

Post Script. Who's the fastest golden oldie then? Steph Rendalls' Pia clocked 4.68 secs at a recent demo. Not bad for 9 years

1999

B F A DIARY

Month Date	Entries Close	Venue	Host Team	Contact Tel:	Judge	Notes
May 2/3rd	16.04	Knebworth	Jets	Anton 01730 266633	TBC	Ltd 10/10
30/31st	14.05	Broadlands	Jets	Anton 01730 266633	TBC	Ltd 8/8
July 3/4th	18.06	RVCHatfield	Tornadoes	Kevin 0181 449 7539	B.Owen Open	
10/11th	25.06	Long-leat	Jets	Anton 01730 266633	MB TBC	Open
17/18th	02.07	Wake-field	TBC	Anton 01730 266633	TBC	Ltd 10/10

THE FLYBALL RECORD



Jan - March 1999

Officially
Europe's
Top F.Dog

ICE BLUE MOON

Andrew and I already had two dogs, where we regularly attended our local pet obedience club with them. One day a 6 month old black n' white BC with piercing blue eyes turned up. He was at a halfway house, looking for a new home. We instantly fell in love with him. **Here the story begins.....**

Our home, our dogs, Andrew and I were all given the 'once over' and checked out to see if we would be suitable.

WE WERE.

'Blue' then became our 'first' rescue dog, and boy did we know it! He needed a LOT of TLC and patience - this we could provide in abundance. I won't say it was easy - because it wasn't! He had been through the mill in his first 6 months, and didn't have much trust in anyone. Grooming was a challenge and a half. Trying to groom his 'bum' was a nightmare, he most certainly didn't like ANYONE near that! But we worked on it, and have come through unscathed.

He was definitely going to be a **most challenging dog.**

We gave him a 'birthday date' 1 May 1992. Andrew started to do Obedience, Flyball and Agility with him, all of which he turned his paw to at the drop of a hat - he loves to work and loves to please.

Over the last 5 years he's attended the **Royal Welsh Show** and 2 years ago he actually made a big debut on the front cover of the show programme.

Unfortunately, due to his love/obsession with tennis balls, he's lost 2 teeth (*Andrew's lost more than that and he doesn't like tennis balls!*)

'Blue' loves to watch football on TV (*what male doesn't!*) He lives with us together with his 'girls' - 'Jess', 'Misty' and 'Sheena', and his rescue adopted brother 'Ben'.

He will work well for almost anyone, in any sport or past-time. He is Andrew's second agility/flyball dog but likes to think he's Andrew's only one! 'Blue' is a VERY protective dog and will challenge anything that comes near or threatens us whilst out walking; and he would do ANYTHING to protect his 'girls'.

Unfortunately, Andrew is unfit and fat, over 50 - but very nice! Whereas 'Blue' is fit and slim and at only 6 1/2 is also very nice.

'Blue's' Flyball achievements to date:

200 points - **FD**- 21 May 1995

1,000 points - **FDI** - 2 July 1994

5,000 points - **FDA** - 20 January 1996

10,000 points - **Silver** - 18 May 1997

15,000 points - **Gold** - 14 June 1998

20,000 milestone in flyball points - 20 February 1999 - to be known in the future as the:

BLUE AWARD

'Blue' loves his Flyball and works well with all of his team (dogs and handlers - *but it took a while for him to get used to Nigel's Flyball voice!*)

I think the 6 years he's had with us have most definitely made up for his bad start in life.

He has achieved **top BFA Flyball Dog** for the *second year running* and he would like to express a huge thank you and wet kiss to ALL handlers and dogs of the **Barjo Buccaneers Flyball Team**. Without them he would not be where he is today - *officially 'Europe's Top Flyball Dog'* - and we **ALL LOVE HIM DEARLY**.

Liz Payne
Barjo Buccaneers

Starters Training Day

To be held in Chelmsford on Sunday 9th May 1999 - hosted by the

JUMPING JACKS

For Further Info contact Gwain

Theobald. 37 Capel place, Wilmington,
Dartford, Kent. DA2 7PU Tel: 01322

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Wales

Nicky Dickenson

Esgair Farm, Llanpumsaint,
Carmarthen.

Ffon 01267 253861

Webmaster

Nigel Bouckley (see Rep for Devon & Cornwall)

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	Melton Rovers	21.35secs
2nd	Border Patrol (UK)	22.44
3rd	S.Knights	21.44
4th	Rugby Rapids	21.62
5th	Megabytes	22.57
6th	Stonechats	24.69

Join up with the
jets & the lions
of Longleat on
10th & 11th
July. For a
schedule ring
anton or carol
on
01730 2 66633

Ed. Flyball Record

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It's been pointed out that the February results of Div 5 racing at Luton have been omitted.



Stephanie Rendall is
hosting a training day at
Heavens Gate Animal
Sanctuary Langport
Somerset 18th July
£14.00. Places strictly
limited to 20 dogs.
Contact Steph on
0117 9498533

New Regional Reps. Co-ordinator ☺

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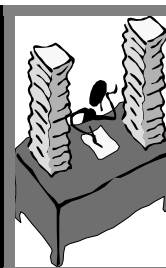
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Aquithie Quarantine & Boarding
Kennels Kemnay, Inverurie

Aberdeen. AB51 5PA ☎ 01467 643456

Letters to the Ed.



AN Word
OF
Thanks

May I say a big thank you to everyone within the Flyball world, without whom I would have found it very hard to continue with the sport. A special thank you to the Jets and my own Jumping Jacks who have helped considerably at shows with my two children Katie and Jack whilst I attempted to manage teams. (It's good to know someone will always make Jack a cup of milky tea Penny!)

