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# NZ DOG WORLD

INCORPORATING "THE NEW ZEALAND KENNEL GAZETTE"

July 2023



September  
Schedules

Vol 63 No 6

  
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Irish Setter Peach (NZ CH Yarramo Song of Ice and Fire IMP-AUS) turns six this month and can be seen here competing Agility earlier this year at the Zone 3 Benefit Shows (for Hawkes Bay clubs after Cyclone Gabrielle) at Feilding. Owner Michelle Williamson says Peach has retired from breed showing (she is an NZ conformation champion and has competed in Young Handlers) but now competes in Agility and Rally-O. She took the sports up during COVID-19 to keep busy. Michelle notes: "Like many Irish Setters, Peach can be a bit stubborn so it has been a bit of a challenge for me and our club trainers." But she loves hanging out with her friends from club at class and at competitions. Thanks to Katrina Jefferies for the photo.

## NZ DOG WORLD

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## From the President...



2023 is the 150th anniversary of the Kennel Club in the United Kingdom. As part of the celebrations the newly-crowned king announced that the club would be granted Royal status and will forthwith be known as the Royal Kennel Club.

To celebrate the 150th anniversary the king allowed the Royal Kennel Club the rare privilege of a garden party at Buckingham Palace. I, along with Louise, had the great honour and privilege to be invited to attend. Around 2500 members and partners of the Royal Kennel Club attended dressed in all their finery. In attendance was the Duke of Gloucester and Prince Michael of Kent. Many kennel clubs from around the world had a presence at the garden party including Tamas Jakkel, Jorgen Hendse and Barbara Muller from FCI, Dinky Santos from FCI Asia Pacific and José Miguel Doval the President of the Spanish Kennel Club. It was a great honour for Louise and myself to be introduced to Prince Michael by Tony Allcock, chairman of the Royal Kennel Club. The Prince was very interested in the New Zealand dog scene and the fact that we had travelled so far to be there.

Next day, Louise and I were guests of Tony to lunch at the Kennel Club headquarters in London and a tour of the art gallery and library. It was wonderful to see the amazing artworks owned and displayed by the club including Landseers and the Crufts trophy. I am very grateful to Tony, the Kennel Club staff and to Vince Hogan of *Our Dogs* magazine for making us so welcome.

By the time you read this the Annual Conference of Delegates will be over and the direction of our club for the next 12 months will be in place. To all those that participated in the discussions leading up to ACOD and attending, thank you. Our club needs active participation if we are to continue to be relevant in an environment that is increasingly hostile to dog ownership.

We will only survive if we are united and active. 🐾

Brian Harris

President

**Don't let yesterday take up too much of today.**

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# CANINE CORNER

by Kathleen Crisley, CSMT, CTMT, SCMT

[www.balanceddog.co.nz](http://www.balanceddog.co.nz) / [www.doggymom.com](http://www.doggymom.com)



## Dogs of Graceland

No visit to Tennessee is complete without a visit to Elvis Presley's Graceland mansion in Memphis. Elvis purchased Graceland in 1957 at the age of just 22 using the proceeds from the first year of his stellar and rising musical career.

Dogs are probably not the first thing you associate with Elvis Presley. If asked, most people would probably think of his hit song, 'You Ain't Nothing But a Hound Dog'. Originally recorded by Big Mama Thornton in 1952, Elvis' version was recorded in 1956, going on to sell over 10 million copies.

When Presley performed 'Hound Dog' on TV's *The Milton Berle Show*, his gyrations caused quite a stir. Young people loved it; critics and many in the adult population were morally outraged not only by what they saw as sexually explicit dancing, but also the 'black music' lyrics. This performance is widely regarded as a piece of television history.

When Elvis was asked to perform the song on TV again a month later, on *The Steve Allen Show*, it came with clear instructions that there was to be no dancing or movement. Dressed in a tuxedo, a stiff-looking Elvis serenaded a Basset Hound sporting a top hat and bow-tie collar. If you're interested, you can view these performances after a quick search on YouTube.

According to Graceland archivists, Elvis had a number of dogs over the years.

He owned a Basset Hound named Sherlock, Great Danes named Brutus and Snoopy, and Edmund, a Pomeranian who he gave to his Aunt Delta. He also gifted a small dog named Sweet Pea to his mother, Gladys, in 1956. In 1962, when Priscilla was visiting from Germany, he gave her a Poodle puppy named Honey.

Elvis spared no expense on most things in his life and that included his dogs. When Get Lo, a Chow, was suffering from a kidney condition, the dog was flown on Elvis' smaller plane, The Hound Dog II, to Boston for treatment.

Graceland also has a few bits of dog memorabilia if you take the time to look.

