



TEVRA TIMES

July 2008

FROM THE BOSS !

Here we are right in the thick of winter and some of these mornings are extremely cold down at Ouruhia Domain at 7.45am on a Wednesday & Saturday. I'd like to thank Jo Donachie who is always there by 8.00am on Wednesday's putting up the ring and is still there when we finish in order to pack it up again. Also, many thanks to Carol who often arrives shortly afterwards and presents me with a good, old fashion hot water bottle to warm me up.

The end of May saw Kim, from OZ, over here for about 10 days. During that time we went up to the Nelson/Blenheim shows and Kim received a very short course on how NZ obedience works. She adapted extremely well and will be back here in early September to prepare for the National and the NDTA. In the meantime, she is busy over in Sydney working Bullet towards his OZ Obedience title, as you will read in Bullet's report later in the newsletter.

Hopefully July 25th sees me heading into Southern Cross Hospital for a total knee reconstruction, which is certainly going to lay me low for a few weeks. During that time Carol will take the Wednesday competitive classes while Jo Donachie will take my Advanced Certificate Classes and Jo Wilson will help out with the agility training for the Certificate Classes. Barbara will continue the great job that she is doing of being "chief" in charge of the other certificate classes.

Last Saturday, I decided to cancel training, going on the predicted forecast & cool weather. Despite this, a few brave souls still came out not thinking it would be cancelled and either not checking their emails or, in the case of 4 of you, I had not set up your email address, so you never received the cancellation (yes I have already apologised). Anyway, while feeling stink for canceling I received two great pieces of news that really made my day. First of all, Anne Morgan & her little black dog Gromitt finally won their second Novice on 99 points. This was a great effort and the result of a lot of hard work on Anne's part. Well done Anne, you really did have to do it after telling us all at training that you were going to win that weekend!

The other piece of news was that Chris Hickson and his Border Collie Kelly, had finally passed their message delivery exercise to complete the Advanced Course. Chris has worked so hard at getting Kelly to conform & I'm sure everyone would like to join me in saying well done! Kelly managed to keep Chris working hard on training that exercise for a couple of months until she finally held that piece of paper in her mouth. Also well done to Christine Youngman and Poppy, Jo Reid and Sabre, Fleur Walls and Kushka, Roxanne Ramsay and Bailie and Nicki Keen and Piglet, who have all either passed, or have only one exercise to do.

That's all for now, keep up the good work & your attendance at training. It was lovely a couple of weeks ago, on a fine Saturday morning, to see all the activity going on at the Domain with the Certificate Classes as well as the agility. At one stage you could barely find an empty carpark. Take Care.

Janice

CERTIFICATE CLASS INFORMATION



Congratulations to Michelle & Poppy, Melinda & Bridie and Alice & Bear on passing their Elementary Assessments. Well done guys. Congratulations also to the Intermediate people who have passed, Diane & Delta, Linda & Poppy, Jeanette & Flynn, Lynda & Lutha, Alice & Bear, Michelle & Zorro, Ann & Burnie, Lisa & Sarsha, Cynthia & Kiki, Colette & Wolfgang & Vicky & Whiskey (I hope that's everyone, phew!) I think it is going to have to be a tradition that the instructor brings chocolate, whether to calm the nerves, or feel better in the cold. Janice's classes please note.

Remember, it only takes a few minutes 3 or 4 times a day to practice. Don't use the weather as an excuse. Scent & sendaways can be done in the hallway or lounge. A little bit of heelwork can be done in the hallway also, with your dog walking close to the wall to practise walking beside you. Stays can be done when the TV ads are on. Down on command can be done anywhere. I know it is cold at present but if you wrap up warmly for classes your dog will appreciate it. It is a social outing for him as well as a training session where he gets to see his mates.

There are a few people in Elementary who are nearly ready for assessment, I am hoping to be able to organise something in 3 or 4 weeks time, I will keep you posted.

I would like to note here that the people who have recently moved up to my Wednesday Advanced Class are doing very well, I am very proud of the work you are putting into training your dogs.

Happy Training.

Barbara



AGILITY TRAINING

Some of you will have already attended agility training as part of your certificate, and have attended the agility courses on Saturday mornings. We are now offering, to all Tevra people, further agility training with Linda George.

Beginners Pre-Agility Training

Pre-agility is for dogs between 12-18 months old (and often older dogs to help with the basic experience of agility). This class introduces agility - jump basics, learning a simple weave, some 'contact' training, and tunnels.

