

DOG TRACKS

A Day By the Harbour The “Bradfield Bark”

Sunday May 28th dawned bright and sunny, the perfect weather for an agility demonstration in what can only be described as the most spectacular setting anywhere in Sydney.

Under the towering columns of the Sydney Harbour Bridge with the Opera House and the glittering harbour as a backdrop our agility members set up a course and the crowds gathered to watch the agility demonstration.



At the end of the demonstration there was a “have a go” session where members of the public, under the watchful supervision of the team, could try their dogs on the course.



Manly & District Kennel & Dog Training Club

The Club had a stall, which was the first public outing for our eye catching new marquee, and our team of volunteers spent the day handing out flyers and answering questions.



Colourful flags fluttered over the park which was filled with stalls offering an amazing array of doggy products from collars to cushions, cookies and costumes, there was live entertainment and a variety of dog sport demonstrations and competitions. Dogs of every shape and size were paraded by their proud owners and everyone agreed that it was a great dog day out.



As we packed up our gear to leave a beautiful rainbow appeared over the Opera House, a fitting end to our day by the harbour

Teaching "Perch"

Does your dog know that it has back legs and can move them independently?.....Probably not.

Perch work is great for teaching your dog rear-end awareness enabling your dog to do awesome 360° and 270° turns and perfect about turns.

You will need a "perch". Ideally a perch should be solid and stable and in relation to the size of your dog e.g. a block of wood, a round disc, a sturdy upturned bowl. It needs to be low enough for your dog to step on and off and wide enough for it to comfortably fit both front paws on.



Dogs love perching and once they learn will perch on even a small object.

Start by placing the perch on the ground then as your dog moves towards it mark and treat. Encourage your dog forward to the perch, then to place a foot on the perch and finally both feet marking and treating all the time; jackpot for both feet. Once both feet are up your dog will quickly learn this position and respond to your "Perch" voice cue.

Once your dog has mastered stepping onto the perch and is confident in standing on it you can begin to teach moving around. Stand in front of your dog and hold a treat to its nose and take a small step, either right or left, the object being to have your dog use his hind legs to move around. Mark and treat even the slightest movement of the back legs. As your dog becomes more confident you can take larger steps as you move around the perch.



The next step is to teach your dog to rotate with you around the perch in the heel position. Start by cueing perch then take your position next to your dog. Begin with slow small steps marking and rewarding as you move. Practise moving right and left marking and rewarding when your dog is close in to your side.

Teaching your dog to perch leads to great heel-work and awesome turns.

Banana & Peanut Butter Dog Biscuits

An easy to make tasty treat

- 1 x Egg
- ½ x Cup of Peanut Butter
- 1 x Ripe Banana
- 1 x Tablespoon of Honey
- 1 x Cup of Wholemeal Flour
- 1 x Cup of Oat Bran



Mash banana then add a beaten egg, honey and peanut butter and mix well together. Add wholemeal flour and oat bran and combine. Roll out to about 1cm thick and cut out biscuits with a cookie cutter.

Bake at 180° for 15 – 20 minutes. When cool store in an airtight container.

Meet Gordon the Resident Gecko

Spotted the other day on the wall behind the collar and lead board and blending in beautifully with the brickwork.

Gordon is not the only resident we have had in the shed, last year there was the large (well that's how many people described it) snake that spent it's days coiled on the ledge above the dog walk. It certainly



stopped a few members entering the shed fearing

that it might suddenly leap from above and land on their heads. On its departure it left behind a beautiful skin that was festooned from the front door for several weeks.

There was the nest of baby mice discovered on the working bee day on top of the filing cabinet. They actually did leap from above when their nest was disturbed to the screams of certain club members and much to the delight of several dogs who chased them out the door. Then there was the rat that a very efficient Jack Russell appeared with, but we will say no more about that.

Which brings us back to Gordon the broad tailed gecko. Gordon has been seen in the shed on and off for several years which begs the question, is it always the same gecko?. Hard to tell but we like to think that it is.