Elvis signed with record label RCA in late 1955; the label used a version of *His Master's Voice*, Francis Barraud's 1898 painting featuring a dog named Nipper, as its logo. Colonel Tom Parker, Elvis' manager, used a desk pen featuring the Nipper dog which has been preserved in the Graceland collection.

Dogs adorned Elvis' upstairs office at Graceland. Although the upstairs of Graceland is off limits to visitors, items from the top floor have been preserved in the museum collections.

On top of Elvis' desk was a German Shepherd pen holder and next to the desk was a life-sized Afghan Hound statue. 🐾



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Dogs  
NEW ZEALAND





# Oh, What A Perfect Day!

# The Royal Kennel Club at 150



*The garden party celebrating the 150th anniversary of The Royal Kennel Club at Buckingham Palace, London, on Wednesday 24 May has been seen as a resounding success by members and guest alike with social media awash with compliments and excited comments. The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester hosted this special occasion and again, social media was filled with photos of happy attendees pictured in glorious sunshine in London... Many with splendid headwear! We thank Vince Hogan, Editor in Chief of OUR DOGS for permission to reproduce his report here.*

The Duke and Duchess were joined at the event by Prince Michael of Kent, who is President of the club and, of course, a member himself. Both sets of royals met some of the many guests and service dogs who had made their way to Buckingham Palace.

The late Queen, an ardent dog lover, was Patron of the organisation for 70 years. Garden parties have been held at Buckingham Palace since the 1860s when Queen Victoria began what were known as 'breakfasts', although they took place in the afternoon.

There were more 2,100 members, past Chairmen, Board Members and a variety of guests in attendance and the Duke and Duchess welcomed guests from all over the world including Kennel Club members, their guests, staff, welfare organisations and volunteers. The weather was perfect for the occasion and everyone attending the event said it was definitely a day they will remember. Music played, there was an element of typical colourful British pageantry with the Yeoman and Sergeants at Arms and folk strolled around the magnificent gardens and lakeside in the 'back garden' of the palace! Plus, lots of tea and cake served in covered marquees for the guests seated on the lawns.

The Kennel Club was founded on 4 April 1873. Mr Sewallis Evelyn Shirley MP founded the club with 12 other men. The purpose of The Kennel Club was to have a consistent set of rules for governing the popular new activities of dog showing and field trials. It was the first national kennel club in the world. As the club officially celebrated its 150th anniversary on 4 April, King Charles confirmed the club with a royal prefix: it is now known as The Royal Kennel Club.

## Comments

Many members and guests took to social media to share thousands of photos from the day; very soon after the event, many positive comments started to appear on line.

Sarah White, Agria Insurance Breeder Manager said, "I had the most wonderful time at Buckingham Palace celebrating the Royal Kennel



Dogs New Zealand president Brian Harris and his wife Louise with Vince Hogan at the OUR DOGS stand at Bath show later that week.





## AGM 2023: President's report

Supplied by Vicky Graham, President

I was pleased to present my report at our fourth online AGM to provide an overview of events and initiatives for the last financial year.

Having worked through yet another challenging twelve months due to COVID-19, our priority has been to facilitate members to resume their visiting. Thanks to our Liaison Officers and members working with facility staff, we have seen the majority of our teams sharing their dogs once again.

We are always mindful of the importance of communication and I am pleased to note our membership level has remained stable over the past two years.

### Strategic Highlights

Our alliance with the NZ Society of Diversional and Recreational Therapists underpins our relationship with therapists in facilities. We are currently working with the society by way of a nationwide survey to gauge how we can improve our services in their places of work.

We are currently arranging a visiting programme to commence at Christchurch Women's Correction Centre and our teams have resumed at other centres.

In August 2022 we were pleased to announce Mark Vette, renowned animal behaviourist, zoologist and trainer, as our Patron.

Earlier this year we were accredited by the Ministry of Justice to undertake Criminal Record Checks. This requirement of District Health Boards and aged care facilities is becoming more apparent.

### Operating Highlights

Many of our Liaison Officers held events during May last year to celebrate our founder, Eileen Curry, made even more significant following Eileen's passing the previous month.

As part of member recognition, we ran a second photo competition and gave our members the opportunity to purchase branded clothing.

### Partnerships

As of 31 March, our five-year partnership with Ziwi came to a close. This support has enabled us to extend our reach into communities and enhance our work by providing support and appreciation to our members.

Last September the committee had a very successful day of training and discussion with our Liaison Officers and Assessors, made possible by our partnership with Dogs New Zealand. This partnership also gives us access to New Zealand's dog community

through monthly features in this magazine. This regular exposure over time has raised awareness of the value of pet therapy and has increased the number of applications from dog-savvy people who want to share their dogs with others.