Well here's to 1999 and another great year of flyball.

Dear Stef,

Thank you for my recent copy of the Flyball Record which I read with relish. Being relatively new to Flyball, and this being the first edition of your magazine I have received, I was very keen to read the list of dogs receiving their Flyball Dog Certificate. I expected to see my dog and those of my team mates' dogs on the list, but unfortunately they were not there.

My dog Blade (BFA 539), Linda Powell with Fly (BFA 540), Roy Tallon with Jess (BFA 306) and Gareth Newing with Katie (BFA 538) all achieved FD status at Hatfield on the 17th May 1998. That time we were running under the name of 'Startrite Streakers'. In July we all changed and became the 'Four Runners'.

I have thoroughly enjoyed this magazine, reading the various times achieved as well as all the interesting articles. As a team we still have a lot to learn and love to pick up hints and tips whenever we can, be it at a competition or through magazines like this. Any information is gratefully received.

I hope you don't mind my pointing out our omission in the list. I do appreciate that compiling it must be a daunting task.

Thanks again for a great read.

Yours sincerely

Fiona Middleton

FourRunners (25.01.99)



Dear Fellow Flyballers,

None of us who attended the recent AGM could fail to applaud the action of the out going committee. I believe that each and everyone of them proved beyond doubt that they have the best interests of the BFA at heart.

It was also interesting to note that we, the membership, all appear to have the same wishes. We all want to enjoy our sport, we all have the safety of the dogs and fellow competitors at heart and we all want positive changes.

Well the committee has done its bit and now it is time for us to do ours. We must show patience, tolerance and understanding, not only to the new committee, but to each other also. We can't have the changes we all desire if we continue to adopt an attitude of 'I want change so long as I don't have to'.

We have the opportunity to draw a line in the sand and to start afresh. We can't allow the ghosts of the past to keep haunting our future. The issues of the past must be laid to rest once and for all. We must find ways to discuss our differences so that we can work together to structure the future of our sport in a positive and friendly manner. I implore each and everyone of you to think carefully about the consequences of your actions and how they might impact on the BFA and individuals

Carol Plumbly
Jets



FLYBALL DOG

Name	Breed	Owner	Team	Date
Oscar	Goldie	D Crockett	Jets	31.01.99
Erin	E.C. Spaniel	C Kurzfeld	Knights	31.01.99
Bramble	Min Poodle	H Mitchell	Whinchats	31.01.99
Freddie	Labrador	J Sloman	Jets	31.01.99
Toastie	BSD	K Theobald	Jumping Jacks	31.01.99
Sunny	WSD	M Badland	Buccaneers	20.02.99
Py	Cross breed	P Booth	Northern Bytes	20.02.99
Bramble	WSD	J Carney	W. Tykes	20.02.99
TopTotty	BC	S Hagger	Jumping Jacks	20.02.99
Ollie	BC	G Nye	Jets	20.02.99
Max	Weimeraner	K Wright	Whinchats	20.02.99
Bisto	WSD	R Burns	Tornadoes	28.03.99
Bonnie	Cross breed	J Corbin	Whinchats	28.03.99
Tug	BC	R.Edge	Northern Bytes	28.03.99
Rosie	Cross breed	G Frost	Northern Bytes	28.03.99
Buster	Cross breed	R Hiscock	Jumping Jacks	28.03.99
Dodger	Border Terrier	A Howe	B Ball-istics	28.03.99
Misty	Cross Breed	C Lenaghan	Northern Bytes	28.03.99
Jet	Labrador	D Lucas	TV Raiders	28.03.99
Toad	BC	M Shepherd	Jumping Jacks	28.03.99
Ice	WSD	M Sheridan	TV Raiders	28.03.99
Jadie	BC	L Sheridan	TV Raiders	28.03.99
Mindy	BC	D Smith	Northern Bytes	28.03.99

Name	Breed	Owner	Team	Date
Fudge	X/Breed	A.Kurzfeld	Knights	20.03.99
Red	BC	S.Sanford	Whinchats	28.03.99
Libby	WSD	D. Stephens	R.Renegades	28.03.99
Meg	BC	J.Watson	R.Renegades	28.03.99
Hoochie Coochie	X/Breed	C.Plumbly	Jets	31.01.99
William	ECS	S.Spurgeon	Jets	31.01.99



After seeing the lights when we visited Canada, Modern Dog Sports decided to order a set so we could compete on an equal footing with our friends overseas.

Having received our lights and rushed round building them like children excited with new

toys we held our first competition on 31st January. With a few

differences, the ing that there are the sides to re- to re-run, we

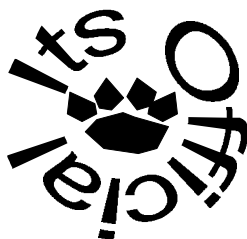
NAFA lights in the UK

most obvious be- no fault lights on mind competitors were surprized to

find that most teams took to them like ducks to water! There was the added bonus of knowing how late the start dogs were each time (which raised the pressure somewhat!) and overall we had three sets of 'Goose eggs' (perfect starts -0.000).

Apart from start times the race 'box' gives individual read-outs for all dogs' times as well as the overall team time. All in all a pretty nifty

piece of technology and a much needed piece of equipment!



alike. If you feel this is too much to ask then maybe you should look for another hobby - may I suggest Solitaire as a good alternative!

With this in mind I would like to wish the new committee every success. 'It's a mammoth task, but you can do it'.

