worries about them draining your battery as this particular venue has electric hook-up. It also has way better toilets. Set your alarm for 5am and make sure you use the dog bark ring tone. From experience that tends to be the time that someone's yappy dog decides it needs to start the dawn chorus, so it will add to the authenticity of the experience. Reset the alarm for 6am and fall into the deepest possible sleep so that when the alarm goes off you either sleep through it or wake up with such a start you bang your head on the bunk above you.



Next, breakfast. Leave the kettle boiling whilst you stand outside in your dressing gown watching the dogs be very confused as to why they're in the drive, and when you go back in you will have created your own sauna. You may also have woken some neighbours thinking the sound of the kettle was their car alarm going off. If that's the case, give them a cheery wave - I'm sure they'll appreciate it.

Dogs need feeding and exercising and you'll need to pick up and drop it in the black bin liner that is always already full. Then it's bacon sandwich time. It's important that you eat this whilst standing up and staring into the distance. After all, you are normally waiting for the judge to finish tweaking and announce that the course is ready for walking. It's always a stressful time. After all you want to be in the first wave of people to rush onto the course. But you can't do that if you still have food in your hand. But rushing your weekend treat isn't top of your priority list. It's a delicate balancing act of watching the judge's body language and trying to lip-read what they're saying with pacing yourself so that the last morsel passes over your palette just as the ring-manager raises the walkie talkie to announce, "you may walk the course".

Quite how we are going to recreate course walking, I haven't worked out yet. It's the antithesis of social distancing at the best of times, so perhaps we need to use our imagination and do shadow handling manoeuvres whilst avoiding imaginary people so that the neighbour you woke earlier thinks you are a karate novice having a seizure.



The noise of an agility show should be quite easy to replicate. Either make a recording of your dogs barking and play it on a loop or replay a video of one of your rounds at a show and turn it way, way up so that you, and the dogs, can hear the tunnel and the seesaw and the WEAWEAWEAWEAVE command. That should get them going. If you have WiFi connection in your drive you could be doing this on FaceTime or similar with friends. That would ensure that dogs up and down the country and indeed all over the world could bark excitedly and annoy far more neighbours than normal.

— Your delivery slot —

Choose a slot type

☐ **Fixed 1hr slot**
Busy day? Pick a fixed 1 hour slot for delivery and we'll deliver to your fridge door

☒ **Flexi saver slot**
Flexible? Choose your window & we'll confirm a 1 hour slot on the day of delivery

Choose a date and time

Mar 31 - Apr 06

Apr 07 - 13

Apr 14 - 20

No slots available! Try another day

About our pick, pack & deliver charge >

Please select one of the above slots to secure a time that's convenient for you

Start shopping

Of course, the benefit of being on your drive means that you didn't have to pretend you were working at your screen whereas you were really waiting for the camping to open for Thames or KCI AF. If you miss that kind of excitement, why not try to secure a home delivery spot from one of the supermarkets. They are all fully booked for up to three weeks but every day another day gets added. Can you be one of the first to nab a

spot? It certainly got my adrenaline going but I'm proud to say I am getting a delivery on April 13th. That was better than getting a clear round, believe me!

Stay at Home!

Winter League 2019-20

Jill Lowe

The series of competitions is now finished for this Winter with Wallingford finishing in 4th place.

The points are only a part of why we as a club take part in this league, it is also important as an introduction for new dogs and handlers starting to compete and competition practice for the more experienced. It's also a great opportunity to socialise with club members across all the training groups.

All the matches went ahead, despite Equine Flu and Storms. As a club we had quite a few last minute drop outs before most matches, but we still managed to fill 389 of our target 400 runs. I'd like to thank everyone who ran their socks off with, doing the maximum of 4 runs with their dogs.

This year as ever we had lots of brilliant results and lots of fantastic runs. It was great to see our Improvers competing so successfully.

Overall between us we achieved 126 Clear Rounds and 88 runs with faults. I'm impressed that the total number of runs with Eliminations was less than half our runs -175. The leader board of dogs earning points follows:

Handler	Dog	Club Points
Dawn Graham	Daisy	146
Katerina Liskova	Mia	145
Jill Lowe	Cass	135
Sue Cuddon	Mischief	133
Gill Rhodes	Mindy	125
Sue Cuddon	Luna	117
Dawn Graham	Lexi	116
Jill Lowe	Bex	110
Linda Morgan	Casper	109
Maria Davies	Molly	101
Caroline Howes	Pablo	99
Caroline Howes	Tia	86
Martha Preece	Maxi	85
Paula Routledge	Marco	80
Ellie Gilroy	Mollie	76
Gill Rhodes	Merlin	71
Alison Pearce	Herbie	70
Claire Jones	Honey	60
Hanna Jenkins	Pico	60
Lizi Bowerman	Pebbles	50
Jo Tidmarsh	Dude	49
Pam Morgan	Martha	48
Brad	Libby	43
Maria Davies	Belle	41
Nicky Grainger	Maisie	36
Alison Brown	Ciara	34
Rory Tidmarsh	Sonic	27
Pam Morgan	Magnus	26
Paula Routledge	Rossi	24
Kathryn Brocklehurst	Shango	21
Wendy Botto	Caley	10
Dawn Graham	Mayhem	10
Claire Jones	Indy	9

Winter League 2019 - 2020

	Oct		Nov		Jan		Feb		Overall	
Vyne	786	1	794	1	661	1	696	1	2937	1
Cranbourne	650	3	647	3	637	2	675	2	2609	2
Thames	742	2	720	2	497	5	627	3	2586	3
Wallingford	607	4	643	4	511	4	591	4	2352	4
Diamond Dogz	361	5	358	5	520	3	465	5	1704	5
	3146		3162		2826		3054		12188	

Leagues

As well as our own Club League and the Winter League that we enter as a club, **there are a number of other leagues** you may be eligible to enter. As detailed in the last edition:

The Agility Club

<https://agilityclub.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/932407526791257/>



Senior Agility League

<https://www.agilitynet.co.uk/senior%20agility%20league/intropage.htm>
!