Our sincere thanks to Steven Thompson, Director/Secretary and his team, for supporting and recognising our work.

### Acknowledgements

Thank you to our members for the immeasurably valuable work you do to brighten the days of others. Never underestimate the difference you make.

To our Liaison Officers: without you, Canine Friends could not function. Many of you have given several years of commitment which is very much appreciated and heartening to know you share your experience with your members.

To the entire committee: your energy, willingness and passion is a driving force. You each play an important part to ensure Canine Friends moves forward and delivers with professionalism, credibility and empathy. It is my belief we embrace traditional values and innovative ideas.

Finally, let's acknowledge our dogs:

*"We give dogs time we can spare, space we can spare and love we can spare. And in return dogs give us their all. It's the best deal man has ever made". Margery Facklam 🐾*



## A final word

by Lavina Diamanti

Six years and 82 articles ago, I volunteered to write a monthly article for *NZ Dog World*. As a member of the New Zealand Dog Judges Association Board, I envisioned that it would be a vehicle of communication between the board, its members and the wider dog community. I have chosen not to stand for re-election for the judges board and therefore relinquish my role writing for the magazine under the NZDJA banner.

It has been an amazing journey. Little did I know when I started that it would, over time, have an influence on so many of our judges and exhibitors. Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to send me messages regarding an article or sought me out at a show to voice their appreciation. It really has made the journey so much more enjoyable. Thank you to those who have contributed when I have asked and those who, mostly unknowingly, gave me inspiration for a subject to write about. After 10 years on the board of NZDJA it is time for me to hand over to someone else. My final words are some of the messages to both judges and exhibitors that have been a part of some of the articles.

### For our exhibitors:

- Judging is subjective. Everyone's journey is different and that is why we have different results.
- Only an experienced specialist really knows your breed. The rest of us are all-rounders and constantly learning.
- It takes years of hard work and study to be an All Breeds judge. Be kind to our judges still on their learning journey.
- Stop blaming judges for the decline in entries in our sport. Start looking at the real reasons and do your bit to help fix it.
- The majority of our judges are honest and do a good job, even if it isn't the result you wanted.
- Pretty leads and flashy show suits don't make one iota of difference to a good judge, but they can improve the overall picture.
- The judge can only judge what they have in front of them, and they have less than two minutes for each dog. Train your dogs and present them well, in clean and healthy condition.

### For our judges:

- If you want to be a judge, do it for the right reasons. Do it because you love dogs and judging dogs. Do it because you want to be a good judge of dogs. Any other reason is just wrong.
- Being a judge isn't going to improve your chances in the show ring, but it will make you a better exhibitor and improve the quality of dogs you are prepared to show.

- Be the judge that clubs want to invite back, and exhibitors want to exhibit under, even if they didn't win.
- Breed type is the most important thing, followed closely by soundness and form and function. Lose breed type and we lose a breed.
- Breeders are the builders and judges are the inspectors in the process. Our job is to assess breed type and sign off on the breeder's adherence to type.
- Presentation and handling are only final considerations, they should never be the first consideration.
- Learn each breed's history and function. I mean really understand the breed and what it was bred to do: form follows function. The rest will fit together and complete the puzzle.
- Study hard for your exams and don't aim for average: aim for excellence.
- Never be afraid to withhold a challenge or award. The breed will thank you for it even if the exhibitor doesn't.
- Don't fault-judge: you will end up with a line-up of mediocre dogs.
- You can't please everyone so don't even try. Please only yourself. You are the one who must live with your decisions.
- The only person who thinks you did a really good job is the one you gave the top award to, everyone else will think you could have done better. Get used to it.
- Not everyone has the temperament to be a judge. That's ok. It's not easy and you will need broad shoulders and sometimes a metaphorical suit of armour.
- Your breed standards are your lifeline in the ring, use them. You can't phone a friend or call time out, but you can check your standards. Exhibitors will thank you for it.
- Find a mentor, one who will guide you on your judging journey and give you honest feedback.
- Learn your rules and regulations and especially the Judges Code of Conduct.
- Be an ethical judge. If you need to check the regulations to see if you can or can't then you most probably shouldn't.
- Use discretion when using social media. Once in print, it cannot be unsaid.
- Learn something every time you judge, never stop learning and do it with passion.

