

2002
Archive Obedience News
For the Saint Bernard



Volume 1, Inaugural Year, 3 Issues
October, November and December

Obedience News

7th Champion Utility Titled Saint Bernard in 2002

The *big story* from the April 2002 shows is that a rare Hall of Fame Plateau of Excellence has been reached once again, this time by a Belgium-born Saint Bernard. **CH XmaxKris Van 'T Hof Ten Eynder CD, CDX, UD, DD** completed his AKC Utility Dog title and became only the 7th Saint Bernard with a Breed Championship and a Utility Dog (UD) title. The last CH UD Saint Bernard was back in 1986—16 years ago! Kris has also gone on to become the **FIRST** Champion with AKC Agility titles (NAP & NJP) in September 2002. This boy is now the **only** Saint Bernard to be titled in breed, obedience, agility & SBCA working. Kris has also been seen in the tracking fields working towards a title in yet another venue. Check out the article about Kris on the AKC web page: http://www.akc.org/dic/events/agility/preferred_classes.cfm



A New UDX in the Making!

Nerthus Phylis Chances R Good UD finished his Utility Dog title in July 2002. He has wasted no time in starting on the UDX title the same month. To earn a UDX the dog must have received qualifying scores in both Open B and Utility B at 10 separate licensed or member obedience trials. This boy has four legs towards the title in the month of July! Believe me, it is not an easy task to get ONE leg let alone four in *two* weekends. There is only one official UDX in our breed. There are other Saint Bernards that have achieved 10 combined scores before the AKC title came into being. However, the Hall of Fame has long had a Plateau of Excellence to recognize the Saint Bernard earning 10 combined scores. These dogs may be viewed in the National Archives at: <http://clubs.akc.org/saints/Archives/Welcome.htm> .

23 UDX Legs!

Nerthus Chrissy's Alpen Joy UDX has earned her 23rd UDX leg in July 2002. She now has enough UDX legs for TWO+ UDX titles! In the Saint Bernard National Hall of Fame, a Plateau of Excellence is earned for each 10 UDX legs. Chrissy is on her way to another Plateau of Excellence in the near future.

New AKC Obedience Regulations

The next time you are at a dog show, go by the Superintendent's table and look for the new copy of the AKC's Obedience Regulations. They will look the same (gray cover with dumbbells) but the date on the front reads "Sept. 1, 2001." There has been one update in in Chapter 1, Section 12.

Saint Bernard Club of the Pacific Coast

Friday, October 18, 2002
Alameda County Fairgrounds
Pleasanton, CA (Bay Area near SF)
Obedience Judge: Noelle Pilat

Saint Bernard Club of Puget Sound 2003

Winter Specialty &
(Back-to-back Obedience Trials!)
Saturday--January 4th, 2003--1st Obedience Trial - Judge: Theresa Butcher
Sunday--January 5th, 2003--2nd Obedience Trial - Judge: Dan Butcher .

SAINT BERNARD JAMBOREE

Obedience Judges:
Saturday, Feb. 15, 2003
Mrs. Betty Mae Regan
Sunday, Feb. 16, 2003
Mr. Larry Andrus
Monday, Feb. 17, 2003
Mrs. Pauline Andrus

Obedience News

August Was a Slow Month For Obedience Scores

The August AKC Trial results are in and ONLY ONE Saint Bernard earned two qualifying scores. At one trial I might add! **Nerthus Chrissys Alpen Joy UDX** earned her **24th combined score** in August! For those new to the sport, a combined score is passing Open and Utility at the same trial. Not an easy task.

No other Saint had a qualifying score during the month of August across the nation. A hot summer surely could have been a factor with our breed. Let's hope September is better and more qualifying scores show up.

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AKC Obedience Advisory Committee to Assemble in 2003

Early in 2003 the AKC will have an Obedience Advisory Committee meet sometime during February or March. This committee (like others in the past) will submit suggestions for changes in the Obedience Regulations to the AKC Board. New ideas will be discussed along with possible new titled Non-Regular classes added.

If you would like to nominate a person to be on the committee, send your suggestion to Pat Krause (Vice President of Companion Events) at : Prk@akc.org

A New UDX in the Making! 4 UDX Legs in 2 weekends—in 1 month!

Nerthus Philys Chances R Good UD finished his Utility Dog title in July 2002. He has wasted no time in starting on the UDX title the same month. To earn a UDX the dog must have received qualifying scores in both Open B and Utility B at 10 separate licensed or member obedience trials. This boy has four legs towards the title in the month of July! Believe me, it is not an easy task to get ONE leg let alone four in *two* weekends. There is only one official UDX in our breed. There are other Saint Bernards that have achieved 10 combined scores before the AKC title came into being. However, the Hall of Fame has long had a Plateau of Excellence to recognize the Saint Bernard earning 10 combined scores. These dogs may be viewed in the National Archives at:

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Back-to-back Obedience Trials!!!

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Obedience News

Two New CDXs For Saint Bernards in September



A good year for a variety of obedience titles for the Saint Bernards in 2002. So far we have 9 CDs, 3 CDXs, 2 UD's & 2 TDs. I know of more titles on the way and they will be mentioned as published in the AWARDS. The Saint Bernard Club of America has several awards for performance dogs. They may be viewed by clicking SBCA Awards under the Performance link. Keep up the good work and on to 2003.

The November AKC AWARDS posted two new CDX Saint Bernards! 2002 is looking up for a major performance title banner year for our breed.

The new CDXs in the November AWARDS were:

Stoans Quiet Collar V Abquin (Below)
CD-2000/CDX-2002
September 28, 2002 &

Swissongs Nevada (No photo)
CD-2000/CDX2002
September 21, 2002

Congratulations and row it is on to the Utility ring! ??

A New UDX in the Making! Up to 6 of the 10 Legs Needed!



Nerthus Philys Chances R Good UD finished his Utility Dog title in July 2002. He now has 6 of the 10 combined scores in Open B and Utility B. To earn a UDX the dog must have received qualifying scores in both Open B and Utility B a 10 separate licensed or member obedience trials.



Saint Bernard Obedience News

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It May Take Two to Tango but...

ONE Open Group Exercise is Adequate!

by John Cox
dogtalk@attbi.com

We have gone through quite a few positive changes in the Obedience Regulations, but over time more adjustments will be considered to keep the sport current and hopefully attract new participants. Plus, we need keep spectator appeal, which is a method of promotion. Below is my proposed change to the **Open Classes ONLY**. It never hurts to think of something new and kick around ideas. Keeping an "open" mind is a good thing for our sport.

Before you read on...**PLEASE READ** and **FULLY UNDERSTAND** what I am proposing! I am **NOT** proposing to do away with the Group Exercises!!!! A Group exercise is important and has value both to the dog and handler, plus they are appealing to the crowds (**who later may enter into our sport**). Come back and reread this again when you have read the full article, as there has been a misunderstanding in the past as to what I was proposing.

I suggest **having one** of the **Open Group exercises ONLY**. The judge would choose a **three** minute Long Sit **or** a **three** minute Long Down. The judge would also be required to rotate the Long Sit and Long Down from trial to trial. **Only one** of the **Open Group exercises would be performed**, and the judge would post the chosen Open Group exercise for that particular class 30-45 minutes before the class starts (like they do now for the advanced B classes).

The **Open A** class would follow the same order of exercises with the exception there would be only **one Group exercise (a Long Sit, or, a Long Down)**. The **Open B** judge would also have the choice of the Long Sit **or** Long Down and post it with their mixed order of exercises like they do now. **Judges**--don't panic and think you will need more posting sheets. You can simply block out the one group exercise not used on the sheets you now have! Furthermore, since it is a group exercise (separate worksheet), you can make your choice of the Sit or Down on the day of the show. Conditions may dictate which exercise you choose. The Judge's Book will stay the same and the judge would draw a horizontal straight line through the group exercise (or boxes) not used.

The score totals of the Open exercises would be altered to total 200 points:

Heel Free & Figure Eight.....40
Drop On Recall.....30
Retrieve on Flat.....30
Retrieve over High Jump.....40

(Raising this exercise point scale keeps the same ratio of 10 points more than the Retrieve on Flat)

Broad Jump.....30
Group exercise (**either one, but only one**)...30

Using only *one* of the Open Group exercises will change the Open classes to having SIX exercises like the Novice and Utility classes. There are now seven Open exercises. (Or, a new seventh exercise could be added back into the individual exercises.)

Keep in mind that the **Open dog** has earned their CD title by successfully demonstrating the Long Sit **and** Long Down **together** in the Novice ring with the handler in sight (at least three times). I really see no reason to repeat **BOTH** of the Group exercises at the Open level. **One Open Group exercise is adequate** and proves the dog can stay with the handler *out of sight*. Another factor to keep in mind is this sport has spectator appeal. Next time watch and see how many spectators stand and stare at stationary dogs for 8-10++ minutes! **One 3-minute** Open Group exercise proves all that needs to be proven and holds on to the spectators.

I feel the judge choosing the ONE Open Group exercise is the fairest for all dogs and all breeds. For example, some dogs are pretty solid on the Long Down while others are pretty solid on the Long Sit. Having the judge choose which exercise to be judged promotes fairness in the playing field for all breeds.

One can take their chances on which group exercise the class will have, which is better than having the *same* group exercise over and over that may favor some breeds of dog. I doubt that many will choose not to compete if the chosen group does not suit them. After all, it is just ONE of SIX exercises and the entry \$ has all ready been spent, plus they are at the trial with the dog! Do many Open B exhibitors pull JUST because the Long Down is first, followed by the Long Sit? If so, the numbers are so small it is not a factor for the reasons stated above.

Also, with temperature factors (outdoors or indoors) the dogs would not have to be in the HOT sun, inclement weather, or, hot or cold buildings as long. Why do we subject **just** the Open dogs to this time factor of 8-10++ minutes sitting **and** laying in inclement conditions? The Open classes are *usually* later in the morning or mid-day when things may be heating up. Just **one** of the Group exercises will demonstrate what we want it to demonstrate. Repeating the Group exercise with the dogs in a different position (and one longer in duration by two minutes) at the OPEN level really is not

beneficial, nor does it prove anything from my viewpoint. Have there been any complaints when one of the Open Group exercise was removed from Graduate Novice in 2000?

Let's move on to **ONE 3-minute** Group exercise **ONLY IN THE OPEN CLASSES**. Be it a Long Sit, **OR**, a Long Down, **OR**, the judge's choice! Who knows, there might even be more interest in continuing on to Open classes for the masses. **Our sport sure could use that change!** Also with this change, judges would be able to judge more Open dogs per hour.

An AKC Obedience Advisory Committee will be meeting on April 26, 27, 2003 in Raleigh, NC. Let your input be known NOW. To use a couple of quotes from the AKC web page (December 12, 2002) ...

"Submissions will be accepted at obadv@akc.org or may be mailed to **Patricia Krause, AKC Companion Events, P. O. Box 37930, Raleigh, NC 27627-7930**. 'From past experience, the tremendous number of ideas and suggestions contributed will make it impossible for Companion Events to respond,' said Ms. Krause, 'but every one we receive will be brought to the committee's attention. I will share with the fancy the trends that we see from their input.'

"The 1999 Committee also made suggestions that led to the increasingly popular Versatile Companion Dog titles. All of their recommendations were made based on the suggestions, information, and concerns submitted by the fancy."

If you are in favor of this proposed change, mail or email a copy of this article to the AKC at the above addresses along with a note of your support!

Don't whine later if ***you fail*** to act now



2003
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For the Saint Bernard



Volume 2, 12 Issues

Obedience News

**The First Saint Bernard UDT Since 1989 +
First CH UDT Saint Bernard Since 1976 +
The First VCD & CH/VCD & CH/WDCH/VCD Saint Bernard Ever!**



On **November 24, 2002**, **CH Kris UD** (in six minutes time) found the leather glove at the end of a 465 yard track which had aged 30 minutes; and the Hall of Fame doors opened as many Plateaus of Excellence were reached at that exact moment. The **TD** title obtained by Kris completed many other titles and breed history was made on that day.

The **TD** title gave Kris the **UDT** title making him the 12th UDT of the breed. The last UDT was in 1989!

The **TD** title gave Kris the combination of **CH UDT** titles making him the 2nd (first male) CH UDT of the breed. The last CH UDT was in 1976!

The **TD** title gave Kris the combination of titles making him the first **VCD1** Saint Bernard. The VCD title is a new title which rewards the dog titling in obedience, agility and tracking. Since the Hall of Fame rewards Champions who earn performance titles, the **TD** makes Kris the First **CH VCD1** Saint Bernard.

The **TD** title gave Kris the combination of titles making him a **WDCH** (SBCA Working Dog Champion). He is the 9th WDCH and the 4th CH/WDCH.

Kris (the following weekend) went on to earn an additional two agility titles and, with his **TD**, he reached the **VCD2** level on **November 30, 2002**. According to the AKC Vice-President of Performance Events, **NO OTHER BREED** has earned a VCD1 & a VCD2 in such short order (1 weeks time)! Kris is the first VCD2 and first **CH VCD2** Saint Bernard!

Kris now carries another "title"—the most-titled Saint Bernard in breed history (in **5** different venues—Conformation, Obedience, Tracking, Agility and Draft work). His "official" name now reads:

CH/WDCH XmaxKris Van 't Hof Ten Eynder CD, CDX, UD, TD, NAP, NJP, OAP, OJP, DD, VCD1, VCD2.



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Obedience News

New Obedience Titles Coming In Near Future!

AKC Considers New Obedience Titles

[AKC web page...Monday, December 09, 2002]

The American Kennel Club is considering new Companion Events titles for UDX and OTCH dogs according to Pat Krause, AVP for Companion Events. "People seem to enjoy having both goals to reach and titles that recognize the accomplishment of those goals," said Ms. Krause.

To earn a Utility Dog Excellent (UDX) title, a dog must receive qualifying scores in both Open B and Utility B at the same trial at ten licensed or member obedience trials. The UDX follows the dog's name. The addition would be a numeric designation for every ten times the dog meets that requirement. For example, 20 (ten for the UDX) qualifying scores would be designated as UDX2; 30 qualifying scores, a UDX3.

The Obedience Trial Championship (OTCH) points are earned when a dog receives a first, second, third or fourth place qualifying score competing in the Open B or Utility B classes according to the schedule approved by the Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club. As a championship, the OTCH precedes the dog's name. The new title designation would be for each additional 100 points earned according to the OTCH schedule, a number would be added. At 200 points, the designation would be OTCH2, at 300 points, OTCH3.

The increasing popularity of the Versatile Companion Dog (VCD) titles and the appreciation of the numeric designation used with those titles indicates the interest among members of the dog sport fancy in having easily recognizable signs of accomplishment. "The numeric designation is an efficient, meaningful and an appropriate way to recognize those who continue to excel at the upper levels of Obedience competition," said Ms. Krause. "I look forward to having this in place in the near future."

Exhibitor Input Sought for 2003 Obedience Advisory

AKC web page...[Thursday, December 12, 2002]

Patricia Krause, AVP for Companion Events, announced an Obedience Advisory Committee meeting April 26 and 27, 2003 in Raleigh, NC. "This is in keeping with the over-all AKC plan of convening Advisory Committees every four years. The purpose is to evaluate input from the fancy and set the course for obedience," said Ms. Krause.

Exhibitors, instructors, judges and clubs are encouraged to suggest ideas for classes, titles, regulation changes or clarifications that they believe to be in the best interest of AKC Obedience. Submissions will be accepted at obadv@akc.org or may be mailed to **Patricia Krause, AKC Companion Events, P. O. Box 37930, Raleigh, NC 27627-7930**. "From past experience, the tremendous number of ideas and suggestions contributed will make it impossible for Companion Events to respond," said Ms. Krause, "but every one we receive will be brought to the committee's attention. I will share with the fancy the trends that we see from their input."

