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National Agility Link Association

National Agility Link Association (formed 1989)

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AGILITY THIS MONTH

By **Karen de wit**

Is our sport becoming top heavy?

A sports participation pyramid (see below) has more people at the entry level (Foundation) than at the top end (Excellence).

Do we have more people coming to clubs and taking part in Foundation activities than compete at the Performance or excellence level? From a competition point of view, on average the numbers competing in Starters are less than Senior, and less in Jumpers C than Jumpers A.

Whilst existing competitors are getting second and third and more dogs, that does not equate to more people being introduced to the sport.

The numbers of people getting pets is declining at the same rate as is the number of people owning their own home. Heading towards the future it will be harder and harder to attract dog owners to our sport, simply because there will be fewer of them!

It's not about having more competition or more ribbons. That may influence how many people continue to participate, but it won't affect the first time introductions to our sport.

So how do you get new members?

By being Sociable and supporting volunteers so that the first introduction a new person gets to the sport is a friendly one, and they meet a knowledgeable person who happily passes on information and helps them to have a great experience.

CHEERS to our Volunteers!!

2 • The sports participation pyramid

The sports participation pyramid is a model of **SPORT DEVELOPMENT**. It identifies the different groups of performers at each level giving them a clear **PATHWAY** to the top.

Performance level

- Where **SPECIFIC SKILLS** are developed through **COACHING** and **COMPETITION**.
- Performers are competing at **REGIONAL LEVEL** for their clubs.

Excellence level

- This is the **PEAK** of the pyramid where people are competing at national and international level.
- Relatively **FEW** performers achieve this level.



Foundation level

- An **INTRODUCTION** to the activity.
 - Basic skills are **LEARNT**.
- E.g. **PRIMARY PE LESSONS**.

Participation level

- When young people start to enjoy a **SPECIFIC ACTIVITY** and participate in it **REGULARLY**.
- E.g. Attending an **EXTRA CURRICULAR SPORTS CLUB**.

Games Link -Snooker results

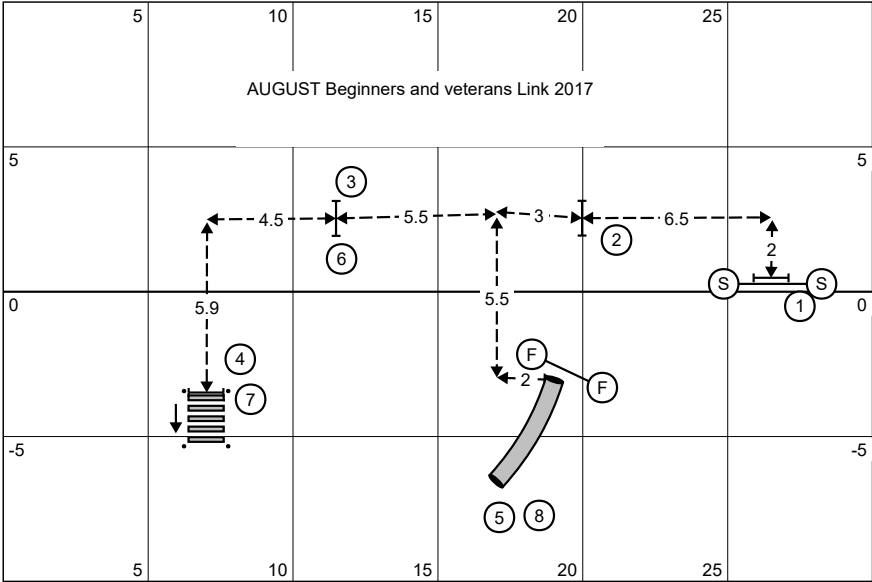
SNOOKER.

Dog	Handler	Club	Open	close	pts	Total
MAXI						
Ali	Pete de Wit	UHDTC	24	27	51	39.086
Wish	Deb Jackson	MtM	22	27	49	44.897
Jelo	Joanne Allan	EBOP			48	37.2
Rogue	Trish Bush	EBOP			45	44
Thane	Erin Mulholland	UHDTC	17	27	44	26.322
Richie	Jen Kemp	Hawera	17	27	44	33.538
Ginny	Jo Moody	Hawera	17	27	44	36.662
Zeba	Wayne Turner	UHDTC	17	27	44	49.5
Trix	Hayley Andrew	MtM	16	27	43	33.891
Moss	Diane Haydon	Hawera	16	27	43	34.538
Typhoon	Chris Moody	Hawera	15	27	42	36.863
Bella	Sandra athea	Sth Rangī	8	27	35	43.310
Niko	Sandra Mohekey	Sth Rangī	20	0	20	28.400
Cash	Wayne Turner	UHDTC	14	0	14	57.532
Mono	Jane Ocallaghan	UHDTC	13	0	13	34.824
Buddy	Kat Bayne	UHDTC	8	0	8	53.994
Swift	Jude Doyle	MtM	6	0	6	555
Blaze	Linda Cummins	Sth Rangī	1	0	1	555
MEDIUM						
Cheeky	Deb Jackson	MtM	22	27	49	42.603
Beta	Deb Jackson	MtM	22	27	49	43.468
Brandy	Diane Haydon	Hawera	15	27	42	51.273
Epic	Fiona Denton	MtM	22	22	44	35.274
Taco	Darren Lilley	UHDTC	14	0	14	44.314
Stacey	Wayne Turner	UHDTC	13	0	13	33.535
Ray	Margaret Lilley	UHDTC	8	0	8	44.934
Karrie	Diane Haydon	Hawera	8	0	8	54.427
Rider	Margaret Lilley	UHDTC	8	0	8	63.378
Finn	Karen de wit	UHDTC	8	0	8	555
Inky	Mandy Ward	MtM	7	0	7	555
SMALL						
Quinn	Jane Aukett	UHDTC	21	27	48	46.779
Fergus	Anne Packer	UHDTC	21	27	48	49.577