Dog Agility Rescue League (DARL)

<https://agilityleagues.co.uk/darl/default.asp>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/172368337853/>



More leagues! If you know of yet more, please let me know.

Toy Breed Agility League (TBAL)

This league has been set up to reward toy breed dogs that display consistent performance at dog agility competitions.

This league is open to competing agility dogs that fall into the Kennel Club Toy Breed group. Dogs do not have to be on the breed register and may be registered on the activity register as a crossbreed, as long as the dog resembles a breed within the toy group. Toy breed crosses are also allowed. Other breeds that do not fall into the toy breed group may be accepted at the organisers discretion, please enquire for confirmation.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/411123733057124>

Intermediate League

This is a league for dogs competing in intermediate/standard height at KC/UKA shows in the UK.

<http://www.intermediateleague.co.uk/index.php>



Agility League for Spitz (ALFS)



This group is to promote agility throughout the various Spitz breeds. Any Spitz breed is welcome, including first line crosses.

This league is inclusive for all varieties of Spitz, type of handler (beginner or international). It will not discriminate between UKA and KC shows regarding points values. Full details, rules, membership forms etc are available in the files section.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/243197402922400/>

Doodle League

A group for owners of labradoodles, cockapoos and any other poodle crosses with an interest in agility. Join the Doodle Agility League.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/443299582389552/>



Ready to Compete?

Entering shows can be a confusing business! There are several different organisations, each with their different rules, regulations, methods of entry... This is a (very!) brief guide on the different organisations, how to find shows to enter, getting your dog measured, different show processors and the like.

Wins and places at one organisation do not transfer across to the other organisations, although the level you start at in some organisations will depend on the grade you are at KC. Nor do official measures in some cases.

How do you know if you are ready?

The show environment is very different to a training environment. It is much more high octane, with many more people and dogs. Larger shows will have several rings (in double digits) running at the same time. Usually the rings are not fully fenced; just a rope perimeter. There will be food and toy stalls around the rings. There will be a lot of noise and a tannoy. Your dog needs to be able to cope in such an environment and still pay attention to you.

- You should be able to do all the equipment for the class in which you are entered and be able to run a full course of up to around 20 obstacles. Depending on the show you enter, there are essentially three different types of class:
 - Agility – Jumps (which may include a long jump, spread, wall, tyre), tunnels, weaves, all three pieces of contact equipment (A Frame, dog walk and seesaw).
 - Jumping – Jumps, tunnels and weaves.
 - Steeplechase – Just jumps and tunnels.
- Your dog needs to pay more attention to you than the dogs/people running in the next door rings. It can be really upsetting for other competitors if their run is interrupted by another dog running into their ring. Especially if it is a qualifier. For some dogs which are already nervous, it could end their career.
- Aggression towards people or dogs may result in you being asked to leave the show and possibly a ban. That doesn't mean to say that you can never compete. Many people with reactive dogs compete all the time, but their dogs are well trained and kept under close control. Barking and lunging while on a lead can be quite common as dogs can get over excited.

Best advice is to ask your trainer !

The Different Organisations

Kennel Club (KC)

<https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/activities/agility/>

Wallingford is a KC registered club and our big annual show is run under KC license. KC was the original organisation for agility and most shows in the UK are still KC.



Registering

Your dog needs to be registered with the KC before you can enter a KC show. If your dog is already on the Breed Register with the KC, then you don't need to do anything else. If your dog is not on the Breed Register, then you need to register on the Activity Register. Choosing a name is often the difficult part! <https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/registration/how-to-register-your-dog/dog-activity-register/>

Measuring

<https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/activities/agility/new-to-agility/agility-measuring/>

Next you need to get your dog measured and get yourself an Agility Record Book <https://www.thekennelclubshop.org.uk/products/record-book-agility> Your dog must be a minimum age of 15 months. Measuring costs £4.

Height categories are as follows:

- Large Dogs, measuring over 500mm at the withers
- Intermediate Dogs, measuring over 430mm and measuring 500mm or under at the withers
- Medium Dogs, measuring over 350mm and measuring 430mm or under at the withers
- Small Dogs, measuring 350mm or under at the withers

If you are sure your dog is large, you do not need to get an official measure. Other heights will need a second measure 12 to 24 months after the first measurement. The second measurers must be different to the first measurers.

- Finding a measuring session is not always easy! Places to look are:
KC website <https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/activities/agility/new-to-agility/agility-measuring/agility-measuring-dates/>
- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/210740562319181/>
- Other than that, it's a case of checking schedules as they come out to see if measuring is offered, and keeping your eyes and ears open.