The previous committee met in August of 1999. Among their recommendations were the addition of the non-regular Pre-novice class, varying the exercises in Open B and Utility B, start times for classes, and the introduction of Rally.

The 1999 Committee also made suggestions that led to the increasingly popular Versatile Companion Dog titles. All of their recommendations were made based on the suggestions, information, and concerns submitted by the fancy.

"This is the opportunity for interested folks to have a voice in shaping the course of Obedience. I look forward to hearing from them," added Ms. Krause.

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Obedience News

2002 A Year in Review for Obedience

1st Saint Bernard to compete at AKC Invitational!



Pictured above is Nerthus Chrissys Alpen Joy **UDX** (Norb & Chris Kowal) competing at the 2002 National Obedience Invitational in Chicago, IL. She went through a maze of exercises for two days and only missed ONE! She did our breed proud at this history-making event for the Saint Bernard.

The format for this exciting event is divided into two different days of competition. On the first day, each dog/handler team will be judged on a variety of obedience exercises in six different rings. Dogs accumulate points on exercises such as scent discrimination, broad jumps, and directed retrieves. The top four scoring dogs from each of the seven dog groups (Non-sporting, Sporting, Terriers, Hounds, Herding, Working, and Toy), plus the next four best dogs (regardless of group), then move on to the final day's competition. On this crucial day, dogs are seeded and paired, where they will compete in a 'one-on-one, sudden-death' competition.

8 UDX Legs in 10 Tries



Unbelievable cannot describe earning EIGHT UDX legs in just 10 tries. For a dog to earn a UDX leg, it must pass Open B and Utility B at the same show. It takes 10 combined scores to earn a UDX. Pictured above is Nerthus Philys Chances R Good **UD** (Norb & Chris Kowal). "Chance" will be a UDX for sure as you read this in March 2003. Check out the database in the Saint Bernard Archives for the complete record and scores. Good Luck in 2003 and on to more Hall of Fame Plateaus.

NINE TITLES IN ONE YEAR!



CH/WDC XmaxKris Van 'T Hof Ten Eynder **UDT VCD2 DD** (John & Suzanne Cox) had a Saint Bernard record-breaking year when he completed his **VCD2** title on November 30, 2002. This was Kris's **9th title that year alone** (highlighted). At the end of t2002 he had **13 titles to his name**.

1. CH = Breed Championship
2. **WDC** = Working Dog Ch.
3. CD = Companion Dog
4. CDX = Companion Dog Exc.
5. **UD** = Utility Dog
6. **TD** = Tracking Dog
7. **NAP** = Novice Agility
8. **NAJ** = Novice Agility Jumper
9. **OAP** = Open Agility
10. **OAJ** = Open Agility Jumper
11. **DD** = Draft Dog
12. **VCD1** = Versatile Companion Dog-first level
13. **VCD2** = Versatile Companion Dog-second level

Obedience Title Breakdowns for 2002

11 **CDs**

3 **CDXs**

2 **UDs**

1 **VCD₁**

1 **VCD₂**

Obedience News

Saint Bernard Jamboree of Obedience Trials!

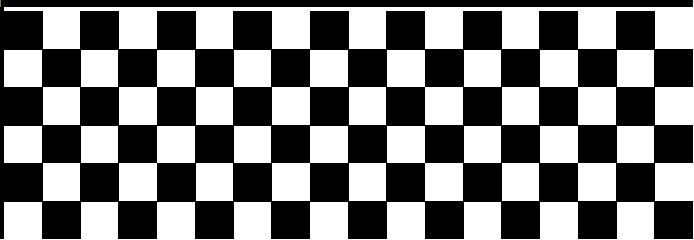
By Tom Brown

The Saint Bernard Club of San Diego (SBCSD) hosted a conformation show and three obedience trials during the Presidents holiday weekend in February as part of the California Saint Jamboree. The Jamboree was held in Claremont, California. The Orange Coast Saint Bernard Fanciers and the Saint Bernard Club of Southern California also held their conformation shows as part of the activities. The weather was beautiful as we chose the days between the two biggest rainstorms Southern California has seen in years. The entry was 100 Saints each day!

Obedience

The obedience trials were small but actively pursued. There were five entrants the first two days and six on the third day. Three Novice B entrants competed each day and **Tejon Peaks Shakira**, handled by Shirley Welsh, qualified on the first day with a 187 score under judge Mrs. Betty Mae Regan. She received a silver plated photo frame as High in Trial winner. We also had an Open A and a Utility A entries in the trials. There were no qualifiers on the second day under judge Larry Andrus with the same entrants. On the third day an additional Open A dog, **Tejon Ciper Ladd CD**, handled by Ann Boardman, joined the group and qualified under judge Mrs. Pauline Andrus with a 187.5 score. He was awarded a pen and pencil set as winner of High in Trial. (The photo shows Ann Boardman with her dog, **Tejon Ciper Ladd CD**, judge Pauline Andrus and Show Chairman Tom Brown of the SBCSD.)

It was a first leg for both of the qualifiers.



Next month...Sister & Brother put a lock on the breeds two UDXs!

Tune in next month for the complete story.

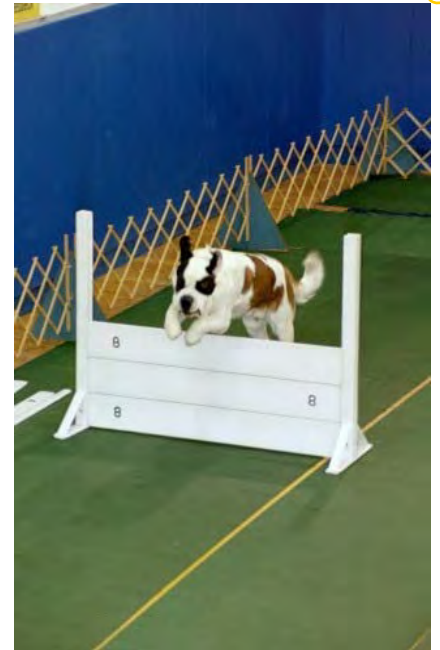


Obedience News

2nd UDX Title for the Saint Bernard!

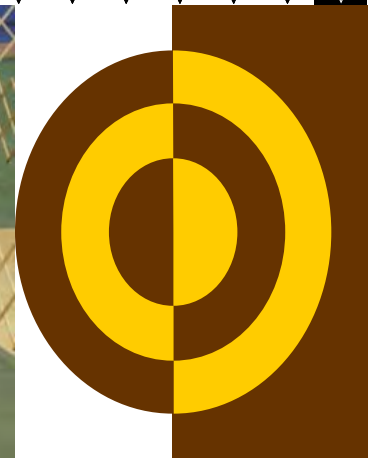


UDX
number 2
for the Saint
Bernard
&
for the Kowals!!



By Norb Kowal

Nerthus Philys Chances R Good UDX finished his UDX title in March 2003. To earn a UDX title, the dog must have received qualifying scores in both Open B and Utility B at ten separate licensed or member obedience trials. "Chance" is the second official UDX in the breed. His sister, Joy, was the first (prior litter). He competed in fourteen shows to earn the ten legs. In 18 months of obedience showing, he earned all four AKC titles: CD, CDX, UD and UDX.



Obedience News

The SBC of America's National Obedience Trial at Rio Rancho, New Mexico



May 9 2003, the Saint Bernard Club of America hosted its **30th** National Obedience Trial in Rio Rancho, New Mexico. This year, the trial was held indoors in a ball room! Entries ranged from Novice A through Utility A. The qualifiers were:

Cherokee Rose Little Bogey Bo	Novice A	190.00	1st
Excalibur's Knight of The Realm CD HF	Novice B	193.00	1st
Brandy CD	Novice B	186.50	2nd
Benjamin Wayne II CD	Open A	189.50	1st
Swissongs Nevada CDX	Open B	191.00	1st

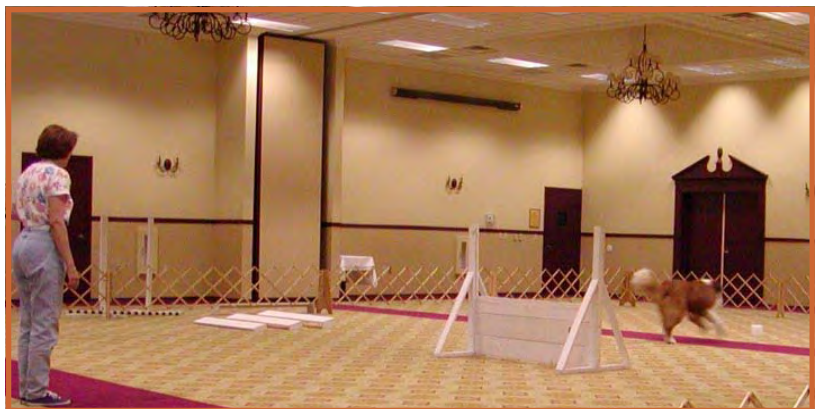
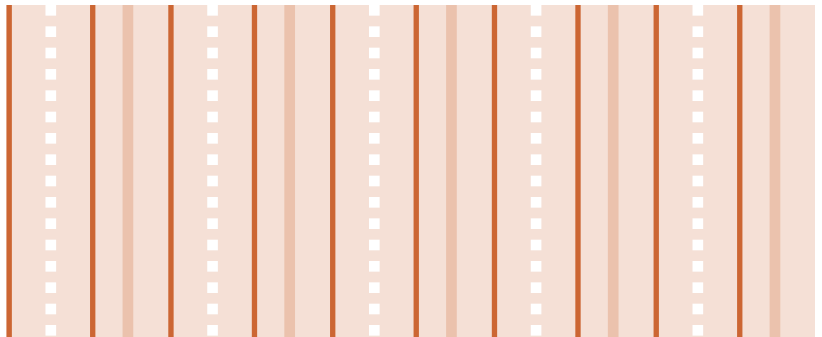
CH Valinta's Wanna Dance V Stone CD Veterans 193.5 1st

This years Highest Scoring Dog from The Regular Classes was **Excalibur's Knight of The Realm CD HF** from the Novice B class. Last year he also earned High in Trial from the Novice B class in Arizona. The Hall of Fame doors swung open as two National Wins is a criteria for induction. Congratulations to all.

Top photo: Barry Roland & Swissongs Nevada CDX, in the Open B class, returning after a successful Broad Jump.

Below: Vicki Graves' Ch. WD Ch. Victory's Amber Ice V Stoan CDX WPS DD HF PE, in Open B class, going over the High Jump to retrieve the dumbbell.

Below right: Linda Eaton & Benjamin Wayne II CD, from the Open A class, doing The Retrieve Over High Jump.



BIG Saint Bernard Obedience Event in Roseville, California

AKC to Select Obedience Team to Compete in First-Ever International Competition at Crufts 2004

-- Top OTCH Dogs Will Be Invited To Compete --

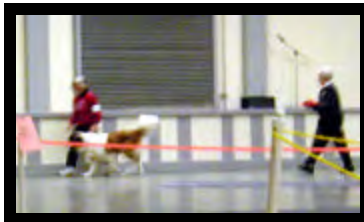
The American Kennel Club (AKC) announced today that its Board of Directors approved the establishment of an AKC Obedience Team to compete in the first-ever 2004 Crufts Obedience World Cup Competition. The competition, which will be held concurrently with the Crufts Dog Show in March 2004, is the first time in Crufts' 112-year history that International Obedience will be featured at the prestigious competition.

This year, members of the 2003 AKC Obedience Team, consisting of three canine/handler teams and one alternate team, will be selected from the top Obedience Trial Champion (OTCH) dogs in the country. The four dogs earning the highest number of OTCH points from January 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003 will be invited to participate on the team.

"We are thrilled to be invited to compete at the first-ever 2004 Crufts Obedience World Cup Competition," said Patricia Krause, AVP of Companion Events for the AKC. "OTCH points will carry a whole new meaning in AKC obedience competitions as canine/handler teams will now have the opportunity to win a spot on the AKC Obedience Team and compete against others from around the world in a spectacular international competition."

The AKC is developing a plan to offer an International Class competition at future AKC Obedience Trials as a means of qualifying for the team. The finalists will be chosen at the AKC National Obedience Invitational, held in conjunction with the AKC/Eukanuba National Invitational Championship.

Obedience competition demonstrates the usefulness of a dog as a companion to humankind. Dog and handler teams are judged on how closely they match the judge's mental picture of a theoretically perfect performance as they execute a series of specified exercises. Accuracy and precision are essential, but the natural movement of the handler and the willingness and enjoyment of the dog are very important. In 2002, there were 140,503 entries in AKC obedience trials across the U.S.



Marge Parsons & Thunder Hill's Brunhilda The Loooooong Novice Sit

By Lovey Olbirch

The **Saint Bernard Club of the Pacific Coast** put on two back-to-back obedience trials in conjunction with the cluster shows in Roseville, California on April 25 and 26, 2003. The entries were terrific; nine dogs on Friday and eleven dogs on Saturday. Entries came from Washington, Oregon, and Northern and Southern California. Mid Rothrock judged on Friday, and Jill Urbina judged on Sunday.

Friday's show had no qualifiers. Many dogs were close, including the two Open dogs who only failed one exercise each, but not close enough. Although her owner was mortified, the Novice A dog did a wonderful display of the "tummy" exercise (see it, rub it please!).

Saturday's show was much more successful. Again, none of the three Open dogs qualified, failing only one exercise each. However, two of the Novice B dogs qualified. **Benbaron's Knight of Iceman WPS**, handled by Vicki Graves, earned his third leg on his CD and was also **HIT. CH Revilo's Quick Pick**, handled by Bill Oliver, earned the first leg on his CD, which he followed up with Best of Breed later in the day.

It was great fun seeing the row of Saints doing the long sits and downs in the Novice class. The club thanks all the entrants for their support. See you next year!



Obedience News

Saint Bernard Earns a First UDX leg



Eileen & Shana's
Second Chance UD



A Victory Jump
after winning
1st Place!

Saint Bernard starts on the road to the UDX title

Shana's Second Chance UD finished her Utility Dog title in February 2003 and one month later (at the DOC of Greenville, SC) she earned her FIRST UDX leg. **Eileen Topper** writes...

"Shana makes for an interesting story....she was a 'rescue' at 5 weeks of age and has just turned age four. As a pup, I quickly realized I couldn't handle her and enrolled in a beginning class--she took to obedience and we have been training ever since. She loves it and so do I. I've been ill for the past four months, but hope to get back to training/competing in the not too distant future. We won our title on February 2, 2003, just prior to me getting a cancer diagnosis.

"Shana's unruliness was the main reason for beginning classes when she was young. I didn't mention that during a class she was on a long rope and practicing the 'come' exercise when she ran past me (rope and all), pulled me down and dislocated my shoulder. The tears ran down my face, I didn't say a word—just quietly left the class and drove myself to a hospital. Obviously, it was several weeks before we returned to class.

"Another Shana 'antic': Shana is a great obedience dog EXCEPT when she sees people she knows, then her brain cells 'disintegrate.' We were out walking one evening (she was an adult at this time) and a neighbor drove by in her SUV and stopped to chat. The neighbor rolled down the window and while we were conversing, Shana left the ground (still on leash), jumped straight up and into the SUV front window, squashing the driver between the seat and the steering wheel. Wish I had a camera that day. There she was— front half inside the SUV sitting on my friend, back end and hind legs hanging out the window! Shana proceeded to lick my friends' face, just being her friendly old self! Getting this huge Saint back out of the vehicle was really a hoot!

"One last comment....from a licensed judge...'This is not a Saint Bernard...it is a Saint Border. ' I hope you can get an idea of Shana's personality. She is the love of my life and I couldn't do without her. Especially now, with me not being well. She is what keeps me going."

