

January 2015



**NATIONAL
AGILITY
LINK
ASSOCIATION**



National Agility Link Association (formed 1989)

CENTRAL COUNCIL comprises Secretary, Treasurer, and NALA Reps.

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EDITORIAL

by Karen de Wit

WELCOME to ANOTHER year of AGILITY.

What do you have planned? Are there events you usually go to, are there new ones that you think you might attend this year? Could you combine agility with the extra enjoyment of a holiday? Or perhaps a visit to family and/or friends who you do not often see.

For me agility has, over the more than 25 years I have been doing it, provided me with the opportunity to travel all over NZ, to make new friends, to see family, and also to travel overseas.

What about agility link? It gives many people the opportunity to try agility competition without leaving their club grounds. For others it provides them with an incentive to go to club. There are numerous things that LINK and NALA offers such as

- Standard agility and jumpers courses
- Games courses
- Veterans courses
- Flygility
- Junior Link
- rallyO
- A library
- Interesting snippets from all over NZ

Why not get more involved in 2015? It will add to your enjoyment.



~ NALA REPORTS ~

Double Perspective from the Top Arf

By Rosemarie J Baker & Diana Mckay

Rosemarie's ranting Ramble

With another year over of agility and a few weeks off for to re-charge, I reflect on the last few events for 2014.

Inaugural Mangawhai Champ Show

It was good to be able to attend the first every Champ show held at Mangawhai by Mangawhai. Going up to stay one night wasn't on some peoples agenda's which meant early rising to make the 8.15am course walking. Also in the lineup of events was the first Champ Blackjack event in the Upper North Island. Perhaps first Champ Blackjack ever.

The day was dull with the weather but there were times when the wind was just not enough to cool down the humidity.

The show went off well with all three rings running mostly at the same time. Chris Richardson, Janette Davis, Abi & Steve Chester were our judges for today. Some challenging courses were set which made for some interesting disqualifications. However, I was lucky enough to earn a 3rd place Inaugural Ribbon in Intermediate, so I'm not grumbling.

Mangawhai had got themselves a very good sponsor that gave food generously for top placing's. This company had representatives there, it was a shame they didn't get to hand out any of the prizes.

I know some people weren't that happy about this event held on this particular Saturday. If one wanted to camp they were having to pack up camping equipment to head off down to Orewa for the Hibiscus event on Sunday.

Wendy Bragger had prize giving sorted and it was over by 5pm and with the trip back to Auckland ahead of me, it was a good day and a well-run event.

Hibiscus Ribbon

This ribbon event never ever is anything but hot sun, little wind and runs very quickly. Obedience/ RallyO was also running at the same time taking up a lot of space, the agility was underway by 9.30am. This made it much easier for people who had camped the night before at Mangawhai to get down for course walking at 9.15am.

Chris Richardson, Janette Davis and Brett Palmer were our judges this day. It was hard on the judges in the heat, especially with the Starters event which ran for over two hours.

Along with helpers from other clubs, Rebecca, Craig and Evelyn ran a fantastic agility ribbon day as always looking after everyone who was helping.

This is always a great fun almost last ribbon day for the year.

Diana & Scott had prize giving sorted early so people could travel home early and be home well before dark.

Cambridge Ribbon

We were lucky with the weather. Although it was cloudy most of the day and with an occasional breeze to keep the dogs cool we did have a blast of sun with plenty of the humidity. A very good turn out with over 800 entries which kept Diana & Scot pretty busy for their second to last show of the year. But as always they handled it well.

With an AD course and 78 entries with 24 clear rounds this was pretty damn good.

Judges courses were great with Chris Richardson, Janette Davis, Martin Bush and Justine Dale. I did think it was a little un-Christmasie with nobody getting into the spirit of Christmas.

Event to run was the Elementary courses then prize giving. We were all finished and Cambridge had packed up by 5pm.

WAG

What a shame for Wag, this is becoming a habit with rainy shows at this venue.

As predicted the weather was awful from the beginning. It was drizzly, turned really cold and once you got wet it was hard to warm up. Not a lot of point in changing clothing until the end of the day as you would just get wet again.

The Ice-cream people said they didn't think there was much point in setting up, but the coffee people sure did some good business. The café had thought ahead and made a lovely Veggie soup which was really popular; they also sold out of pies by 1pm. So with this came low entries as one would expect. Diana & Scott were having a nice slow day with 300 odd entries. This was quite a difference compared to the day before.

Justine Dale, Chris Richardson, Janette Davis and John Muir had some brilliant courses that I really enjoyed running.

I thought it unusual to see that in this rainy weather there were no dogs staying in the tunnels for shelter. However, few were taking their time to come out. Also a good thing with this weather it meant NO shute tunnels (except with the AD), yay, I hate these tunnels in dry weather let alone wet.

With another AD course offered there were 38 entries with 16 clear runs.

Small entry numbers meant a nice early finish allowing people as far as Mangawhai and Taupo to make it home at a reasonable hour on a Sunday.

January will take off with a hiss and a roar in the mid to upper North Island with a Fly Tournament to be held in Paeroa.

Then a double Champ at Tokoroa, which by all accounts has big entry numbers.

So there it is, all over for the year of 2014.