Happy judging and goodbye. 🐾



# The Collie Cup

by Viv McCambridge, SCKS

*The Collie Cup is an annual match held by South Canterbury Kennel Society. Competing are the Best of Breed winners of each Collie breed, who each compete in a Rally-O-style course to test their affinity for work. The winner of this test is declared the overall 'best of the best' out of the Collie breeds and they get a fancy silver trophy for their efforts. This year, the match will take place on 16 September at South Canterbury's Pleasant Point Domain (the schedule is published at the back of this magazine). This year, the Working Dog judge will be Jane Armatys (Collie (Rough) breeder from Victoria) and the judge for the cup will be Judy Ashworth.*



club decided to introduce an extra task in order to win it.

We assume back in those days, the award would have involved sheepdog work, so we came up with an idea to make it available to be competed for, to those whose dogs were shown in the conformation. After completing a very simple Rally-O-type course, the points gained in the conformation ring were added to the points gained in the working course.

With the help of Lisa Zwartz, a suitable course was created, with an emphasis on showing aptitude for herding and control. It was first competed for in 2019, on the day of Denis's passing. It has since gained popularity and is eagerly enjoyed by many competitors. Of course, it includes all breeds of Collie, and each year the course is varied to remain interesting and fun.

We are indebted to Denis and his wife for entrusting us with this precious cup, and we are pleased to keep Bob's memory alive. He was a true working dog. 🐾

Way back in 1940, a dog called Bob won a South Canterbury Kennel Society cup for 'Best Working Collie' — for the third year in a row.

Bob was owned by Mr Bill McKeown, and as a tribute to Bob's success, the club decided to award the cup permanently to Mr McKeown.

Mr McKeown was rightly extremely proud of this dog, and he treasured the cup. The years went by, and he left the cup in the care of his son, Mr Denis McKeown.

A few years ago, Denis was nearing the end of his life, and feared the cup would be forgotten about, so as luck would have it, he read a notice in the local rag concerning an upcoming show run by the SCKS. He contacted me, and Anne Grant and I visited him and his wife Jean. They showed us the cup and offered it back to the club. We gratefully accepted it and promised we would re-introduce it.

As the cup was for Best Working Collie, the





## The Judges Sub Committee

Supplied by Rosemarie Baker, [rjbagility2020@gmail.com](mailto:rjbagility2020@gmail.com)

The Dogs New Zealand Agility judges sub committee — JSC — came about because a number of judges were concerned that decisions about regulations relating to the judging of dogs, appointment of judges and the education of judges were being made by a committee that routinely was made up of non-judges. There have been previous Agility committees that held only one judge and the idea was to take the pressure off that one judge for having a voice for all judges around the community. It was also hoped that the sub committee would make sound decisions to improve our judges, our courses, and our standards. It would, to a certain extent, police our judges to try and ensure they are following all the regulations as they are meant to. No point having regulations if no-one follows them.

The current JSC is the third iteration of the sub committee. It has grown from five judges originally randomly shoulder-tapped by the Agility Committee (AC) to a sub committee of people who volunteered to take on the role; if there had been sufficient potential members there would have been an election among the judges listed on the active panels. The current sub committee consists of Joanne Rennell, Chris Moody, Dyson Beasley, Libby Ellery, Carl Ranford, Donna Tofts and Meredith Evans. Meredith joined the committee after the resignation of Sallie Remon.

The JSC meets once a month via Google Meet to discuss items that the AC would like us to focus on, regulations we would like to amend/improve, to offer a viewpoint on situations of concern to competitors, clubs or judges that arise at shows, promotions, and other matters that are brought to our attention from time to time.

We submitted on the promotion situation at the start of the year, and proposed a number of regulations for the AC to consider amending or consulting on. We have a few more in the pipeline. These regulations are minor improvements that don't change the overall picture of our sport but which the JSC feel improve safety or consistency. For example, we requested the AC change the regulation to make the

### Did You Know?

Judges application:

[www.dogagility.org.nz/cont/cont/judge\\_forms.html](http://www.dogagility.org.nz/cont/cont/judge_forms.html)

minimum

distance between obstacles not in a straight line be measured in such a way as to ensure it is five metres from the inside of one obstacle to the inside of the next obstacle. In certain circumstances this can be five metres from centre to centre but a lot shorter on the actual dog's path. We hope competitors and their dogs have noticed an improvement with this change.

Ongoing judges' training remains a focus. We endeavour to support trainee judges to learn, grow and progress through our current program for becoming a judge. We look at ways to make this a better process for all judges for their entire career while on the judging panel. Recently, almost half the current judges completed an online course with Jan Egil Eide (Norway) and Petr Pupik (Czech Republic) which aimed to teach the participants how to create safer courses with better lines. The course will be followed up with an in-person Judges Training Seminar with Jan in both the North and South Islands in September. We want judges to have confidence in their course design and decisions with clear cut regulations and support of the AC.