AKC's Resource Page

Earlier this year we sent out via e-mail and newsletter, information about the new Training Resources page on the AKC website. We invited clubs that provided training classes to give us the name of a contact person in their club that could disseminate their club's information to the general public. We were pleased to receive an overwhelming response from clubs.

To follow up on this page we would like feed back from the clubs that have forwarded their information to us. We would love to know if you have had an increase in the number of inquiries or referrals regarding your club's training classes. Please direct your responses to Chris Strom, Manager Obedience and Tracking, at cws@akc.org

We, again, would like to bring this to the attention of any clubs who have not taken advantage of this opportunity. This is a great way for the general public and new dog owner to make contact with clubs in their area. Go to the following URL address and view this page if you have not already done so.

<http://www.akc.org/dic/events/obedience/trainingclubs.cfm>

We look forward to hearing from you. This is a wonderful tool which is free of charge for use by AKC member and licensed clubs. It is the perfect way to recruit new students, allowing them exposure to your club. New dog owners have the potential of becoming future exhibitors and club members. To list or update your clubs information contact Sydney Peters, Obedience Coordinator, at sxs@akc.org

Obedience News

History Repeats Itself Saint Bernard goes High In Trial and THEN Best of Breed at SBCPS Saint Specialty



By Diana Oliver

Father's Day 2003 turned in to a special Mother's Day this year. **CH Revilo's Quick Pick HF PE** was entered in obedience and the Veterans class in conformation at the Puget Sound Specialty. We decided I would show him. Bill showed another of our male champions in Best of Breed. That morning, Quick Pick qualified in obedience and earned his second leg on his CD, as I held my breath. Then he was awarded High In Trial.

I showed him in the Veterans class in conformation and then we went on to Best of Breed. We were having a great time together. He loves the applause the Veteran gets. We made the cut and I was feeling pretty good. (I'm usually outside the ring carrying the water bucket) It was such a thrill when the judge walked over and shook my hand and gave us the Best of Breed ribbon. This is the first time in over 30 years that I have handled a dog to Best of Breed at a specialty show, let alone High In Trial, and with an 8 year old dog. It was a very proud day for both of us.

In **1988**, at the Northern Colorado SBC show & trial, **CH Windward's Ain't No Saint CD HF** was the **first** Saint Bernard to win Best of Breed, plus win the Highest Scoring Dog From the Regular Classes award at a Saint Bernard specialty. This dog is featured in the Breed Firsts Room of the Saint Bernard National Archives. To date, these are the **only two** Saint Bernards to achieve this Hall Of Fame record.

<http://clubs.akc.org/saints/Archives/1988bbhit.pdf>

The first Saint Bernard Specialty Obedience Trial was hosted by the Ohio SBC back in **1969**.

Obedience News

Saint Bernard Goes North of the Border to Earn a Few Canadian Obedience Titles!



Norbert Kowal checked in to give us an update as to what has been going on with him and **Nerthus Philys Chances R Good UDX.**

"Just to let you know what's been going on, 'Chance' has taken two trips to Canada in the last two months. In July, we traveled up for his Canadian CD and he went three for three, coming in FIRST at all three trials with scores of 194, 193 and 193.5.

"In August we traveled north again for his Canadian CDX and he went three for four, coming in Fourth, Fourth, NQ one day and then a Third prize with scores of 183.5, 188 and 182.

"The show site was a hockey rink with no air conditioning and no breeze due to the plexi-glass. Chance went down on the long sit with ONLY 30 seconds left on the clock!

"We will be working on some additional AKC UDX legs at the end of August and early September. The next trip to Canada will be in October as we try for Chance's Canadian UD."

In the Saint Bernard National Archives "Breed Firsts" room, there is a story about another of one of the Norbert's Saints. Log on to <http://clubs.akc.org/saints/Archives/1999firstudx.pdf>

AKC Obedience Team at Crufts

The American Kennel Club (AKC) announced today that its Board of Directors approved the establishment of an AKC Obedience Team to compete in the first-ever 2004 Crufts Obedience World Cup Competition. The competition, which will be held concurrently with the Crufts Dog Show in March 2004, is the first time in Crufts' 112-year history that International Obedience will be featured at the prestigious competition.

This year, members of the 2003 AKC Obedience Team, consisting of three canine/handler teams and one alternate team, will be selected from the top Obedience Trial Champion (OTCH) dogs in the country. The four dogs earning the highest number of OTCH points from January 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003 will be invited to participate on the team.

"We are thrilled to be invited to compete at the first-ever 2004 Crufts Obedience World Cup Competition," said Patricia Krause, AVP of Companion Events for the AKC. "OTCH points will carry a whole new meaning in AKC obedience competitions as canine/handler teams will now have the opportunity to win a spot on the AKC Obedience Team and compete against others from around the world in a spectacular international competition."

The AKC is developing a plan to offer an International Class competition at future AKC Obedience Trials as a means of qualifying for the team. The finalists will be chosen at the AKC National Obedience Invitational, held in conjunction with the AKC/Eukanuba National Invitational Championship.

Obedience competition demonstrates the usefulness of a dog as a companion to humankind. Dog and handler teams are judged on how closely they match the judge's mental picture of a theoretically perfect performance as they execute a series of specified exercises. Accuracy and precision are essential, but the natural movement of the handler and the willingness and enjoyment of the dog are very important. In 2002, there were 140,503 entries in AKC obedience trials across the U.S.

Obedience News

Combined Specialty Obedience Trial

Some breeds have fewer obedience exhibitors participating in their trials than others. These clubs want to offer obedience, but may be faced with the problem of considerable expense for a few exhibitors. By combining the obedience entries of several clubs, expenses can be shared and exhibitors have the opportunity to earn legs towards their obedience titles.

The Companion Events staff is always looking for ways to encourage obedience and to help clubs host obedience events. The following guidelines describe how you can pool the obedience entries from individual specialties together and use one judge!

Things to keep in mind when setting up a Combined Specialty Obedience Trial:

- There is no special paperwork required - each club sends in their usual trial application naming the obedience judge;
- The Combined Specialty Obedience Coordinator makes sure that when entries are combined, the total does not exceed normal judging limitations;
- A separate judge's book must be kept for each breed, even though the dogs can be judged together;
- Awards are given by breed, and no awards can be given that include or require competition between the breeds.

Checklist for hosting a Combined Specialty Obedience Trial

Step 1

A Combined Specialty Obedience Coordinator from the host or coordinating club is named. This is an official position within the Combined Specialty Show Committee.

Step 2

The Coordinator meets with all specialty clubs who wish to participate in the Combined Specialty Obedience Trial.

Step 3

Participating clubs decide upon judge(s) to be used for obedience.

Step 4

Participating clubs agree upon order of judging by breed. For example, Pugs will be first in each class, followed by Dachshunds, Beagles, Keeshonden, etc. Another suggestion might be to have the order of judging arranged by jump heights.

Step 5

Each club applies to AKC for their show dates and submits their judging panel, including obedience, as they would normally do.

Step 6

The Coordinator develops a rough-planning schedule based on entries from previous years. The AKC Companion Events staff is available to assist with this planning, if necessary.

Step 7

The Coordinator meets with show chairman, obedience chairman, and show secretaries/superintendents of participating clubs to discuss hypothetical scheduling. This minimizes confusion at the time entries close.

Step 7a

The Coordinator provides show chairman, obedience chairman, and show secretaries/superintendents with the numbers for armbands that they are to use for obedience. Numbers will be allocated so that there will be no overlap in numbers among the participating breeds.

Step 8

Entries close on the common closing date (standard procedure at combined specialties).

Step 9

Show secretaries/superintendents call the Coordinator with obedience entry information.

Step 10

The Coordinator develops a composite judging schedule for obedience.

Step 11

The Coordinator sends each show secretary/superintendent, show chairman, and obedience chairman a judging schedule for all of the breeds. This schedule will be printed and become the judging schedule for all of the breeds in obedience.

Step 12

Show secretaries/superintendents mail judging schedules to each breed entry, as usual.

Step 13

Show secretaries/superintendents will prepare obedience judge's books for each class for which their breed has an entry.

Step 14 - Day of Show/Trial

The Coordinator will have a minimum of three stewards (four are recommended) for each obedience ring, one of whom will be responsible for coordinating ribbons, judge's books, and other tasks that are specifically related to a Combined Specialty Obedience Trial.

Step 15 - Day of Show/Trial

The Coordinator will deliver trophies, ribbons, armbands, a catalog, and judge's books for each breed to the appropriate obedience ring. The respective specialty club will supply rubber bands and other standard stewards' materials.

Step 15a - Day of Show/Trial

The Coordinator provides each participating specialty club with a bill showing their share of the judge's expense/fee and a separate bill for any other shared/pro-rated expenses.

Step 16 - Day of Show/Trial

Judging begins

Example of Open Class B:

3 Pugs (followed by)

1 Dachshund (followed by)

2 Beagles (followed by)

4 Saint Bernards

Each dog will be judged and individual scores recorded in the respective breed's judge's book (4 books).

For the group exercises all four breeds will be judged in one group. If there are more dogs competing than can be spaced four (4) feet per dog on one side of a ring, some must be judged in another group. The judge will divide the class into equal sections and the group exercise will be judged after each section.

Following completion of group exercises, the judge will complete the judge's books for all Open B dogs. Ribbons and awards will then be awarded by breed. The Coordinator will return judge's books to the appropriate show secretary/superintendent.

Step 17 - Day of Show/Trial

Judging begins for the next scheduled class, with same judge.

Step 18 - Day of Show/Trial

High In Trial and High Combined Awards (Open B and Utility) are determined and awarded by breed, as are all other breed specific special awards.

Step 19 - Within One Month Of Show/Trial

The Coordinator calls a meeting of all participating clubs for an evaluation session and solicits recommended changes for future events.

Obedience News

SBC of Pacific Coast's Obedience Trial

By Lovey Olbrich

Obedience - Rosalie Alvarez...Both Open dogs qualified. Hurray!

Novice A -- 2 NQ :-(

Novice B -- 1 NQ :-(

Open A

1 Echo's Utmost, VCD1, OA, Thom,Olbrich. **197. HIT**

2 Thunder Hill's Brunhilda, CD, Osher &McCormick-Osher,Parsons. **184**

Pre-Novice

1 Shadow Mtn Calif Rock Star,Bodeving,Hunter **179**

The SBC of the Pacific Coast's 15th Annual Obedience Trial on October 17, 2003 in Pleasanton, CA got off to a great start with both dogs in the first class, Open A, qualifying! Echo's Utmost, known to her friends as Miranda, was at the top of her game and put in a wonderful performance with a score of 197, which was good enough for the class and High in Trial. Thunder Hill's Brunhilda (Hilda) was able to keep her energy in check and gave a delightful performance for a good solid score of 184. It was Hilda's first Open leg, and we look forward to great stuff to come from her. Both girls showed what good training and good conditioning and good breeding can produce: sound, energetic, cheerful, effortless performances!



Hilda showing the speed for which she is famous on the recall.

Although the rest of the day was not quite as successful as the first class, elements of good work were seen through the rest of the day. Two champions were entered in the Novice B class; Ch Revilo's Quick Pick and Ch. Belyn's Dickens. Our Novice A entrant (Shadow Mtn Calif Rock Star) was not able to contain her enthusiasm and had to try again in the Pre-Novice Class, where she showed us what she could really do and earned a good solid score of 179. We also had a Veteran entrant, Mandy's Valentine Sassafrasie, who showed the youngsters how it could be done.



Roxie (Calif Rock Star) shows excellent long down form.



White knuckle time during the long down -- Miranda on the left, Hilda on the right. The lucky handlers, out of sight, did not have to witness this moment. Both dogs successfully held their downs (good girls!).



Dickens and Quick Pick during the long sit.

Obedience News

A Note From Chance About his Trip to Canada

Hi John,

I know Norb (my handler) promised to write, but as he gets older his memory is weaker so I thought that I would dictate what happened during my recent Canadian trip.

We left for London (Ontario) Canada and drove up on Thursday, October 16, 2003, for the three-day show. Why my owners (Norb and Chris) were tired on arrival I don't understand as I woke up periodically to make sure they were OK.

The first show was on Friday and I had been entered in Utility in two trials that day. We got there nice and early to warm up. Murphy got there earlier and changed the class sequence. In Canada, you can have two trials each day. The original set up was for Utility to be before Open in Trial One and after Open in Trial Two. Murphy insured that Utility was after Open both times so I got to sit, lay around, visit people, and hang out for the first 4 ½ hours. Guess what? The same thing happened on Saturday.

Enough about Murphy and his helpers (London Canine Association). Let me tell you about what we accomplished. **Trial One** – For those that don't know, some of the exercises in Canada are different in Utility.

The first is called a Seek Back. Each judge has a different heeling pattern, but sometimes during the heeling (at the far end of the ring) the judge will have the handler drop a glove and continue heeling. After an about turn and halt, the handler will give a direction with his hand down the heeling path and command the poor over-worked, under-paid (wait a minute – what pay?) dog to find and retrieves the glove, come to a front, give the glove he found back and return to heel. Did okay.

The second exercise is Scent Articles. Canada has three sets--wood, metal, and leather for a total of 15. The judge picks two different ones (hopefully the same number so Norb will know if I retrieved the right one) and then places one into the pile. I have to again do all the work and find the right one. Ditto for the second article.

The third exercise is Signals. It's basically off lead heeling on hand signals with a signal to Down, Sit, Come, Front, and Finish. Same as in the good old USA (even though I'm Canadian).

Then it's the Moving Stand. Heel forward and then Norb gives me a hand signal to stop (I like to lean forward and pretend I'm still moving to panic him). The judge examines me and I can't lean into him or give kisses. Then watch out because here it is different; I am either signaled or called into a front and then a finish.

Last is Directed Jumping. I trot out to the opposite end of the ring on command, turn and sit on command and then take the jump I am directed to when given the command. There's a lot of commanding going on and only one sucker obeying. Then it's another front and finish.

Now that I've explained the Canadian Regulations, let's go back to the main story. At the first trial I really didn't hear the first of the Directed Jumping commands and walked forward to hear what was said, but by then I was past the jump and didn't qualify. **Trial Two**--qualified in Utility, ditto **Trials Three and Four** held on Saturday. Guess what? I became a Canadian Obedience Trial Champion (See picture) and **tied my sister** for titles.

Since we were already in Canada, someone (it wasn't me) decided that we (the royal kind) should start out for the next level of obedience. Canada has added classes and the next level is called an OTCH X (basically like UDX in the states) requiring qualifying scores in Open and Utility at the same trial five times. So on Sunday (no day of rest) we qualified in Utility and Open in the two trials held that day. Now I'm 2/5ths of an OTCHX. I guess that means we will be going back up sometime to finish. A Saint's work is never done.

Talk to you soon,

Love Chance, Or, as Norb & Chris would say: **Can. OTCh Nerthus Phily's Chances R Good, CD, CDX, UD, UDX, HF, PE.**



In The Front—Me!
Judge: Michael Calhoun, & Norb.
Photo by Alex Smith Photography Ltd)

2004
Archive Obedience News
For the Saint Bernard



Volume 3, 12 Issues

Obedience News

AKC Obedience World Team At Crufts in 2004



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This exciting new event will be held on Sunday March 7th at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, England. Teams from a number of countries worldwide have been invited to compete.

The new International Obedience Test will use a mixture of tests taken from the Kennel Club Obedience schedule, the 2002 FCI World Obedience Championships and the American Kennel Club Obedience program.

The Crufts Show Committee has selected Mrs. Linda White, a well-respected UK Championship Obedience Judge to take charge of this inaugural competition.