Hope you all had a Happy Xmas and I wish you a very Merry New Year for 2015.

ShowSec Section

Final shows this year for ShowSec were all ribbon trials – NorWest, North Shore, Hibiscus Coast, Cambridge and WAG.

The single RTs were single agility events, run in two rings and finished reasonably early – always appreciated by both the host clubs and the competitors. NorWest had 117 dogs/225 entries, North Shore offered an AD and achieved 123 dogs/260 entries and Hibiscus Coast pulled the southward heading competitors from Mangawhai's Champ on the Saturday with 177 dogs/373 entries.

Cambridge, however, took the record out. Offering a single agility and single jumpers with AD, it drew in 283 dogs/825 entries, which for a one day ribbon is enormous. Run in three rings, it finished at the very reasonable time of 4:30pm. Cambridge should give themselves a pat on the back for that one.

WAG threatened to have similar numbers, however, the weather was not on their side. Rain throughout the night would have put a lot of competitors off and it didn't really slack off during the day either, which lead to relatively smaller numbers of 122 dogs/353 entries. Fewer numbers meant a quicker finish however and we were homeward bound before 2pm.

So that's it! Another year over, a new one just beginning (so said Mr Lennon). Enjoy the summer break and ShowSec will see you all again in January for Tokoroa's Champ.

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS.

Would you like to provide a few snippets about the Upper and Middle of the North?

With such huge numbers at northern events there must be someone with the time to write a few words about the goings-ons!!

With NZDAC being held in Tokoroa this year it is an ideal opportunity to give people a taste of your region.

Contact Karen on kpdeewit@xtra.co.nz

Central Bark Linley Barrett

Blenheim Canine Training Club 29th & 30th November 3xAG, 3xJ, AD, ADX

Well, another awesome event run by the Blenheim club. The judges were Dave Cook, Bernadette Thompson and Ron Frater. There's too many people to mention who were in the winnings, so I won't try!

Once again there was some Northern competitors in the mix. There seems to be a lot more people venturing across the two islands these days, which is good for competition. Also we are having a few more shows on offer at the top of the south now, which is great for us!

Unfortunately we got struck with terrible winds for both days. This caused a bit of chaos with jumps dropping themselves every now and then. The temperatures on both days were good though. Huge congrats to all the people that moved up, gained a title, or achieved a personal milestone.

Nelson Dog Training Club Break up

Thanks to Tarsh G for doing a wonderful job organising the events. If there was anyone helping her that I don't know about, sorry! We had two fun events both tailored for people 'to give it a go'. So we had the obedience side participate in the tunnellers events and relatively new members participate in the jump circle event. We then finished up with a good old feed with a wonderful array of food to choose from.

Well, that's it for another year. The year has flown! Wishing everyone an amazing Christmas and an awesome New Year.

NALA LIBRARY.



Books

Peter Lewis Teaching agility
 Clean Run, Workbook- Introductory, Intermediate, Advanced
 Clean Run, Games book
 Clean Run, Course design book
 The Clothier Natural Jumping Method, by Suzanne Clothier
 Jacqueline O'Neil, All About Agility
 Christine Smith, Your Secret Coach
 Building Blocks for Performance

Peak Performance - Coaching the Canine
 Jumping from A to Z M. Christine Zink

Course Analysis for Agility Handlers
 Ruff Love Susan Garrett
 Shaping Success Susan Garrett
 Dogwise John Fisher
 Excel-erated Learning Pamela Reid
 Developing Jumping Skills

VHS

Ruth Hobday, Pups progress

Ruth Hobday, Advanced control exercises
 Puppy Love - Raise your dog the Clicker way.

Greg Derrett Foundation Video
 Greg Derrett, - Great Dog, Shame About the Handler

DVD

4 on the Floor
 2x2 Weave Training
 Agility Fix It, Contacts & Weave Poles
 Agility Foundation Training
 Best of the 2006 FCI Agility World Championships
 Best of the 2007 FCI Agility World Championships
 Contacts: Bridging the Gap Between Training & Competition
 Crate Games for Self-Control & Motivation
 Foundation Jumping 4-DVD Set
 Foundation Training for Agility 3-DVD Set
 Great Dog Great Handler, The Winning Combination
 Great Dog, Shame about the Handler
 How to Win at Gamblers and Snooker
 On Course to Excel
 Reliable Running A-frames
 Success with One Jump 2-DVD Set
 World Class Weaves
 In FOCUS Crying for Control
 Go the Distance Vol. 1

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OPINION: The WHYS and WHY NOTS of training in the ring.

At the recent UKI US Open it was observed that handlers left the ring when faulted or disqualified. In other international events a disqualified dog continues its run to very loud and generous clapping from spectators. Two very different responses to the same condition—a run that is not clear. Admittedly these are both examples from top flight events, and who knows what protocols are followed at local events in these countries.

The opinion has been expressed that in NZ we should be requiring those people who are disqualified to leave immediately, particularly those who go back and repeat various pieces of equipment or sequences on purpose. Why should we require this? What advantage or benefit is gained if this was to be enforced? If there are reasons, how valid are they? Are there other ways that the same outcome might be achieved?