When the JSC was formed it was decided its members would hold their positions for two years with nominations for new members called for in opposite years to the AC. This way, the JSC would be a constant when the AC was changing and vice versa. The call is out for nominations of interested judges to take a place on this important sub committee.

While the judges are out in all weathers, waving politely at competitors in the ring as they go by, it should still be remembered we are all volunteers, we all just want to have fun with our dogs, and apart from travel expenses we don't get paid to be there.

We hope all judges act in a professional manner at all times when representing themselves, the judges' panels they are a part of and the AC as their governing body. If you have concerns please write to the AC in the first instance or to the judges sub committee directly on [judges@dnzac.nz](mailto:judges@dnzac.nz) to have your matter looked into. 🐾

Joanne Rennell

JSC Chair

### Judges Sub Committee Applications

The Agility Committee is taking expressions of interest for judges to join the next Judges Sub Committee. You can find the application form on your judges page.

Applications will be accepted no later than 31 August 2023. The AC will then announce voting details for the next JSC. See Standing Order 15 at [www.dogagility.org.nz/cont/regulations.html](http://www.dogagility.org.nz/cont/regulations.html)



## A CGC Prodigy!

*Rosemary Cleator is known for her dog training ability and her involvement with the CGC Programme but she was particularly pleased with her dog Zente's speed at rising through the CGC grades at such a youthful age. Below is Rosemary's explanation of how it all came about.*

I have always been a strong supporter of the CGC Programme, being an assessor and chairperson of the CGC Committee for many years. I have put all my dogs through assessments since they started, a total of nine dogs with one going to Silver and eight going to Gold.

Therefore it was always going to happen that at some stage my young dog would attempt to gain CGC. After all her mother and grandmother both have CGC Gold.

Zente (Zenterprise of Sarelle CGCG) was born on 6 April 2022. I took her dam Pryde (Ob GR Ch, RO CH & Ch Pryde N Passion of Sarelle CGCG CDXG RAE4) from Levin to Invercargill to visit the stud dog, Australian import Freemont Watson. However, the result was only one puppy!

Zente was born by caesarian after Pryde didn't show any signs of wanting to produce her. Pryde was not impressed to wake up and find this pup there, and it took nearly a week to convince her Zente was her pup, and that she should feed and care for her! Zente had put no weight on during this first week which was rather a concern. However, once she started to gain weight she grew like a mushroom. As a singleton she had a lot of

attention and travelled all over with us from a young age. Zente has grown up very social with dogs and people.

Zente's coat length had me wondering... I'm not really a fan of long coat German Shepherds, so I had a DNA test done when she was eight weeks old, and long stock coat it came back. By now she had wormed her way in so she stayed. I did bits and pieces of training with her until six months when a long-deferred (COVID-19) overseas holiday took us away for six weeks.

By 10 months, Zente started to compete and place in Obedience and had learned all the basic behaviour that a CGC dog needs to know: how to wait at a gate or car door, how to be groomed, how to meet a friendly dog or stranger and so on. Although being a young excitable girl she was inclined to be over-friendly and just wants to meet everyone!



It just so happened that there were a couple of weekends of CGC assessments in our area, just after she was the required 12 months old, and on weekends that I had free. So we entered and gave it a go at Tararua assessments. Zente managed to stay calm and gained Foundation and Bronze. I was very pleased with her, so decided to have a try the following weekend at Titahi Bay assessments for Silver, and maybe Gold. During the week we trained the drop on command and the send to mat. The other exercises she already knew. She loves going back to find a dropped article, and could do the heel free. I was delighted with her when she passed both Silver and Gold.

Zente was 13 months and one day when she gained her CGC Gold, and had gone from Foundation to Gold in one week. As far as I am aware, that is a record on both counts. 🐾

*Rosemary Cleator*





# Scent Work:

## Nelson Dog Training Club

by Linley Barrett, NDTC

What is Scent Work? Quoted from Dogs New Zealand: "Scent Work, based on the task of working detection dogs, is a positive, challenging activity that allows dogs to use their strongest natural sense in a way that is fun and engaging. Because it is an exercise that requires the dog to locate an odour and communicate this to the handler, it also establishes a building of trust between dog and handler. Working as a team, while negotiating through a variety of environments, dogs are trained to indicate the location of a specific odour by pawing, pointing or assuming a specific body position."

Some activities with your dog require other people, or lots of additional equipment, to make them work. The beauty of Scent Work is you can do it with your dog in any environment — at home, in the backyard, or at the park. All you need to bring is the 'hide' containing your essential oil.

Back in 2021, Linda Mortimer introduced me to Scent Work. A number of Nelson Dog Training Club members had previously attended a Scent Work workshop run by Arend van den Bos and had attended some classes with a local dog trainer. They were now getting right into their training.