Fitness Seminar



Last Sunday the Club held its first Canine Conditioning Seminar, conducted by Frankie Moore from Agility Fit.

What a great seminar, Frankie explained the benefits of keeping your dog fit and supple, warm up and cool down exercises and overall strengthening, toning and stretching exercises.

Fitness conditioning and strengthening is not just for sports dogs, just like us, dogs can have weaknesses. We all know what it's like to have a sore back, if you are right handed your left hand is often not as strong, hence at the gym we focus on core strength and building and toning muscles.



Think about your dog, 60% of its weight is carried by the front legs so it follows that the back legs will not be as strong as the front.

Frankie showed us how to use balance equipment, ramps and cavaletti (very small jumps) to tone and strengthen.

Prevention is better than cure and even your couch potato dog needs to be fit and well balanced to be happy.



If you missed this seminar the Club will be holding another one in August. Places are limited so you will need to book in early.

Contact

Sarah at sarah.sharp15@googlemail.com



Fast Track to the Trial

Need Speed??.....

One of the essential things to do in agility training is to create speed, after all, agility is a race. Right?

Tunnels are one of the easiest places in training and on course to generate speed.

If you don't have a tunnel, use a cone or a tree or some other freestanding (but safe) object.

If you are using a tunnel send the dog into the tunnel and then RUN. Run with everything you have until your dog catches you and reward like crazy. If you're using a toy have a tug party - go crazy, if you're using food - throw the food so that your dog is chasing the food to keep the energy up.



If you are using a cone or tree, send the dog to circle the cone and while they are executing the turn - RUN , as fast as you can so they really have to dig deep to catch you and reward as above.

Only do a couple of repetitions during each training session, as we want them to LOVE this game and be keen to play it and also it's hard work for them !!

Happy speeding everyone

*Written by Angela Hamilton.



How to play the Agility Game of SNOOKER

Snooker is a game that is played in two parts. An opening and a closing sequence. The rules are similar to the "official" game of snooker, where you need to complete a red and then a colour in the opening sequence and then the closing sequence in the order nominated by the judge.



To win at snooker, the highest point score combined with the lowest time is declared the winner. In Novice you will need to accumulate 10 points in the opening sequence and complete the 6 obstacles in the closing sequence, within the course time, in order to obtain a qualification.



Opening sequence:

There will be 3 or 4 single jumps (at our trial they will be pink wing jumps), which are the Red obstacles. You need to successfully complete a red and then a coloured obstacle. This needs to be repeated a further 2 times (3 times in total). Then you go directly to the closing sequence (obstacle No 2). Obstacle No 7 will accumulate you the most points, however, in novice, you will only need to make up 7 points from the coloured obstacles to qualify, if you complete three red obstacles successfully. The coloured points are designated by the number given to the obstacle by the judge.