If a dog leaves the ring and this results in it taking less time than it would have taken if it has competed its run correctly, it could assist with the faster running of a class, and may also help keep the judge in a good frame of mind because they don't have to watch a handler “practising” with their dog. Repeating an obstacle may be an ineffective form of training, as might leaving the ring immediately an obstacle is poorly performed - it depends on the dog which will work best. Taking more than the expected time, or much less than the expected time, may also impact on the competitors that follow, causing them to either be rushed or delayed, both of which may cause some annoyance!

It is true that runs with faults seldom feature in the list of prize getters, and a disqualified run means you have no hope of glory!! So you could argue— why not use the remaining time as a training opportunity? We pay our money and we are entitled to spend our time (SCT) in the ring. Why should we be expected to pack our bags and

leave the ring when we are disqualified, or when we disqualify ourselves by perhaps repeating a poor contact performance? Why can't we be allowed to use "our paid-for time in the ring" how we like?

Agility rounds can take from about 20 seconds to 60 seconds, depending on the class and level. A dog may be disqualified by doing a wrong obstacle but still continue and finish the rest of the course clear, and take much less time than many a more accurate (and slower) dog. Why should they be required to leave the ring immediately just because they have negotiated an extra obstacle or put their nose where it wasn't required?

Many people travel vast distances to get to events and if they are required to leave the ring, will regard the travel as not really worth the bother. For others, competitions may be the only time their dogs get to see all the agility gear at once. It is for them, a real training opportunity! It would be disappointing if they did not get to try the "tricky part of the course" or try doing the seesaw after a fast run-up.

There may not actually be much time saved by requesting handlers to leave the ring if disqualified/training. Continuing your run when disqualified, or if you have trained/repeated an obstacle may take less time than other dogs completing the course. For AD or ADXA courses, where the Club has decided the rule is "fault and out" it may actually take just as long, or longer, for the handler to leave the ring once faulted than if they were to continue the run. Given our existing regulations that require handlers to leave via the assembly area with their dog under control, you cannot just duck under the rope and walk back to the assembly area and fetch your things.

Would having to leave the ring without training make people do more training at Club or at home? Would they write down the sequence that they performed poorly and practice it during the week? Or are there unique opportunities at events that can't be replicated at home or in training? Such as increased hype of the dog (and handler??) many more distractions, different equipment and so on.

What effect does training in the ring have on the judge?

It may extend the time the judge will be in the ring. It also gives them the opportunity to take a short break, to have a drink or read—just an obstacle or go and get their coat so it may be a welcome respite. It may be annoying to the judge and so result eventually in discouraging people to remain, or become judges.

However there are other things handlers do that take up time and are annoying to judges such as continual setup at the start line, taking forever to get the collar off the dog etc.

What effect does training in the ring have on the dog?

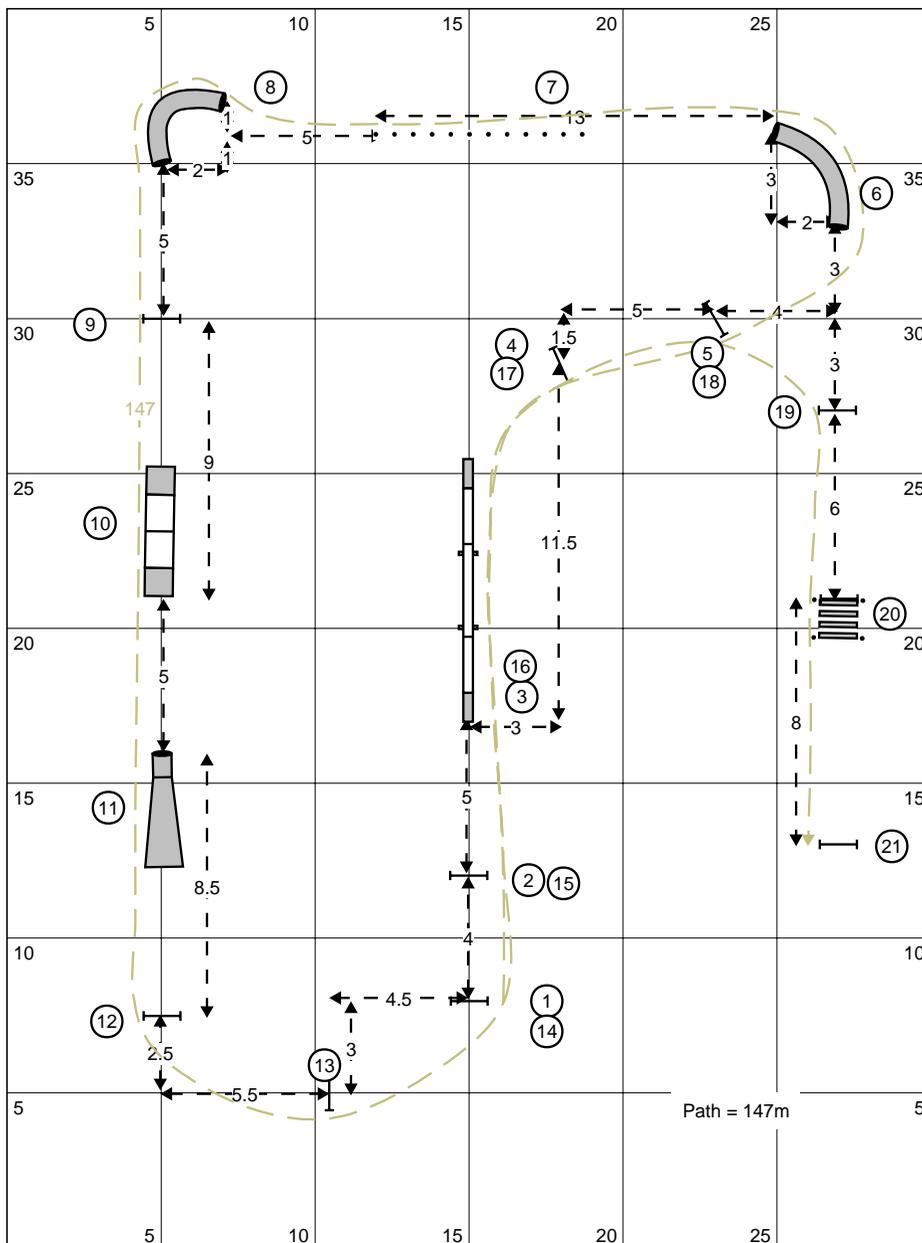
It may not be a positive experience for the dog. Many people blame the dog for mistakes, when it was actually a poor handling choice or execution. It is also difficult to replicate the circumstances that led up to the mistake being made, so no learning opportunity is available. If the dog gets the contact correctly the second time what has it learnt? Do it one way then do it another way the second time—not exactly the sequence of events most of us want our dogs to learn. In agility you have to get it right the **FIRST** time, getting it right at the second attempt doesn't really count.