For the winning team and for the most successful handler and dog, awards will be offered, as well as for those placed 2nd, 3rd, and 4th in each competition.

Come along to England and support the USA Obedience Team - leaving March 4th - returning March 8th. For more information on group travel, please contact Chris Miele, XCREEK@aol.com.

The following is an overview of the test scheduled for the competition:

Heelwork - Normal, slow and fast pace - may include left/right/about turns, figure eights, weaving poles/markers and circles. Also multiple or combination turns e.g. double left about turn or left about turn/left turn. **60 points**

Retrieve dumbbell over Hurdle - Wooden dumbbell supplied, hurdle set at 2 ft (or lower depending on height of dog). **30 points**

Directed Retrieve - Three wooden dumbbells set out in a straight line. Judge indicates to handler which dumbbell their dog is required to retrieve (this may vary from dog to dog). Dog is sent to retrieve the dumbbell and to present it to the handler and finish. **50 points**

Distance Control - Dog to be left in a sit position, dog recalled to handler. At halfway point the dog is to be stopped in either a sit, down or stand position selected at the judge's discretion. Four instructions to be given in the same order for each dog. The Handler will then return to the dog. **50 points**

2 - minute sit/stay - Handler out of sight. **20 points**

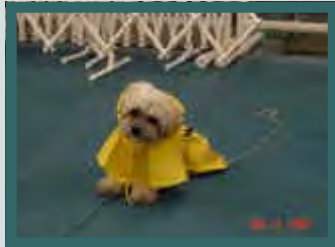
Scent Discrimination - The Handler's scent on a marked cloth supplied by the Judge. There must be a minimum of 6 and up to a maximum of 10 scent cloths, the total must include one decoy cloth, and the cloth provided by the judge. The pattern of cloths is at the Judge's discretion. **50 points**

Send away sit and recall - On command of Judge the handler is to bring the dog to the place indicated, set up the dog and stand upright. On further command, the handler will send the dog in the direction indicated by the Judge. After the dog has been commanded to sit or down, at the handlers discretion, the handler will call the dog to heel while walking where directed by the Judge. Both will then continue forward until ordered to halt. **30 points**

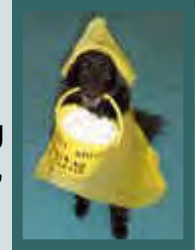
Total 300 points

Obedience News

Kris returns to obedience class ...
The holy water flows. The rain coats come out....



Tyler the Belgian Sheepdog brought the holy water polishing cloths,



while Brie the Lhasa Apso just shook her head in disgust... she just couldn't figure out what all the fuss was about.

All the dogs kept their spit rags...err "holy water polishing cloths" close at hand during the group exercises.



In the end, all survived, thanks to the special Holy Water bibster constructed especially for Holy Water Producer, Kris Kringle (CH/WDCH XmaxKris Van 'T Hof Ten Eynder UDT, VCD2, MXP, MJP, DD) by Laurie Cottier. Sophie the PBGV, Sadie the Lhasa, Fritz the Doberman and Cisco the Rottweiler joined Tyler and Brie in welcoming Kris back to class in pursuit of his UDX.



Highlights from the January AKC Board Minutes

Obedience Regulations (Patricia Krause present)

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. Scully, it was **VOTED** (unanimously; absent, Mrs. Strand) to make numerous **editorial changes to the Obedience Regulations**. These changes involved clarifications of language and there were no substantive changes. The changes are **effective June 1, 2004**. The changes involved capitalization, punctuation, spelling, grammar, and structure.

Following a motion by Ms. Scully, seconded by Dr. Haines, it was **VOTED** (affirmative, Ms. Scully, Dr. Haines, Mrs. Schaefer, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Marden, Dr. Davies, Mr. Menaker, Dr. Battaglia, Dr. Mays; opposed, Mr. Merriam, Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Garvin; absent, Mrs. Strand) to consider proposed amendments to the Obedience Regulations made by the Poodle Club of America and the American Manchester Terrier Club at this meeting without the usual required prior notice.

Toy Poodles and Toy Manchester Terriers in Obedience

Following a motion by Mr. Goodman, seconded by Dr. Davies, it was **VOTED** (unanimously; absent, Mrs. Strand) to amend Chapter 1, Section 21 of the Obedience Regulations, effective June 1, 2004, **to enable Toy Poodles and Toy Manchester Terriers to compete for Toy awards** in Obedience. Chapter 1, Section 20, Paragraph 4 of the Obedience Regulations will read as follows: Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this section, prizes may be offered for the highest scoring dog of the groups as defined in Chapter 3 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, or for the highest scoring dogs of any breeds, but not for a breed variety, **with the following exceptions:**

In accordance with Chapter 3 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, all Miniature and Standard Poodles are in the Non-Sporting Group and all Toy Poodles are in the Toy Group. In addition, Standard Manchester Terriers are in the Terrier Group and Toy Manchester Terriers are in the Toy Group.

The Board reviewed numerous amendments to the Obedience Regulations that were recommended by the Obedience Advisory Committee. The Obedience Advisory Committee had recommended that judges be permitted to judge up to 10% over the limit in overload situations. The Board believed that a definite limit would be preferable. Following a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Ms. Scully, it was **VOTED** (unanimously; absent, Mrs. Strand) to amend the proposal to raise the dogs per hour limit in each regular class by one.

The Obedience Advisory Committee had recommended that the Brace Class be replaced by a Pair Class, which could consist of two different breeds. Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. Scully, it was **VOTED** (unanimously; absent, Mrs. Strand) to amend the proposal to retain the status quo for the Brace Class.

The Obedience Advisory Committee had recommended that clubs be permitted to hold multiple events on the same day. Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Gladstone, it was **VOTED** (affirmative, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Menaker, Mrs. Schaefer, Dr. Battaglia, Dr. Mays, Dr. Davies; opposed, Dr. Haines, Ms. Scully, Mr. Marden, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Merriam; absent, Mrs. Strand) to remove this proposal from consideration.

Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Davies, it was **VOTED** (affirmative, Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Davies, Dr. Garvin, Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Scully, Dr. Mays, Mr. Goodman, Mrs. Schaefer, Dr. Haines; opposed, Mr. Marden, Mr. Menaker, Mr. Merriam; absent, Mrs. Strand) to table further consideration of the numerous proposed amendments to the Obedience Regulations until February.

Highlights from the February AKC Board Minutes

The Board discussed numerous **amendments to the Obedience Regulations, as recommended by the Obedience Advisory Committee**. There was a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Ms. Scully, and it was VOTED (affirmative, Ms. Scully, Dr. Davies, Mr. Menaker, Dr. Battaglia, Dr. Haines, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Gladstone, Mrs. Strand; opposed, Mr. Merriam, Dr. Garvin, Dr. Mays, Mrs. Schaefer, Mr. Marden) to reconsider the question of a club being able to hold two trials in a day. Staff was directed to prepare recommendations on conditions and limits for holding two trials in a day for the Board to consider. This and all of the other recommended changes are to be discussed again in April.

The Board considered a proposal to make Pre-Novice a titling obedience class. Following a motion by Mr. Marden, seconded by Ms. Scully, it was VOTED (unanimously) to **leave Pre-Novice as a non-titling class**. Staff was directed to prepare a proposal to have the awarding of certificates as an alternative to title. Cost prospectives were to be part of this proposal.

EVENTS AND CLUBS

Items that **may** come to the Board for a **VOTE in April**:

- **Obedience Advisory Committee recommendations..**
- American Brittany Club National Qualifications.
- Amendment to Herding Regulations concerning Championships.
- GSPCA request for a National Amateur Gun Dog Championship.
- The eligibility of the Glen of Imaal Terrier for the Terrier Group.



Obedience News

**Kris Sets Yet Another Saint Bernard
Hall of Fame Record...
FIRST Champion to earn a UDX leg!**



It has been over a year (April 2002) since Kris earned his Utility Dog (UD) title. After the UD title, Kris has been burning up the agility rings setting all sorts of breed records in agility. Needless to say, we both were a little rusty getting back into the obedience groove.

January 9, 2004 started the year off to a good start for record-setting "Kris" (**CH WDCH XmaxKris Van 'T Hof Ten Eynder VCD 2, UDT, MXP, MJP, DD**). On this date he was entered in the Tacoma KC Obedience Trial for a shot at the Utility Dog Excellent (UDX) title. Well, he failed both classes!

Later that evening (after the Tacoma KC's Best In Show), the Saint Bernard Club of Puget Sound held their Specialty Show and Obedience Trial. We did not hold out much hope for Kris to redeem himself after laying around all day missing his usual napping. To our surprise, Kris turned in a very nice performance in Open B and Utility B to earn his **FIRST UDX leg**. He also put a little icing on the cake and went Highest Scoring Dog in the Regular Classes in addition to Highest Combined Score From Open B and Utility.

Kris is the first Saint Bernard breed champion to earn a UDX leg. The UDX title is a very difficult one as a dog must pass Open B (CDX work) and Utility B (Utility work) at the same show. That is good for **ONE leg** towards the UDX title. A dog must earn **TEN legs** at **TEN shows** for the title. We have had Saint Bernards in the past with 10 combined scores and we also have two with the UDX title, but Kris is the first champion to earn a UDX leg. We are hoping to earn the title and we are working toward it now, but it will involve a lot of hard work—and some luck too!

Kris earned a 189 in Utility B and 192 in Open B for High

January 2004

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Obedience News

Wild Card Non-Regular Classes

“Wild Card” Non-Regular Classes

By John Cox
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There are times when a couple of sentences in **Chapter 1, Section 3** of the American Kennel Club's Obedience Regulations may be overlooked and thus cost your club some serious entry dollars! These two sentences are so *powerful* that they may **double** your entries at your next trial! They read, “Any club that has been approved to hold a licensed or member obedience trial may offer additional non-regular classes, upon approval of The American Kennel Club. If a non-regular class is one that is not defined in these regulations, a clear and complete description of both the eligibility and performance requirements will appear in the premium list.” These two sentences allow clubs to invent and introduce non-regular classes of their own choosing (other than, or in addition to, the non-regular classes defined in the Obedience Regulations).

Case in point: Sue and I judged for the **Orlando Dog Training Club's** (Florida, 2004) back-to-back obedience trials on Easter weekend. At both trials, several *different* non-regular classes were offered which were new us. These innovative non-regular classes are called “**Wild Card**.” The entries in these classes were about as large as in the corresponding regular classes! I had an entry of 22 in Utility A and **NINETEEN in Wild Card Utility**—a full day of judging *just* Utility! Below are the descriptions, eligibility and performance requirements of each of the different Wild Card classes offered in the Orlando DTC's Premium List:

WILD CARD NOVICE: This class is for any dog that is capable of performing the Novice exercises and that is eligible under the Obedience Regulations to compete in AKC events. No title is required to enter. Owners may enter more than one dog, and dogs in this class may be handled by the owner or any other person, and may be entered in other classes at the trial. The Novice exercises will be performed and judged according to AKC Regulations as in the regular Novice class, except that verbal praise during the exercises will not be penalized. Any additional commands to the dog, however, will be penalized. Upon check-in, tell the steward which exercise you wish to skip. The judge will excuse you from that specific exercise, while giving you a perfect score for that skipped exercise. You may, if you wish, do all exercises, without skipping any, and your score will be marked on all exercises.

Wild Card Novice Exercises and Scores:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Heel on Leash & Figure 8.....40 points | 4. Recall.....30 points |
| 2. Stand For Examination.....30 points | 5. Long Sit (1 minute).....30 points |
| 3. Heel Free.....30 points | 6. Long Down (5 minutes)...30 points |

WILD CARD OPEN: This class is for any dog that is capable of performing the Open exercises and that is eligible under the Obedience Regulations to compete in AKC events. No title is required to enter. Owners may enter more than one dog, and dogs in this class may be handled by the owner or any other person, and may be entered in other classes at the trial. The Open exercises will be performed and judged according to AKC Regulations as in the regular Open A class, except that verbal praise during the exercises will not be penalized. Any additional commands to the dog, however, will be penalized. Upon check-in, tell the steward which exercise you wish to skip. The judge will excuse you from that specific exercise, while giving you a perfect score for that skipped exercise. You may, if you wish, do all exercises, without skipping any, and your score will be marked on all exercises.

Wild Card Open Exercises and Scores:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Heel Free and Figure 8.....40 points | 5. Broad Jump.....20 points |
| 2. Drop on Recall.....30 points | 6. Long Sit (3 minutes).....30 points |
| 3. Retrieve on Flat.....20 points | 7. Long Down (5 minutes)..30 points |
| 4. Retrieve Over High Jump..30 points | |

WILD CARD UTILITY: The Wild Card Utility class shall be for any dog that is capable of performing the Utility exercises and that is eligible under the Obedience Regulations to compete in AKC events. No title is required to enter. Owners may enter more than one dog, dogs in this class may be handled by the owner or any other person, and may be entered in other classes at the trial. The Utility exercises will be performed and judged according to AKC Regulations as in the regular Utility A class, except that verbal praise during the exercises will not be penalized **except** during the principal parts of the Signal Exercise. Any additional commands to the dog, however, will be penalized. Upon check-in, tell the steward which exercise you wish to skip. The judge will excuse you from that specific exercise, while giving you a perfect score for that skipped exercise. You may, if you wish, do all exercises, without skipping any, and your score will be marked on all exercises.

Wild Card Utility Exercises and Scores:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Signal Exercise.....40 points | 4. Directed Retrieve.....30 points |
| 2. Scent Discrimination.....30 points | 5. Moving Stand & Examination30 points |
| 3. Scent Discrimination.....30 points | 6. Directed Jumping..... 40 points |

Compare the Wild Card classes to the Regular **A** classes to see their draw in entries:

<u>Saturday</u>		<u>Sunday</u>	
Utility A 22	Wild Card Utility 19	Utility A 22	Wild Card Utility 12
Open A 38	Wild Card Open 24	Open A 33	Wild Card Open 22
Novice A 15	Wild Card Novice 13	Novice A 13	Wild Card Novice 11

Compare the Wild Card Novice classes to the draw of Pre-Novice:

Pre-Novice A 8	Pre-Novice A 3
Pre-Novice B 6	Pre-Novice B 4

The Wild Card classes pulled **56 entries on Saturday and 45 on Easter Sunday!** Remember, according to the AKC, Easter weekend is one of the weekends with the fewest draws nationally.

Next time you are on a Show Committee, or asked for input, remember the non-regular classes. Be creative and invent some new ideas such as the Wild Card classes. **The Orlando DTC drew over 100 entries in these classes alone over the Easter weekend!**

Obedience trials can draw entries and be a success with innovative ideas from the obedience community. **Give it some thought!**

Exercise Finished!

CHANGES TO BE EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2004

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 1. Obedience Clubs (NEW Paragraph 2)

An obedience club that meets all the requirements of the American Kennel Club and wishes to hold an obedience trial must apply on the form the AKC provides for permission to hold such a trial. The trial may be held either in conjunction with a dog show, agility trial or as a separate event. A club that is not a member of the AKC must pay a license fee in order to hold a trial. The Board of Directors of the AKC determines this fee. If the trial is not held at the approved time and place, the license fee will be returned.

A club may hold two obedience trials at the same site on the same day, or two clubs may hold their events one following another, if the events are held on the same site on the same day, so long as the judging for both events does not exceed eight hours of judging time.

No part of the trials may be held concurrently.

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 16. When Titles are Won (New Paragraph 3)

After a dog earns a title, it may be moved up to the next class in a future trial even though the closing date for the trial has passed. This move-up may be requested if, according to the owner's records, the dog has completed the requirements for the title after the closing date of the trial in which the

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 2. Dog Show and Specialty Clubs (NEW Paragraphs 2, 3 and 4)

Breed Specialty clubs may choose to hold an obedience trial. (1) These clubs may hold a trial exclusively for their breed only. (2) Or, if entries are limited, these clubs may accept entries of dogs of their own breed first then accept entries from all breeds until the entry limit specified in the premium list is reached. (3) Or, these clubs may hold their own breed obedience trial followed by an all-breed or group obedience trial.