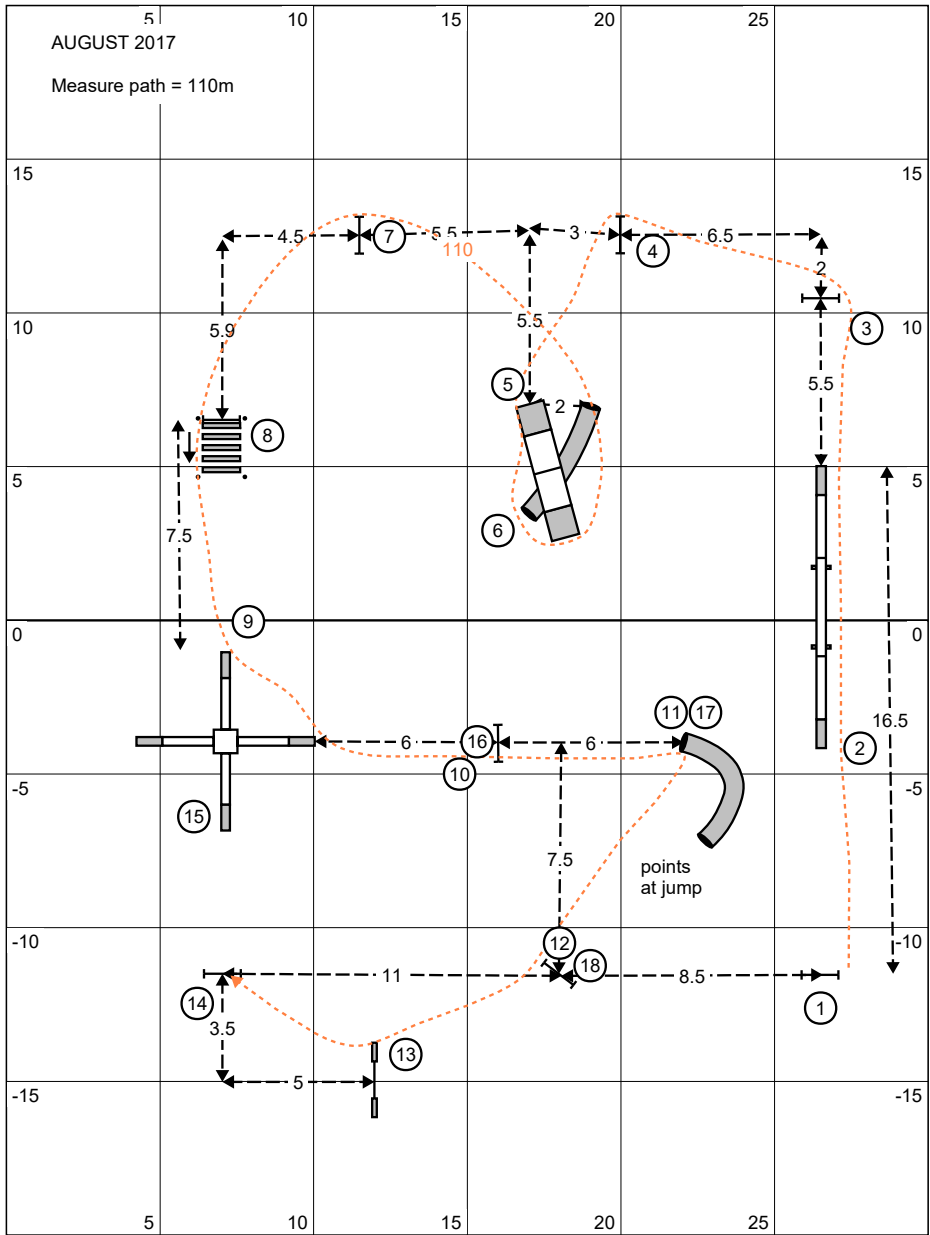
Dazzle	Alison Derbyshire	EBOP			45	48.68
Sky	Gillian Cruickshank	UHDC	17	27	44	33.325
Joey	Kirsten Piersten	Hawera	17	27	44	40.864
Cameo	Gillian Cruickshank	UHDC	17	27	44	42.476
Faith	Sue Boyle	UHDC	17	27	44	43.941
Monty	Trix Jaggi	UHDC	17	26	43	54.051
Rosie	Sandra athea	Sth Rangi	22	20	42	49.500
Evea	Kirsten Piersten	Hawera	17	5	22	63.098
Caesar	Clint Perkins	UHDC	17	2	19	41.372
Holly	Jane Aukett	UHDC	16	0	16	46.741
Smudge	Erin Mulholland	UHDC	16	0	16	51.593
Eddie	Kirsten Piersten	Hawera	14	0	14	122.23
DJ	Michelle Sowerby	Hawera	13	0	13	22.133