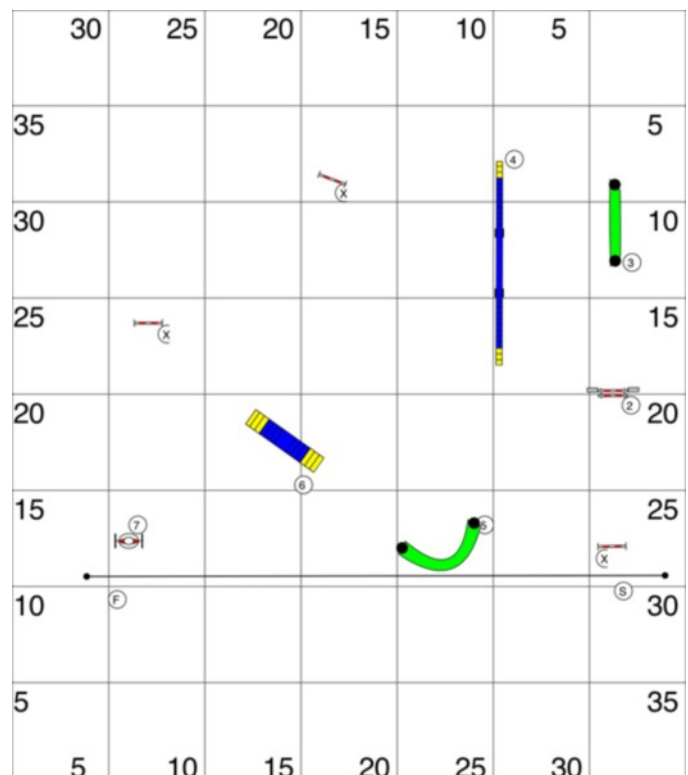
NOW, there are some **rules** for the opening sequence. Each red jumps can only be used **once**. There are no refusals in Snooker, however, you can fault an obstacle, ie drop a bar, miss a contact or weave. Therefore, if you drop a bar on a red jump, you must complete another red jump before attempting a coloured obstacle. If this occurs, you can only complete 2 coloured obstacles in total. If you drop a coloured bar, miss a contact or weave, you will need to proceed to another red obstacle before completing another coloured obstacle, and you will not score the previously faulted coloured obstacle. If your dog starts a coloured "contact" obstacle, ie the dog walk, whether you meant for them to do it or not, you must complete the obstacle, that is go right to the other end, before you attempt another obstacle. If you drop your 3rd red bar, you must proceed directly to the closing sequence, without doing your 3rd coloured obstacle. If you take an obstacle other than the No 2, on your way to the closing sequence, you cannot score the closing sequence.

Closing sequence:

This is the easy part, after having made your way to the obstacle labelled No 2, you then complete No 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 in the order and from the entrance indicated by the judge. If you have successfully done this, you have qualified in Snooker.

If you incorrectly complete the opening sequence, ie you drop a red bar and you go directly to a coloured obstacle without completing another red bar, the judge will signal (buzzer or similar), for you to proceed to the closing sequence. If you do something wrong on the way to the closing sequence, or do the closing sequence out of order, the judge will signal a 2nd time for you to exit the ring.

Good luck.....



If you think this looks like fun, why don't you come to our Manly Trial, Saturday 8 July, Blackbotts Reserve Frenchs Forest, we will be there all day, sit back and watch the fun unfold. It becomes quite breathtaking at times.

You might even be able to help out on the day, even for half a day. If you can, contact Jo Comber, joey.combo@gmail.com and let her know.

Circle this date on your calendar

Saturday July 8th

Manly & District Kennel & Dog Training Club

Agility Trial



Venue: Frenchs Forest Showground

Support your Club and have a great day out. If you have never been to a trial this is the ideal opportunity to see what Agility is all about.

We need volunteers to assist on the day, so please, if you can put your hand up to help, we'll ensure that you have a fun day and you'll be fed and watered by our terrific catering team. No experience necessary.



How to Make a Tug Toy

Tugging is one of the best games you can play with your dog and most dogs, whether large or small, love to tug.

Fleece tugs are easy to make, gentle on the dog's mouth and are far better than rope tugs which can catch between the dog's teeth.

All you need to make a tug are four strips of fleece material about 5cms x 65cms for a small tug and about 9cms x 100cms for a large one. You can vary the sizes to suit your dog.

Instructions:

- Place the four strips together and tie a knot leaving a "tassel" at the end
- Spread the strips in a cross shape
- Fold the top strip towards the bottom
- Fold the bottom strip towards the top
- Fold the right strip towards the left, passing over then under
- Fold the left strip towards the right, passing over then under
- Pull each strip to secure and straighten
- Repeat until you have your desired length
- Leave enough material to tie a knot and leave a "tassel" to match the other end



Get creative with your tug making, add a ball, faux fur or sheepskin.



Tugging is fun for both you and your dog, it keeps the "game" and focus with you and is a great reward for good behaviour but remember, tug on your terms. Teach your dog to give up the tug when the game is over, to wait to play the game and to release the tug when you ask.





It might be a training session but when it's your birthday you have to take time out to celebrate.