So here's to a new start. The future of the BFA is in all our hands, not just those of the committee. On that note may I wish each and everyone of you a successful and enjoyable years racing.

Kindest regards,

Lyn Owen
Tornadoes (22.03.99)

SO WHO IS THE NEW COMMITTEE?

CHAIRMAN Roy
Hiscock Jumping

SECRETARY Doreen

TREASURER
R Henshall
Bassett Allsorts

AREA REPS.
CO-ORDINATOR
Peter Roberts
Pods

PO Box 39
Petersfield
GU32 3XS

VICE-CHAIRMAN
Tim

SHOW SECRETARY
Chris Fulford

contacts (for example the Webmaster & Membership Secretary) see back page

For other valuable BFA

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Fiona Middleton
Four Runners

COMMITTEE MEMBER
Andy Bawden
Bristol Ball-istics

COMMITTEE MEMBER
Betty Owen
Tornadoes



IN MEMORIAM

Earlier this year Sid Gristwood, beloved husband of Claire (owner of naughty Bobby) and father of Sue and Maureen (hurry up Harry! and Cleverdog Tweed) passed away. Although he did not run a dog it was never too much trouble for him to attend training and you could always guarantee he would know where the beer tent was.

He will be sadly missed by all of us at the Jumping Jacks and by many others within the Flyball and Agility worlds.

Gwain Theobald.

New Members New Members New Members.....

The BFA extends a warm welcome to the following new members:

Andy Biggs of the **Whinchats** with **Jack** a Rough Collie.

Ronald and Carol Spink with **Beth** a BC who run for the **Wakefield Tykes** as does **Betty Potts** with **Ceri** a Welsh Springer Span-



Wot's in the next edi-

There's going to be profiles of two very dif-

ferent dogs - that's Jean Meeking's 'Chica' (WSD) and Kathy Packwood's Otterhound-Cross 'Daisy'. 'The unsung speed merchant' by Alison O'Rourke and yours truly (I'll leave you to guess the breed!). By popular request we're introducing a series called 'Flyball - back to basics' by Carol Plumbly starting with box-work. Team profile is the newly formed

'Ball-busters'. 'Why own a dog?' with a difference! Doreen Smith on the Northern Bytes unusual modes of transport! All the usual news, views and competition results and FINALLY will Betty's prediction come true? Will 1999 be THE YEAR

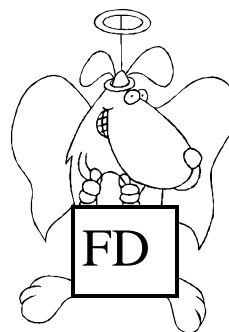
All articles featured in these pages are the opinions of the writers and are not necessarily those of the Flyball Record Editor nor of the BFA Committee. All letters and articles have full right of reply and I shall be pleased to print your response providing your name and address is incorporated. S.Banyard Ed.

TWO MORE ADVANCED FLYBALL DOGS

Barney of the Jets a wsd owned by **Wayne o'Rourke (28.03.99)**

and

Jack of the Bristol Ball-istics a bc owned by **June Smel e 31.01.99.**



Name	Breed	Owner	Team	Date
Jess	BC	E Durrans	PODs	20.02.99
Storme	BC	S Rowe	Knights	20.02.99
Azor	SWD	F.Allen	N. Bytes	28.03.99
Cressie	WSD	A.Farrer	Jets	28.03.99
Misty	BC	P Griffiths	Jets	28.03.99
Mork	BC	D.Smith	N.Bytes	28.03.99

the reason I work her is that my Border Collie has not read the books and has no desire to be a proper 'Flyball' dog. I started exercising Marnie at about 14 months and she was the easiest dog to train I have had. She did some agility and then took to Flyball in a couple of trouble free sessions. She is steady and reliable but.....

Being a Labrador her weight slows her down and I cannot get her owner to diet her. I only exercise her daily and she's not fit enough. Her owner, my neighbour, has two dogs and I take both. Marnie has short legs and a square body which makes for great stability without great speed so no matter how keen she cannot race against more streamlined dogs. However she and I have fun together and I would achieve faster times if she carried less Labrador bulk.

One other thing I would say is that none of the other breeds have the **obsessive, compulsive disorder** of ball chasing like many collies. The noticeable difference between the labs and spaniels and enthusiastic collies like my brother's Flyball dog '**Jayd**' is that whereas other dogs play Flyball for fun, collies work at it in earnest. Marnie is happy working Flyball.. Jayd is **OBSESSED**.

One other point may be that the sort of owner who owns labs. may be the sort of person who wants an easy life. The sort of person who owns a collie may well have that more competitive spirit. So the trouble may be with the owners not the dogs. **Cassie**, my dog, has no inclination to exceed minimum energy requirements.....

Some dogs of all breeds take to Flyball like the proverbial 'duck to water'. I have heard it said that most dogs get the essentials very quickly, it is the speed and competitive edge which make the difference. I think that tendency is inherent and although you can make the average dog better with training; the fastest and best dogs have to have single-minded determination and that degree of concentration comes with working dog breeds. In our team the working cocker spaniels will be a force to be reckoned with in the coming seasons!