Advanced Pre-Agility Training

For those that have attended the beginners course and wish to continue with training to full height jumps (for their dogs), handling skills, some simple courses, rules and regs of agility, leading to ribbon trial competition. (Dogs should be over 16 months old)

Class Timetable

Saturday mornings, starting 19th July (note - there will be no training on occasional dates due to weather conditions &/or agility shows)

Advanced Pre-Agility: 9.30am - 10.15am

Beginners Pre-Agility: 10.45am - 11.30am

Cost: \$10.00 per session (reduced to \$5.00 if training in another Tevra class on that day)

IMPORTANT NOTICES/REMINDERS

NDTA – Zone 4 Obedience Team Trials

This year's NDTA (National Dog Training Assembly) is to be held in Fielding at Labour Weekend. As with previous years, the country is split into 5 Zones, ours being Zone 4, an area which ranges from Ashburton to the top of the South Island. Apart from the individual competitions at the NDTA, there is also an "Interzone Obedience Teams Event" where a handler & dog from each of the 5 official obedience tests, competes for its zone.

This year the official "Team Coach" will be our very own Janice "The Boss" Kirk, who I'm sure will do her best to whip the team into shape to give Zone 4 the best possible chance of winning the competition.

Trials are due to be held soon to decide who will represent our Zone Team at Fielding. The following Tevra members have put their names forward for the trials and I'm sure you will all wish them the best of luck. Kim Lindsay & Rebel (Special Beginners), Susan Tansey & Clutha, Alastair Kirk & both Streak & Joker (Novice), Jo Wilson & Briar (Test A), Colin Broadhurst & Indie (Test B) & Carol Lavery & Morgan (Test C).

There will be two trials, both held indoors at the Rangiora Pavilion (Rangiora A & P Showgrounds, Ashley Road). The first trial will be held on Sunday 20th July from 1pm & the second is held as part of the Zone 4 Interclub "Mini Assembly" which is to be held on Sunday 10th August (starting from 9am approximately). Other Tevra members will also be competing at the Mini Assembly as part of different Club Teams & I'm sure your support at either of these events would be very much appreciated by your fellow Tevra competitors. For any further details about these events, ask Janice or one of the people mentioned above.

New Zealand Kennel Club – National Dog Show 2008

Don't forget that details about the National Dog Show (to be held in Christchurch, late September) are available on the NZKC website or from this link www.nzkc.org.nz/nds2008/. Many of our Tevra members will be competing at the National event so why not go along & give them your support.



Cancellations – Certificate, Competitive & Agility Classes

If it is wet in the morning and then becomes fine later during the day, or, really rough weather is forecast, please check your emails for any cancellation notices before leaving for training.

For those doing Linda's agility classes, please ensure she has your email address & (if applicable) your cell phone number as then a cancellation text message can be sent out.

Mary Ray Seminar – October 2008 – Payment Reminder

For those of you who have enrolled & paid the deposit to attend the seminar in October, please can you have the balance of your seminar fee into me by mid August so I can pass it on to the organiser. Thanks, Janice.

BULLET'S "BULLET IN" FROM AUSTRALIA

Hi to all my friends over in NZ.

While my Aussie mum was over there with you guys, Winnie and I were in a video clip for a rock band called The Vines. The song is "He's a Rocker". They originally wanted purebred show dogs to be in their clip! OK, so now you are asking "how did I end up in the clip"? Well, it's because I am SO handsome, and have a fun personality and lots of people think I am a Border Collie. Grandad Lindsay had to dress up in a suit and pretend that he knew how to ponce around, like you would do in a show. I think Grandad and me pulled it off with a lot of style.!

I got my final pass the other day in Open and won the ring. Now I have another letter on my name. I'm Likabullet CDX. And, do ya know what? Just to show people it was not a fluke we won the ring the very next weekend. So anyway, now I am training for Utility Dog. That's where I can get my Obedience Champion title. I need to get five qualifying scores over 185, under three different judges & within 12 months.

Grandma Lindsay and Winnie have just started in Open and even though they are a bit rough they will get there I reckon. Louise with her two dogs, Venom and Bee, have just started in Open too. We are all doing very well!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

That's all till next time, take care.
Bullet. ☺

I would like to thank everyone for the fantastic time I had, when I was over there. I even enjoyed the adventure up to the Nelson show when we discovered that Tussle had been left behind and Alastair got a flat tyre and then lost his nut.
See you all soon.
Kim.



Congratulations to..... **Janice & Alastair Kirk**

who win hands down for their award winning antics on the way to the Nelson Obedience Show at Queen's Birthday Weekend.

Hopefully, Janice will have learnt from yet another brush with senility & will do a head count before leaving without all of her competition dogs
&
I'm sure Alastair will be more careful about off-roading (in the Tevra Van) & next time, will hold onto his nuts better.....
when changing a tyre on nut coloured stones.