"Darcy" the magnificent German Short Haired Pointer at Sunday Obedience training.

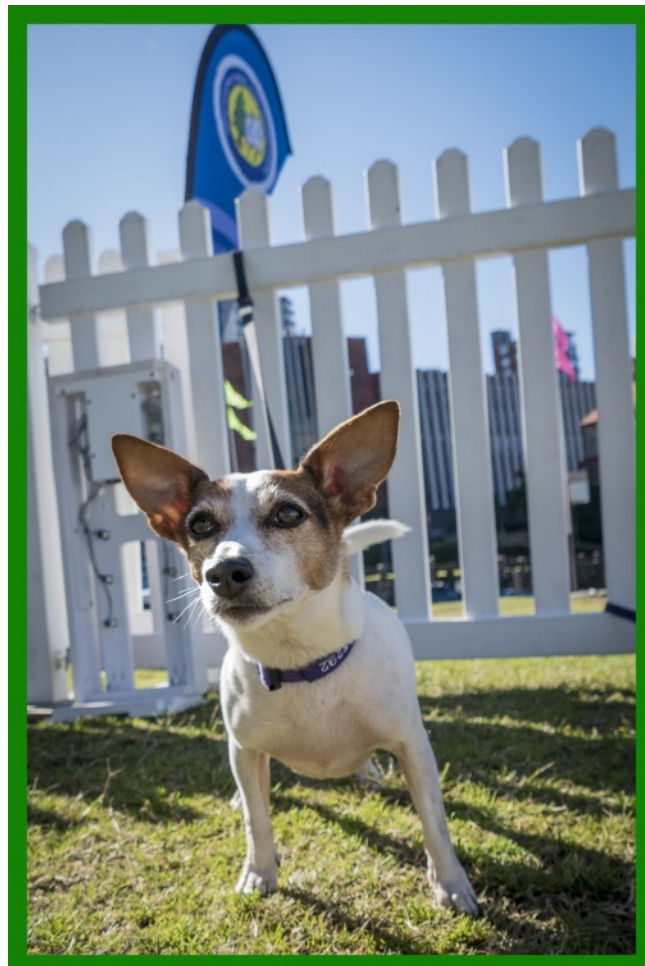


Two of our new young members "Blossom" the Australian Bulldog and "Winston" the Whippet. Very different breeds but their beautiful brindle and white coats are almost identical. So cute.

Welcome to Our New Members

Simone Allan & **Frankie**
Christina, Philip, Ben Ambrose-Keyes & **Hunter**
Trudy & Steve Armstrong & **Rosie**
Kim Barry, Doug Dalling & **Bella**
Belinda Baxter & **Levi**
Sonia Browne & **Ivy**
Fernando, Elsie Buffa & **Luke**
Michelle Cameron & **Davie**
Louisa Cameron, Philip Herborn & **Kiah**
Tegan Clayton & **Missy**
Gemma Collinson & **Lakota**
Rebecca Coughlin, Nick Herbertson & **Charlie**
Philip, Kerry Dean & **Tilly**
Andrea Diletti
Laura Dive
Felicity Dobson & **Maddie**
Christine, Lily Dulieu & **Bella**
Zale, Suzi Edwards & **Bentley**
Susan Elliot & **Indie**
Laura Ely & **Ted**
Sherrell, Mark Everett & **Kai**
Thomas Fagan
Erin Foenander & **Skye**
Naoko, Penny Gilbert & **Billy**
Lani Goldberg, Jamie Hampson & **Ruby & Barney**
Kiril Goring-Siebert
Matthew Gumley & **Millie**
Christine / Rikki Hopton & **Ziggy**
Cong Hunter
Liz Hutton & **Wilbur**
Ashkun Jalili
Marcarey Kennedy & **Ramona**
Sue, Ruth, Alysha Landless & **Jed**
Melissa Lind & **Ash & Bella**
Lisabeth Mathieson
Clayton McLellan & **Gracie**
Anita Moss & **Gypsy**
Emma Naylor
Julie Newton & **Blossom**
Melinda Novosel & **Zoe**
Louise Oaten
Denise O'Donnell, Warren Broad & **Mac**

