



Axstane Agility Club

Newsletter August 2013

Training will start again on Thursday 5th September.

Classes will remain at the same time and with the same groups. We look forward to seeing you all.

Amanda and Sprout came 2nd in the Dogs in Need Agility Society Small Classic Final (Graded 1 & 2).



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Summer successes

We have all been busy over the summer and everyone has cause to celebrate their achievements. Especial congratulations to Madeleine and Amanda.

Madeleine and Henry won the Kennel Club Starters Cup (Semi-Final) at the KC International Festival and have qualified for the Finals at Discover Dogs in November.



Remember to record all your achievements in the Axstane Dog of the Year book when you get back to training.

Take the time to look at the Axstane Facebook page where you can keep up to date with how everyone is doing and tell us all about your successes as well.

Ring Parties

The remaining reciprocal Ring Parties for the year are:

- Burnham: 7th & 8th Sept. We are ring party on the Saturday
- Magic/Tenterden: 14th & 15th September. As yet we do not know which day.
- Trent Park: 15th September

Kerry is judging at Suffolk Five Rivers in September and Debbie is judging at Dog Vegas in October. The closing date for that show is 2nd Sept.





“The Scribe” – The Kennel Club’s New Agility Newsletter

The Kennel Club has introduced an online agility newsletter called The Scribe which aims to provide the latest information about the sport, highlighting forthcoming Kennel Club agility events and answering frequently asked questions whilst presenting the fun side of agility. The Scribe will include all new regulation changes as they happen, alongside helpful explanations of some of the more complicated rules and regulations for the benefit of competitors.

The first issue has an exclusive interview with Team GB Manager, Mark Laker, reminders from the Activities Sub-Committee and a chart showing how the Agility Liaison Council makes the decisions that affect us all.

The Scribe will be issued quarterly via email to anyone who has registered agility as an interest on their Kennel Club website profile page. If you want more information on agility in general and would like to sign up for The Scribe follow this link: <http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/agility>

The Kennel Club website is in the process of being overhauled so the link above may not work once the new site is launched. We can look forward to a really helpful agility section I am sure.

Thoughts on the name “The Scribe”. Before the days of electronic timing a ring party had two key members: a “scribe” and a “timer”. The timer had the stop watch and had to time every dog in the class between the start and the finish. The scribe watched the judge for their hand signals to indicate faults or a clear round. The timer told the scribe the dog’s course time and it was written on the score ticket. We now have a “scrimer” as electronic timing means we no longer need to use a stop watch (other than as back up in some classes like Championship classes) and the same person can watch the judge and record the time. Scrimer is a common word now in agility circles...when will it appear in the Oxford English Dictionary I wonder?

Agility Shows are not just about dog agility. We celebrated two significant birthdays this year:

Deirdre’s 80th birthday was in August and she shared a chocolate cake with the Axstane crew at Dogs in Need. Amanda brought the buffet and a good time was had by all to start the week.



Later in the week Deirdre and Thomas achieved a third place. Well done!

Graham’s 60th birthday party at Colchester was the one evening in July when it was cold. He didn’t have enough candles on the cake to keep us warm and the wind kept blowing them out. Fortunately Micheline had plenty of blankets to share round!



Axstane members were joined by other agility friends who train with Micheline at Sandra’s.

And of course there is the serious side of agility.

The preparation the evening before the day's activities.....with the all important glass of wine!



And the relaxation once it is all over.....What can be better than a good book and a cup of tea?



Not forgetting some of the fabulous sites we go to (which are even better before people arrive and after they have left!)



KC International Festival at Rockingham Park: the view from Melanie's camper on the last evening and the last day.



Good luck to everyone with the remaining shows this year and let's get training ready for next year!