

DOG TRACKS

Manly Club Agility Trial



2023

THE ANNUAL MANLY AGILITY TRIAL – blink and you would have missed it..... SATURDAY, 5 AUGUST 2023

Every year Manly holds an Agility trial, usually at the end of July or the beginning of August each and every year (with the exception of those cancelled due to COVID) and unfortunately it comes around way too quickly and disappears just as quick.

This year was no different. As we have been “homeless” since the grounds at Frenchs Forest Showground have been unavailable for us to use, we have moved and shuffled in an attempt to find a suitable location to run our trial. For several years we tracked out to Dogs NSW and last year we secured the use of the model aircraft field at St Ives Showgrounds, however this year, Ashley Roach, our wonderful trial secretary, got in early and secured us the use of the main oval at St Ives Showgrounds. And what a great location it was. Lots of parking, yummy coffee and food and lots of space!!!

So, once the land was secured, then the work began. We had a very small but effective committee, who worked tirelessly up to and through the day. Our most valuable worker was Natalie Morgan, our trial manager and all round sponsor guru. In conjunction with Northern Suburbs Dog Club, they secured enough goodies to provide prizes and even freebie giveaways and raffle prizes. Some of the sponsors even attended on the day and were available for advice and even the odd sale or two. Even I might have joined the queues for some of those sales.

The list of sponsors was endless but need to be mentioned. K9 Natural, Simparica, Nerf, Antinol and Woof Pack Online were the main sponsors. They were also strongly supported by Kong, Perfect Bowl, Bucketty's Brewing Co, DOG (by Dr Lisa), Clear Dog Treats, Funk Dog, Wildhunde, Treats & More, Bunning Warehouse, Pawfect Love, Laila and Me, EAC Animal Care, Macramegau (adding sparkle), Rapha Herbals and Piomotto Pets. Such a great line up, which resulted in some awesome prizes to be won. If you got something nice and would like more of the same, please consider revisiting those sponsors to support them.

On the day we had two great judges, Frankie Aston & Tenielle Thwaites, who put down some spectacular courses, which everyone tried their hardest to tackle. Lots of qualification cards were awarded and there was even a title or two achieved during the course of the day. Just to give you some quick stats, 223 dogs ran the agility courses and 238 in the jumping ring across the day, 96 prizes were on offer, with 32 First places being awarded. Courses began walking at 8am and the last classes finished just after 4pm, and across the day everyone had a great time. The weather gods were in our favour and the rain held off until later that evening, with an unheard of amount of rain falling overnight but not dampening the day.

There are some notable mentions. On a personal note, I would like to thank every Manly Club Member and their partners that put their hand up and gave up their time to make the day such a success.

As Club President, I could not have been more proud of the help that we get from our members. Without you, the day would not have been as successful as it was. I will not try and list you all, as I will forget someone, so I would just like to say again, THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart.

The 2nd mention is for Gunilla Doyle and Kerodan Country Road (aka Noddy). At the conclusion of our trial, this wonderful team only needed 10 Jumping points to achieve their Agility Championship, not something that is easily achieved with the need to have obtained their Masters titles and then 500 points in both Jumping and Agility. This great team managed to gained those last 10 points the following day at the Northern Suburbs Trial. Congratulations to both of you.

As I said at the beginning, blink and you would have missed it. If you did never fear, we will be back next year around the same time and hopefully the same location. Until then, keep safe and enjoy the time you have with your precious puppies.

Lots of licks from Gus, Moose, Caddy & Lyric and a huge congratulations to everyone from Me (Jo Comber).....

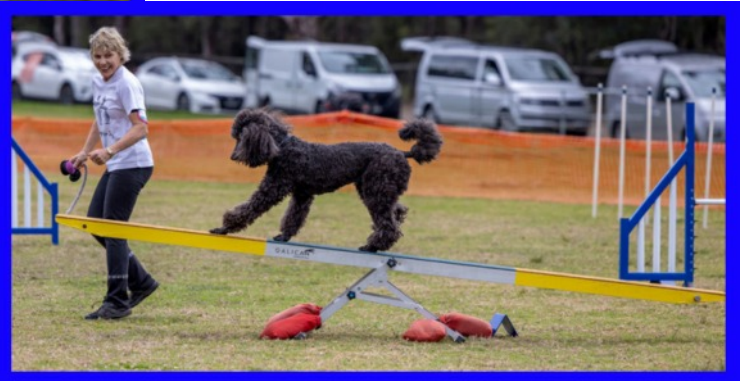


Jo & Natalie

Gunilla & Noddy









A Big **Thank You** to All the Companies Who Sponsored Our Trial



Simparica TRIO



Antinol



PAWFECT LOVE

Laila and Me



Keep Your Dog Safe from the Sun

Just like us dogs can get sunburnt so with a hot summer coming make sure your dog is safe in the sun.

Dogs with pale noses, pink patches on their skin, thin coats, short white fur and bare tummies are especially susceptible to sunburn. Use **canine sunscreen** on pink patches.



Sunsuits are great for short haired dogs.



Snoods can protect ears.