If we were to ask handlers to leave the ring would we need to have an audible signal? A whistle, or horn, or a word from the judge? When should this be done? At the first mistake, when disqualified, if training occurs? Who mans the whistle or horn and at what point (SCT, MCT) is it blown?

At the end of the day agility is for most people a form of recreation. There are a number of things at events that could be done better to make an event more efficient, so do we really need people to cut short their round and leave the ring? Why not look at other ways of making events run more efficiently?

If you would like to submit an opinion, anonymous or not, please send to kpdeewit@xtra.co.nz

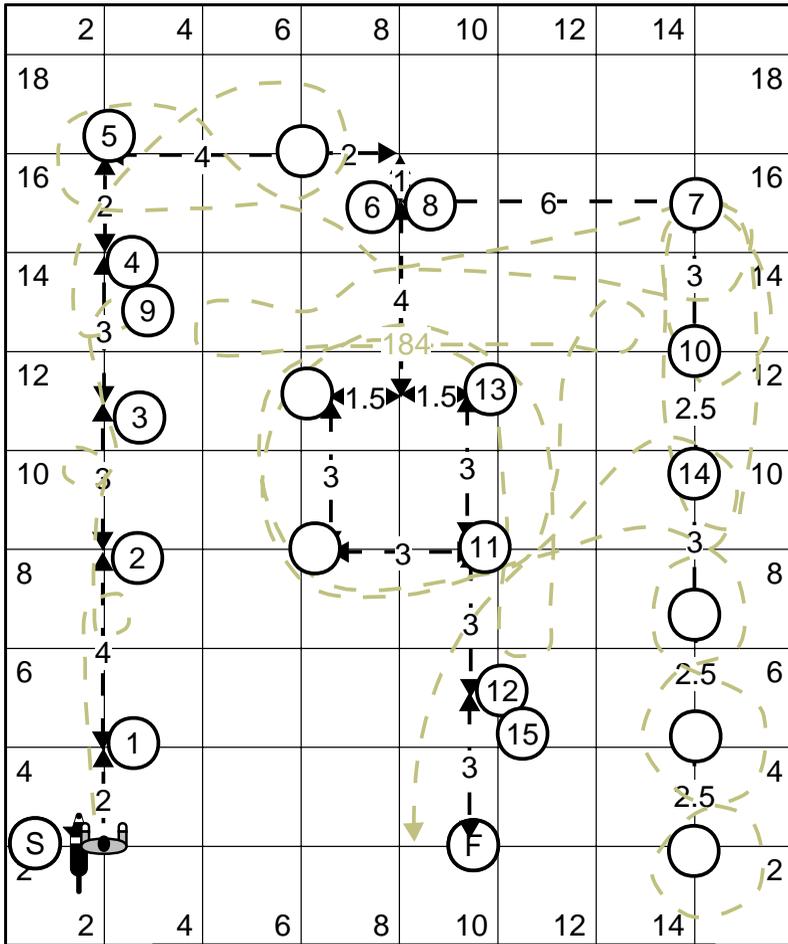
AGILITY LINK COURSE for February



Path length = 147m

New Zealand Association of Rally-O

Jan 2015



Send Results to : MIKE BUTLER by end of the month

See www.nzaro.webs.com for
plan and full results.