If option (2) is selected, awards as described in these Regulations, Chapter 1, Sections 19, 20, 21, and 22 will be offered for the Specialty breed. In addition, awards as described these Regulations, Chapter 1, Sections 19, 20, 21, and 22 will be offered for the all-breed event.

If option (3) is selected, the breed specialty obedience and all-breed or group obedience trials will be approved and held as two separate events.

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 17 Disqualification, Ineligibility, Excusal and Change in Appearance of Dogs (Paragraph 11)

Any dog whose hair surrounding the eyes, ears, or beard interferes with the performance of the dog may have its hair tied back with elastic bands or small plain barrettes, or in the manner as they are normally shown in the breed ring.

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 14. Dogs That May Not Compete (Paragraph 6)

No dogs may be entered or shown under a judge at an obedience trial if the dog has been owned, sold, held under lease, handled in the ring, or has been regularly trained or instructed, within one year prior to the date of the obedience trial, by the judge or any person residing in the same household as the judge. "Trained or instructed" applies equally to judges who train professionally or as amateurs, and to judges who train individual dogs or train or instruct dogs in classes with or through their handlers.

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 19 Obedience Ribbons (Paragraph 3, NEW Paragraph 4)

Each prize ribbon or rosette in all regular classes and for the ribbon or rosette for Highest Scoring Dog in the Regular classes, and for the ribbon or rosette for the dog with the Highest Combined Score in Open B and Utility will be at least two inches wide and a minimum of eight inches long,

advanced entry is made. The request for a move-up must be in writing and presented to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of each trial. Move-ups may be approved, provided the next level class and judge are available and the class has not reached its limit.

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 21, Paragraph 4

Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this section, prizes may be offered for the highest scoring dog of the groups as defined in Chapter 3 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, or for the highest scoring dogs of any breeds, but not for a breed variety, with the following exceptions.

In accordance with Chapter 3 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, all Miniature and Standard Poodles are in the Non-Sporting Group and all Toy Poodles are in the Toy Group. In addition, Standard Manchester Terriers are in the Terrier Group and Toy Manchester Terriers are in the Toy Group.

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 22 Highest Scoring Dog in the Regular Classes and the Dog with the Highest Combined Score in Open B and Utility (Paragraph 1)

The dog receiving the highest qualifying score in the regular classes will be awarded the ribbon and any prizes offered for these placements after the announcement of final scores of the last regular class to be judged. The dog receiving the highest combined score in Open B and Utility may be awarded the ribbon and any prizes offered for this placement after Open B and Utility Classes have been judged and after the announcement of those final scores. The superintendent or show or trial secretary will mark the catalog to identify the dogs receiving these awards.

and will bear on its face a facsimile of the seal of the AKC, the words "Obedience Trial," the name of the placement, the name of the trial-giving club, the date of the trial, and the name of the city or town where the trial is given.

Qualifying ribbons or rosettes will be at least two inches wide and a minimum of eight inches long, and will bear on the face a facsimile of the seal of the AKC, the words "Obedience Trial," the name of the placement and the name of the trial-giving club. The date of trial and the name of the city or town where the trial is given may be on the face of the qualifying ribbons.

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 26 Judging Program (Paragraph 1)

After entries have closed, any club holding a licensed or member obedience trial must prepare a program showing the time for the judging of each of the classes before 12:00 noon. Classes after 12:00 noon will be listed "to follow" and must be judged in the order and ring listed. **No "to follow" class may start before 12:00 noon.** In the case of a licensed or member specialty show, a starting time for only the first obedience class need be given. In addition, for any show during which the trial starts after 12:00 noon, a starting time for only the first obedience class need be given. When two trials are held in one day at the same site, the starting times for judging of all classes will be listed in the program

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 26 Judging Program (Paragraph 2)

A copy of this program will be mailed to the owner of each entered dog and to each judge, and the program will be printed in the catalog. This program will be based on the judging of no more than nine Novice entries, eight Open entries or seven Utility entries per hour during the published show or trial time.

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 33 Obedience Rings at Dog Shows (New Last Paragraph)

The show or trial-giving club may designate a confined warm-up area, physically defined by ropes or ring gates. If offered, it must not be disruptive to any dog or person. The area should be monitored at all times by a person or persons designated by the club.

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 26 Judging Program (New Last Paragraph)

Contact information e.g. cell telephone number for at least one committee member, must be listed in the "Judging Program." The information must provide a means of readily available communication with a member of the committee on the day of the event.

Chapter 2 REGULATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE AND JUDGING

Revised:

Section 8. Re-Judging (Paragraph 1)

If a dog has failed an exercise, it will not ordinarily be re-judged unless the judge feels the dog's performance was prejudiced by peculiar and unusual conditions. In such a case, the judge may wish to re-judge the dog on only the portion of a two-part exercise in which the unusual condition occurred, e.g. the Figure Eight in Novice and Open, or the Directed Jumping in Utility. Re-judging of the dog or dogs for the Group Exercises will be done with the next scheduled group within that class. The limits on the number of dogs allowed in the ring for the group exercise contained in Chapter 3, Section 12 will apply. Should there be no further group within that class, the dog or dogs to be re-judged will immediately do the exercise alone. The dog or dogs involved will be re-judged only on the exercise in question.

Chapter 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Revised:

Section 32 Ring Conditions (Paragraph 2)

At an outdoor show or trial, the rings should be about 40 x 50 feet. The ground should be clean and level. Any grass should be cut short. For the Open Classes, the club and superintendent are responsible for providing an appropriate place, approved by the judge, for the handlers to go completely out of sight of their dogs. Under unusual or adverse weather conditions, a club may provide a separate regulation-size ring for the Group exercises.

Chapter 3 NOVICE

Revised:

Section 1. Novice A Class (Paragraph 1)

The Novice A Class shall be for dogs that have not won the CD title and are at least 6 months old. A handler must own the dog entered, or be a member of the owner's household or immediate family, and may not have previously handled any dog that has earned an AKC Novice, Open, or Utility title. Owners may enter more than one dog in this class. The same person will handle the dog in every exercise. However, if a person has handled more than one dog in the first four exercises, that person must provide an additional handler for each of the dogs in the same Group Exercise. The additional handler for the Group Exercises need not be a member of the owner's household or immediate family. No dog may be entered in both Novice A and Novice B at any trial.

Chapter 3 NOVICE**Revised:****Section 2. Novice B Class (Paragraph 1)**

The Novice B Class is for dogs not less than 6 months of age. A CD dog may continue to compete in this class until it receives a qualifying score in an Open Class or until it has received one High in Trial award prior to the closing date of the trial. This one High in Trial award is in addition to any obtained before or during the 60-day period after receiving the CD title. The owner or any other person may handle dogs in this class. Owners may enter more than one dog in this class. The same person will handle the dog in every exercise. However, if a person has handled more than one dog in the first four exercises, that person must provide an additional handler, for each of the dogs in the same Group Exercise. No dog may be entered in both Novice A and Novice B at any one trial.

Chapter 8 National Obedience Champion**Revised:****Section 1. Dogs that May Compete
(New Paragraph 4)**

Breeds of dogs recognized by AKC from foreign countries whose registries are accepted by AKC may be invited to compete in the National Obedience Invitational.

Chapter 5 UTILITY**Revised:****Section 8. Scent Discrimination (Paragraph 7)**

On the judge's order, the handler will place his or her article on the judge's book or work sheet. Without touching that article, the judge or steward will place it among the others.

Chapter 10 Non-Regular Classes

The Veterans Class will be for dogs that have an obedience title and are at least seven years old on the date of the trial. The exercises will be performed and judged as in the Novice Class. Dogs may be entered in another class or classes. At breed specialty trials, the minimum age requirement for the Veterans Class may be set by the breed Parent Club, in which case the age will be stated in the premium list.

Chapter 7 Utility Dog Excellent**Revised:****Section 1. Dogs that May Compete
(NEW Paragraph 3)**

The letters UDX will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the number of times a dog has met the requirements of the UDX title as defined in the Regulations. (UDX2 for 20 qualifying scores, UDX3 for 30 qualifying scores, UDX4 for 40 qualifying scores, etc)

Obedience Judges Guidelines**Revised:****Chapter 3 Directed Jumping (Paragraph 8)**

The jumps should be set up on the longest two sides of the ring and the same sequence of jumps should be used for each dog.

Chapter 10 NON-REGULAR CLASSES

Revised:

Section 2. Graduate Novice Class

(Revised Exercises)

The Graduate Novice Class is for dogs that have not been certified by a judge to have received a third qualifying score toward a CDX title prior to the closing of entries. The owner or any other person may handle dogs in this class. The same person will handle the dog in every exercise. However, if a person has handled more than one dog in the first five exercises, that person must provide an additional handler for the Long Down exercise when judged in the same Group Exercise. If eligible as defined in the *Regulations*, dogs entered in Graduate Novice may also be entered in any other obedience class.

Judging will be as in the regular classes. The exercises, maximum scores and order of judging:

Heel Free and Figure Eight	40 points
Drop on Recall	40 points
Dumbbell Recall	<u>30 points</u>
<u>Recall over High Jump</u>	<u>30 points</u>
Recall over Broad Jump	30 points
Long Down	<u>30 points</u>
Maximum Total Score	200 points

Heel Free and Figure Eight - The exercise and scoring will be executed in the same manner as the Novice Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, except that the Figure Eight will be done off-leash.

Drop on Recall – The exercise and scoring will be executed in the same manner as the Open Drop on Recall, except that the handler may give the **command and/or signal to drop the dog.**

Chapter 10 NON-REGULAR CLASSES (all following sections to be renumbered)

Revised:

New Section 3. Graduate Open Class

The Graduate Open Class is for dogs that have not been certified by a judge to have received a third qualifying score toward a UD title prior to the closing of entries. The owner or any other person may handle dogs in this class. If eligible as defined in the *Regulations*, dogs entered in Graduate Open may also be entered in any other obedience class.

The exercises, maximum scores and order of judging:

<u>Signal Exercise</u>	<u>40 points</u>
Scent Discrimination	30 points
Directed Retrieve	<u>30 points</u>
<u>Moving Stand and Examination</u>	<u>30 points</u>
<u>Go Out</u>	<u>30 points</u>
<u>Directed Jumping</u>	<u>40 points</u>
<u>Total Maximum Score</u>	<u>200 points</u>

Signal Exercise – The exercise and scoring will be the same as in the Utility Signal exercise, except that leaving the dog will be from 10 to 20 feet and the handler may give the **command and/or signal** on the judge's signals to stay, down, sit, come and finish.

Scent Discrimination – The exercise and scoring will be the same as in the Utility Scent Discrimination exercise except that there will only be **four articles (2 leather and 2 metal), and the handler and dog remain facing the articles and only one article is retrieved. It is the handler's discretion as to which article is retrieved.**

Directed Retrieve – The exercise and scoring will be performed as the Utility Directed Retrieve exercise except that no center glove is used.

Dumbbell Recall – This exercise will be performed like the Novice Recall, but with the dog holding the dumbbell. In addition to the Novice Recall, the dog will promptly take, hold and deliver the dumbbell when commanded.

The judge's orders are: "Give your dog the dumbbell," "Leave your dog," "Call your dog," "Take it," and "Finish."

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position in a place designated by the judge. When the judge orders, "Give your dog the dumbbell," the handler will present the dumbbell with one command. The dog must accept it readily and hold it. When the judge orders, the handler may give the command and/or signal to stay and will walk forward to the other end of the ring, then turn to face the dog. On the judge's order or signal, the handler will command or signal the dog to come. The dog must come directly at a brisk trot or gallop. When the dog is sitting in front of the handler, the judge will order, "Take it," and the handler may give a command and take the dumbbell. The finish will be done as in the Novice Recall. All appropriate penalties of the Novice Recall and Open Retrieve on Flat shall apply.

Recall over High Jump – The principal features of the exercise are that the dog stay until directed to jump, clear the jump on a single command or signal, and immediately return to sit in front of the handler. Orders are: "Leave your dog," "Call your dog," and "Finish."

The handler will stand with his or her dog sitting in the heel position at least 8 feet from the jump. When the judge orders, "Leave your dog," the handler will give a command and/or signal to stay, go at least 8 feet beyond the other side of the high

Moving Stand and Examination – The exercise and scoring will be the same as in the Utility Moving Stand and Examination except that the handler may pause or hesitate when giving the command and/or signal to stand.

Go Out – The principal features of this exercise are that the dog goes away from the handler to the opposite end of the ring, and that the dog stops as directed. The orders are "Send your dog," and "Return to your Dog".

The handler will stand in the approximate center of the ring between the jumps facing the unobstructed end of the ring. The judge will order "Send your dog," and the handler will command and/or signal the dog to go forward at a brisk trot or gallop to a point about 20 feet past the jumps in the approximate center of the ring. When the dog reaches this point, the handler will give a command to sit. The dog must stop and sit with its attention on the handler, but it need not sit squarely.

The judge will then order the handler "Return to your dog", and the handler will proceed forward and walk around the dog to the heel position.

Directed Jumping – The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay where left, jump as directed and return to the handler as in the Novice Recall. The orders are: "Leave your dog," "Bar," "High," and "Finish."

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position at the unobstructed end and in the center of the ring. Upon order from the judge to "Leave your dog," the handler will walk to the far end of the ring and turn facing the dog. The judge will order either "Bar" or "High" for the jump, and the handler will command and/or signal the dog to return to the

jump, and turn to face the dog as in the Novice Recall. On the judge's order, the handler will give the command or signal to jump. The dog must clear the high jump without touching it and, without any further command or signal, immediately sit in front of the handler and finish as in the Novice Recall.

All penalties in the Novice Recall will apply. The height of the jump will be required as it is for the Open Retrieve over High Jump exercise as designated in the Regulations.

Recall over Broad Jump – The principal features of the exercise are the same as in the Recall over High Jump exercise.

The handler will stand with his or her dog sitting in the heel position at least 8 feet from the jump, facing the lowest hurdle. When the judge orders, "Leave your dog," the handler will give the command and/or signal to stay, go at least 8 feet beyond the last hurdle, and turn to face the dog as in the Novice Recall. On the judge's order, the handler will give the command or signal to jump. The dog must clear the entire distance of the broad jump without touching it and, without any further command or signal, immediately sit in front of the handler and finish as in the Novice Recall.

All penalties in the Novice Recall will apply. The distance of the jump will be the same as in the Open Classes.

Long Down – The Long Down exercise will be performed and scored as in the Open Group Exercise, except that the judge will order the handlers to return after 3 minutes.

handler over that designated jump. While the dog is in midair, the handler may turn to face the dog as it returns. The dog will sit in front of the handler, and on order from the judge, finish as in the Novice Recall. The dog will be sent over only one jump, and the same jump will be used for all dogs as designated by the judge at the start of the class.

Obedience News

Belyn's Wendy Darlin, UD, TDD, HF

February 3, 1993 - May 11, 2004

Remembering Wendy...

What to say about one special dog when all dogs are special?

It's hard to say other than, if you're lucky, sometime during your lifetime a dog will enter it that is the dog of your heart. There is that link that connects her heart to yours, always there, always communicating, always on. For me, who have had many, many dogs that I've dearly loved, Wendy was that one special dog.

What made our relationship unique was that Wendy chose it. She was the one that knit the cord that connected our hearts and she was the one who maintained it with her unrelenting devotion and love. She decided that I was the most interesting and important being in the universe, a focus that wavered only briefly when she had her puppies. When one is showered, deluged really, with such love, it is impossible not to return it.