CHAMPIONSHIP OBEDIENCE TESTS

A quick guide to the exercises & points

SPECIAL BEGINNERS

For handlers and dogs that have not won 2 qualifying first prizes or who have not achieved a qualifying first prize above Special Beginners or a CD or CDX degree.

Heel on Lead – 15 points

Can consist of left, right & about turns & halts. Extra commands permitted.

Heel off Lead – 20 points

As for on lead.

Recall – 10 points

From a sit or down, not less than 10 paces away, including a “finish” to heel.

Sit Stay – 10 points

One minute, handler facing dog.

Down Stay – 20 points

Two minutes, handler facing dog.

Total Points 75 (qualifying score 72)

NOVICE

For dogs that have not won 2 qualifying first prizes in Novice or above.

Heel on Lead – 15 points

As in Special Beginners.

Heel off Lead – 20 points

As in Special Beginners.

Recall – 10 points

As in Special Beginners.

Retrieve – 25 points

Handlers wooden or synthetic dumb-bell used. Includes a “finish” to heel.

Sit Stay – 10 points

One minute, handler facing away from dog.

Down Stay – 20 points

Two minutes, handler facing away from dog.

Total Points 100 (qualifying score 90)

TEST A

For dogs that have not won 4 qualifying first prizes in Test A or above. Obedience Champions are not eligible for Test A. Simultaneous verbal command & signal permitted, extra commands penalised.

Heel on Lead – 20 points

Can consist of left, right & about turns & halts plus the added combination turn, about turn right turn.

Heel off Lead – 20 points

As above.

Recall – 10 points

From a sit or down. Recall may be a circle in either direction, a square in either direction or a straight line, handler moving away from dog.

Retrieve – 25 points

Handlers wooden or synthetic dumb-bell used. Includes a “finish” to heel.

Sit Stay – 10 points

One minute, handler facing away from dog.

Down Stay – 30 points

Five minutes, handler out of sight.

Scent discrimination – 30 points

Handler's scent on handler's cloth. No less than 8 or more than 12 cloths in total. Time limit 90 seconds.

Total Points 145 (qualifying score 130.5)

TEST B

For dogs that have not won a total of 4 qualifying first prizes in Test B or Test C. Obedience Champions are not eligible for this test. In most cases, one command either verbal or signal permitted, extra commands or signals will be penalised.

Heel off Lead – 40 points

Can consist of halts (no sit command allowed), left, right & about turns & circles at normal, slow & fast pace. Combination turns, about turn right turn, double about turn, left about turn and left about left turn are permitted in normal & slow pace only.

Send away, drop and recall – 40 points

1- 4 markers clearly visible to dogs and handlers to be used. Simultaneous command and signal permitted in send away.

Retrieve – 25 points

As in Test A but commands to be voice or signal only.

Stand Stay – 10 points

One minute, handler facing away from dog.

Sit Stay – 20 points

Two minutes, handler out of sight.

Down Stay – 50 points

Ten minutes, handler out of sight.

Scent Discrimination – 40 points

Handler's scent on blank cloth, given to handler on entering the ring. Two decoy cloths to be used (Decoy cloth must not be cloth nearest to handler) No less than 8 or more than 12 cloths. Time limit 90 seconds.

Total Points 225 (qualifying score 202.5)

TEST C

Open to any dog or handler

In most cases, one command by word or signal permitted, extra commands penalised.

Heel off Lead – 60 points

Can consist of halts (no sit command allowed), left, right & about turns & circles at normal, slow & fast pace. Combination turns, about turn right turn, double about turn, left about turn, left about left turn and double left about turn, figures of eight and weaves are permitted in normal & slow pace only. Included once only in each course at normal pace an advanced stand, sit, and down.

Send away, drop and recall – 40 points

Use of markers is at the judge's discretion. Simultaneous command and signal permitted in send away.

Retrieve – 30 points

Any article provided by judge. Article must not be injurious to dog & must be able to be picked up easily by any breed of dog and clearly visible to dog. A separate similar article to be used for each dog. Commands to be voice or signal only.

Distant Control – 50 points

On command from steward to handler, dog to sit, stand or down in one place, no less than ten paces from handler. Six instructions to be given in same order for each dog.

Sit Stay – 20 points

As for Test B.

Down Stay – 50 points

As for Test B.

Scent Discrimination – 50 points

Judge's scent on blank cloth provided by judge. Separate similar cloth to be used for each dog, and a further cloth shall be provided by judge for each dog for giving scent. Two decoy cloths to be used. No less than 8 or more than 12 cloths. Decoy cloth must not be cloth nearest to handler. Time limit 60 seconds.

Total Points – 300 (qualifying points for challenge 290 and only given to 1st & 2nd place)