1. fast pace (18)
2. normal pace(19) & 360R (11)
- 3 360 L (10)
4. 360 right (11)
5. Figure of eight (NZARO #1)
6. Moving sidestep right (20)
7. spiral right-dog outside (21)
8. Moving sidestep right (20)
9. Left About turn (29)
10. 270 left turn (10)
11. circle right dog outside (NZARO #2)
12. About U-turn (8)
13. circle left dog on inside(NZARO #3)
14. Figure of eight - weave twice (24)
- 15 360 right (11)

December Rally O Link Results

Pl	Club	Team members	Score	Time
1	Mt Maunganui	Fiona Denton & Epic, Fiona Denton & Luna, Fiona Denton & Promise	100.0	171.740
2	Norwest	Maree Green & Ted, Rosalind Walkington & Fletcher, Jeff Walkington & Emma	100.0	174.060
3	Wanganui DTC	Betsy Gleeson & Suede, Betsy Gleeson & Flint, Betsy Gleeson & Trace	100.0	202.810
4	Hawkes Bay	Lorraine Lennox & Jantsee, Lorraine Lennox & Veesa, Peggy Scott & Kimba	100.0	205.274
5	Sth Rangitikei DTC	Barbara James & Finn, Barbara James & Shaylar, Barbara James & Jordy	100.0	210.900
6	Canterbury COC	Kelly Walker & Gael, Gay Bouterey & Angel, Janet Bainbridge & Maggie	100.0	228.290
7	Horowhenua	Helen Carter & Dart, Nicole Robinson & Nitro, Helen Carter & Cracka	100.0	228.850
8	Sunshine Whk	Maria van Beek & Buddy, Diane Rau & Pearl, Trish Funnell & Molly	100.0	236.800
9	Central ADTS	Vivienne Lewis & Ramble, Jan Voss & Pippa, Jan Voss & Haley	99.7	192.020
10	Wairarapa	Melanie Wyse & Toby, Nicky Detheridge-Davies & Rufus, Joan Gibbs & Bonnie	99.0	232.010
11	Selwyn	Sue Neale & River, Sue Neale & Chynah, Sue Neale & Flynn	66.7	135.970

CLUB COMPETITION

DIVISION ONE

1	Blenheim 1	Jazz	Natasha Neame	20.592	65.167
		Tricot	Natasha Neame	21.390	
		Ninja	Nic Furby	23.185	
2	Wairarapa	Jamaica	Dianne Reid	20.651	65.831
		Rusty	Stacie Clark	22.574	
		Tasman ADX JDX	Sharleen Drummond	22.606	
3	Mangawhai	Mist JDX	Erin Ball	21.664	68.501
		Breeze ADX JDX	Annette Flannagan	22.331	
		Gem JD	Jinnie Gailey	24.506	
4	Counties	Lola	Chris Richardson	22.821	70.209
		Abbey-Gail AD FD	Chris Richardson	23.198	
		King AD FD	Chris Richardson	24.190	
5	Cambridge	Jack	Donna Begovich	22.039	70.563
		Spark ADXS JDX	Julie McConkey	23.999	
		Zoe ADX JDX	Paul Needham	24.525	
6	Sth Canterbury	Jonty	Natasha Coulter	23.068	71.624
		Solo	Natasha Coulter	24.240	
		Euro	Natasha Coulter	24.316	
7	Mt Maunganui 1	Cheeky ADXG.JDX	Deb Jackson	20.487	71.810
		Teal	Elisabeth Proctor	21.280	
		Promise CGC GOLD	Fiona Denton	30.043	
8	Waimak 1	Quiz ADXG JDX FD	Roselle Bremmers	21.117	75.235
		Sam	Angela Cook	26.799	
		Doogle	Helen Lappin	27.319	
9	Upper Hutt 1	Ali	Peter de Wit	20.218	76.313
		Nera	Rosemary Paddison	25.212	
		Finn	Karen de Wit	30.883	

DIVISION TWO

1	Central HB	Fly	Catherine Harty	21.603	66.319
		Loose	Kim Loye	22.265	
		Breeze	Catherine Harty	22.451	

2	CCATS	Izzy Pippi Viper	Kathryn Snook Sandra McHugh Kathryn Snook	23.209 23.824 24.275	71.308
3	North Shore	Josie Tomi Cassidy JD FD	Bruce Ronald Matilda van Rijnberk Jacqui Wigmore	23.396 24.253 25.820	73.469
4	Selwyn	River Beau Chynah	Sue Neale Carole Logan Sue Neale	19.864 24.943 30.361	75.168
5	Nelson 2	Lia Limit Maggie	Nartarsha Gorrie Linda Mortimer Lola Anderson	21.348 24.663 29.585	75.596
6	Mt Maunganui 2	Myer JD Wish Skip JD	Frazer Delamere Deb Jackson Mandy Ward	23.275 25.189 27.994	76.458
7	North Taranaki 2	Jet Trump Song	Maree Butterworth Maree Butterworth Rae Mayhead	24.578 33.540 45.610	103.728
DIVISION THREE					
1	East BOP	JCh Joy JDX Airik Rogue JDX	Tina Mitchell Joanne Allan Trish Bush	20.060 25.870 26.910	72.840
2	Horowhenua	Smarty JDX ADXAS Dart JDX RN FD A Jen	Aprille McGee Helen Carter Nicola Chalmers	22.374 27.403 27.700	77.477
3	Mt Maunganui 3	Bean Sea Zara	Deb Jackson Jan Murden Ron Kenny	23.517 24.249 29.752	77.518
4	Waimak 3	Jazz Toffee Toby	Teresa Fitzgerald Helen Lappin Angela Cook	24.014 25.624 29.178	78.816
5	Wanganui 3	Maggie Ruby Roux Daisy AD JDX	Holly Dawson Claire Smit Claire Smit	23.370 27.600 28.660	79.630
6	Canterbury COC	Dan	Norma Wilson	27.278	83.013