All it requires is enthusiastic owners to work their understimulated dogs. If more multi-breeds are seen flyballing more people will be encouraged to try.....Seeing all sorts of breeds- as a veterinary surgeon- there are a lot of bored dogs of many varieties which would benefit from Flyball

iel.
S Mills who is from Berkshire with **Daisy** a Yorkie cross.
The **Sleepless Knights** add to their number with **Marie Jose Ros-tagni** and **Henry** a cross breed.
Chris Waddoup and **Laura King** have joined the **PODs** and **Packington PODs** respectively.
We also welcome **Ryan Mills** with his cross breed **Tyler**.
Amanda Murray and **Jean Merriless** are handlers from the Bedford area and are unusual in that their breeds are Pharoah Hounds - that's **Diva,Lily,Emily** and **Thomas** and a Rhodesian Ridgeback - **Meeka**.
Then there is the **Gale** family - **John** who runs **Ben** a BC for the **Ballbusters** team - together with **Karen, Sam, Chloe** and **Anthony**.
Sally Pearce runs **Steady Eddie** (*not a name you can easily forget*) a JRT for **Bassett Allsorts**.
Another Lab (*goody!*) in the name of **Jess** runs for the **Test Valley Rogues** and is handled by **Robin Glyn** while **Tina** a Border Terrier handled by **Louise Makin** runs for the **Wakefield Tykes**.
Last but by no means least is **Edith Pollard** Martin's better half. (*Martin being the man behind Alvah agility and flyball equipment*)



A

baby Hawklet has been born to Nicky and Paul Stedman of the Hawks Flyball Team. Lauren weighing in at 6 pounds 3 1/2 ounces on the 24.02.99 has already been introduced to the 'box' by training guru Keith (start 'em young) Murray.

First Starter Competition of the Year

If it hadn't have been for the netting I'd have thought I was watching a normal sanctioned competition - the racing was superb! None of these competitors would have looked out of place in Divs II and III and when you think these are the teams of the future, the future looks bright.....

What was even more encouraging was the variety of breeds pounding their way to the box and back - two Flatcoats, Min

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	Sleepless Knights	20.69 secs
2nd	J.J. Genies	20.13
3rd	Jet Babes II	21.53
4th	Jet Babes I	21.31
5th	B.Missiles	23.78
6th	Ball Busters	20.32
7th	TV Raiders	21.24
8th	Chatterboxes	22.08
9th	Bassett J Babies	23.24
10th	Bandidos	25.32
11th	Chit Chats	26.19
12th	TV Rogues	27.28

Schnauzers, a Boxer, a Cavalier King Charles, a Weimareiner and a Chesapeake Bay Retriever among others. One thing's for sure the established teams won't be able to sit back and rest on their laurels!!! CP



(who I did not know at the time) told Gwain 'That dog should be entered for the starters class'. Gwain said 'He is!'

There was only about an hour for me to panic - as those who know me now will tell you my nerves are not very good. So at our first show he did three runs with a best time of 5.20 seconds and I can still feel the adrenalin rush now. We were given a 'special' on that day, more for my shaking I think than Mac's running!

Mac's training is never a problem. It is just improving his technique and time. He doesn't like to be a start dog, but he doesn't mind crossing with any other dog because he doesn't see them. He only sees the ball at one end and me at the other. When I had bronchitis last year Gwain tried to run him for me at one of the Luton shows. Mac refused to run without me holding him.

We got our Flyball Dog (FD) certificate at our first show at Luton in January 1997 and he received his Flyball Dog Intermediate (FDI) a year later. In addition he got a trophy for the Top Specific Breed 1997. Not bad for his first year in Flyball!

Because we still keep up the agility we have been able to compete in Clever Dogs as well.

I have been able to stop the valium this year and use a herbal remedy in order for me to get to the shows and get some sleep. At least my nerves are not passed on to Mac and he eats before competitions - unlike his Mum! We have camped this year which is a first for me and my older dog Matt. I am not sure whether Mac has camped before. He doesn't seem to mind as long as I am around somewhere.

Flyball has introduced me to many new friends, but had I not taken Mac I would not be writing this or know so many of you.

By Janine Redman (*Stonechats*)

I run the Labrador '**Mamie**' who works for the **Stonechats** team. I must say that I have had no specific training problems with her. In fact

Many thanks to the following contributors: Azor, Nigel Bouckley, Sally Craik, Hilary Denyer, Chris Fulford, Julia Kearney, Fiona Middleton, Betty Owen, Lyn Owen, Liz Payne, Carol Plumbly, Janine Redman, Doreen Smith, Gwain Theobald &

about balls - his previous owner would take him out to the park with a ball.

In June 1996 I received two phone calls in as many days. One from the agility club asking me to join an 8 week course on Mondays and the other from the local Flyball club asking me to join an 8 week course on Tuesdays. As we do obedience on Wednesdays I decided to do both courses and to see which one we liked best or were any good at. We still do all three!

Flyball then was very much taught on the lead without netting and I was told we would need several 8 week courses to get him over four jumps and back. I believed them. Most weeks I came home with a bad shoulder and one arm longer than the other because of running with him on the lead. My 8 weeks were up at the end of July. He had been shown the box but not with the jumps. On the last week I waited to see if we would be invited back for another course or whether that would be it - even though we had both enjoyed it. Gwain attended this club at the time. He was helping on this last night and he told me to take Mac off the lead and send him down the jumps. He did all 4 jumps, collected the ball and came back over the 4 jumps. I was so proud of him and made such a fuss, but the expression on his face was 'I only got the ball!'

There never was another 8 week course as the club folded. Gwain invited me to a Flyball show to 'watch' in the October. 'Bring the dogs', he said 'Don't leave them at home'. I had never seen a show before so the lights etc. were all new to me. Before I knew it Gwain said 'Get Mac out to see how he reacts to the crowd and the noise'. They were having practice runs for starters.