We have measuring hoops at the club which you may borrow, but they can only be away from the club for one week, ie borrow on one Thursday and return the next Thursday. They must also be signed out. You can use these to check the height you think your dog is, and get your dog used to having one put over their head. This will not be an official measure though.

Types of Classes

Progression classes consist of only jumping or agility. There are often other classes, which will be listed as a 'special' on the schedule. Special classes could be a steeplechase, pairs, teams, Anysize, ABC (Anything but a Collie), Veterans...

Entering a Show

All KC competitions must be entered and paid for prior to the closing date, which is listed on the schedule. There are no Pay on the Day (POTD) classes.

Dogs must be a minimum of 18 months old to compete.

Entries are usually by one of the show processors (as noted on the schedule), although postal entries are still accepted.

UK Agility (UKA)

<https://ukagility.com/>

There are several UKA shows held within daily travelling distance of our area. UKA shows are generally smaller than KC shows and so are often better to start a new dog.



Registering

Both the handler and dog(s) need to be registered with UKA

<https://ukagility.com/how-to-register/>

Handler registration has to be renewed every five years. Dog registration is for life. You can assign any number of handlers to your dog, as long as the handler is registered with UKA. That way your friend can run your dog for you.

Measuring

<https://ukagility.com/about/measuring/>

The height categories are the same as for KC, but are called:

- Maxi
- Standard
- Midi
- Toy

Dogs which are obviously Maxi dogs do not need to be measured. Your dog cannot be measured until they are 15 months old. If your dog is under two years old when first measured, you will need a second measure when your dog reaches age two.

Measuring sessions take place every day at every UKA show. You can enter and compete without a measure (sessions often take place at lunchtime), but you must get measured at the first available opportunity. Measuring is free.

One of the big differences to KC is that you can choose to jump one height lower. UKA call this 'Select Height'. The results for Select Height are separate from full height. Currently, any qualifiers are not open to those who choose Select Height.

Types of Classes

<https://ukagility.com/about/classes/>

UKA have two separate streams of progression:

- Performance – Jumping, Agility and Games classes
- Steeplechase – Just Steeplechase classes

There are five different types of Games classes. Each of them have separate rules. With many of them, you can take your own line. People tend to shy away from Games classes, but they are great fun once you wrap your head around the different rules.

Non-progression classes include Nursery and Casual classes. There are also pairs, teams, circular knockout at some shows.

One of the great things about UKA shows is that you can enter a class Not for Competition (NFC). You can decide once you are at a show. You get 45 seconds in the ring and can use a silent toy (no food). You can practice things like start line waits, contacts, etc in a competition setting.

Entering a Show

With UKA, you can either enter and pay before the closing date, as listed on the schedule, or you can POTD. POTD is normally about £1 per class more expensive.

Dogs must be a minimum of 16 months old to enter Steeplechase or Nursery; 18 months for all other classes.

Entries are made via the UKA website, although postal entries can still be made.

Freeway's Agility Break (FAB)

<https://www.dawnweaveragility.com/copy-of-2019-show-dates>

Again, smaller than KC shows and so a good place to start a new dog. There are not many of these shows and they are not often very close to our area. I think the rings may be fully fenced, but not sure.



Registering

Doesn't seem to be a requirement.

Measuring

There are 5 jump heights available at FAB shows.

- Petite: 200mm - Yorkies, papillons, toy breeds, etc
- Small: Same as KC and UKA
- Medium: Same as KC and UKA
- Standard: Same as KC and UKA
- Large: Same as KC and UKA

It seems there are no measuring sessions, but rather you use your KC or UKA measure.

It is possible to jump one height lower under certain circumstances.

Types of Classes

- Agility: Can include contact equipment, weaves, jumps, tyre, tunnels etc.
- Jumping: Can include everything except contact equipment.
- Steeplechase: No contacts, no weaves, just jumps and tunnels
- Grand Prix: Can include contact equipment, weaves, jumps, tyre, tunnels etc.

Progression is separate for Agility, Jumping and Steeplechase.

You can run NFC with a silent toy or food and get 60 seconds in the ring.

Dogs must be a minimum of 16 months old for Allsorts and Newbie Steeplechase. A minimum of 18 months old for all other classes.

Entering a Show

Entries are made via Agility Plaza. POTD available as long as the cap has not been reached. Postal entries are still accepted.

Full rules and regulations are here:

https://61ddce72-1578-4d62-8e25-a1ad372de8c6.filesusr.com/ugd/f16ffb_340ce1595e9c425291116b617dc44e07.pdf

Example Schedule

https://61ddce72-1578-4d62-8e25-a1ad372de8c6.filesusr.com/ugd/f16ffb_4603ec1a64444dff84ce1b0c395a139f.pdf

British Agility Association (BAA)

<http://www.baa.uk.net/index.html>



I know nothing about these

shows, other than they seem to be mostly held in Lincolnshire. If you are thinking of entering one, you will need to read the information on their website and schedules.

Independents

Not affiliated to any organisation. These have their own rules and regulations (often based on KC), so reading the schedule is essential! Wins and places in these shows do not count towards progression in any organisation.

These are often small shows with no pressure, so a good place to start a new dog.

How to find a show to enter

The most comprehensive place to look is the AgiltyNet Show Diary

<https://agilitynet.co.uk/clutch/shows.htm>

Shows can be sorted by organisation. The town and postcode is listed. If you click on the show, there will be more information, such as the full address, date of closing and which show processor is being used. If the schedule is out, there will be a link there for it.