		ADX JDX Mitzi	Rick Holcomb	27.335	
		Wilco ADXG JDX	Bruce Wilson	28.400	
7	Tokoroa	Shine	Gina Boreham	22.710	83.969
		Drift	Gina Boreham	27.000	
		Brooke	Ed Hunt	34.259	
8	Tauranga 3	Kobi JD	Jocelyn Jensen	24.863	84.651
		Fergus JD	Shelley Clark	27.069	
		Gemma ADXG JDX	Helen Fabling	32.719	
9	Whangarei	Radar	Christine Gillespie	33.160	105.530
		Osska ADX JDX	Anne Cozens	35.900	
		Basil ADX JD	Anne Cozens	36.470	
10	Hawera 3	Khan AD JD	Carl Ranford	34.667	117.057
		Laddie AD JD	Michelle Sowerby	37.301	
		Meiah	Carol Galliers	45.089	
DIVISION FOUR.					
1	Blenheim 4	Raider	Natasha Neame	22.203	74.737
		Joker	Natasha Neame	23.610	
		Rebel	Sandra Goodwin	28.924	
2	Upper Hutt 4	Billie	Kim Nicol	24.760	76.510
		Holly	Jane Aukett	25.093	
		Trixie	Sue Alexander	26.657	
3	Hawera Hoons	Rhyme	Carl Ranford	19.572	77.954
		Ginny	Jo Moody	28.084	
		Riley	Vivienne Pert	30.298	
4	Tauranga 4	Becky	Zina Gota	25.719	83.702
		Jess	Gail Handley	25.961	
		Onyx	Gail Handley	32.022	
5	Norwest	Lass	Colleen Lauder	26.240	90.071
		Tosca	Sonja Rosen	31.266	
		Toby	Bruce Lauder	32.565	
6	South Rangitikei	Deezee	Annette Burmeister	23.360	95.520
		Niko ADXAg, JDX	Sandra Mohekey	36.030	
		Blaze	Lynda Cummins	36.130	
7	Dog Sport Rotorua	Boston	Christine Hutchings	28.560	109.150
		Chan	Raewyn Saville	36.370	

	Sophie	Debbie Trimbach	44.220	
8	CHB Orange Roughies	Cricket	Joanne Little	26.834 119.680
	Bess	Shirley Parker	42.734	
	Johnny	Julie Goodwin	50.112	
9	North Taranaki 4	Gympie	Laurel Austin	37.325 121.572
	Zoe	Sharon Schmidt	37.739	
	Diaz	Rae Mayhead	46.508	
10	APGSDL	Riecher	Nicki Oade	44.850 143.720
	Eizon	Ann Florian	46.500	
	Eva	Simone Clark	52.370	

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*Dogs aged 7 and over and retired for a minm of 6 mths

Flygility.. by Raewyn Saville

The old adage we live in interesting times comes to mind after a day at Tokoroa for Flygility. I haven't been to a Fly Tournament in ages and times have changed.

What I wasn't expecting was that not only was there a complete height split but there was also a split in the people who liked and disliked the idea. So passionate in fact are the 'I don't like' faction that a number of them have said they will be leaving the sport. What a loss. No sport can afford to bleed people. The people who suggested to me that they are dis-

enchanted are also the people who man the flags, put up the courses, load the boxes and have been with the sport fairly long term.

Not only was there a complete height split but there was also a split in the people who liked and disliked the idea.

So what exactly is the problem with splitting the smalls, the midis and the maxis? These are the comments from the people on the ground.

We thought it would speed things up not having to change the hurdle heights all the time, but it doesn't

We used to go to a Tournament with the idea that we would get five or six points in a day, now we are lucky to get two.

Too many people sit in their cars or on their camp chairs and don't help out with box loading or flagging or anything at all.

The prize giving is done as each split is over, so Maxi Prizegiving is done after the maxi run, midi after midi run etc. Consequently there is no-one at the prize-giving's.

The whole change sucks.

I voted for it because I could see that the small dogs could have been disadvantaged but I just hate the result.

So that was the main drive of the complaints. I am going to give you my opinion, hopefully as a starting point for other healthy discus-

sion. It would be a great pity for the Association not to take any notice of those who are unhappy with this change. It could change the sport in a way that we were not expecting.

All change needs a time to run itself in. It has always been my view that the rules of the Flygility Association should include a bunch of options for Clubs to take up in order to run Tournaments. And this is exactly what we have with the height splits. The rules say 'May Split' for example what an individual Club puts on the program of events should be up to that Club. Splits should be part of those options. It could work like this. Let's say I am a mini fanatic and I want to run a Smalls only Tournament at my Club on x date. I should be able to do that. On the other hand if

There are a number of reasons why it should work.