After a few months of training myself, I decided to enter two of my dogs into their first trial run by The Southern Golden Retriever

Club in January 2022. My Border Collie, Truce, had a terrible habit of whacking all the buckets over, and Blue, my Cattle Dog X (*photo by Craig Turner-Bullock above*), liked to play whack-a-mole with the source, so I was a little paranoid. We enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere, meeting up with old friends and making new ones, chatting about our highs and lows in the searches. As the weekend went on, everyone was abuzz with this new dog sport. The small contingent of Nelsonians had a good success rate. Both of my dogs did exceptionally well and one even came away with her first Scent Work award — Novice Container Search.

I attended more trials throughout 2022, as well as a seminar held by Tracey and Rob Peterson which offered more learning and information. More awards and Scent Work titles were achieved for each dog.

A couple of NDTC members have travelled to Blenheim for the day and run workshops for some of the Blenheim guys. There is a small but keen contingent over there and we are hoping they continue with their awesome work.

In late 2022, I thought it was a shame there was no Scent Work training at Nelson Dog Training Club. NDTC enjoys being a multi-sport club (Obedience, Rally-O, Agility, Flygility) and I thought we should add another sport! The beauty of Scent Work is that if you



# Junior Dog Training

Chairperson Polly Catlin-Maybury Email: juniordogtrainingnz@gmail.com

## NZDAC Team Trials

Calling all JDT agiliters: we need you for the 2023 JDT team to compete at the annual New Zealand Dog Agility Championship! This year NZDAC is being held at Morrinsville, and the Interzone competition will be as hotly contested as ever.

Trials to be part of the team are held on 12-13 August across the country. Find out where your zone is holding theirs and join in the fun. All trials are run over the same courses, and the results from JDT members will be sent to Cam List who will announce the team.

The rules (because there are always rules)

1. To be eligible for the JDT team you must have been aged under 20 on 1 June, 2023
2. Dogs are eligible to trial for the classes they were in as of 1 June,

2023 (so if your dog was Starters/Novice on 1 June, but then won out on 11 June to become a Novice/Intermediate dog, you should trial in the Starters and Novice classes).

3. You must notify Cam List by emailing [camlist@xtra.co.nz](mailto:camlist@xtra.co.nz) with your name, your dog's name, and the classes you are trialling in, by 1 August 2023 to be considered for the JDT team.
4. Neither you OR your dog can trial for more than one zone (so you need to choose if you are trialling for your home zone or the JDT team)
5. A dog can trial with only one handler

This is a great opportunity to show our stuff on the biggest agility stage of the year – give the trial a go and you never know! 🐾

### Our JDT members have been doing some great stuff with their best furry friends!



Tessa Illemann and Pluto must be the smallest (and the cutest) team in the country and took out second place in Elementary 2 at Napier Obedience competition! Tessa is five and Pluto the Border Collie x Pomeranian (BorderPom?) has just turned four. They've been together (causing mayhem!) since Tessa was 18 months old.

They go to Upper Hutt Dog Training Club and have an amazing bond. We asked Tessa some questions about her best friend..

What makes Pluto special? "He's my dog and I train him."

Why do you enjoy competitions? "I get to travel and because I love training my dog."

What do you train Pluto in? "Agility and Obedience and I like trying to do tricks with him too."

Go Tessa and Pluto, and watch out grown-ups!



Jess Tuppen had her first clear with Deo for third place in Jumpers A.



# Lure Coursing New Zealand

Supplied by Carole Tipler

## Judging: Part 4

Photo by Leo Rolfe.

This issue we will discuss the first of the 'heavies' of the judges' scoring. For speed and agility, the points offered are 25 as opposed to 15 for those already discussed (enthusiasm and follow). In the *ASFA Judges Handbook*, speed is defined as "rapidity in moving, the rate of motion or progress; the hound's overall speed and acceleration in coursing the lure".

The advice is to credit the hound that levels out low, stretches and really drives. Timing is not used to measure speed but instead the hound's manner of 'putting out' is an important means of assessing its ability to cover ground. However, some hounds' running styles are deceptive in that they look either faster or slower than they actually are. A comparison of the relative speed of the hounds in a single course can usually be done well, as long as they are all running the same line. Comparison of speed across courses is much more difficult and must be done with great care. Even in a single course, comparisons can be deceptive since the hound that is closest to the judge will appear to have covered more ground than it really did in comparison to an outside hound. A 'go-by' on the outside is normally a clear indication of superior speed as long as the lure is kept well in front of the hounds.

