

Breed First - Dock Junior Advanced Title {DJA}



**Kudos Crown Royal V
Regalbear TKN, FDC,
DJA, DN, CGCA, CGCU,
ATT**

By, Beth Horn

Dock diving is a fast growing sport in which dogs are enticed to run the length of a dock and leap as far out into the water as possible to compete for height or distance. Dogs are motivated to fly by chasing a prized toy, that is thrown just out of their reach in order to get keep their momentum and get the best launch angle possible.

The North America Diving Dogs (NADD) organization enhanced the sport by working with AKC to create Dock Diving titles. NADD has created two jump classes, lap and open based on the height of the dog (over or under 16 inches), and created titles for various increments of distance from one inch to over twenty-four feet. Each distance jump has three available titles. The first title requires five qualifying jumps in the distance division, the advanced title requires thirty jumps in the distance division and the excellent title requires fifty-five jumps in the distance division. The distance divisions for the open class include Novice (1' to 9' 11"), Junior (10' to 14' 11"), Senior (15' to 19' 11"), Master (20' to 23' 11"), and Elite (24' and above). Competition docks have a dock length of at least thirty feet and the pool is a minimum of forty feet. The dock is about three feet above the water.

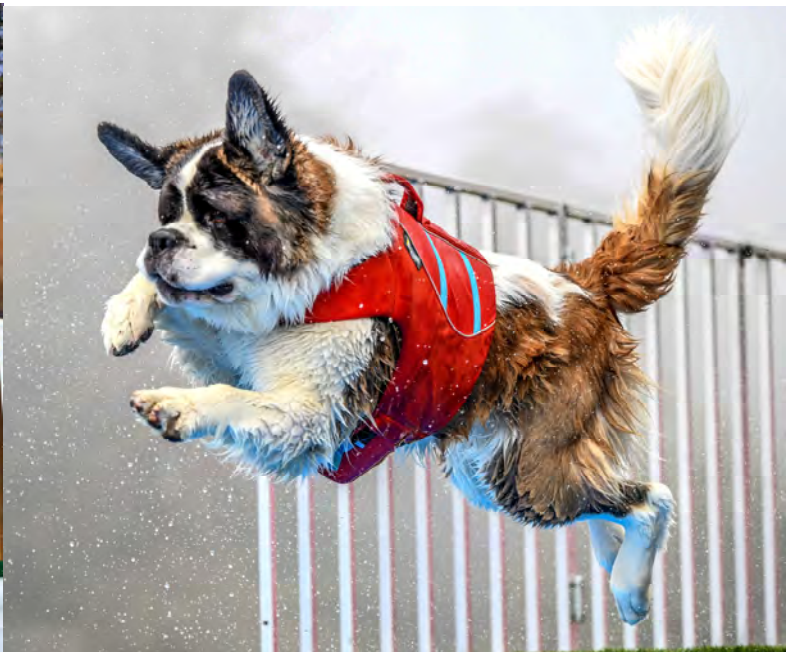
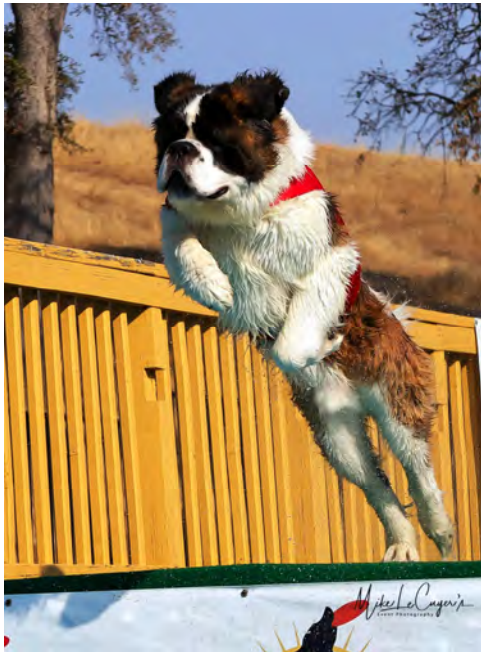
Rye started his dock diving career by complete accident! When the pandemic of 2020 began, our local lake where Rye would swim was shut down. I asked my friend if I could use her pond to continue swimming Rye so that he wouldn't lose his conditioning. She said yes and that was when things got fun. At our first day at the pond, which includes a small dock, Rye ran right off the edge of the dock into the water! It shocked him for a bit, but he came right back to the dock and ran to the edge and analyzed what just happened. By the end of the first day at the pond was jumping off the dock a few feet and even began chasing a frisbee into the water!

I had taken video of Rye jumping and my friend told me about NADD and told me I had to get Rye into competition. I Kind of laughed her off and said that saints don't do dock diving! She insisted that Rye could absolutely jump in competition and urged me again. I decided to look into and found a local trainer who gave lessons and even had competitions are her facility. Rye had two lessons and my trainer said to enter him in his first competition, he was ready to jump! So in August 2020 Rye completed his first jumps and even earned his first title in Dock Novice! We were all completely hooked!

In September we entered our second trial, where Rye not only jumped further than he had ever jumped before, but he earned a second title for Dock Junior and won first place in his division! Winning first place earned Rye an invitation to the NADD National Championships!

At our third trial, Rye earned his Dock Junior Advanced title, meaning that Rye had completed thirty jumps in the junior distance division! Rye continues to compete in dock diving and is working towards his Dock Junior Excellent title. The DJA was Rye's 9th performance title at just over two years old!

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**First Saint Bernard to Earn The
Dock Diving Junior Advanced Title
September 14, 2020**