I want to run a big dog program at my Club - no smalls program, then I should be able to do that too. If I want to run Smalls on Saturday and Bigs on Sunday, hey why not. So you may ask why would I want to do that?

There are a number of reasons why it should work. I really notice that people put up courses suitable for a particular size of dogs without thought for the generic need of all dogs. At Tokoroa on the Sunday the Beginner and Intermediate Courses favored Small dogs, hey it doesn't matter they were split. Well it does matter. Gear close together hurdles at 3.5 meters do not suit large dogs. Owners of midi maxi dogs complain that it takes three or four weeks after a Fly Tournament for their dogs to stop knocking Agility height rails. The dogs hit a fair few Fly rails because they can't get a stride at 3.5meters. The very big dogs are slowed by the nature and design of the course. When we get to seniors the courses are often very tight. Magic for the smalls, body beating for the bigs. So while we are making this split change it might be very relevant to look at the design of courses as well.

I have always thought it was the large Maxis that were disadvantaged in this sport. They are a very small minority of the dogs running in the sport, and it is obvious why. The sport also has to get its head around the fact that it is a race, which was born out of Fly

ball, the quickest to the box and back wins. I see some fabulous rounds at Tournaments by amazing dogs but racing they often are not.

I would truly like to hear everyone's point of view on where Flygility is heading. The disaffected who spoke to me at Tokoroa said they would put their energies into their other dog sports. On the other hand this sport of Flygility has grown very fast. A nice number in an event is 32. At 32 everyone gets a good set of runs, you can run a plate and give beginners or people who have newly graduated to the next level a chance to try the course again and of course an extra half point. Splits destroy the idea of the plate, and you are only having three runs from the start to the final. The up side is that the dogs who are winning are not being thrashed; the down side is that the vast majority who may have got two points in that 32 field will in all likelihood end up with none at all.

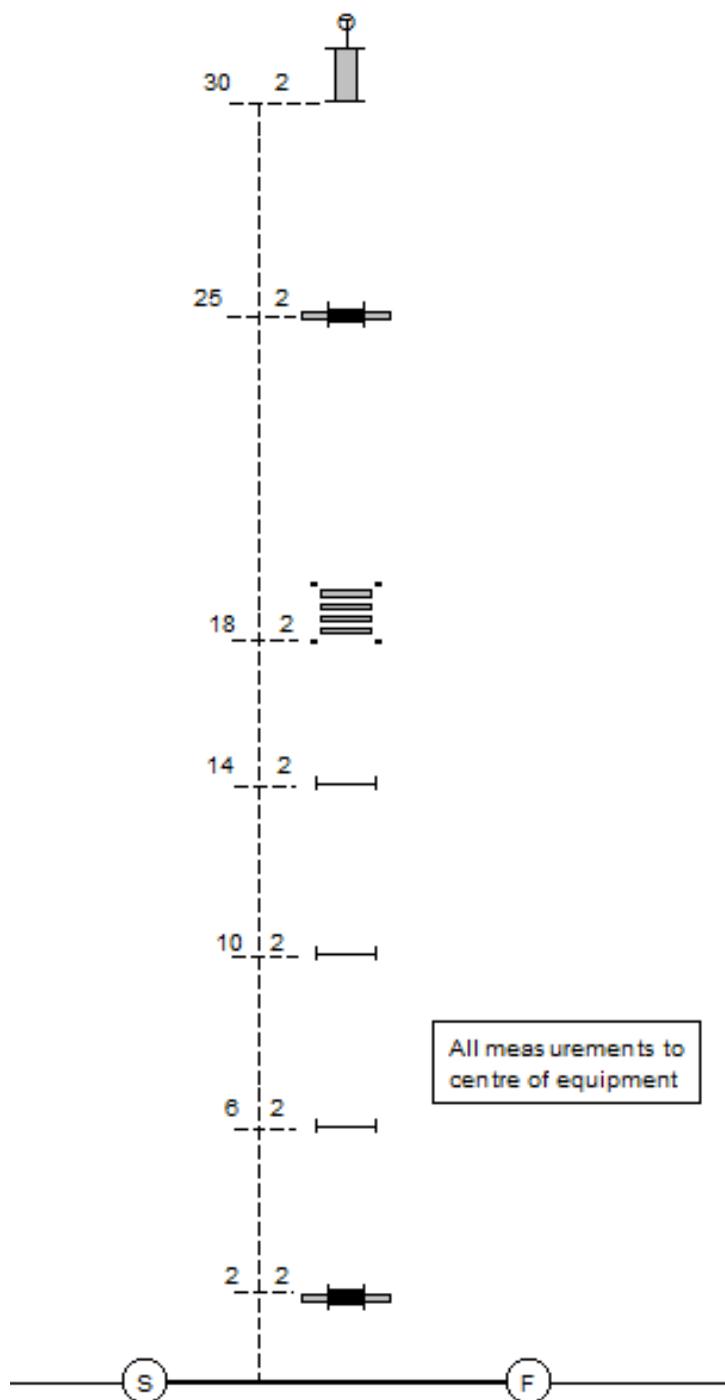
As an additional comment, I have never taken the Sport of Flygility wholly seriously. It is a fun activity for the dogs. They just love getting out there and running without us. If you get points and ribbons and prizes that is just wonderful. But I understand that some people want to be serious about it and train for it and have dogs that only specialise in Fly, which is good too. We could revolutionize this sport and make it more available. To those who want to run a social weekend with easy courses all of which only bear half point per win and is open to all sizes to run off together, to those who want to run only against their own sized dogs with purpose built courses, and to those who are just gonna go to everything that is Flygility because that is what they do. What is happening to the team's part of this sport? Where are the foursomes and triples? It is hard enough to get people interested in pairs. There should be a Club foursome Challenge at least once a year somewhere. Eight teams of four representing each Club, sounds fantastic to me. Team racing only weekends wow.