Always shade in the sun.





FLYBALL

The Fastest Fun on Four Legs

Is your dog bright, active and looking for more excitement to have with it's human?

If so, come and check out our club's Flyball training on Thursday evenings at 6:00pm. Dogs that have gained confidence from their Obedience training, have a good recall, and have energy to burn, are ready to come and have a go at Flyball. It's a great way to take your relationship with your dog to the next level.

Our positive training techniques will enhance your obedience training and help build a stronger bond between you and your dog. At our training sessions, the complex behavior required to have a dog race in Flyball is broken down into simpler 'tricks' you can teach your dog. Many of these you can take away and practice in the park. Once mastered, you're ready to have the most fun you can have with your dog.

Dogs of all breeds, shapes and sizes are welcome, so come, meet the team and have a go.



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.

Apple Sauce Pretzels

- 1 x Egg
- 1 x Cup Unsweetened Applesauce
- 2 x Cups Oat Flour
- $\frac{3}{4}$ x Cup Rolled Oats

Preheat oven to 180°

Using a hand whisk, beat the egg and set aside.

Combine the applesauce, oat flour, and rolled oats in a large bowl. Pour all but 1 tablespoon of the egg over the mixture and set aside the remaining 1 tablespoon of egg.

Using a wooden spoon, stir the mixture until a dough forms. The dough should be tacky but not overly sticky. Add a bit more or less flour if necessary.

Take a 2 tablespoon size piece of dough and roll it into a tube. It should be about 25cm long and about the width of a pencil.

Take each tube and make into a U shape, then twist the ends together and fold back to the top. This makes the pretzel shape. Pinch the ends in to make sure they're secure.

Place the pretzels onto a lined baking tray. Brush the top of each pretzel with the remaining egg.

Bake for approximately 25-30 minutes, until they're slightly browned and become crispy and hard.

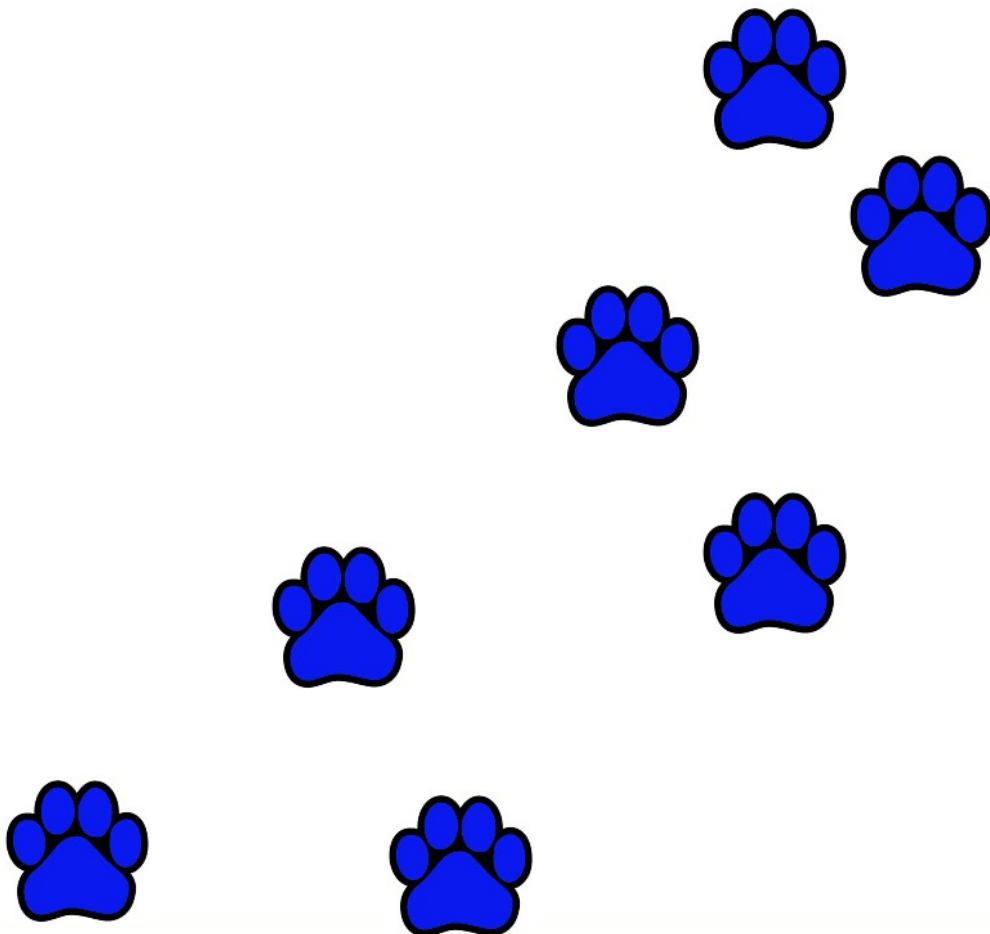
Cool on a wire rack.

Store in an airtight container for up to 2 weeks.





Goodbye Until Next Time



Editor Wendy Jones

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