

SAINT BERNARD

Breed First - Excellent F.A.S.T. Qualifying Score & First Excellent F.A.S.T. Preferred Title (XFP)



**CH/WDCH XmaxKris Van 'T Hof Ten Eynder
CD, CDX, UD, UDX, RN, RA, RE, RAE, RAE2,
TD, NAP, NJP, OAP, OJP, AXP, AJP,
MXP, MXP2, MXP3, MXP4, MXP5,
MJP, MJP2, MJP3, MJP4, NFP, OFP, XFP,
VCD1, VCD2,
DD, WP, WPX, WPS**

John & Suzanne Cox

By John Cox

I have uploaded another history-making video run of Saint Bernard Kris in agility. This run is on YouTube and is from the AKC Agility *EXCELLENT* F.A.S.T. class—the TOP level of competition in the F.A.S.T. classes.

Here is the link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oAY57fhpshk>

A little information about this difficult class of Agility...

In the AKC Agility **Fifteen And Send Time** (F.A.S.T.) classes the handler makes up their own course from the **fifteen** obstacles in the ring. Each obstacle has a point value. At the Excellent level you must obtain at least 60 points to qualify. Plus, there is a **send** zone (within an area marked with tape on the ground) into which the handler is not to cross. The dog is sent by direction from the handler, who is 15-20 feet away from the obstacles in the send zone. The dog is to do the obstacles in the correct order. The handler's course, plus the send zone, must be completed within a 35-second **time** frame.

In this video and course the first obstacle in the send zone is the tunnel (behind the A-frame and a little out of view in this video). I am 20 feet back from the entrance to the tunnel and direct Kris to head in on his own to the "correct" tunnel entrance. Kris goes to the tunnel (correct entrance, too) and then out of the tunnel to a jump, then turns and comes back over the other jump. This sequence is called a serpentine as the jumps and tunnel are in a row and the dog weaves from one to the next. This is a difficult task for a Saint as the angles are tight and, unless they go deep to make the jump, the bars can get knocked off which equals a non-qualifying run.

Kris was pumped with visions of cheese burgers in his head if he did a good job on this course. Dogs just LOVE this sport as it is a natural for dogs that like to run and jump. Kris is three months away from his *ninth* birthday in this video and you can see how this sport has maintained his superb physical condition and attitude.

Some of the F.A.S.T. courses work well and others do not, depending on your dog or even the breed of dog! We have had many courses where we did not fare well. The send zone is the most difficult part (getting the dog to work *correctly* away from you), plus getting around the ring to the obstacles needed to obtain 60 points in 35 seconds. Not an easy task for our large breed.

Keep in mind, when tunnels are on a course they are not speed obstacles for a Saint Bernard as a 30-inch dog going through a 20-foot tunnel that is only 24-inches in diameter takes a bit of time! The allotted 35 seconds goes REALLY fast!

Kris now is retired from agility amassing **18 agility titles** and all in one venue--the AKC (an **all-time record for our breed**). Whew, what a fun ride it was and we are so proud and fortunate to have shown others what OUR breed can do. Our proudest moment was Kris being featured on national television during the AKC Agility Invitational! The folks in this sport have been so very supportive as I steered my oil tanker of a dog through the sometimes tight courses!

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VCD1, VCD2, DD, WP, WPX, WPS

John & Suzanne Cox



First Saint Bernard &
First Champion to Earn a
Excellent F.A.S.T. Qualifying Score & Title

March 31, 2007 & September 7, 2007

First Saint Bernard to Qualify & Title In All The F.A.S.T. Agility Classes--Novice, Open & Excellent

Saint Bernard National Archive's AKC F.A.S.T. Agility Record For:

CH/WDCH XmaxKris Van 'T Hof Ten Eynder VCD2 UDX RAE2 MXP5 MJP4 XFP DD WPS

John and Suzanne Cox

CH	Titles	Date	Time	Score	NFA	NFB	OF	XA A	XF B	MXF	NFP	OPF	XFP A	XFP B	MFP	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	#	M	E
(1) Novice F.A.S.T. Preferred																						
2001-CH	VCD2 UDX RAE MXP4 MJP3	January 13, 2007	35	51							36.30						2					
2001-CH	VCD2 UDX RAE MXP4 MJP3	January 14, 2007	35	55							25.19							3				
2001-CH	VCD2 UDX RAE MXP4 MJP3	January 15, 2007	35	54							29.09						2					
2001-CH	VCD2 UDX RAE MXP4 MJP3 NFP	February 17, 2007	35	55							34.70					1						
Class Summary		4		53.75	ERR	ERR	ERR	ERR	ERR	0	31.32	ERR	ERR	ERR	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	
(2) Open F.A.S.T. Preferred																						
2001-CH	VCD2 UDX RAE MXP4 MJP3 NFP	February 24, 2007	35	62							33.52					1					1	
2001-CH	VCD2 UDX RAE MXP4 MJP4 NFP	March 03, 2007	35	61							31.55					1					2	
2001-CH	VCD2 UDX RAE MXP4 MJP4 OFP	March 24, 2007	35	58							27.96					1					3	
Class Summary		3		60.33	ERR	ERR	ERR	ERR	ERR	0	ERR	31.01	ERR	ERR	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	
(3) Excellent F.A.S.T. Preferred																						
2001-CH	VCD2 UDX RAE MXP4 MJP4 OFP	March 31, 2007	35	63							31.98					1					4	
2001-CH	VCD2 UDX RAE MXP4 MJP4 OFP	April 14, 2007	35	63							36.88					1					5	
2001-CH	VCD2 UDX RAE2 MXP5 MJP4 XFP	September 07, 2007	35	61							36.32					1					6	
Class Summary		3		62.33	ERR	ERR	ERR	ERR	ERR	0	ERR	ERR	35.06	ERR	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	
Overall Summary		10		58.30	ERR	ERR	ERR	ERR	ERR	0	31.32	31.01	35.06	ERR	0	7	2	1	0	6	m	

= Number of advanced scores from the Open and/or Excellent classes

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The Saint Bernard National Archives