It is very important to read the schedule! Are you eligible for the classes listed? Most shows are for all heights and grades of dog. Some however are not.

Each organisation also has a list of shows to enter:

- KC https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/services/public/findashow/?utm_source=sidebar-kc-website&utm_medium=sidebar&utm_content=find-a-dog-show&utm_campaign=find-a-dog-show
- UKA <https://ukagility.com/compete/show-diary/>
- FAB <https://www.dawnweaveragility.com/2019-shows>
- BAA <http://www.baa.uk.net/shows.html>

Show Processors

There are many! Check the schedule for which one each show uses. Register on the site. You will need your details and your dog's details, including KC number, date of birth, microchip number, etc. Registration with the show processors is free. The show processors used by most shows in this area are:

First Place Processing (FPP) <https://www.firstplaceprocessing.com/>

Agility Plaza <https://www.agilityplaza.com/index>

Agility Shows Online (ASO) <https://agilityshows.online/>

Most processors also have a Show Diary page.

Next edition – what to expect at your first show!



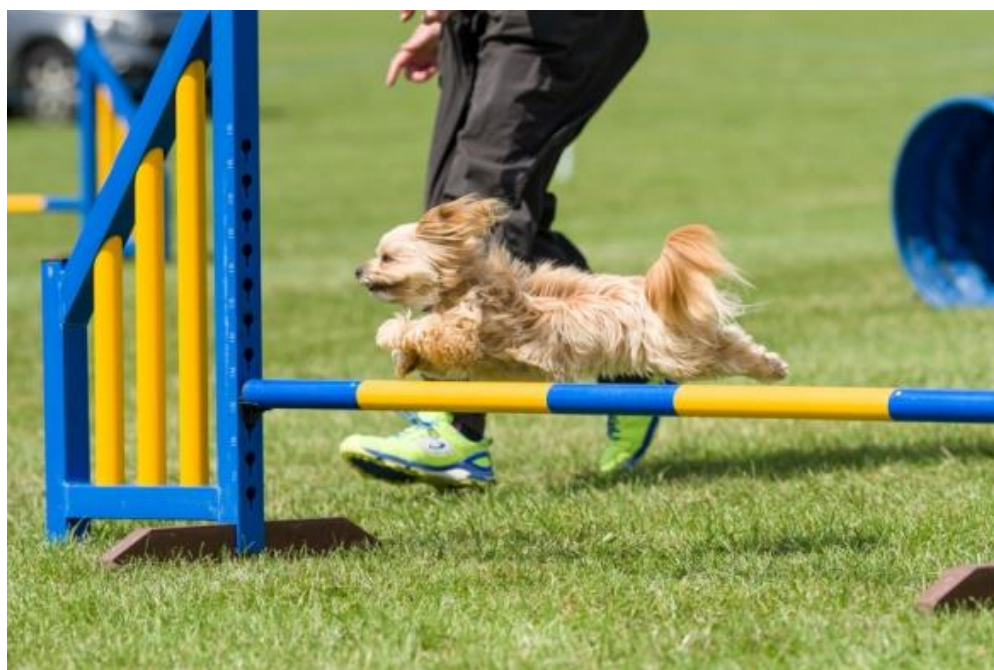
List of Local(ish) Shows in 2020

Most shows up to the end of June have now been cancelled. It's a wait and see for the rest of the year.

Date	KC / UKA	Name	Address	Closing Date
3-5 Apr	UKA	GT	Newbury Showground, Newbury, Berks, RG18 9QZ	
05-Apr	KC	Andoversford P2P	Ossage Farm, Andoversford, GL54 4LQ	05-Apr
10-13 Apr	UKA	Easter	Dowtys, Down Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 9QH	
10-13 Apr	KC	Kelluki	Hawbridge Farm, Clays Lane, Binstead, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 4NS	
17-19 Apr	KC	Spring at Market Harborough	Market Harborough Showground, Gallowfields Road, Market Harborough, Leics, LE16 7QB	20-Mar
17-19 Apr	UKA	Lydiard	Lydiard Park, Hook Street, Lydiard Tregoze, Swindon, SN5 3NY	
25-26 Apr	KC	Wallingford	Newbury Showground, Newbury, Berks, RG18 9QZ	
1-3 May	UKA	GT	Newbury Showground, Newbury, Berks, RG18 9QZ	
03-May	KC	Vyne	Newbury Showground, Newbury, Berks, RG18 9QZ	
03-May	KC	Severnside	Bathing Pond Fields, N Somerset Agricultural Society, Wraxall, Bristol, BS48 1NE	
15-17 May	FAB	Dorset One	Motcombe	
16-May	KC	Worcester	Top Barn Farm, Holt Heath, Herefordshire, WR6 6NH	
22-26 May	KC	Dog Vegas	Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex, Onley Grounds Farm, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8AJ	
23-31 May	UKA	Quad Paws	Mapledurham Estate, Mapledurham, Reading, RG4 7TR	
25-May	KC	Packington	Solihull Riding Club, Four Ashes Road, Bentley Heath, Solihull, B93 8QE	13-Apr
13-14 Jun	KC	Thames	Newbury Showground, Newbury, Berks, RG18 9QZ	
18-21 Jun	Unaf	CSJ Open	Addington Manor Equestrian Centre, Addington, Buckinghamshire, MK18 2JR	22 May
19-21 Jun	FAB	Witls One	Warminster	
20-21 Jun	KC	Golden Valley	Top Barn, Holt Heath, Worcester, WR6 6NH	07-May
26-28 Jun	UKA	GT	Dowtys, Down Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 9QH	29 May
27-28 Jun	KC	Wraxall	Bathing Pond Fields, N Somerset Agricultural Society, Wraxall, Bristol, BS48 1NE	