Mac only has eyes for me when out so he took no notice of the people, dogs, or noise. 'Let's see what he does in the ring' said Gwain. I followed Gwain. We took Mac up to the box, loaded it and Mac took the ball straight away and ran past me down the four jumps. So I was sent to the start - despite the fact that we had not done anything since July - and he remembered it all! As we came out of the ring Anton

Jets first Multibreed Competition 1999

Multi breed & Starters Multibreed & Starters

January 1999 Modern DogSports presents

UK's 1st Multibreed Tournament

by Carol Plumbly (Jets)

It isn't often you can compete on an equal footing when it comes to canine sports in this country. The majority of prizes go to the good old BC or WSD so you can feel a bit like a fish out of water if you own another breed. Well the good news is that it isn't so when it comes to Flyball with its Multi-breed classes.

Teams must consist of *four* different breeds recognized by any club or stud book and this may include one dog of mixed breed.

(NB in Flyball the four different types of Belgian Shepherd dog are recognized as four different breeds.)

In the past Multi-breed classes haven't met with a great deal of enthusiasm probably because the pioneers of the sport in this country have been so collie orientated. Modern Dog Sports has paved the way for the last 4 years with its Grand Prix series of national mixed pairs and mini-maxi pairs but even they were surprised when confronted with an entry of 9 teams, 3 of which managed to field subsidiary teams as well! What a breath of fresh air it was to see Labs racing Cocker Spaniels racing Weimerainers racing Malinois racing.....I think you probably have the picture. Some of the dogs and handlers that come to mind are Bonnie (a Springer x Lab) born for flyball with a swimmers turn that most of us dream of. An added bonus is her handler Robert (14 years old) who puts many of us to shame with his consistent changeovers. A golden flash of power and determination comes to mind when you watch William a tiny whirlwind of a working Cocker Spaniel. It is hard to imagine that Freddie (a large black Lab) was once a guide dog when you see him power past you. Finally there is Monty - a very big Groenendael - another determined flyball player.

The race of all races must have been the final. Everybody was there to watch and boy did it live up to expectations! It was between the two Technical Jet teams from Hampshire - the Multi-Jets and Quattro-Jets. Coming from the same 'stable' both teams knew each others' strengths and weaknesses and no-one was prepared to go down without a fight.

A bad exchange saw the Quattro's go one nil up. Late exchanges on the Quattro's side (races 2 and 3) saw the Multi-Jets with a 2-1 advantage. Race 4 saw the Multi-Jets anchor dog Ted (JRT) reach the box just behind the Quattro's Great Dane x Bull Terrier Hoochie Coochie who powered back to make it 2 all.

With all the pressure of false starts and an electric atmosphere it was the more experienced Multi-Jet handlers that sailed home in 18.35 seconds. That makes them British and European Multi-breed recordholders and overall 3rd seed in the world. The Quattro-Jets were a mere fraction behind at 18.55 secs, 2nd in Britain and Europe and 4th in the world rankings.

The Multi-Jets line up was:

Dino - Lurcher; Frog - WSD; Oscar - Goldie; Ted-JRT.

Quattro-Jets were:

William - Working Cocker Spaniel; Misty - WSD; Freddie - Lab; Hoochie - Coochie - great Dane x English Bull Terrier.

I hope this has inspired all of you out there with other breeds to stand up and be counted. Here's to many more Multi-breed competitions!

second in Midi. And then we went on a training day for Flyball. Mum had resisted it before as I tend to chew tennis balls and it would not be good for gundog training. When she realized that it would help my scurries we gave it a go. Boy oh boy was it fun! I could run as fast as I liked without the hindrance of waiting for mum to catch me up.

Then something wonderful happened. Our family was joined by a little black and white bitch called Benita. Although she was a problem at first, training soon sorted her out. We are a breed that needs to be worked otherwise we get bored, destructive and overactive. We have both really enjoyed running for the Northern Bytes flyball team along with Benita's sister Rayo.

Benita and I were married earlier this year and we now have our daughter Abra living with us. She is only twelve

RESULTS RESULTS



Position	Team	Fastest Time
1st	Multi-Jets	18.35 secs
2nd	Quattro-Jets	18.55 secs
3rd	Multi-Jumping Jacks	19.84 secs
4th	Bassett Allsorts	21.71 secs
5th	Whinchats	22.09 secs
6th	The Knights	22.41 secs
7th	Just for Fun	25.30 secs
8th	Stonechats	25.44 secs
9th	Bassett Doggy Mixtures	24.91 secs

By Julia Kearney (*Jumping Jacks*)

When Stef first wrote to me asking me to write something on training Mac for Flyball, I thought 'What Training?' It's me who needs training!

When I acquired Mac in February 1996 he was 2 1/2 years old and had already had two homes. He was very hyperactive outside, but calm when indoors. I had lost my 12 year old black Labrador 6 months earlier which I had hand reared and wasn't intending to replace him. We started with obedience in which he already had the basics, but I felt this was not enough and made inquiries about starting agility. Meanwhile his pedigree caught up with him and I re-registered him in my name and made some inquiries into his lines at a local Labrador show. They all made noises about how good his parents and grandparents were and asked me if I was working him as he was from good working stock and should not be kept as a pet. I then heard about Flyball. Mac is mad

With Julia Kearney & Janine Redman

Training the Labrador

including fishing, guarding, search and rescue work. My relatives come in any shade of black, brown and white or white parti-colour. Our coats are curly wool which forms cords when long and we can be 41 to 50 cms tall.