Louise Perkins
Judy Perrin & **Fernie**
Edward Phelps
Stacey Preston & **Keggs**
Deborah Priddle
Julie Rigney & **Willow**
Leanne Roes & **Barnaby**
Pamela, Gus Salaverry & **Chilli**
Helen SALTER & Dexter
Maxime, Christoph, Anita Schrader & **Ollie**
Kiri, Daen Simmat & **Billy**
Allison Skidmore & **Chase**
Ilija Spoljaric
Josie Stiddard & **Remy & Lexie**
Gabriella Suchard
Karen Tattersall
Raphael Thirionet & **Ruby**
Jason Walters & **Vader**
Gina Willard & **Lily**
Jasmin Williams & **Frankie**
Alex WilsonN, Graham Hart & **Koko**
Jodi Winter
Robert Yuen, Rosemary Lucas & **Piper**



Promotions

Agility

Trish & Gus – B2 to SI1
Siobhan & Peggy – SI1 TO SI2
Glen & Rylee – SI1 to SI2
Wayne & Lily – SI2 - US
Trish & Ruby – B2 to SI1

Obedience

Chris & Bowie - Puppy to Class 1
Gabrielle & Izzy - Puppy to Class 1
Tricia & Abbey - Class 1 to Class 2
Sue & Jasper - Class 1 to Class 2
Sam & Dallas - Class 1 to Class 2
Joelle & Django - Class 1 to Class 2
Michael & Sooki - Class 1 to Class 2
Chris & Boris - Class 1 to Class 2
Alison & Rosie - Class 1 to Class 2
Jacqui & Harvey - Class 1 to Class 2
Jonathan & Patrick - Class 1 to Class 2



Braggs

Agility

Cessnock

Deb Patenall & Jet Q – JDX

Sydney Royal

Sue Win & Jaxon

3rd - Q in Novice Agility - 400

2nd - NQ Excellent Jumping - 400

Qualified - Novice Gamblers (All heights)

Wayne Bogart & Layla

1st - Q - Excellent Jumping 300

1st - NQ - Novice Agility 300

Suzie Emery & Gemma

Qualified in Novice Gamblers (All heights)

Simone Samany & Regal

1st - NQ - Excellent Agility (600)

Simone Samany & Takoda

5th - Q - Novice Gamblers (All heights)

3rd - NQ - Novice Agility - 600

Nick Heygate & Oscar

2nd - NQ - Novice Jumping 600

Nick Heygate & Jimmy

4th - Q - Masters Jumping 500

4th - NQ - Masters Agility 500

Jo Comber & Moose

5th - NQ - Novice Agility 600

Qualified - Open Jumping (All heights)

3rd - Q - Excellent Gamblers (All heights)

Jo Comber & Gus

1st - Q - Masters Agility 600 (3rd Place Masters Agility - all heights)

Qualified - Open Agility (All heights)