Date	KC / UKA	Name	Address	Closing Date
3-5 Jul	KC	Tuffley	Haw Bridge GL19 4HJ	
4-5 Jul	KC	Wellingborough		
4-5 Jul	UKA	Just Sox	The Turnpike Showground, Motcombe, Dorset SP7 9PN	
9-12 Jul	FAB/ KC	Dorset Two	The Turnpike Showground, Motcombe, Dorset SP7 9PN	
11-12Jul	KC	Dickson Dogs & Westlands Agility	Hollow Farm, Elmore Lane, Elmore, Glos GL2 3SG	30 May
11-12 Jul	UKA	RUFFS	Dowtys, Down Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 9QH	
17-19 Jul	UKA	GT	Newlands Park, Southam Lane, Cheltenham, GL52 3PE	
18-19 Jul	KC	Rugby	Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex, Onley Grounds Farm, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8AJ	
18-19 Jul	KC	Nedlo	Birchwood House Farm, Sherfield English, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 6FF	
24 Jul-2 Aug	UKA	Nationals	Dowtys, Down Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 9QH	
6-9 Aug	KC	KCI	Rutland Showground, Burley Park Way, Oakham, LE15 7TW (LE15 6US)	11 Jun
8-9 Aug	UKA	Teejay	Dowtys, Down Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 9QH	
12-17 Aug	KC	Dog Vegas	Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex, Onley Grounds Farm, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8AJ	
14-16 Aug	UKA	Agility4England	Dowtys, Down Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 9QH	
22-31 Aug	UKA	Hawbridge	Tirley, Glos, GL19 4HJ	
29-30 Aug	KC	Bromsgrove	Dodderhill Court Equestrian Centre, off Crutch Lane, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire, WR9 0BE	
4-6 Sep	KC	Prestbury Park	Cirencester Park, Bathurst Estate, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 6JT	
11-13 Sep	UKA	Lechlade	Lechlade K9 Centre, Willow Tree Farm GL7 3DL	
11-13 Sep	FAB	Wilts Two	Warminster	
18-20 Sep	UKA	GT	Lydiard Park, Hook Street, Lydiard Tregoze, Swindon, SN5 3NY	
18-20 Sep	FAB	Surrey One	Cranleigh	
18-20 Sep	KC	Southam	Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex, Onley Grounds Farm, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8AJ	
19-20 Sep	KC	WBSDS	Thame Showground, Thame, Oxfordshire, OX9 3BH	

Date	KC / UKA	Name	Address	Closing Date
26-Sep	KC	Nedlo	Birchwood House Farm, Sherfield English, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 6FF	
27-Sep	KC	Southdowns	Hampshire Constabulary Training HQ, Hamble Lane, Hamble, Southampton, SO31 4TS	
3-4 Oct	KC	Chippenham	Bath Racecourse, Lansdown, Bath, Bristol, BA1 9BU	
9-11 Oct	Unaf	BAC	Bury Farm Equestrian Club, New Bury Farm, Mill Road, Slapton, LU7 9BT	
10-11 Oct	UKA	Grand Finals	Addington Manor Equestrian Centre, Addington, Buckinghamshire, MK18 2JR	
31-Oct	Unaf	BAC/ABC Only	Moreton Morrell College Equestrian Centre, Moreton Morrell, Warwickshire, CV35 9BL	
28-Nov	KC	Dog Vegas	Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex, Onley Grounds Farm, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8AJ	
28-Dec	KC	Festive Challenge	Moreton Morrell College Equestrian Centre, Moreton Morrell, Warwickshire, CV35 9BL	28-Dec



Agility Demonstrations

Jo Maisey

The club is asked by various organisations to put on agility demonstrations for them. Either as a standalone, or as part of a wider day of entertainment.

As a club, we ask for a donation of £100 from the organisers, which goes towards the upkeep of the trailer. Members at all levels of experience are welcome to join in the fun. We showcase the wide variety of breeds and size dogs that can take part in agility, the competing partnerships, and demonstrate how we train.

Demonstrations are a fabulous stepping stone between training and competing. The environment is more challenging than training, but not as high octane as a competition. It's a chance to train over the equipment outside of normal training classes. Members also have free time to enjoy the rest of the show, and of course get free entry to the event!

So far in 2020, we have been booked as follows:

Sunday 17 May 2020

Postponed to 31 August

Abingdon Air and Country Show

Abingdon Airfield (Dalton Barracks),
Honeybottom Lane



Saturday 20 June 2020

CANCELLED

Grove and Wantage Extravaganza

Grove RFC



Please pencil the dates in your diary! If you'd like to join us, please either talk to me or send an email or message.

Contact for demos: events@wdtc.org.uk

Skills Directory



I am Alison Pearce, a Veterinary Physiotherapist and Canine Massage Therapist based in Newbury, Berkshire. I provide hands-on complementary therapy that can be used alongside conventional veterinary medicine to treat musculoskeletal and neurological conditions, for rehabilitation, wellbeing and athletic performance.