August 2017

Junior LINK handlers & Veteran dogs

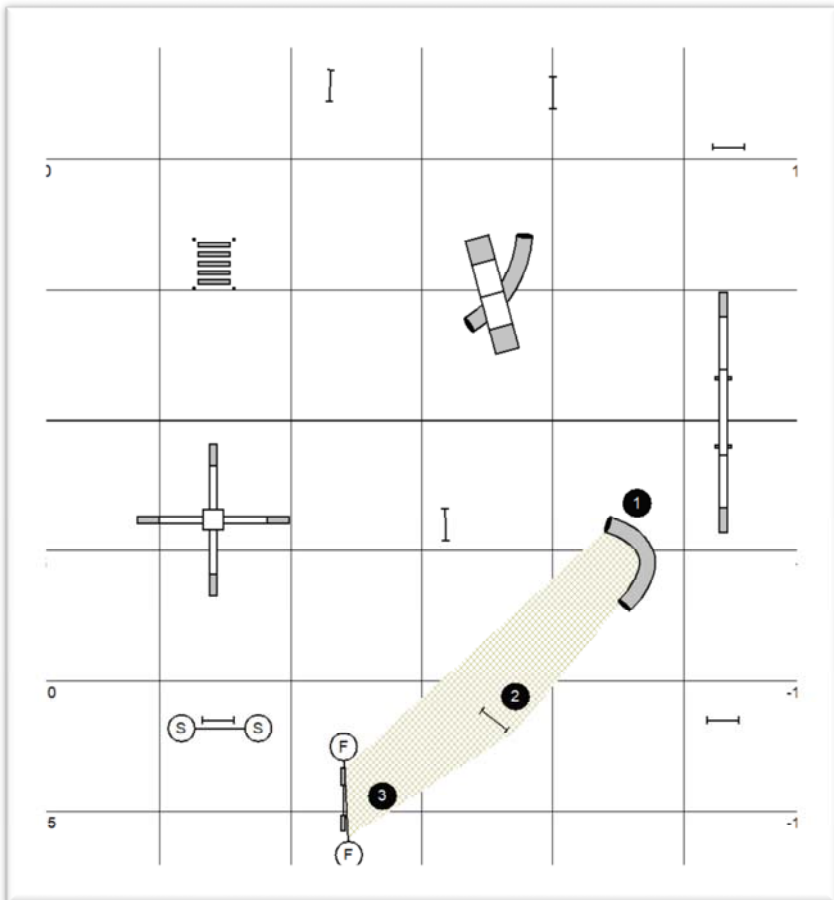


August Agility Course



August GAME: Gamblers

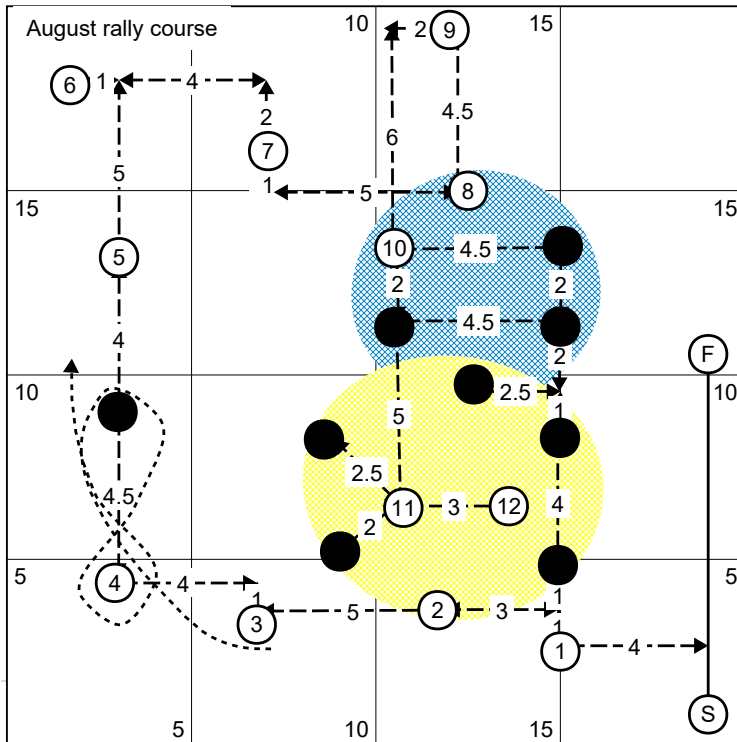
You have 30 seconds in the opening to collect points, then the horn/whistle will sound and you have until 40 seconds to get the gamble done. Exclusion line stretches from tunnel opening to each side of the wing jump. Points: Contacts = 5pts, Tunnels, long jump = 3 pts (set it up so it can be jumped from both directions), Jump = 1 point. Gamble is 2,4,6 points (12 points if achieved under time)



If you have any interesting tips or articles about RallyO please feel free to share on this page E; kpdewit@xtra.co.nz

SIGNS.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. fast pace. | 7. side step right |
| 2. Circle right dog on outside | 8. circle right dog on outside |
| 3. normal pace | 9. Left about turn |
| 4. NZARO figure of eight | 10. 360 right turn |
| 5. Call front, finish right forward | 11. 270 right turn |
| 6. 270 left | 12. Fast pace. |



RALLY-O RESULTS.