I was born in Manchester England but my mum Dilita and dad Relampago came from Ubrique in Spain and they speak our native language but are becoming bi-lingual. They were brought over here to join Lola and Topo in January 1993 after my human mum and three friends met them and all their friends in Spain. The Canagua partnership was formed and now England has twenty five of us. We have been put on the imported register under the gundog group by the Kennel Club so the partnership thought they had better do something about learning gundog training.

It was decided that we are hunt, point, retrieve dogs so the North West GSP group had a curly coated one (in disguise - well I am brown and white!) in its midst. I found the work very exciting especially when I heard guns go off or could smell birds. Scurries were where I was first noticed because I do not believe in moving slowly. I have to get there as fast as I can in case anyone pinches the dummy.

My forte is water work and I train with the Newfoundland Canis Major group at Sale Water Park. I haven't yet saved anyone but I can dive under an upturned boat to retrieve oars and I have towed a boat to shore. I love jumping from the boat but when the trainers go to lift me back they forget how small I am compared with their bear sized dogs and I go sailing through the air! I did win the Newfoundland trophy one year - it was almost as big as me.

After a couple of years gundog training I tried my paws at agility. Not bad except my mum kept letting me down. She can't run fast enough. On the one occasion we both got it right I won

Multi-Breed Stats.

Breed	Nos:
WSD/BC	11
X Breed	8
Goldie	5
Lab	5
Jack Russell	5
E Cocker Spaniel	4
Lakeland Terrier	1
Gronoendael	1
Malinois	1
Weimerainer	1
Border Terrier	1
Min Poodle	1
Min Schnauzer	1
Cavalier King Charles	1

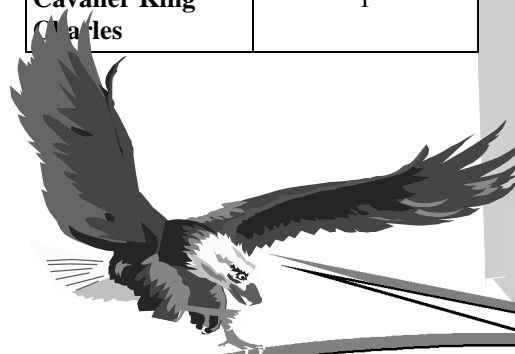


For more commentary on Multi-breed with Hilary Denyer

Faye Allen, Janine Redman & Julia Kearney see pages 24 to 30.

RED DRAGON TRAINING DAYS

24/25th April at the
Chicken Hut Cwmgwili
Cross Hands
Flyball & Scent Hurdling with
Carol Plumbly of the Jets
Interested ?
Ring Tim Toller on 01558 668892
or
Nikki Dickenson on 01267 253463



Did you know that the Feb '99 edition of 'Your Dog' Magazine with its photo of Sandy the Red Dragon's Labrador netted the BFA 15 new members?

Hills Winter League

23rd January 1999

by Betty Owen *BFA Head Judge*

Once again a first class event. Even though they were without several key members the **Tornadoes** made it look so easy. A big thank you to all those who helped with box judging, time keeping and clearing away.

Division 1 was won by the **Jets**, their experience paying

dividends today. The **PODs**, *who are surely the team to watch in '99*, gave them a real run for their money. The **Tornadoes** came a brave third - their dogs seem to go on for ever.

Division 2 saw some very close racing. It had *everything* with most heats going to 5 legs! There was not

much to choose between the first three teams and on this

occasion the **Wacky Racers** achieved top honours. The **Jump Jets** and **Barkshire Bandits** came 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Towards the end of the day we were beginning to fall behind on time, we were supposed to be finished and packed up by 6.30pm. An hour for each division might seem a lot, but false starts, heats of 5 legs, delays when dogs won't give up toys and training when a dog makes a mistake, soon eats into the

allotted time. A big thank you to all competitors who accepted the decision to reduce the warm-up time without complaint.

I am pleased to say that I thoroughly enjoyed a great days racing, as I hope you did. A big thank you must go to the **Tornadoes** for such a brilliant

DIVISION 1

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	Jets	17.46 secs
2nd	Pods	17.94
3rd	Tornadoes	19.19
4th	Buccaneers	19.84
5th	J. Jacks	19.41
6th	Springboks	23.44

DIVISION 2

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	W. Racers	20.12 secs
2nd	Jump Jets	19.98
3rd	B. Bandits	20.40
4th	Podlets	19.70
5th	B. Ball-istics	20.41
6th	K. Cruisers	21.00

der the name of the Bassett Hot Dogs, as we don't want Bassett Allsorts to lose sight of our ABC roots! The other 'Bassett' teams are our starters - the Doggy Mixtures and the Jelly Babies. At a recent competition we were able to field all four teams as well as a large proportion of the mixed pairs; two mini/maxi pairs and most of the ABC Clever Dogs, one of which made it through to the last 8 of the open final!

A lot of effort goes into the training of all our dogs - while it can take a bit longer for the ABC's to get the idea into their heads, they usually take to competition better than the collies at their first shows.

When we train we are sometimes joined by the 'Barks' who is aiming to be the first flyball cat, or, if certain dogs are about, the first cat to be used as a flyball! That would be one for the records - anyone got any training tips for a ginger and white moggy?

EXCUSE ME WHAT ARE YOU?

Am I a Bedlington Terrier or a Puli or a Poodle?