I offer a mobile service across West Berkshire, South Oxfordshire, and further afield. I specialise in dogs, and also treat horses, cats and other animals; my aim is always to achieve the best possible outcome for your animal.

I am qualified to Level 7, a full member of the Institute of Registered Veterinary and Animal Physiotherapists (IRVAP) and the Canine Massage Guild. In accordance with UK law, veterinary consent is always required before I can treat your animal.

<https://www.forwardfocusvetphysio.co.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/alisonpearcevetphysio/>

If any club member has a skill/business which may be useful for other members, eg:

- Plumber
- Electrician
- Accountant
- Photographer
- Dog Trainer/Behaviourist
- Physiotherapist
- Financial Adviser

Please email watchdog@wdtc.org.uk with details of what services you provide, areas covered and contact details such as telephone numbers, email and website.

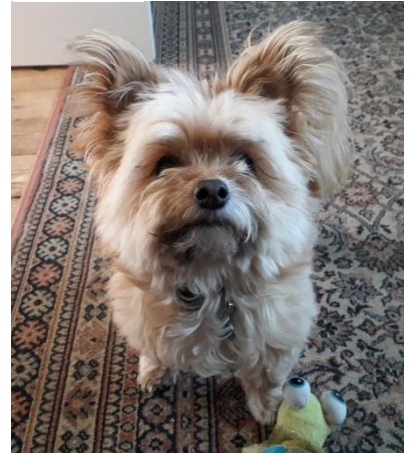
Not asking for freebies or mates rates! Just someone we know and can trust.

Having to Do It Yourself?

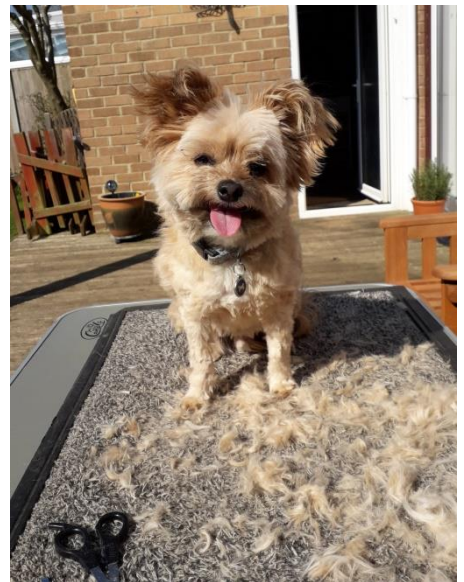
There are so many things for which we rely on professionals, which have now been postponed. For me (so far) it's been physio appointments (for both me and my dog), Doctor's appointment, massage and podiatrist. And, um... grooming. I stupidly left the grooming appointment for too long, and then it was too late.

No problem! I'll just get the scissors and clippers out, right? Here are the results...

Before



During



After – ta da!



Oops! Oh well. It'll grow back.

Got anything you want to share with us in the Facebook group?

Competition Time !!!

Claire Jones

Competition still on through lockdown!

We are relaunching this as we have so many new members and would like everyone to have the opportunity to be involved. Previous entries will be re-entered or you can re-enter if you have new ideas.

Our current WDTTC logo designed by Wendy has stood us well over the last 21 years! However the current design does not stand up well to being used on rosettes and smaller merchandise, due to this and the fact that we feel we are long overdue an update to our overall image, the committee has decided that we would like to run a competition to design a new club logo.



We are looking for something that expresses the main avenue the club now takes ie Agility in a design that will be both eye-catching and suitable for use on all WDTTC merchandise, rosettes, internet publishing and headed paper etc.

It does need to contain either the letters WDTTC or Wallingford Dog Training Club.

If you look at other clubs' newly designed logos - simplicity seems to be the key. Simple and striking images catch the eye and translate well to small applications.

The club's colours were traditionally royal blue and yellow; however they have evolved over the years to navy and gold. Do though keep in mind that the clothing that the logos go on is generally navy.

You do not need to be Da Vinci! Ideas and concepts are the most important. We can have those adapted to work if need be so get involved, have fun - do a few!

The winning design will be chosen by the club committee and the winner will receive the first polo shirt with the new design – and of course years of 'I did that' glory.

Any images/clip art/design used in the logo must be copyright free, free to use, or have the permission of the designer to be used for this purpose.

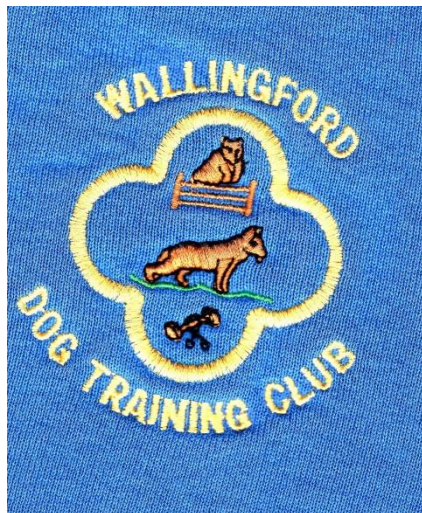
Re format we require the entries in, I have spoken to our current supplier and JPEG is the preferred format however they can convert from virtually any format – so the world is your oyster.

You can enter as many times as you like, and the competition is open to anyone, including friends, relatives etc.