Pl	Club	Team members	Score	Time
1	Mt Maunganui	Fiona Denton & Epic, Fiona Denton & Promise, Sue Andresen & Queen	100.0	251.170
2	Hawkes Bay	Lorraine Lennox & Jantsee, Jill Anderson & Kiri, Gillian Petterson & Nitro	100.0	275.047
3	Wanganui DTC	Betsy Gleeson & Flint, Christene Warren & Charlie, Betsy Gleeson & Suede	100.0	291.270
4	Sth Rangitikei	Barbara James & Finn, Barbara James & Gemma, Barbara James & Shaylar	100	312.53
5	Canterbury COC	Kelly Walker & Gael, Helen Scott & Harry, Kelly Walker & Kep	100.0	324.430
6	Central ADTS	Jan Voss & Halley, Jan Voss & Maple, Vivienne Lewis & Ramble	99.7	251.270
7	Wairarapa	Nicky Detheridge-Davies & Rufus, Robin Gemmill & Col, Donna Garrity & Mack	99.7	273.250
8	Upper Hutt	Karen de Wit & Dee, Jane Aukett & Quinn, Karen de Wit & Quick	99.67	274.09
9	Sunshine Whk	Helen Barnes & Cookie, Maree Boreham & Ebony, Maria van Beek & Buddy	99.0	276.730
10	Norwest	Rosalind Walkington & Fletcher, Sarah Ridley & Keara, Karen Smith & Alfie	99.0	323.120
11	Gisborne	Penny Bushel & Tank, Penny Bushel & Dakota, Amelia Gower & Jacobi	90.7	360.000

AGILITY RESULTS.

Division1

1 Hawkes Bay	Valentine AD JD	Sharon SIMONSEN	26.156	80.240
	Q T Pi ADXG JDX	Sharon SIMONSEN	26.936	
	Roxy ADX	Campbell LIST	27.148	
2 Wairarapa	PhamTim	Ana WORKMAN	26.399	80.999
	Jamaica ADXG JAB	Dianne REID	27.081	
	Spy	Sharleen DRUMMOND	27.519	
3 Mangawhai	Razzle ADXS CDX	Annette FLANNAGAN	26.911	83.691
	Breeze ADXS JDX	Annette FLANNAGAN	27.745	
	Poppy ADXB JDX	Lauren MEYERS	29.035	
4 Cambridge	Spark ADXG JDX J	Julie McCONKEY	28.272	86.850
	Zoe ADXG JDX JAS	Paul NEEDHAM	29.195	
	Rocky ADXG JAX F	Paul NEEDHAM	29.383	
5 Upper Hutt 1	Finn ADXG JDX JA	Karen de WIT	25.228	86.918
	Thane	Jorja MULHOLLAND	29.442	
	Holly CGCF ADXG	Jane AUKETT	32.248	
6 Central HB	Poppi	Katrina ALEXANDER	28.310	92.080
	Loose ADX SNB	Kim LOYE	28.750	
	Dot AD	Jill PAYNE	35.020	
7 Mt Maunganui 1	Mikki ADX JD	Bev POCOCK	30.497	95.768
	Trix ADX JD	Hayley ANDREW	32.366	
	Sea JDX	Jan MURDEN	32.905	
8 East BOP	Jelo ADX JD	Una FORRESTER	33.580	123.260
	NZ Ch Spell JD	Una FORRESTER	43.460	
	Lucy	Trish BUSH	46.220	

Division2

1 North Shore	Hiska ADXG JDX	Matilda van RIJNBEEK	26.400	96.358
	Tua ADXB JD FD	Jacqui WIGMORE	30.927	

	Reggie	Ros SAFFER	39.031		
2	Selwyn	Jock ADXB JD Havoc Tess JD	Carole LOGAN Penny HALLOWES Carole LOGAN	27.122 35.246 39.335	101.703
3	Counties	Peaches ADXG JAB Nifty Jacques ADXG JDX	Chris CHARLTON Marie PEARMAN Marie PEARMAN	29.973 34.715 37.640	102.328
4	CCATS	Pipi JDX Viper ADXG JDX J Meila JD	Sandra McHUGH Kathryn SNOOK Kathryn SNOOK	33.372 33.489 38.682	105.543
5	Nelson 2	Brandi ADX JDX Riot JDX Gerry JD	Nikki STEYN Claire SMITH Sarah COLE	31.787 38.047 40.182	110.016
6	Sth Canty	Ziggy ADXG JDG J Bella JD Penney ADXG JDX	Jenny D'ARCY Jenny D'ARCY Jenny D'ARCY	36.323 46.926 48.468	131.717