Obedience

Sydney Royal

Penny Dalzell & Zypperty - Wnner of Winners & CCD Title

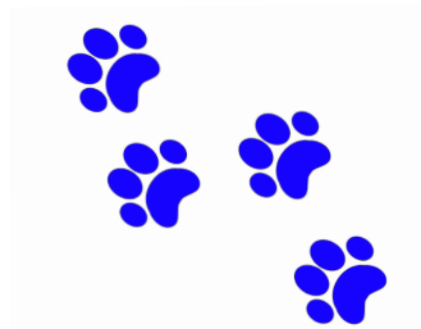
Border Collie Show

Penny Dalzell & Zypperty - Wnner of Winners

Sutherland

Jane Freeman & Alfie - Novice 3rd

Jane Freeman & Alfie - Rally O E A 2nd

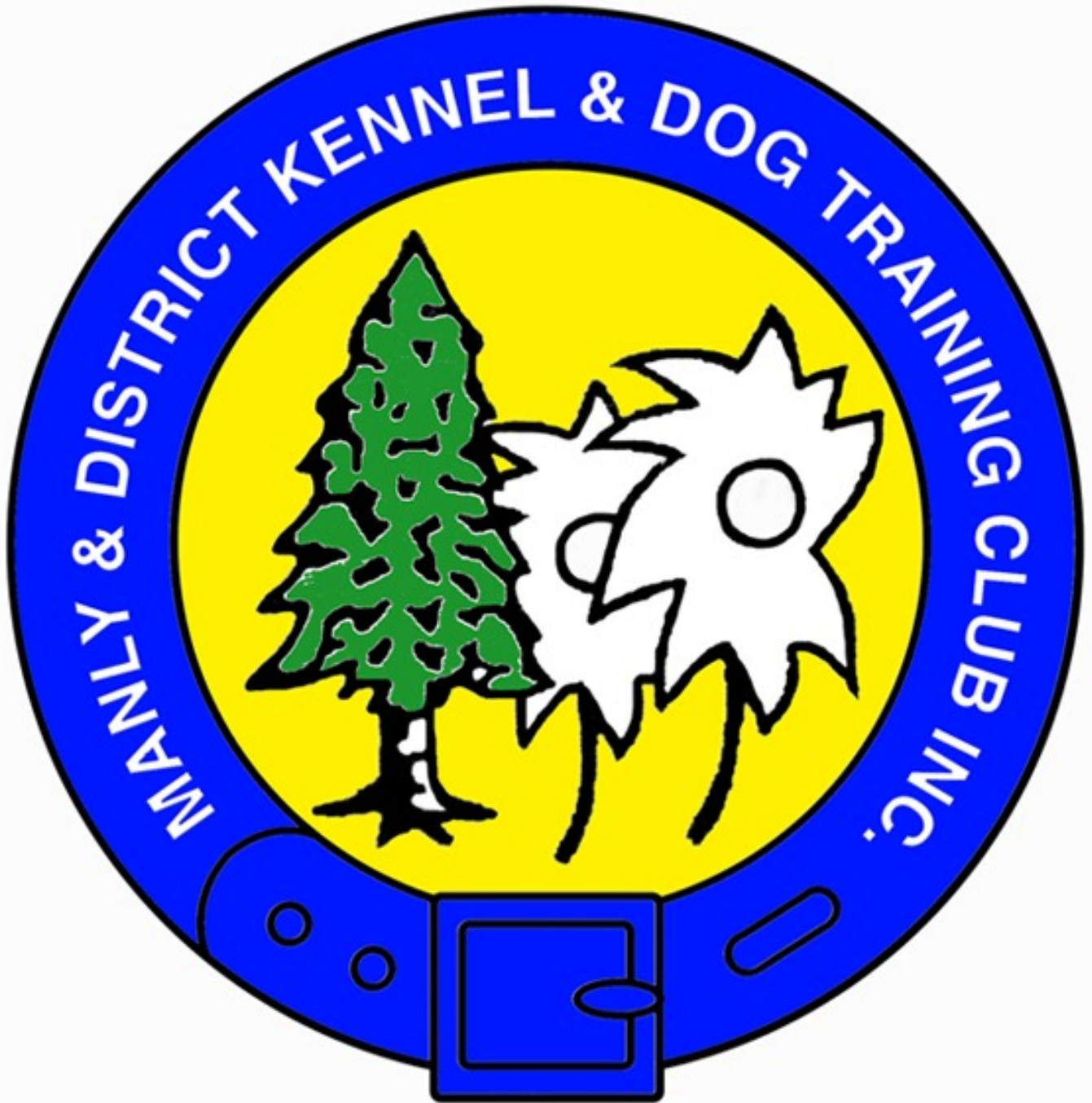


There are a lot more Qualies and Titles to brag about but if you don't let Dog Tracks know we can't brag about your successes.

email: dogtracks@northernbeachesdogtraining.com.au

or write up the in the brag book at the club.





**Good Luck at our Agility
Trial Everybody**