She came to our home from a kennel as an adult, and I think that in her eyes it was a heavenly intervention. A dog clearly in need of a close human bond, she had found one and she wasn't ever going to let it get away. I was blessed to be her chosen one.

Curtis called her his Hazel-meter; he always knew where I was in the house, or if I wasn't in the house, he could tell by which door I had left it. She always wanted to be with me, although she didn't always seek physical contact. She would just move from room to room as I did, finding a place to settle and keeping an eye on me while there. It was I who would call or later on, when she grew deaf, signal to her when she entered the room, asking her to come near so that I could scratch her or give her a hug. She showed her enthusiasm for the contact by a long happy snuffling of my face (her version of dog kisses) and a gentle swishing her tail for as long as I touched her.

I miss her but I have few regrets about our last few months together. I had lost Senta just two short years before and realized that Wendy's time was short and precious. I thought of things for us to do together. The last tracking season I found ways she could participate. I took her with Miranda to training sessions. In the last weeks of her life she got to do some agility tunnels, and a heeling pattern with signals (and still faltered the first go-around on the drop, a problem that plagued us during her Utility career -- and we solved it, again!). On her last weekend she assisted me with a garage sale. I was sure to let her into the house at all possible moments, and we spent lots of DVD time together. I responded to her invitations to scratch her belly. I made time and I'm very, very glad.

Although her body was slowing, her loving heart never changed. It was strong, sure, steady, and constant. I didn't think it was time to say goodbye yet, but she gave me that last precious gift and took the decision from me. Early one morning she died in her sleep. I mourn her and mourn that I wasn't with her at that very last moment, but grateful to her for easing my sorrow by choosing the moment herself.

We miss you, darling Wendy.

Lovey Olbrich



Obedience News

The Saint Bernard Club of America's 2004 Obedience High In Trial Winner

The obedience classes at the National this year were very exciting. The dogs and handlers worked hard and everyone had fun. We had a lot of spectators watching and enjoying the competition. Of the 7 dogs competing, two dogs earned qualifying scores. The High In Trial came out of the Novice B class. This dog, Excalibur's Kirsten, CD WP, is owned and handled by Barry Roland of Atlanta, GA.

I want to thank all of the members that helped put this trial on and the exhibitors that worked so hard in preparing to show at this National.

See you at the 2005 National

Ken Buxton

STATS: Excalibur's Kirsten CD WP earned a **183.5** (out of a possible 200 points) from the Novice B class. Look at that Rosette! It is a size fit for a Saint Bernard! Also qualifying in the Novice B class was **Ambersand Jennifer Juniper** earning a **176.5** for **second place**.



Two Saint Bernards (one on each coast) working towards the UDX title!

Shannas Second Chance UD and **2001-CH & WDCH Xmaxkris Van 'T Hof Ten Eynder UDT VCD2 MXP MJP DD** have been working very hard this year to earn the coveted title of Utility Dog Excellent (UDX).



Lives on the East Coast

Shanas Second Chance UD
April 11, 2004 Atlanta OC, GA 183.00
April 11, 2004 Atlanta OC, GA 184.50 2 UDX leg



Lives on the West Coast

2001-CH & WDCH Xmaxkris Van 'T Hof Ten Eynder UDT VCD2 MXP MJP DD
January 09, 2004 SBC of Puget Sound, WA 192.00
January 09, 2004 SBC of Puget Sound, WA 189.00 1 UDX leg
January 17, 2004 Portland DOC, OR 187.00
January 17, 2004 Portland DOC, OR 179.50 2 UDX leg
March 20, 2004 Peninsula DFC, WA 189.00
March 20, 2004 Peninsula DFC, WA 182.50 3 UDX leg
March 21, 2004 Peninsula DFC, WA 180.50
March 21, 2004 Peninsula DFC, WA 185.50 4 UDX leg
March 27, 2004 Washington State OTC, WA 182.00
March 27, 2004 Washington State OTC, WA 182.00 5 UDX leg
May 15, 2004 Mt. Baker KC, WA 182.50
May 15, 2004 Mt. Baker KC, WA 176.00 6 UDX leg

Obedience News

In your last note you requested update and pictures if possible. Thought that I would drop you a line and let you know what we are up to.



Chance (reg. name below) during his last Canada trip had a caricature made.

We received a certificate from the Canadian Kennel Club that he was the **#1 Obedience Saint in Canada for 2003** (this ties him with his sister, she received it for 2000). We are currently working on his Canadian OTCHX - we need one more combined leg.

Planning to take a trip back up there soon and hope to be able to report on the Can-OTCHX.

Front and Finish has reviewed his record and also Joy's and awarded each of them two Platinum awards

for **Excellence in Obedience** for achieving three obedience titles (CD, CDX, & UD) within a twelve month period for both the AKC and CKC.

Chance is trying to one-up his sister and is working on the 3 UKC titles and is attempting Platinum. He has earned his UKC - CD and has one leg on his UKC - CDX. We are working on the Utility exercises and the Glove work is radically different. Will keep you apprised.

That's all for now ,

Norb & Chris Kowal &...

Canadian OTCH, UCD Nerthus Philys Chance's R Good, UDX, UD, CDX, CD, Can UD, Can CDX, Can CD, HF, PE

Canadian OTCH, UCD Nerthus Chrissys Alpen Joy, UDX, UD, CDX, CD, Can UD, Can CDX, Can CD, HF, PE III

A Canadian OTCHX requires five qualifying scores in both Open and Utility. Basically a mini UDX. The rules for Canada are slightly different in Utility with the single glove seek back, three sets of articles (only two used) and the moving stand and examination.

Obedience News

SAINT BERNARD HISTORY IS MADE AGAIN!

WOW! A Champion UDX Saint Bernard with Master Agility titles, a tracking title, two Versatile Companion Dog titles, plus the Saint Bernard Club of America's Draft Dog and Working Dog Championship titles! Who would have ever thought there would be a Saint Bernard like this one? Not me, that's for sure!



Life with Kris started in the spring of 1999 when Suzanne and I boarded an airplane to Belgium to meet and bring home our 12-week old son. Why go to Belgium to get a Saint Bernard? Well, I had met Kris's sire here in the United States when Joe and Shirley Wolf were showing him for his American Championship. I was *very much impressed* with his temperament, personality and, above all, SOUNDNESS of body and sharpness of mind! When Kris's dad (Multi-CH Bernegarden's Ragtime, owned by Britt Halverson of Belgium) finished his AKC Championship, he returned to Belgium. There he was bred to Franky DeTandt's bitch, Rabigail Van Het Mazerhof. Britt, Joe and Shirley knew I wanted a Ragtime son so Britt put me in contact with Franky. I was sent photos of Rabigail and learned of her soundness, sweet temperament and pedigree. It looked good to me!

A litter of five were born on Christmas Eve 1998 and there was only one male. Franky was agreeable to send this fine boy off (with a couple of strangers, at the time) to a new home and life in America. Thank you Franky, Britt, Joe and Shirley for the role you had in bringing Kris into our lives!

This adorable "little" ball of fluff was off to obedience school within a week after arriving in the USA. He excelled in class and I could see he had much potential with his wonderful attitude that was sparked by lots of energy. It was not what one would call precision work, but he caught on to all the exercises and did them with vigor!

At age 4 1/2, Kris was sitting on his laurels having finished his Championship, Utility Dog, Tracking Dog, Master Agility, Master Jumper, Draft Dog and Working Dog Championship titles. Along the way he has also set many breed records and breed firsts. What next for this young dog, I asked. The UDX title came to mind but did I really want to make that kind of commitment since his UD was finished when he was three. When Kris finished his UD title, we stopped obedience work and turned our focus to agility--something new for the both of us! In ten-months time, Kris went from his first agility trial to a dual master agility titled Saint Bernard--the only one in our breed to achieve this level. With all the agility jumping now behind us, which is a lot for a 150-pound dog, I decided to see where we were at in obedience.

Continued....

Kris parties hardy with his classmates in celebration of his UDX title

Kathy Lang, President of Family Dog Training Center, supplied the people cake. Steve and Corrine Horton brought a doggie meatloaf cake with motsarella lettering for the dogs. There was even champagne flowing for people and dogs! Kris had his bib on and was ready for some serious eating! It was PARTY TIME!



Ms. Lina (Kris's "sister") was decked out in her pearls!

After the party, Kris went back into the Obedience Rings to top off and finish up his obedience career by earning his 50th Advanced Score to earn a rare **Hall of Fame Plateau of Excellence**. Now with the UDX in obedience and the Master titles in agility behind him, Kris will venture back into the tracking fields. He may even give weight pulling a try in the Fall and see how he likes that too!

We went back to obedience school in the summer of 2003 and entered our first show in November. He did quite well, but no combined scores. In January 2004, Kris earned his first UDX leg at the Saint Bernard Club of Puget Sound's Specialty by going High Combined and High In Trial. What a great place and way to start the UDX. I now knew he could do it so we committed to the UDX quest. The UDX legs started to come; several times he earned UDX legs back-to-back in a weekend. There were also many legs lost by failing only ONE exercise between the two classes. Disappointing for sure, but I could see we were in the ballpark! I was convinced more than ever he could earn the title so we "forged" forward. On **July 24, 2004**, Kris completed his 10th UDX leg in 90+-degree weather at Sequim, Washington. The last exercise was the Utility Signals and I could hear my knees knocking as he progressed through the signal sequence. Cheers went up as he did the finish! It was a wonderful show with many of our friends there to share the sweet taste of victory!

With the UDX title under his belt, Kris set even more breed records being the only Saint Bernard Champion to earn a UDX. Come to think of it, he has **THREE ten-legged titles (MXP, MJP, UDX)**, which not many dogs of *any breed* have to their credit!

We will continue on in obedience to earn nine more qualifying scores from the Open *OR* Utility classes. This will give him the fifty advanced scores for a Saint Bernard Hall of Fame Plateau of Excellence. Then he will retire from obedience and take on a couple of new adventures.



In the fall months, Kris will flex his muscles at Weight Pulling. The national club has weight pulling titles so we will try that new venue and see how he likes it. In addition to the weight pulling, we will venture back out to the tracking fields and train for a TDX (Tracking Dog Excellent). The good part is all the jumping will be behind us as he enters his mid-life.

As you can surmise, Suzanne and I are very proud of our son. There will not likely be another to accomplish what he has in the Saint Bernard breed for a long time to come. Kris is that unique dog whose potential was there and developed, plus he has breed type. He can run around the Special's ring with the best of them, holding his head high and dragging all those titles (18) behind him like tin cans bouncing behind a wedding limo!



Kris starting to Gallup in on the Recall during the Signal Exercise. This was the final UDX exercise and Saint Bernard history was in the making!

Obedience News

John

Just a short note, after our weekend in Canada. Chance came through and received his Obedience Trail Championship Excellent (OTChX) in Canada this last weekend. The show was indoors at a hockey rink and it got a little warm. Went down in the sit on the first trial, but did really well on the second (189 in Open and 182 in Utility). Everyone was pulling for the big guy and the people were really excited to see a Saint work. He received a third place in Utility and the Judge (Mr. Hamm) stated it was the "People's Choice Award".

Norb

Picture is a copy of his placing first in Canada for St. Bernard's in Obedience.



New AKC Obedience Regulations (LIME GREEN COVER) go into effect on October 1st. Write AKC for your copy!

**January 1, 2005 Rally becomes a titling class.
Write AKC for the Regulations**

Obedience News

September 19, 2004, was quite a day for our Saint Bernard boy!

Kris earned his **50th qualifying score** from the **Open and/OR Utility** classes to achieve a Saint Bernard National Hall of Fame Plateau of Excellence.

Last month when Kris wrapped up his UDX title he had 42 open and/or utility QS. We decided to go for the remaining eight to earn the plateau of excellent before he *hung up* his article bag and gloves for good!

This morning, he did a stellar job in the UB ring. It was a cool overcast day at a beautiful picturesque small fairgrounds in Gig Harbor, Washington. He was soooooo animated and full of himself which made this final qualifying performance a pleasure to watch and be a part. I am so proud of what our son has accomplished.



Kris finishing up his Obedience Career going over the Broad Jump

Kris is now 5/ 1/2-years of age and for this 150-pounder it is time to give the joints a rest. We have been ever so lucky to accomplish a **UDX and two Master agility titles** without injuries.

Next on the agenda are non-jumping activities. We will start training for a TDX and possibly some Saint Bernard Club of America weight pulling titles. Kris really enjoys tracking so he will be rather busy doing what *should* come natural to this rescue breed.

For those of you with Dairy Queen stock, you might think of selling it before it takes a dive! Kris's visits will not be quite a frequent as there are less legs in tracking compared to all the obedience and agility titles! He will, of course, still give his sister Lina moral support at the local DQ store as she goes for her remaining three master agility standard legs. Plus, Ms. Lina will be out in the tracking fields too working for a TD. Come to think of it, you might want to hold on to that DQ stock a little longer. Returns still could be good.

John (no titles) &

CH/WDCH Kris CD, CDX, UD, UDX, NAJ, NJP, OAP, OJP, AXP, AJP, MXP, MJP, TD, VCD1, VCD2, DD!

Obedience News

WDCh Echo's Utmost, VCD2, UD WP, DD

I'm so proud of her I could get difficult to live with :-).

Three legs in five shows (average number of tries for success in Utility is 20). She earned a nice score of 192 1/2 at Golden State KC, which was good enough for first place (there was a second place a point behind -- not always a given that more than one dog qualifies in Futility A). It was particularly meaningful to me because **Wendy**, Miranda's grandmother, earned her UD at this very same show four years ago. These are great shows for St. Bernards -- it's downright cold and overcast and the club starts the shows early (we were in the ring at 8:10 AM).

My thanks to her breeder, **Carrol Thom**, for letting me bring this sweet girl home. Her official title (including SBCA titles) is now

WDCh Echo's Utmost, VCD2, UD WP, DD

She now has almost as many letters after her name as in her name. Next year we start on the UDX -- if we attain that, then she WILL have as many letters after her name as in her name!

Lovey Olbrich

2005
Archive Obedience News
For the Saint Bernard



Volume 4, 1 Issue

Obedience News

John

Just wanted to let you know that the "Little Guy – Chance" added a new title (number 13) to his name. We qualified in UKC (United Kennel Club) Utility. This also qualified him for his third Front and Finish Platinum Award (three levels of Obedience within 12 months)

As I thought about the title and the differences in the exercises between the various kennel clubs, I felt that there may be some interest in comparing them.

CD (Novice)

- **AKC:** Heel on lead and figure 8. Off leash Stand for exam. Heel Free. Recall. Group Sit and Down.
- **CKC:** Similar except that Stand for Exam is on lead.
- **UKC:** Heeling is done with another dog (honor dog) in the ring on a down with handler there. Recall is over the high jump. (3/4 height of dog @ withers.). Honor exercise – down with handler in ring in lieu of Group Down.

CDX (Open)

- **AKC:** Heel Free & figure 8. Drop on Recall, Retrieve on Flat, Retrieve over High Jump, Broad Jump. (31" dog jumps 24" on high and 48" on broad – 4 boards). Out of Sight Group Sits and Downs. For the B classes the sequence of the exercises will vary.
- **CKC:** Similar to AKC. (31: dog jumps 23" on high and 46" on broad – 3 boards.). No variation in sequence.
- **UKC:** Honor exercise – dog on down while other dog works heeling and figure 8 (handler out of sight). While heeling steward passes your dog in the pattern. On recall, after drop, steward walks past along side your dog. Retrieve on Flat and Over high jump as well as broad is similar. (31" dog jumps 22" on high and 46" on broad). Group Sit exercise. No variation in sequence.