Division3

1	Huntly	Teal ADXB JDX Pandaris AD JD George JD	Kim ORLANDO-REEP Kim ORLANDO-REEP Dr John GATES	31.124 32.620 35.563	99.307
2	Tauranga 3	Chilli ADXB JD Kobi ADXG JDG SN Snoop AD JDX	Bernice SHEARMAN Jocelyn JENSEN Bernice SHEARMAN	33.482 34.832 35.990	104.304
3	Whanganui 3	Mikie JD Charlie FdCh Ziggy JDX	Bill STEWART Nikki WATSON Bronwyn MORGAN	39.120 39.660 45.410	124.190
4	Upper Hutt 3	Sky AD RA Taco Faith	Gillian CRUICKSHANK Darren LILLEY Sue BOYLE	39.176 44.671 65.012	148.859
5	Blenheim 3	Mindy	J BULLAS-EVEREST	49.345	179.294

Lady	Colin HARVEY	50.745
Karma	Claire BROOKS	79.204

Division4

1	Gizzy	Blaze AD JD Girl Tank AD	Kirsten INGOE Kim EDWARDS Penny BUSHELL	38.640 43.210 49.750	131.600
2	Hawera 4	Typhoon JD Brandy JD Richie	Chris MOODY Diane HAYDON Jennifer KEMP	42.452 46.459 54.013	142.924
3	Dog Sport Rotorua	Sophie Boston Bootz	Debbie TRIMBACH Christine HUTCHINGS Christine HUTCHINGS	34.720 45.220 67.720	147.660
4	Tauranga 4	Oliver Shila Hugo	Kate AUDAS Helen MOORHEAD Sue FOSTER	47.364 50.215 51.226	148.805
5	Tokoroa	Harper JD Izzy Harley	Kristina LEE Linda MARTIN F THOMPSON-STEVENS	45.631 49.192 59.526	154.349
6	CHB Orange Roughies	Scout Floy Belle	Jaimee ALEXANDER Wendy HOLMES Edward HOLMES	35.980 70.060 81.680	187.720

Flygility Results - std

1	Ball fighters	29.070	Arrow FD Fd CH Echo Meg	Sandra MOHEKEY Nichola COLE Nichola COLE
2	Taranaki BeeGees	29.535	Willow JD Dazzle UDX CD Blue JD	Sandra BANKS Laurel AUSTIN Lynn PILLETTE
3	Feildabull	31.720	Fya ADXB JDX Blaze ADX JDX	Lynda CUMMINS Lynda CUMMINS

4	Wairarapa 2	32.359	Niko ADXG JDX Misty JD FD Brazil ADX JDX PhamTim	Sandra MOHEKEY Sharleen DRUMMOND Dianne REID Ana WORKMAN
5	Wairarapa 1	32.860	Blast ADXG Jamaica ADXG JAB Tasman ADXG JDX	Ana WORKMAN Dianne REID Sharleen DRUMMOND
6	North Shore	32.930	Cassidy ADXB JDX FD GrCh Dash Chica ADXB JD FD	Jacqui WIGMORE Kay UNGEMUTH Barbara CONNAUGHTON
7	Hawkes Bay 1	33.014	Bandit Misty CGCG ADX J QuBa ADXS JDX	Julie WESTER Chrissy HARRIS Colleen O'CONNOR
8	Taranaki Harlequins	33.053	Gympie JD RN Grace ADX CDX JD Bella ADXB JDX	Laurel AUSTIN Sandra BANKS Lynn PILLETTE
9	Excitabull	33.530	FdCh Pulse Holly Shadow FDX	Sandra MOHEKEY Wendy COLE Nichola COLE
10	Bombers	33.581	FDCh Zeba FDCh Stacey Zed	Wayne TURNER Sharon HASTINGS Jane AUKETT
11	Missles	34.762	Caesar Buddy Cash JD	Clint PERKINS Kathryn BAYNE Wayne TURNER
12	Wairarapa 3	36.055	Milly ADXG JDX Rusty ADXG SNX J Spy	Caragh BRIGGS Stacie CLARK Sharleen DRUMMOND
13	Counties Oopsy Daisies	36.321	Bounce ADXS JDX Jag JD FD CH Quick JD	Marie WALES Elaine ROHDE Margaret ANDERSON
14	Counties Yoghurts	37.275	Jacques ADXG JDX Quilla JDX CCH Yogi CDXS RN	Marie PEARMAN Kim ORLANDO-REEP Louise van MEYGAARDEN
15	Hawkes Bay 2	38.377	Cherchez Chester Lace JD CGCB	Jackie OLLEY Peggy SCOTT Chrissy HARRIS
16	Wairarapa 5	39.816	Daz Fern AD JDX Rupert CGC Found	Debbie PATERSON Caragh BRIGGS Belinda DUNCAN