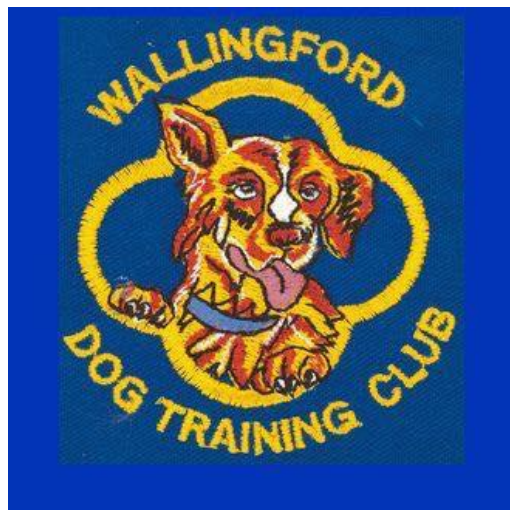
Good luck, have fun creating and we look forward to seeing your entries.

Entries: please email them to me at

Please do not hesitate to message if you need any more info or help.



Original Logo



Current Logo

Examples of logos that work well:



Believe in UK's finest

Proudly sponsored by



What made me get into Agility?

Aline Webber

I purchased Zuma (working Cocker) in September 2018 at 8 weeks old. Being an intelligent energetic breed, knowing he was going to be our family dog I wanted him to have a job to do and to keep his brain engaged as well as keeping myself fit. I contacted WDTC when Zuma was 6 months of age as I was told there is a waiting list. Out the blue I received an email last year at the start of summer; I was invited to bring Zuma along to a taster session. We went along and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. We were very lucky and were given a place to start in September 2019.



In between all of this I re-ruptured my ACL and I am waiting for my 3rd operation to my knee. Now my son Freddie comes along with me, he and Zuma are developing their bond Freddie looks forward to Thursday evenings and it's great to see them in action.

Origins of Dog Agility

Dog agility started life in 1978 when it was showcased as a demonstration at Crufts on Friday 10 February 1978. It was put on as entertainment in the main ring, between the Obedience and Breed competitions.

Two teams of four dogs plus one reserve each arrived at Crufts Dog Show 1978. They were the Lincolnshire Alsatian Association & All Breeds Training Society, and the Yorkshire Working Trials Training Society. The handlers

wore smart tracksuits as a team uniform and competed against each other with great success. The reaction from the crowd ensured that dog agility would be seen again.

In 1979, after qualifying rounds, three teams competed in the finals at Crufts. The teams were the Pontefract Dog Training Club, The Rugby Dog Training Club and The Yorkshire Working Trials Society.

A further Agility milestone was reached when the finals of the Pedigree Chum Agility Stakes were held at the International Horse Show at Olympia during December 1979.



In 1980, The Kennel Club became the first organisation to recognise agility as an official sport with a sanctioned set of rules. The first agility test to be held under the new regulations was the team event at Crufts that year. The three teams to qualify after an eliminating round to compete in this event were Pontefract DTC, Yorkshire WTS and the Walldridge Fell TC.

1983 saw the founding of the Agility Club, the first national agility club in the UK, which also publishes Agility Voice, the first agility magazine.

This is a video of the first demonstration of agility at Crufts in 1978. The equipment will make you cringe!