Closing note: I will personally miss being beaten by some spunky little micro. And I will also miss being beaten by the amazing big dogs that have destroyed my chances in the past. That was part of the glory of the sport, winning against allcomers, and folks I admit, I voted for the split...

STANDARD FLYGILITY RESULTS

1	Counties Quicksies	34.998	FDCH Chloe. Cougar Quick FDX, JD	Shirley Hall Marilyn Lambert Margaret Anderson
2	Dog Sports Rotorua	36.910	Chan Sophie Boston	Raewyn Saville Debbie Trimbach Christine Hutchings
3	Counties Blazing Knights	37.199	Blaze Knight Mac. ADXG JDX	Marilyn Lambert Allan Rohde Shirley Hall
4	Top DAWG	37.500	Seeka Mya ADXG JDX Kepa ADX	Rebecca Sidwell Rebecca Sidwell Alannah Knapp
5	Wairarapa 1	37.680	Blast Rusty Jamaica	Ana Workman Stacie Clark Dianne Reid
6	Waimak 1	38.146	Quiz ADXG JDX Radler Angel	FDRoselle Bremmers Anne Godfrey Chris Knowles
7	Norwest 1	39.000	Barra Jinx Pippa	Eva Cadario Tracy Hart Colleen Lauder
8	North Shore 1	39.040	FDCh Dash Chica Bracken	Kay Ungemuth Barbara Connaughton Sheeran Johnson
9	Upper Hutt Bombers	40.120	FD Stacey Schatzi FD Zeba	Wayne Turner Brenda Young Wayne Turner
10	Wangavegas	40.750	Ziggy JDX FD Heydoh ADXS,JDX, Bailey Bleu JDX	Bronwyn Morgan Jonna Gibson Claire Smit
11	Wairarapa 2	40.940	India JDX Milly JD Sam JD	Dianne Reid Caragh Briggs Stacie Clark
12	Taranaki Blazers	41.280	Bella Diaz Kashin	Lynn Pillette Rae Mayhead David Robertson
13	Taranaki Harlequins	42.350	Zoe Gympie Samos	Sharon Schmidt Laurel Austin David Robertson
14	North Shore 2	43.370	Cassidy JD FD Tua Terminator Bess	Jacqui Wigmore Jacqui Wigmore Dave Swinyard
15	Norwest 2	44.780	Floyd Tripp	Joan McFarlane Samantha Redmond

		Ty	Sue Williams
16 Norrth Shore 3	45.460	Quinn ADXG, JDX, Abby Abby FDX Tequila	Tess Bayly Jacqui Wigmore Robin Toan
17 Ball fighters	47.150	Echo Niko ADXAg, JDX Shaylar FD	Nichola Cole Sandra Mohekey Barbara James
18 Feildabull	47.340	Gem Pulse FD Shadow FDX	Julia Crouch Sandra Mohekey Nichola Cole
19 Taranaki Hardcore	50.530	Song Gyp Kobe	Rae Mayhead Vivienne Robertson Jill Sorensen
20 Waimak 2	74.636	Ruby Saffy Toby	Chris Knowles Jacki Lassen Angela Cook
21 Waimak 3	80.000	Sam Kaos Diesel	Angela Cook Leeanne Russell Chris Knowles
22 Dog Sports Rotorua	84.940	Boo Bootz Gemma	Raewyn Saville Christine Hutchings Ann Hall
23 Counties Coal Blacks	92.669	Coal Jacques JDX,ADX Robbie	Marie Wales Marie Pearman Nicole Beaumont
24 Counties Flickees	94.672	Brodie Flick ADX.S Zoe	Jean Heap Allan Rohde Diana Sheehan
25 Wairarapa 3	105.460	Brazil Fern PhamTim	Dianne Reid Caragh Briggs Ana Workman
26 Norwest 3	123.660	Chester FD Lottie Teddy FD	Joan McFarlane Karen Smith Karen Smith
27 Taranaki Bee Geez	145.100	Sophie Bella' Brie	Vivienne Robertson Lilith White Sharon Schmidt
28 Excitabull	5555.000	FDCH Jordy ADX Finn Pepsi FD	Barbara James Barbara James Nichola Cole
28 Wairarapa 4	5555.000	Daz Smudge Whizz	Debbie Paterson Ana Workman Debbie Paterson
28 Counties Boxys	5555.000	Bounce Bolt Roxy	Marie Wales Elaine Rohde Marilyn Lambert



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