17	Mangawhai Flyers	39.880	Orca CGCB FD Maui FD Belle ADX FD	Lorna CHAPMAN Carol TAYLOR Lorna CHAPMAN
18	Counties Buzzing Along	41.530	Buzz ADXG JAB FDCH Minx Sneaky JD	Chris CHARLTON Margaret ANDERSON Elaine ROHDE
19	Counties	44.437	Dasha Nifty Peaches ADXG JAB	Natalia BEKETOVA Marie PEARMAN Chris CHARLTON
20	CHB Midgets	44.542	Dot AD Jack ADXG JDX FD Taku AD JD	Jill PAYNE Chris ROSS Chris ROSS
21	Wairarapa 4	44.912	Honey Jay Whizz ADX JD	Caragh BRIGGS Stacie CLARK Debbie PATERSON
22	Dog Sports Rotorua 2	45.250	Chip Molly Boo AD	Raewyn SAVILLE Sue WARRENDER Raewyn SAVILLE
23	Counties Bolters	55.465	Bolt ADXG JDX JA Pandarís AD JD Strike	Elaine ROHDE Kim ORLANDO-REEP Di STEPHENS
24	Superbulls	62.910	Fagan Gem Tango JD FD	Darius FELL Julia CROUCH Liz TOLHURST
25	Dog Sports Rotorua 1	69.070	Sophie Bess ADXG JDX Boston	Debbie TRIMBACH Dave SWINYARD Christine HUTCHINGS
26	Counties Smoking Hot	72.407	Gemma Scooter ADX JDX Smokey	Natalia BEKETOVA Sylvia LORD Marie WALES
27	In The Fly Zone	79.150	Brandy JD Little Miss Chat Moss JD	Diane HAYDON Diane HAYDON Diane HAYDON
28	Mangawhai Muppets	108.540	Meg JDX RN FD Breeze ADXS JDX Razzle ADXS CDX	Annette FLANNAGAN Annette FLANNAGAN Annette FLANNAGAN

Flygility Results - challenge

1 Counties Bustlers	30.218	Buzz ADXG JAB Bounce ADXS JDX FD CH Quick JD	Chris CHARLTON Marie WALES Margaret ANDERSON
3 Ball fighters	30.590	Arrow FD Blaze ADX JDX Meg	Sandra MOHEKEY Lynda CUMMINS Nichola COLE
4 Taranaki BeeGees	31.258	Willow JD Dazzle UDX CD Blue JD	Sandra BANKS Laurel AUSTIN Lynn PILLETTE
5 Counties Panhandlers	33.422	Bolt ADXG JDX JA Pandaris AD JD Sneaky JD	Elaine ROHDE Kim ORLANDO-REEP Allan ROHDE
6 Bombers	34.848	Cash JD FDCh Stacey FDCh Zeba	Wayne TURNER Wayne TURNER Wayne TURNER
7 Dog Sports Rotorua 1	35.880	Sophie Bess ADXG JDX Boston	Debbie TRIMBACH Dave SWINYARD Christine HUTCHINGS
8 Wairarapa 2	35.901	Brazil ADX JDX Fern AD JDX PhamTim	Dianne REID Caragh BRIGGS Ana WORKMAN
9 Feildabull	37.160	Fd CH Echo Fya ADXB JDX Niko ADXG JDX	Nichola COLE Lynda CUMMINS Sandra MOHEKEY
10Excitabull	37.940	Holly Shadow FDX Finn CDX RN	Wendy COLE Nichola COLE Barbara JAMES
11In The Fly Zone	39.140	Brandy JD Little Miss Chat Moss JD	Diane HAYDON Diane HAYDON Diane HAYDON
12Taranaki Harlequins	39.745	Gympie JD RN Grace ADX CDX JD Bella ADXB JDX	Laurel AUSTIN Sandra BANKS Lynn PILLETTE
13Counties Chillers	41.029	Nifty Quilla JDX CCH Yogi CDXS RN	Marie PEARMAN Kim ORLANDO-REEP Louise van MEYGAARDEN
14CHB Midgets	44.637	Dot AD	Jill PAYNE

		Jack ADXG JDX FD	Chris ROSS
		Taku AD JD	Chris ROSS
15 Counties Gemma's Wee Friends	49.099	Jacques ADXG JDX Gemma	Marie PEARMAN Natalia BEKETOVA
		Scooter ADX JDX Honey	Sylvia LORD Caragh BRIGGS
16 Wairarapa 1	52.626	Jamaica ADXG JAB	Dianne REID
		Tasman ADXG JDX	Sharleen DRUMMOND
17 Hawkes Bay 1	53.393	Cherchez	Jackie OLLEY
		Misty CGCG ADX J	Chrissy HARRIS
18 Hawkes Bay 2	56.799	QuBa ADXS JDX	Colleen O'CONNOR
		Bandit	Julie WESTER
		Biggie CGCG RN	Chrissy HARRIS
19 Superbulls	60.660	Lace JD CGCB	Chrissy HARRIS
		Gem	Julia CROUCH
		Tango JD FD	Liz TOLHURST
20 Wairarapa 3	70.459	Fagan	Darius FELL
		Blast ADXG	Ana WORKMAN
		Milly ADXG JDX	Caragh BRIGGS
21 Counties Strikers	80.000	Whizz ADX JD	Debbie PATERSON
		Jag JD	Elaine ROHDE
		FDCH Minx	Margaret ANDERSON
		Strike	Di STEPHENS
22 Counties Strikers	80.747	Jag JD	Elaine ROHDE
		FDCH Minx	Margaret ANDERSON
		Strike	Di STEPHENS
23 Counties Gatoraid's	87.227	Dasha	Natalia BEKETOVA
		CH Gator JD	Natalia BEKETOVA
		Peaches ADXG JAB	Chris CHARLTON

FLYGILITY comment

by Raewyn Saville.

There is
next to no
promotion
of the sport
and yet it has
all the markers
to turn it
into
a huge success.