UD (Utility)

- **AKC:** Signal Exercise, Scent Discrimination Article 1, Scent Discrimination Article 2, Directed Glove Retrieve, Moving Stand & Examination, Directed Jumping (High & Bar). For the B classes the sequence of the exercises will vary.
- **CKC:** Seek Back (Single leather glove is held in right hand, heeling pattern is worked and judge directs at some time during the pattern to drop the glove. Pattern continues. Dog is directed back down the path and directed to find the glove). Scent Discrimination Article 1 (three sets of articles 5 each, wood, leather, metal judge selects 2 different types of articles for owners scent) balance are placed out for a total of 14 on the floor. Scent Discrimination Article 2. Signal Exercise. Moving Stand (call in to a front vs. heel for AKC) Front and Finish, Directed Jumping. Completion of UD title in Canada qualifies you for the OTCH title.
- **UKC:** Signal Exercise, Scent Discrimination (one set of 5 metal articles), Two glove exercises. Glove laid out in a V. One on left edge even with the middle of the ring, one opposite on the right edge and one at the far end centered. You are facing glove #2. ¼ pivot right or left for glove 1 or 3, straight out for #2. Second glove exercise is to send the dog, give the sit command ½ way out, turn and sit. Then signal and voice to the glove chosen by the judge. Consecutive recall exercise – 1st recall is with drop (steward walking by after dog is down), front and finish and immediate second recall direct. Directed Jumping.

Advanced Titles:

AKC: UDX requires qualifying scores in both Open B and Utility B at 10 trials.

CKC: OTCHX requires qualifying scored in both Open B and Utility B at 5 trails.

That's it for now, Chance has started his work for a UKC OTCH (100 points, each point based on score with 5 combined legs totaling 370 or better). Keep your fingers crossed.

Norb, Chris and

Can OTCHX, UUD Nerthus Philys Chances R Good, UDX, HF, PE,

2006
Archive Obedience News
For the Saint Bernard



Volume 5, 2 Issues

Obedience News

By Norb Kowal

“The Road to UDX2”

We started this journey before the title existed. The underlying reason was to try and get some of those elusive OTCH (Obedience Trial Championship) points (in spite of the heavy East Coast competition with Golden Retrievers, Border Collies, Aussies, etc.), and try to qualify for the AKC Obedience Invitational.



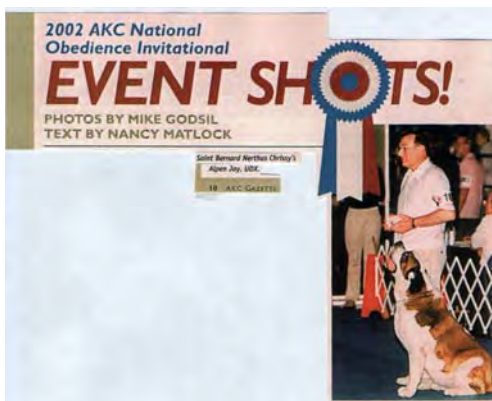
We met the goal and went to the 2002 Obedience Invitational (they actually sent out a very nice, semi-engraved, invitation). The competition was in June in Rosemont, IL, just outside Chicago, one of the most interesting venues for Obedience we ever participated in. There were six rings and simultaneous competition. Each ring has a set of exercises. "Joy" completed and passed all exercises each time with one exception, ranking about 65th (out of 125 dogs competing) in the standings after the first day of competition. Unfortunately, we did not make the cut for the second day of competition.



Being the first and only Saint at the competition, we received a lot of attention and the photographer for the event took at least three shots that were published (two in the Gazette). The photo of Joy was taken at the National Obedience Invitational competition.



After the Invitational we were having a lot of fun and decided to continue on and show the little brother, "Chance" (Nerthus Phily's Chances R Good, UDX, HF, PE), how it works. Along the way, we had another accomplishment--both Joy and Chance qualified for UDX legs as the same show. Even the judges were impressed that two Saints were in their rings and both qualified.



The competitions were fun, and spending quality time training, working with and enjoying ourselves was the primary purposes; qualifying scores were the icing on the cake.

Joy and I can only encourage others to have fun, set goals and reach out for them. You will have fun along the way and never know what you can achieve.

Obedience News



Saint Bernard Club of America's Obedience Trials September, 2006

By John Cox



"Rocky Mountain Rendezvous" SBC of America's Regional Obedience and Rally Trials hosted by the St. Bernard Club of Greater Phoenix	Saint Bernard Club of America's Obedience and Rally Trials Cheyenne, WY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2006	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2006
<p>RING 2</p> <p>JUDGE: Mr. Barry L. Roland</p> <p>—26 ENTRIES</p> <p>8:00AM</p> <p>1 UTILITY B (134)</p> <p>1 OPEN B (133)</p> <p>1 OPEN A (132)</p> <p>7 NOV. B (125-131)</p> <p>2 NOV. A (123-124)</p> <p>1 PRE-NOVICE CLASS (135)</p> <p>1 RALLY EXCELLENT B (23)</p> <p>1 RALLY ADVANCED B (22)</p> <p>1 RALLY ADVANCED A (21)</p> <p>8 RALLY NOVICE B (13-20)</p> <p>2 RALLY NOVICE A (11-12)</p>	<p>RING 2</p> <p>JUDGE: Mrs. Jill F. Urbina</p> <p>—17 ENTRIES</p> <p>8:00AM</p> <p>2 UTILITY B (206-207)</p> <p>2 OPEN B (204-205)</p> <p>1 OPEN A (203)</p> <p>8 NOV. B (195-202)</p> <p>2 NOV. A (193-194)</p> <p>1 GRAD. NOV. (208)</p> <p>1 PRE-NOVICE CLASS (209)</p> <p>RING 2</p> <p>JUDGE: Mrs. Elizabeth (Betty) Elvidge</p> <p>—16 ENTRIES</p> <p>9:45AM</p> <p>2 RALLY EXCELLENT B (25-26)</p> <p>2 RALLY ADVANCED B (23-24)</p> <p>1 RALLY ADVANCED A (22)</p> <p>8 RALLY NOVICE B (14-21)</p> <p>3 RALLY NOVICE A (11-13)</p>

SBCA 2006 NATIONAL Obedience Trial Results

Novice A

No Qualifiers

Novice B

Echos Xtra Sweetie Von Eddy DD (194)

CH Blue Collars Etcetera Etc RN (184)

Open A

No Qualifiers

Open B

CH/WDCH XmaxKris Van 't Hof Ten Eynder VCD2, UDX, RAE, MXP4, MJP3, DD, WPS (186)

Utility B

No Qualifiers

Graduate Novice

Echos Xtra Sweetie Von Eddy DD (131.5)

Pre-Noivce

ShowMe Ramz Cheerleader (138)

Highest Scoring Dog in the Regular Classes: (Photo above)

Echos Xtra Sweetie Von Eddy DD (194)

Highest Scoring Champion: (Photo above)

CH/WDCH XmaxKris Van 't Hof Ten Eynder VCD2, UDX, RAE, MXP4, MJP3, DD, WPS (186)

SBCA 2006 REGIONAL Obedience Trial Results

Novice A—No Qualifiers

Novice B—Echos Xtra Sweetie Von Eddy (189)

CH Blue Collars Etcetera Etc. RN, WPS (184.5)

CH Vicdorys Indiana Bones CD, RA, WPX (180.5)

Open A—Absent

Open B—WDCH Echos Utmost VCD2, UX, TDX, DD, WPX (188.5)

Utility B—No Qualifier

Highest Scoring Dog in the Regular Classes: (Photo below L)

Echos Xtra Sweetie Von Eddy DD (189)

Highest Scoring Champion: (Photo below R)



2007
Archive Obedience News
For the Saint Bernard



Volume 6, 5 Issues

Obedience News

2006 In Review

Saint Bernards increased their numbers in Obedience in 2006 over the numbers in 2005. The increase was only by one CD and one CDX.

The results over the last several years are kind of dismal for our "Working" breed and considering Obedience is the foundation sport for all other events. We had **9** Saint Bernards completing their Companion Dog (CD) titles and only **ONE** Companion Dog Excellent (CDX) title in 2006. That was it! A far cry from the numbers in years past.

Lets hope those starting in Rally will continue on into Obedience and the CD dogs will advance into Open.

The Top Obedience Dog for 2006 is Kings Row Uno Mas St. Hampton CDX owned by Louie & Jill Urbina of California. To view all the past Obedience winners log on to the National Archives web site and click on the SBCA column. The link to the past winners is at the bottom of the page. <http://clubs.akc.org/saints/Archives/Welcome.htm>

Kings Row Uno Mas St. Hampton CDX

By Jill Urbina

Louie Urbina is the proud owner of "Hampton" CDX.

Who would have known that the little fluffy sweet smelling puppy that we picked up to take home to join our household would turn out to be the 31-inch tall big sobby dog that he grew up to be. He fit in nicely with our couple of Cavaliers and a house cat. Hampton took his place at the bottom of the totem pole without complaint. He graduated from an exercise pen in the kitchen to the run of the houses as soon as he learned clean habits.

Louie started him in puppy class as when it was safe and then on to beginners and advanced until he was ready to show. Hampton earned his C.D. and C.G.C. and then straight on to Open class and showed to earn his C.D.X. Now he is almost ready to be certified for T.D. tracking. Hampton is also training for his U.D. so we hope that next year he will be ready!

Most of all, he has a wonderful temperament and is sweet with people and dogs alike. He still climbs into Louie's lap whenever he feels the need for close companionship.



2007

Volume 6, Issue 2

June, 2007

Obedience News

By Dr. Fay Chan Cho D.D.S.

It was a beautiful, sunny but very **hot** weekend in Sacramento, California where the 4 day Northern California St. Bernard Cluster was held in late April. The show was held at the Red Lion hotel and reached well into to 90s every day.

Obedience was offered by the Saint Bernard Club of the Pacific Coast on two of the four days with **11 entries**, including one entry in Utility! The judge on the first day of obedience was Mr. Ronald W. Simmons from Mill Valley, CA. Lovey Olbrich with her shorthair bitch, **Echo's Xtra Sweetie V Eddy, CD, RN, DD** won High In Trial in Novice B with a score of 196.

The judge on the second day of the obedience trial was Mrs. Jacqueline Coyne from Petaluma CA. Fay Cho with her shorthair bitch **Stoan's Greta of Mabri, CD, RN** won High in Trial in Novice A with a score of 195.5.



Handlers leaving their dogs for the Long 1-minute Sit



Next exercise, the Long Down for 3 minutes



Dr. Fay Cho & Stoan's Greta of Mabri, CD, RN



Judge Coyne observing the *perfect* performances



Lovey Olbrich & Echo's Xtra Sweetie V Eddy, CD, RN, DD

Obedience News

By John Cox

The Saint Bernard Club of Puget Sound (SBCPS) held their first back-to-back Rally & Obedience trials on June 16 & 17, 2007 in conjunction with the conformation shows. The turnout in Obedience was not as good as Rally but there is hope that maybe next year many of the Rally dogs will enter Obedience too. We had an entry of 1 Novice A, 2 Novice B and 2 in Pre-novice. The judges were Mr. Allan Immerman from Olympia, Washington on Saturday and Mrs. Joyce Ostby from Spokane, Washington on Sunday.

On Saturday, June 16, 2007 we had 100% passing rate!

Novice A:

Save I Love Lucy With Nac RN 192 **1st** Place & Highest Scoring Dog in the Regular Classes



Lucy is Top Dog in Obedience BOTH days with a 192!

Novice B:

Stoans Yitzhak of T'Ace 187 **1st** Place
 CH Victorys Golden Krugerrand 173 **2nd** Place



All smiles in the Novice B class as:
 Yitzhak, on the left, earns a CD title!
 Golden Krugerrand taking home a CD title too!

Pre-Novice entry:

Stoans D'Alice of Loramar
 Victorys Manhattan Transfer

On Sunday, June 17, 2007 we had a 33% passing rate!

Novice A:

Save I Love Lucy With Nac RN 192 **1st** Place & Highest Scoring Dog in the Regular Classes

Pre-Novice entry:

Stoans D'Alice of Loramar
 Victorys Manhattan Transfer



Stan checking his watch as this 1-minute Sit seems to go on FOREVER!
 Vicki is looking to the Heavens to get her through this exercise

Obedience News

By John Cox

On **January 1st, 2009** the *now non-regular* classes of **Graduate Novice**, **Graduate Open** and **Versatility** will become **optional titling** classes. An optional titling class is a class a club *may offer* at its trials. Similar to the Agility F.A.S.T. titles that are also optional titling classes.

The new titles will be:

GN=Graduate Novice

GO=Graduate Open

VER=Versatility

To view the requirements for the new classes, go to the Saint Bernard National Archives' NEWS room, <http://clubs.akc.org/saints/Archives/newsroom.htm> & scroll down to the obedience links.

I now have the new databases all set-up in the DATA room of the Archives, so plan to check back come 2009 and see who will be the FIRST Saint Bernards to earn the new titles.

Plus, there will be an additional TWO advanced titles of **Obedience Master (OM)** 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 and then the **Obedience Grand Master (OGM)** which is 10 Obedience Master titles.

Now would be the time to do some planning and training so you will be ready to enter in January 2009! Maybe it will be you setting the records and be recorded in the Archives as the FIRST.

Enjoy the challenge.

Obedience News



Saint Bernard Club of America's Obedience Trial - September, 2007



NOVICE CLASS A

C/0.0O5 (___) **CH SHOWME RAMZ CHEERLEADER RN. WS147778/01.** 09/16/05. BITCH. BREEDER(S): OWNER . BY: CH SCANDIA'S SIMON - CACHE RETREAT LADY REDWOOD NP. SAINT BERNARDS. (BR 128) **OWNER(S): COLETTE WEISHAAR.** 10 CEDAR VALLEY CT., ST. CHARLES, MO 63303.

NOVICE CLASS B

C/0.0O105 (___) **EASTGATES FRECKLED BARON- ESS. WS040307/01.** 04/13/03. BITCH. BREEDER(S): ELAINE COOPER. BY: CH ESASTGATES BARON VON LITE - CH EASTGATES FRECKLED DELITE. SAINT BERNARDS. (BR 18) **OWNER(S): ELAINE COOPER, BARRY L. ROLAND.** 4029 WEELAUNEE RD., ELLENWOOD, GA 30294.

1/HT/179.0O106 (___) **BENBARON'S TINKER OF YONDO, CD. WS159606/03.** 08/28/05. BITCH. BREEDER(S): BRIAN & TONI BENINGER. BY: CH BENBARON'S YONDO VON GIZER - BENBARON'S NIFTY AND N'ICE. SAINT BERNARDS. (BR 20) **OWNER(S): BARRY L ROLAND.** 4029 WEELAUNEE RD, ELLENWOOD, GA 30294.

C/0.0O107 (___) **CH VICDORY'S JULIUS CEASAR RN. WS114647/01.** 11/27/04. DOG. BREEDER(S): VICKI J GRAVES, DOROTHY M JAEGER. BY: CH SERPENTINA'S ROGUE V STAR - CH STOAN'S QUINTESSA VIC REVILO. SAINT BERNARDS. (BR 19) **OWNER(S): LORETTA GRIFFIN, VICKI J GRAVES.** 12324 CANYON RD E., PUYALLUP, WA 98373-4464.

OPEN CLASS A

JUDG/0.0O605 (___) **EASTGATES REMEMBER THE KNIGHT, CD, RE. WS040179/01.** 10/02/02. DOG. BREEDER(S): ELAINE COOPER. BY: CH EASTGATES BARON VON LITE - CH EASTGATES SUNNY DELITE. SAINT BERNARDS. (BR 9) **OWNER(S): BARRY L ROLAND.** 4029 WEELAUNEE RD, ELLENWOOD, GA 30294.