No. I am Azor. A Perro de Agua Espanol (Spanish Water Dog) and yes I am a long distant relative to Poodles but we Spaniards say we came first. I come from a very old breed of dog which used to be called 'Turks' or 'Turkish Andalucian Dogs'. There are thousands of us in Spain and most are kept by farmers for herding sheep and goats as well as roughshooting. We are very clever and can turn our paws to anything

FOCUS ON MULTI-BREED

By Hilary Denver

Multi-breed with the Bassett Allsorts

Bassett Allsorts, formed in 1994, has a wide experience of 'other breeds'. When we started, we only had five dogs - Ben a JRT, Max a Goldie, Jodie a Collie, Bridie a Flat Coated Retriever and Tootsie a GSD x Collie.

We can now boast many more different breeds, although not all compete and / or are yet registered with the BFA. The following is a list of breeds which have regularly attended our training sessions (and we can also offer some very 'different' x breeds!).

Boxer, Dalmatian, Doberman, Flat Coated Retriever, GSP, Goldie, Groenendal, Vizla, Irish Red and White Setter, JRT, Lab, Malinois, Pyrenean Sheep Dog, Rough Collie, OES.

We have found that the ABC's, although very keen, do not have the stamina of the Collies. If racing is in a straight round robin format, it's not so bad, but we find that double elimination with round robin can be too much, even with six dogs. They keep racing but it can get to be a 'slog', particularly if the weather is hot and the races are close together. We now have some younger dogs, but in the early days ran a team with a combined age of in excess of 30 years and often with only four dogs in total, so every dog had to run every race!

Although we do not always run strictly Multibreed, we regularly run four breed (i.e. with two crosses). For a long time we had only one Collie, but now seem to have amassed a large supply. As a result we now have a 'mainly collie' team which we run un-

DIVISION 3

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	4 Runners	20.80 secs
2nd	B. Bullets	21.63
3rd	W. Tykes	21.24
4th	K9'ers	22.15
5th	N. Bytes	21.52
6th	T.V.Raiders	22.47

DIVISION 4

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	Knights	21.15
2nd	Whinchats	21.57
3rd	Tornadoes 2	21.66
4th	Sleepless K.	23.22
5th	K. Crushers	23.91
6th	Megabytes	23.14

BIGGEST UK FLYBALL EVENT 1999

What a tremendous days racing we had! With 70 races to get through (that's a potential of 450 legs!) it was going to prove a challenging day and time was of the essence. The **Tornadoes** once again proved what experienced and competent show organizers they are, with everyone working together to ensure competitors and dogs enjoyed a safe and exciting days racing.

A gremlin in the lights caused a few problems throughout the day but with the patient and sporting manner of all the competitors we managed to get through and even finish with an hour to spare.

had the lot! False starts, Christmas tree lights and then trouble with the starting lights. By the afternoon everything had settled and we had some very exciting racing. The division was won by the **Jets** who came out on top of a nail-biting final with the **PODs**. Third place was taken by the **Tornadoes**. The **PODLETs** did extremely well, coming 4th on their first showing in this division. Division 2. By the time we started this division order had been restored and the teams collectively produced some of the steadiest racing of the day. Some of these teams are pushing hard for first division places, so watch out! Top honours on this occasion went to the

Jump Jets with the fast improving **Barkshire Bandits** coming second. The **Wacky Racers** who came third are another team pushing for Div. 1 Division 4. It has been a while since I judged this division and I was extremely impressed with the standard of handling and discipline from all teams. The divisions are only separated by a few seconds

and on this showing some will be flying up the rankings very quickly! The **Northern Bytes** were first with **Test Valley Raiders** and **4 Runners** coming second and third respectively.

Once again thank you to all those competitors who reminded me how much fun Flyball is.

Let's keep it that way!

Betty Owen

DIVISION 1

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	Jets	17.42 secs
2nd	Pods	17.70
3rd	Tornadoes	19.17
4th	Podlets	19.47
5th	J. Jacks	19.63
6th	Buccaneers	20.25

DIVISIONS 3 & 4

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	R.Renegades	20.21 secs
2nd	The Knights	20.93
3rd	4 Runners	20.47
4th	K9'ers	21.26
5th	B. Bullets	21.71
6th	W.Tykes	21.50

DIVISION 2

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	Jump Jets	19.12 secs
2nd	B. Bandits	19.93
3rd	W. Racers	19.60
4th	K. Cruisers	22.65
5th	B. Ballistics	20.78
6th	Springboks	21.41

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	N Bytes	21.39 secs
2nd	TV Raiders	21.67
3rd	Tornadoes 2	21.96
4th	Whinchats	21.27
5th	Pack. Pods	25.31

SEEDINGS LIST

As at 1st April 1999

Seed	Team	Time	Seed	Team	Time
1st	Jets	17.42 secs	16th	W.Tykes	21.24 secs
2nd	Pods	17.70	17th	K9'ers	21.26
3rd	Jump Jets	18.56	18th	Whinchats	21.27
4th	J. Jacks	18.90	19th	Tornadoes 2	21.31
5th	Tornadoes	19.17	20th	Melton R's	21.35
6th	Podlets	19.47	21st	Springboks	21.41
7th	W. Racers	19.60	22nd	S Knights	21.44
8th	Buccaneers	19.75	23rd	R.Rapids	21.62
9th	B.Bandits	19.83	24th	B.Bullets	21.63
10th	Knights	20.20	25th	TV Raiders	21.67
11th	R. Renegades	20.21	26th	Megabytes	21.94
12th	B Ballistics	20.41	27th	R. Renababes	22.24
13th	4 Runners	20.47	28th	B Patrol UK	22.44
14th	K.Cruisers	20.99	29th	K.Crashers	23.91
15th	N.Bytes	21.09	30th	Pack.Pods	25.31

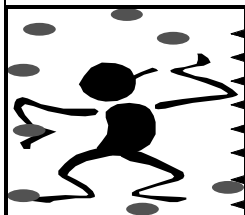
There was some pretty hot stuff in the way of racing and again some changes in the

Mixed Pairs

established pairs. Jet & Tweed (the reigning 1998 champions) stayed put but Sonny (of Sonny & Ted fame) has found a new partner in Dino a Lurcher. Frog-dog has gone for Freddie a fanatical flyball Labrador while Bristol Ball-istic's high-speed Jack partners Hoochie-Coochie with his abundant slobber.