Some hounds slow down if they get close to the lure. Some will run alongside it and some will attempt a take. Slowing down, but not attempting a take, does not show a lack of speed, but could show a lack of enthusiasm or possibly endurance. A hound attempting a take frequently penalises itself by losing its stride and momentum thereby requiring extraordinary effort to regain its former place. Some hounds can make an attempt and not miss a stride. Others may do a shoulder roll and come up running. Usually, attempted or actual takes happen when the lure operator allows the hound to get too close to the lure. Often if the lead hound is running fairly close to the lure, it will be watching for changes in direction whereas following hound(s) can push harder.

Lure coursing is not simply a test of speed. All facets of a hound's performance must be judged. The advice is to be careful not to confuse rapidity of stride with speed. Often a hound with a very long open stride will look slower when it is actually covering more ground than the hound with a shorter stride, but faster leg movement.

Advice offered in the *ASFA Judges Handbook* tells us the best place to judge speed is on the run-up from the start to the first turn. After an even start, the dog that runs faster reaches that turn first. It can be noted that a long initial straightaway gives faster dogs an opportunity to show off and judges the opportunity to see that clearly.

Once dogs start negotiating turns, judging their speed becomes harder. Several factors complicate judging speed in mid-course. Some can be downright deceiving.

**Complication No 1** If one dog gets to a turn first and is 'buried' in the turn and the others go through it smoothly, the one that got to the turn first is disadvantaged. This may also influence the running and judging of speed in the following straightaway.

**Complication No 2** Getting 'buried' handicaps a dog in the turn and the following straightaway, because it had to slow down more than dogs that had adequate warning of the turn. It slows down enough to make a nearly square turn or even to come back to the course. In doing that, it goes farther than dogs that turn going into the turn and can take the turn smoothly. They can take a shorter route along a smooth curve at a speed limited by their agility. A 'buried' dog enters a straightaway behind and going slower than the others that it beat to the turn.

**Complication No 3** If one dog enters a straightaway ahead of another, it will appear to be going faster along that straightaway than the other even when it may not be. The first one accelerates while the second is running slower in the turn. The faster the breed, the more noticeable and deceptive this is. Slower breeds may reach their top speed before reaching the next turn. Faster breeds may accelerate the whole length of the straightaway so their appearance of speed will be deceptive the whole way. If the distance between them is no longer opening, or is even closing, the second dog is actually going faster. Speed may be able to be judged if the second dog closes the gap when it enters the next turn — if it doesn't cheat. If it stays on about the same line as the leader and closes up to about the same gap that was between them when they started that straightaway, then it ran about the same speed. If it follows well and still closes the gap, it probably ran faster. If the gap is longer after both are slowed back down, you can tell that the front dog ran faster.

It is a fact that speed can be quite illusionary as low-slung hounds often appear to move faster. And the various running styles we have already discussed can trick those watching into believing one breed is running much faster than the other. And, of course, size has an influence. For example Italian Greyhounds can be very impressive for their size but they simply do not have the stride that the taller dogs have. But size is

not everything remembering the acceleration part of the definition of speed.

When we next visit this series, we will discuss the other 'heavy' in the art of scoring: agility. I hope some of you, at least, manage to attend a lure coursing meet and have fun applying our scoring discussions.

Tally Ho until next time. 🐾

I see from recent Dogs New Zealand news that interested people are being sought to join a committee to promote Lure Coursing, among other disciplines, of course. Would you consider putting your hand up to help establish Lure Coursing in the North Island as well as supporting the South Island Hound Club in their endeavours? Remember all dogs enjoy the fun of it all, not just Sighthounds. I so hope we manage to find a good team of players and fun times can return for our canine friends.



# Canine Genetics 101

*Dogs New Zealand Canine Health & Welfare Committee*

Dogs New Zealand’s Canine Health and Welfare Committee is going to be talking a lot about canine genetics over the next few years as new regulations, health testing requirements for breeding, and new research influence our approach to improving the well-being of pedigree dogs.

With that in mind, the committee thought it would be useful to provide a simple overview of the crucial role science plays in improving canine breeding practices. By improving our understanding and utilising of genetic principles to enhance desirable traits and minimise genetic disorders we can promote overall health and welfare in dog populations.

### Glossary of Terms

**Alleles:** the alternate forms or varieties of a gene.

**DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid):** the hereditary material of all organisms and is made up of polynucleotide chains. It carries genetic instructions for the development, functioning, growth, and reproduction of all known organisms.

**Trait:** as related to genetics, is a specific characteristic of an individual.

**Chromosomes:** are structures that look like thread which live in the nucleus (center) of cells. Chromosomes are different sizes, and are made up of DNA and protein. Chromosomes give cells the actual instructions which make individual organisms unique.

