

Genius Dog Newsletter

GENIUS DOG TRAINING

"Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole." Roger Caras

Dog Sports 101

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Fall 2012
Volume 4. Issue 3

No matter what breed of dog you own, consider participating in a dog sport with your four-legged companion. Not only will it help keep your dog physically fit, it is a great way to bond with your pet too.

By the way, this is not just an activity for adult pet owners either. Wouldn't you like to see your children get away from the television and video games once in a while and interact with the dog? Participating in a dog sport can be a great experience for everyone in the family.

Here are just a few examples of some popular dog sports:

Dock jumping/diving is a dog sport in which dogs compete in jumping for distance or height from a dock into a body of water.

Flyball is a dog sport in which teams of dogs race against each other from a start/finish line, over a line of hurdles, to a box that releases a tennis ball to be caught when the dog presses the spring-loaded pad, then back to their handlers while carrying the ball.

Lure coursing is a sport for dogs that involves chasing a mechanically operated lure. Competition is usually limited to dogs of purebred sight hound breeds (e.g., Greyhound, Saluki, Whippet, etc.).

In **Disc dog** competitions, dogs and their human flying disc throwers compete in events such as distance catching and somewhat choreographed freestyle catching.

Dog agility is a dog sport in which a handler directs a dog through an obstacle course in a race for both time and accuracy.

Herding tests/trials is a competitive dog sport in which herding dog breeds (e.g., Australian Cattle Dog, Border Collie, Shetland Sheepdog, etc.) move animals around a field, fences, gates, or enclosures as directed by their handlers. Boxers just became eligible to participate this year.

Speaking from personal experience I can tell you dog sports can be a lot of fun.

In April, I took Sydney to a herding instinct test to see how she would do. After passing her initial test, we continued with a couple of lessons (see photos on right), but decided to stop for the summer. Hopefully we can continue later this year.

For additional information on these sports and others, visit the American Kennel Club website and click on "Events" or contact a local dog sport club in your area.



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Wylie's Corner

This is our 3rd anniversary issue of Genius Dog Newsletter!

As a way to celebrate and show our appreciation, we would like to highlight some of our recent clients for you. We hope you enjoy.

This is **BUCKETS** he is an 11-week-old Cavapoo that dreams of shooting hoops with his family.



SOPHIA is an absolutely adorable 1-year-old English Bulldog.



BLUE is a 6-month-old Labrador with a very energetic personality.



Thank you for all your support!

We look forward to meeting your pet's training needs for many years to come.

-- Wylie & Sydney



*"The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed in this article are my own and do not necessarily reflect that of **Genius Dog Training**." – Wylie, CEO*