By the time this appears the next Flygility AGM will have been and gone. We can but hope that some solutions to some fairly tricky questions about the future of our Sport are forthcoming. It would be hoped that a step by step program towards rejuvenation will be discussed. There are not enough new people coming into this Sport. There is no reason why Flygility cannot be a total learning pattern sport without the need for people who are actually Agiliteers 'doing Fly'. There are simply hundreds of rescue terrier crosses out there that are spectacular in their speed. There are a lot of heading dog terriers (basically pigdogs) who would also benefit from inclusion in the sport. There is next to no promotion of the sport and yet it has all the markers to turn it into a huge success.

We all take it for granted when the dogs go to the box on their own, some fast some slow some missing equipment and others with a fixed determination to be first to the box and back. Last weekend at our wet(again) mid winter tournament all my new people who are in training for Flygility came along for a look. They laughed and laughed at the antics of the dogs. They couldn't believe the speed of a couple of the Border Collies. They were so enthusiastic. They reckoned it was the best kept secret of dog sport

Everyone now knows about Agility . Why didn't we know about this before. So the WHY isn't Flygility promoted better was very much to the fore.

There is a fair bit of internal discussion around how to make it better for the Beginners to gain points and not have to be rushed into Seniors. Case in point . I have a fantastic new person called Pam with a mini Schnauzer called Jade. They have no previous dog training history. Jade has been a breed bitch. She has a natural focus and speed so we have trained her for Flygility. At our mid winter Tournament she won Intermediate. All the dogs she beat were big fast maxis. Three of them belonging to trainers for whom it is their third or fourth dog. After two Tournaments she is over half way to winning out. This team is keen but once she hits Seniors and apart from learning the course work and direction changes and then having to beat the seasoned top dogs in Fly, it becomes very unnerving for new people.

So is it better to put in another level of competition so there is a bit more time to increase skills and get ready to play in the senior team or is it as Allan Rohde said last AGM a matter of increasing the number of points needed to get out of Beginner Intermediate. I really feel there is a bit of both necessary there. Increasing the points is not going to prepare the Beginner team for the harder course work available in Seniors. It was suggested during our informal talk time at the mid winter tournament that Beginners become Elementary which is just straight lines, Beginners then becomes Intermediate as it stands now with a single bend at the start or finish that goes one way or the other, and that Intermediate is then the appropriate stage for dogs to see a set of courses (no weaves) with a greater challenge so that when they graduate to Seniors it is an easier step to take. If the graduation is sorted in such a way that the FD and FDX titles come along appropriately and the gradual increase in the degree of difficulty is a suitable challenge, then there is no need to talk about 'dumbing down' or 'reduced challenge' for the people who are senior in the sport .

It will also give a better length of time for people to get their weaves in place, which personally I believe only belong in Advanced anyway -although I seem to be alone in that belief.

The other outstanding issue is education within the Sport.

It would be just amazing if some of the now retired Flygiliters put their experience to work and ran some part day's instruction on full weekends of Flygility.

It would :

- (a) Attract a larger number of people to come and be part of a Tournament weekend; and
- (b) Act as a bonding mechanism for the people involved in Flygility.

At the moment we have some people saying they will not attend Tournaments because 'so and so will be there and they just win everything so it is a waste of time going'. Again to me there is a lot to learn from those incredible handlers and their dogs. Inspirational is a word I use in praise of those dogs and handlers that have got themselves through to Grand Champions with speed and athleticism(generally the dogs not necessarily the handlers). Their dedication impresses me I admire their attention to detail, and it takes a particular dog. I nourish dogs and handlers that I see coming through with the skills and talents needed to be successful in the sport. In fifteen years I have only had about five new people who were capable of the excellence needed to achieve with the best. Some I have lost because the system isn't user friendly enough to inexperienced people to keep them working to go forward. Or to inspire them to travel to other centres for Tournaments, which also begs the question, when will we see more groups putting on Tournaments. At the moment it is the same old same old, 'not enough spare weekends in the Agility Calendar'. Allan Rohde and I talked about that ten years ago and suggested that a truly successful sport

would be putting on tournaments when it suited them, not when it suited the people doing another sport altogether.

In praise of smaller Tournaments.