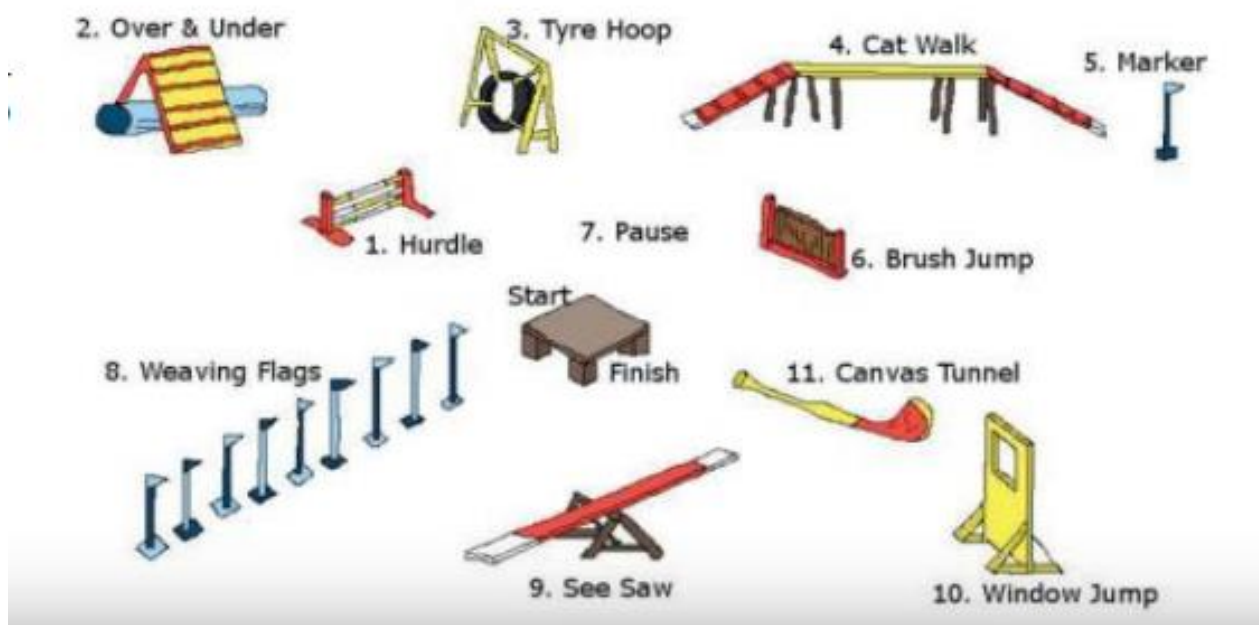
https://youtu.be/d2oB3pgWq_A

Originally, all dogs – regardless of height – had to compete over the same 30" jump height. This changed during the early 1980s with classes being introduced for Mini dogs (up to 15" at the shoulder, jumping 15"). The first Mini Agility Dog of the Year competition took place at Olympia in December 1987. Classes for Midi dogs (15-17" at the shoulder, jumping 20") were introduced in the 1990s, although it was not until 2005 that they had their own competition at Olympia.

In 1992, the first week long agility show was held at Malvern by Dogs in Need, in aid of dog charities. A total of 885 dogs entered with 5,879 class entries. Dog agility has grown in the UK to the point where the most popular Kennel Club shows regularly run ten or more rings a day, with up to 450 runs in each ring.

Throughout the 1990s, dog agility in the UK was dominated by the Kennel Club. In 2003 the situation started to change with the appearance of shows run by East Midlands Dog Agility Club (EMDAC). The Kennel Club initially attempted to defend its monopoly, before finally accepting that clubs and organisations outside of its jurisdiction should also have the right to put on agility shows without any fear of disciplinary action against members or competitors from the KC.

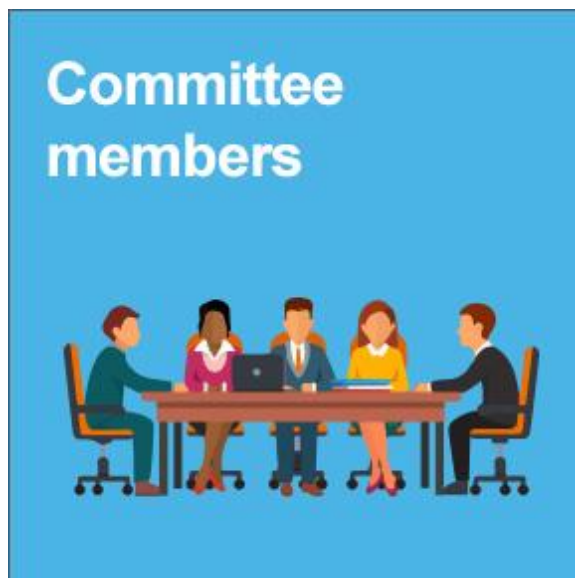
This led to an increase in the number of non-KC agility shows from late 2003 onwards. Many of these were held by independent clubs as one-off events, but a number of agility organisations also started to be formed. These included UKA, Agility Addicts and It Barks, all of which were founded in 2004. In 2006, EMDAC launched the British Agility Association (BAA).



First agility course 1978

Committee

- Jo Maisey – *Chair (also Website, Lending Library, Demonstrations and Watchdog Magazine)*
- Kevin Pearce – *Treasurer*
- Dawn Graham – *Secretary*
- Joanna Tidmarsh – *Show Secretary*
- Jill Lowe – *Agility Rep, Training Groups*
- Lizi Bowerman
- Claire Jones
- Gill Rhodes – *Training Groups*
- Caroline Howes – *Course Running/Walking nights*
- Sue Cuddon – *Membership*
- Dave Bossom – *Trailer Maintenance*
- Vacancy



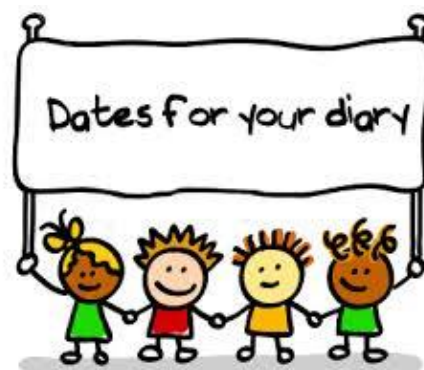
There is a vacancy on the Committee. If you are interested, please let one of the committee members know, or send an email. The only criterion is that you must have been a full member for a minimum of one year.

Show Committee

- Joanna Tidmarsh – *Show Secretary*
- Kevin Pearce
- Claire Jones
- Jill Lowe
- Alison Pearce
- Gill Rhodes
- Caroline Howes

Save the Date!

- Wednesday 6 May - *next Committee Meeting. Please let us know if you have an item you would like the committee to discuss.*
- ~~Sunday 17 May~~ Now Monday 31 August - *Agility Demonstration at Abingdon Air and Country Show*



Contacts

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Next edition of Watchdog due end of June 2020

This is the quarterly magazine of WDTC and is intended to pass on club news, agility news, articles which may be of interest, etc. Primarily, it is **YOUR** magazine. I'd very much appreciate contributions please.

Articles from club members are always welcome at any time. Have you found an amazing product which you now can't do without? Or maybe there is a subject you would like to see covered? Do you have a question which needs answering? Any article of any length is welcome, as are photos.

Please send any articles or suggestions through to watchdog@wdtc.org.uk at any time. The more the merrier or it will end up being very repetitive and very boring as I fill the magazine with articles about me and my dogs!

Jo Maisey, Editor