**Inheritance and traits:** Canine genetics involves the study of how traits are inherited from parents to offspring. Genes are the units of inheritance, and they carry the instructions for specific traits. Some traits, such as coat colour, size, and temperament, are influenced by a single gene, while others, like health and behaviour, are influenced by multiple genes and environmental factors. A dog’s sperm or an egg contain only half of its DNA, with one of each chromosome being randomly selected. When a sperm and egg come together to form a new set of DNA, the two halves combine, so that each puppy has two copies of every chromosome, one inherited from its mother and one from its father. Genes (or alleles) for different traits are present on chromosomes. Hence when the new DNA set is formed, each pup inherits two alleles, one from each parent, for any given genomic location where such variation exists. If the two alleles (genes) are the same, the individual is homozygous for that gene. If the alleles are different, the individual is heterozygous.

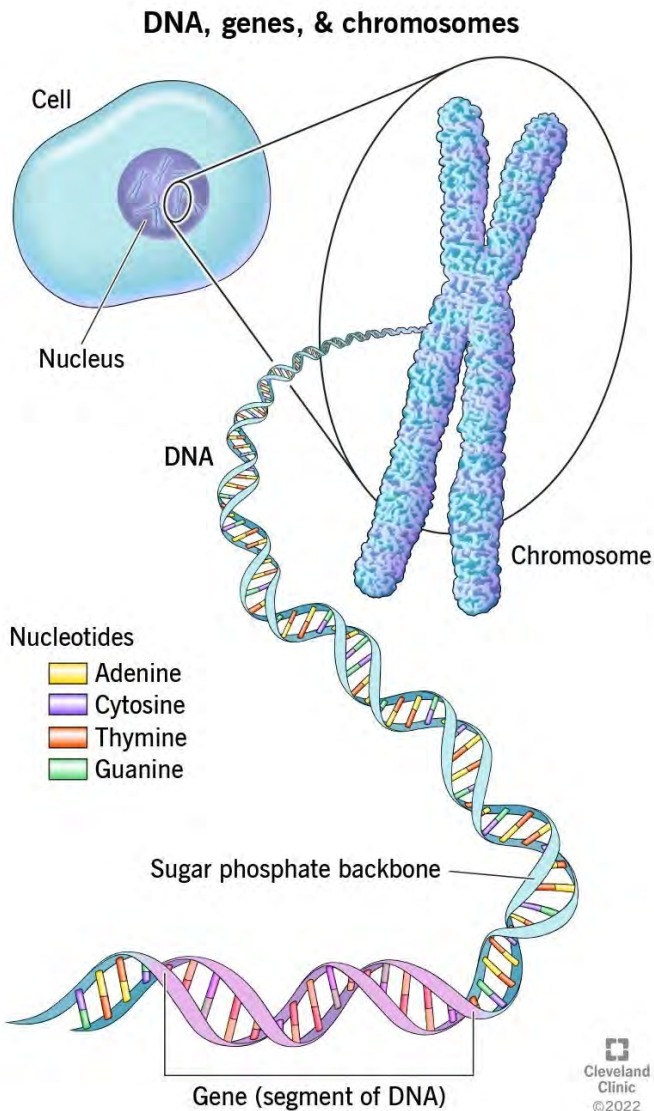
**Genetic testing:** Genetic testing is a valuable tool in canine breeding. It involves analysing a dog’s DNA to identify specific genetic variants associated with particular traits or diseases. Genetic tests can help breeders make informed decisions about mating pairs to minimise the risk of passing on genetic disorders and maximise the likelihood of producing healthy offspring with desired traits.

The combination of a dog’s alleles is known as its genotype. The physical characteristics of a dog is known as its phenotype. How the genotype (the dog’s genes) influences the phenotype (the way it looks) is not always straightforward.

Alleles can be said to be either recessive or dominant. A recessive allele only influences the characteristics of the dog if both alleles are the same. A dominant allele is always expressed, even if it is accompanied by a different allele.

**Pedigree analysis:** Analysing pedigrees allows breeders to understand the genetic history of individual dogs and identify potential genetic risks. Studying pedigrees helps assess the probability of inheriting certain traits or diseases by tracking the presence or absence of specific genes or traits in previous generations. It aids in making informed breeding decisions and avoiding mating pairs that may increase the likelihood of inherited health conditions.

An autosomal-recessive health condition can only occur when a dog has two copies of a faulty gene, inherited from both its parents. Dogs with only one copy of the mutant gene are said to be carriers and are unlikely to show any sign of the disease but can pass the gene on to their offspring. The mutant genes for autosomal-recessive conditions can be the most difficult to predict because they can be passed on from generation to generation without





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