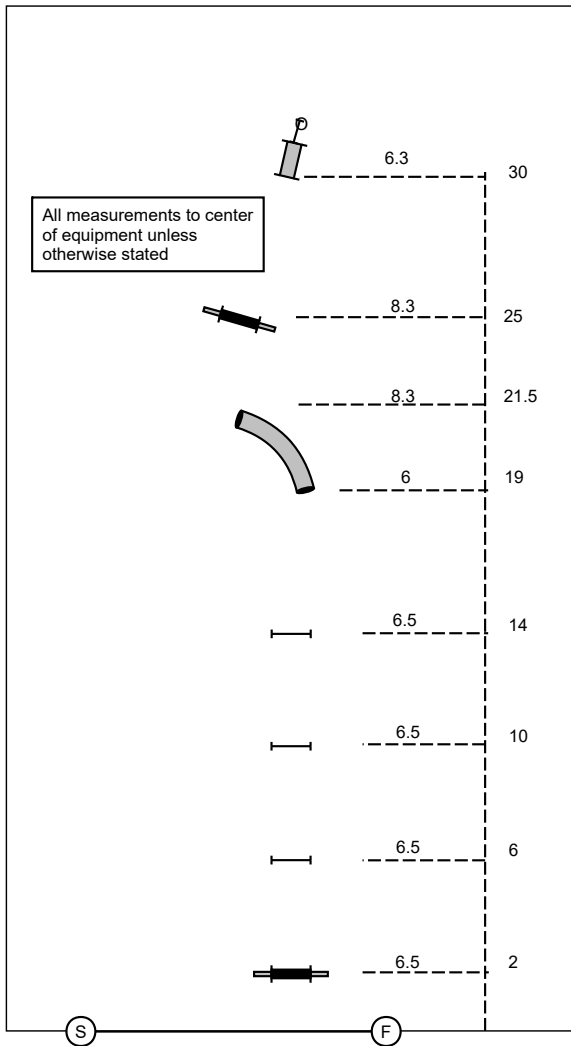
- Our mid winter Tournament will win no prizes for size.
- Our club will not make any money from it.
- But what it did do is make it possible to run each race as a real event one ring at a time.
- The Seniors judged and encouraged the Junior ring.
- Everyone needed to box load to make it work.
- The Juniors were needed to man the Senior ring and therefore got to know who the best dogs/people were and to rub shoulders with some of the fastest dogs they had ever seen.
- It also made it possible to break for lunch and have social time. People learnt each other's names and who their dogs were and where they came from and how long it took to get to this stage of their career. In a word it was friendly.

Some of my fellow Club Members who have been doing Flygility for four years plus said they had never had such a good time at a Tournament and were able to speak in glowing terms of performances by their fellow club members junior and senior and the expertise of the visitors to our Club. It was Flygility as we used to know it quite a few years ago. At larger Tournaments this never happens. Everyone sticks to their own ring and gets on with it.

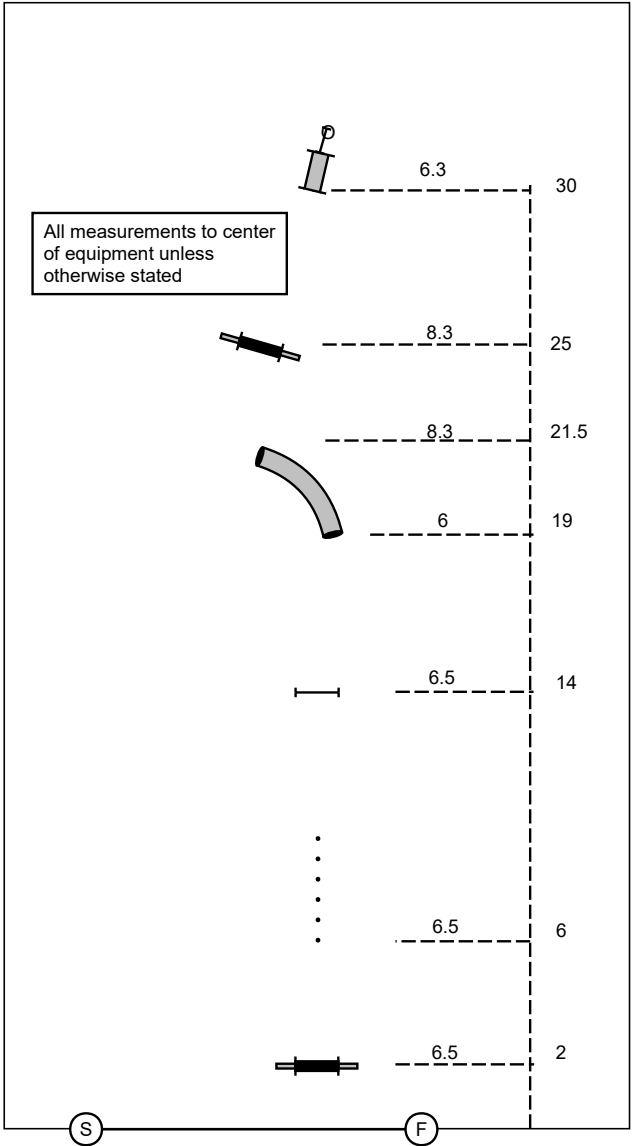
I really do see the great possibilities for Flygility but until the numbers start improving from the bottom up I will never get to implement my ongoing plan for teams opportunities. Pretty soon we had all better knuckle down and make it better for everyone or we may just meander off into oblivion.

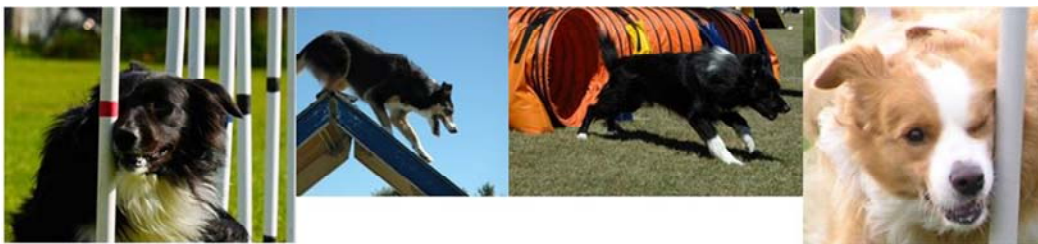
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