GRADUATE NOVICE

C/0.0O609 (___) **CH VICDORY'S INDIANA BONES CD RE WPS. WS064067/12.** 10/21/03. DOG. BREEDER(S): VICKI GRAVES, DOTTY JAEGER, LORALEI MARENCO. BY: LASQUITE'S BRINX X STOAN - CH VICDORY'S CITRINE VON STOAN. SAINT BERNARDS. (BR 103) **OWNER(S): VONNA & KEN COWEN, VICKI J GRAVES.** 2201 27TH PL SE, PUYALLUP, WA 98372.

BRACE

1/324.0O106 (___) **BENBARON'S TINKER OF YONDO, CD. WS159606/03.** 08/28/05. BITCH. BREEDER(S): BRIAN & TONI BENINGER. BY: CH BENBARON'S YONDO VON GIZER - BENBARON'S NIFTY AND N'ICE. SAINT BERNARDS. (BR 20) **OWNER(S): BARRY L ROLAND.** 4029 WEELAUNEE RD, ELLENWOOD, GA 30294.

1/324.0O605 (___) **EASTGATES REMEMBER THE KNIGHT, CD, RE. WS040179/01.** 10/02/02. DOG. BREEDER(S): ELAINE COOPER. BY: CH EASTGATES BARON VON LITE - CH EASTGATES SUNNY DELITE. SAINT BERNARDS. (BR 9) **OWNER(S): BARRY L ROLAND.** 4029 WEELAUNEE RD, ELLENWOOD, GA 30294.

2008
Archive Obedience News
For the Saint Bernard



Volume 7, 3 Issues



A MUCH-OVERLOOKED AREA OF TRAINING

--Sue Cox

Have you spent the time and put much effort into training your dog to line up for the next exercise? How about to enter the ring, walk to the designated place to start and have an attentive dog.....not one which is sniffing the ground, looking around, and not ready to compete? This is seen all too often in the Rally ring, but much too frequently in the Obedience ring, too. The team is being judged from the moment they step into the ring until they pass the gate on their way out.

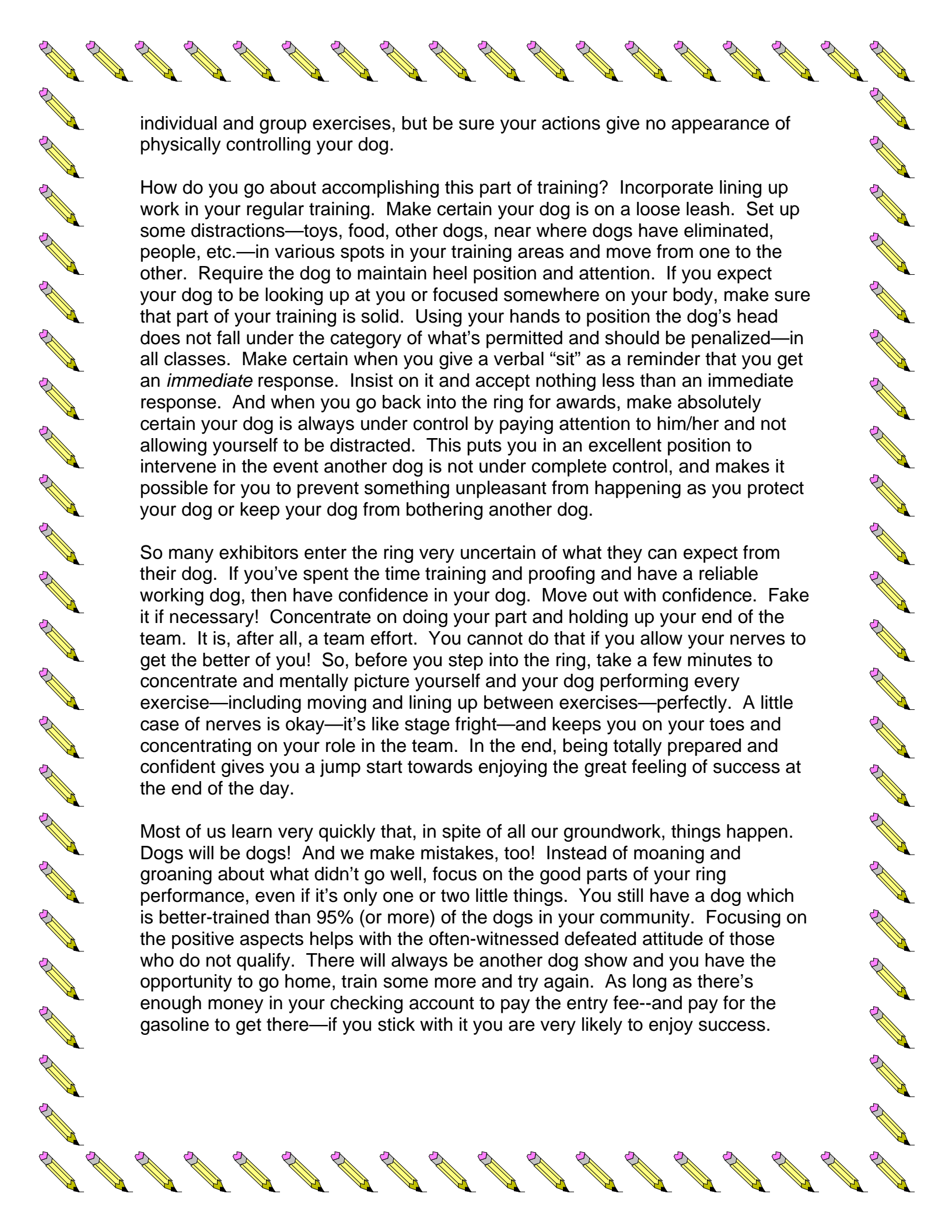
Why is it an important area to address in your training? For starters, it gets a handler in a twitter when their dog is clearly not under control at the very start or when they line up for the next exercise. That doesn't bode well for a good start to any performance! How you handle it may well lead to deductions from your score.....before you even get started.

In Rally, if you end up tugging or pulling up on the leash or using your hands to position the dog, you will be penalized. Using the leash and collar (or your hands) to make corrections will likely lead to your being excused. That's a quick waste of about \$25!

In the Obedience ring, Novice exhibitors may "gently guide the dog by the collar." That generally means there is no real pressure put on the dog's neck, i.e. no action which resembles a correction or that can be seen as not gentle (and that will be in the eyes of the judge). Using your hands to position the dog will lead to a minor to substantial penalty under "Miscellaneous Penalties." This covers the action of physically bringing and/or holding the dog's head up to focus on the handler. A dog which is clearly not under control will be excused. And that also applies to the times you are between exercises in Novice.

Open and Utility exhibitors are expected to present a dog which is under control at all times. A substantial penalty (3 or more points) is to be applied if they use their hands or the collar to control or position their dog. Also subject to being penalized is lack of prompt response to the handler's commands or signals before, between and after exercises. This applies after the last exercise, too! Watch that you are not grabbing your dog by the collar (as in controlling it) as you begin to exit the ring or move to get your leash. Obviously, you may take hold of the collar in order to reattach the leash. A good idea is to have the dog sit and then attach the leash. That eliminates any doubt that you're holding back or controlling the dog with the collar.

Not to be overlooked is control when filing into the ring for the group exercises. Again, Novice dogs may be gently guided by the collar; for the dogs in Open, it's a hands-off process of lining up and getting into place or position, which applies to the time between groups, too. You may certainly pet and praise between



individual and group exercises, but be sure your actions give no appearance of physically controlling your dog.

How do you go about accomplishing this part of training? Incorporate lining up work in your regular training. Make certain your dog is on a loose leash. Set up some distractions—toys, food, other dogs, near where dogs have eliminated, people, etc.—in various spots in your training areas and move from one to the other. Require the dog to maintain heel position and attention. If you expect your dog to be looking up at you or focused somewhere on your body, make sure that part of your training is solid. Using your hands to position the dog's head does not fall under the category of what's permitted and should be penalized—in all classes. Make certain when you give a verbal "sit" as a reminder that you get an *immediate* response. Insist on it and accept nothing less than an immediate response. And when you go back into the ring for awards, make absolutely certain your dog is always under control by paying attention to him/her and not allowing yourself to be distracted. This puts you in an excellent position to intervene in the event another dog is not under complete control, and makes it possible for you to prevent something unpleasant from happening as you protect your dog or keep your dog from bothering another dog.

So many exhibitors enter the ring very uncertain of what they can expect from their dog. If you've spent the time training and proofing and have a reliable working dog, then have confidence in your dog. Move out with confidence. Fake it if necessary! Concentrate on doing your part and holding up your end of the team. It is, after all, a team effort. You cannot do that if you allow your nerves to get the better of you! So, before you step into the ring, take a few minutes to concentrate and mentally picture yourself and your dog performing every exercise—including moving and lining up between exercises—perfectly. A little case of nerves is okay—it's like stage fright—and keeps you on your toes and concentrating on your role in the team. In the end, being totally prepared and confident gives you a jump start towards enjoying the great feeling of success at the end of the day.

Most of us learn very quickly that, in spite of all our groundwork, things happen. Dogs will be dogs! And we make mistakes, too! Instead of moaning and groaning about what didn't go well, focus on the good parts of your ring performance, even if it's only one or two little things. You still have a dog which is better-trained than 95% (or more) of the dogs in your community. Focusing on the positive aspects helps with the often-witnessed defeated attitude of those who do not qualify. There will always be another dog show and you have the opportunity to go home, train some more and try again. As long as there's enough money in your checking account to pay the entry fee--and pay for the gasoline to get there—if you stick with it you are very likely to enjoy success.

COSTLY HANDLER ERRORS IN THE OBEDIENCE RINGS

By Sue Cox

(The first of this two-part article appeared a few months ago; this is a continuation and covers the Open and Utility classes.)

Many of the handling errors seen in the Novice ring continue to be seen in the Open and Utility classes. Each of those classes includes heeling and exercises which are a variation of the Recall. I'll try not to repeat what appeared in the previous article, but may do so for emphasis.

The Drop on Recall is an exercise where handlers are often slow to respond to the judge's signal to down their dog, use excessive body motion along with a drop signal, and fail to give signals that are "a single gesture with one arm and hand only, and the arm and hand must immediately be returned to a natural position." Loud commands are a frequently observed handler error.

A dog in Open or Utility may receive no "physical guidance." These are "hands off" classes, except for praising and petting between exercises.

When a dog goes out to the dumbbell and fails to retrieve promptly, the judge's attention should go to the handler to observe any body/facial movements or changes on the part of the handler which might be used (intentionally or unintentionally) hoping to get the dog to retrieve, which may be penalized, even to the point of non-qualifying.

The handler's failure to get the dumbbell over the jump, and at least eight feet beyond, will not result in a deduction from your score. But, practice throwing that dumbbell on various surfaces so you get a good toss the first time and don't end up having to repeat throwing the dumbbell. It's not good on a handler's nerves! It's up to the judge to determine if the dumbbell is to be re-thrown on this exercise, as well as on the Retrieve on the Flat.

The Broad Jump is just a Recall with some hurdles in the dog's path. It's your responsibility to know where to position yourself facing the hurdles after you have left the dog—between the first and last hurdle and "toes about two feet from the jump." If you're not in the required position and the judge directs you to move, expect a scoring penalty for the exercise. If the dog anticipates the jump when you move, you'll end up non-qualifying. Why? The exercise has already started. Not turning while the dog is mid-air over the jump, not remaining "in the same spot" and failure to make a right-angle turn will result in deductions from your score, too.

Following the Broad Jump, or whichever exercise is last in the Open B class, watch that you don't grab your dog by the collar and guide it as you exit the ring. You may, however, take hold of the collar to attach the leash. A dog which is not under control at this point, before, after or between exercises, will be penalized. Only in Novice may a dog be gently guided by the collar between exercises. As long as you are in the ring, the team is subject to being judged.

Handling on the Group exercises was mentioned in the previous article. Many Open exhibitors are surprised to find penalties for placing their dogs with their hands, feet, etc. Ch. 2, Sec. 23 is very clear on that issue.

On the Utility Signal Exercise, in addition to the heeling and Recall errors, handlers often are seen delaying in giving their signals, giving audible commands, and using signals that don't comply with Ch. 2, Sec. 20. However, if your dog glances away just before you give a signal, you'd be wise to take the penalty for delaying and increasing your chances of qualifying when the dog's attention returns to the handler, providing that happens within a moment or two.

Errors on the Recall or Retrieve on Flat exercises are seen during the Scent Discrimination exercises. Some handlers do not realize that the exercise begins with first order, which is the taking of the article (handler placing it on the judge's clipboard). Any talking to the dog or touching the dog, etc. while the judge is placing the article is a handler error because the exercise has begun. The handler is to impart their scent to the article with their hands and they must be in

plain sight. The handler “shall remain facing away from those articles until the judge has taken the handler’s scented article and given the order, ‘Send your dog.’” You’ve seen exhibitors turn around and take a peek at where the article is being placed—that is scorable. Not turning in place as your turn to face the articles subjects you to a substantial penalty. And, if it’s your practice to give the dog your scent (“with the palm of one open hand”), make sure that arm and hand have returned to a natural position at your sides before you give your command and send your dog. The scent may only be given between the judge’s order to “Send your dog” and the handler turning to do so. Excessive motions with that turn will be penalized.

What’s been said about the Retrieve and Recall applies to the Directed Retrieve, too. Not turning in place, over-turning/under-turning to face the designated glove, will lead to a substantial penalty, even to the point of a NQ. Failure to give the dog direction with a single motion will lose you some points—30! A verbal command to retrieve is required. It’s the exhibitor’s responsibility to be sure it’s loud enough for the judge to hear. If the judge does not hear your command, he/she may assume your dog anticipated the retrieve and you’ll receive a NQ (non-qualifying) score. In addition, to quote the Regulations, “A handler who does not give a verbal command to retrieve simultaneously or immediately after giving the direction to retrieve must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score.” Any commands/signals given to position the dog after turning will get you a NQ on the exercise, too. Excessive motions in turning are subject to a penalty. And, if that’s not enough, you are required to “stand with your back to the unobstructed end of the ring.” Turning around and peeking at the gloves, after the exercise begins and before turning, is another handler error (aiding the dog).

If you haven’t given up yet, let’s see how the Moving Stand and Examination can “get” you. Again, it’s heeling, stand signals/commands and the Recall, plus any pausing or change in your manner of walking will be penalized. After giving the command and/or signal to the dog to stand and stay, the handler is to “continue forward 10-12 feet and turn around.” Not going the required distance will get you a deduction and the judge will request you to move to the correct distance.

With the Directed Jumping exercise, refer to the Recall errors. Failing to give a command to sit when the dog is about 20 feet beyond the jumps, pausing between the dog’s name and a sit command, holding the arm giving a signal and using excessive body motions along with the signal will be penalized, as will your failure to turn to face the dog (if you choose to turn) while the dog is mid-air going over the jumps.

Now, if you get through your class without making any of these errors, don’t get too excited and pick up your dog—the judge will be taking a substantial deduction from your score for this action.

It’s of utmost importance that you become totally familiar with the requirements of each exercise and other general information found in the AKC Obedience Regulations. It’s amazing how many people attempt to play the game without knowing the rules (or Regulations in this case)!

It’s not likely you’re making lots of handler errors, but try to avoid making any. Most of our dogs manage to lose some points; we can do our part in not losing even more points to lower the score. We’re usually not aware that we’re making errors; having someone observe us before going into the ring at a trial is a good idea, as is a video tape of your performance. When viewing the video, pay close attention to your actions rather than just watching the dog.

Here’s hoping this has helped you improve your score by eliminating some common handler errors!