After some breath taking races the results were as follows:

Position	Names	Breeds	Time
1st	Sonny & Dino	WSD / Lurcher	8.83 secs
2nd	Jet & Tweed	GSDX / WSD	8.89
3rd	Freddy & Frog	Lab / WSD	8.82
4th	Jack & Hoochie	WSD / Grt Dane x	9.30
5th	Tykey & Moses	Crossbreed / WSD	9.61
6th	Mac & Jake	Lab / WSD	9.75
7th	Buster & Ksee	Crossbreed / WSD	9.22
8th	Max & Gracie	Weimareiner / X	10.38
9th	Benson & Paddy	Dalmation / WSD	10.58
10th	Clover & Hattie	Crossbreed / WSD	10.7
11th	Abbey & Max	BC / Goldie	11.01
12th Joint	Jack & Todd	Crossbreed / WSD	11.26
12th Joint	Barney & Barney	WSD / Goldie	11.26
13th	Bramble & Bonnie	Min Poodle / Lab x	11.45
14th	Grace & Pia	BC / Crossbreed	14.91
15th	Jenny & Marnie	CSpaniel / Lab	17.63



Flyball I Dog Advanced
Carol yn Peachey with Luke
of the Knights
20th February 1999

Results of Hills Winter League - March 1999

Division 1

Position	Team	BestTime
1st	Jets	17.49secs
2nd	J. Jacks	18.90
3rd	W. Racers	19.86
4th	Jump Jets	18.56
5th	Tornadoes	19.50
6th	Buccaneers	19.75

Division 2

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	B.Bandits	19.83 secs
2nd	Rugby Ren.	20.84
3rd	Knights	20.20
4th	4 Runners	20.64
5th	K. Cruisers	20.99
6th	B. Ballis-tics	21.24

Division 3

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	N. Bytes	21.09 secs
2nd	Whinchats	21.35
3rd	B. Bullets	22.01
4th	R. Rapids	21.85
5th	Sleepless K.	23.62
6th	K9'ers	25.10

Division 4

Position	Team	Best Time
1st	Megabytes	21.94 secs
2nd	Tornadoes 2	21.31
3rd	B.Patrol (UK)	22.91
4th	T.V.Raider	21.90
5th	R Renababes	22.94
6th	Stonechats	26.19



poreen's Dates

Finally Dum-Dum here has sorted out her E-mail. I had

to use my one and only brain cell to figure it out for myself. Rats! So here Ed. at long

last are our dates:

13th June - Training & Starters Comp.
 15th August - Team Comp. (Not sure but I think this will be sanctioned. Run with stop watches and we need a judge!)

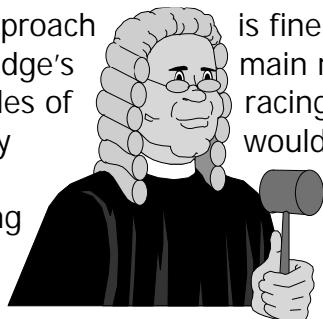
25th Sept - Clever Dogs and Pairs.
 We may do some more bits and pieces.
Tel: 01614940787 (Northern Bytes)

To be a JUDGE

by Chris Fulford of the Jets

I often have Flyballers come up to me and say, 'How can you stand there all day and do that?'. My reply is always 'I enjoy it!' (judging that is). I would be the first to admit that there's nothing like the thrill of racing your dog and getting a nose to nose changeover; achieving a perfect start or encouraging your novice dog up and back for the first time. However judging can be very rewarding and even good fun with the right approach. I see no problem with talking to competitors in between races - the odd quip here and there breaks the ice and helps to relax the nervous tension often associated with team sports.

Having a laid back approach is fine but one must always remember that the judge's main responsibility is to adhere strictly to our rules of racing. To interpret the rules in any other way would be to deviate from our original goal of promoting NAFA Flyball in reality rendering 'fun' event. Only unusual and unforeseen circumstances can we then use what is known as



When this occurs, be it an electronic malfunction, equipment failure or plain old human error, don't be afraid to explain to the competitors what has happened. Use the Guidelines and in most cases both teams will be happy to re-run that heat.

Interference seems to be a hot topic of conversation at the moment. Interference can be called anywhere within the ring. I personally draw an imaginary line down the centre and if a dog crosses this line into their opponent's half I will always call interference awarding the opposing team that heat. **Dog safety is of paramount importance** which is why I will always clarify this issue in the Judges briefing before racing commences.

So, ever thought of having a go? We need more judges with the

This came as a huge shock. Normally we don't get enough pairs to qualify for time

Mini-Maxi's

trials so when **sixteen** pairs lined up I knew we were in for some serious business! Some of the established partnerships have changed and there are many new pairings - so the results were anybody's guess!

Some of the mini's up for grabs were JRT's of all shapes and sizes, Cocker Spaniels, Miniature Poodles, tiny Crossbreeds and a dinky Papillon. The eventual winners were husband and wife partnership Wayne and Alison O'Rourke with Ted and Barney (JRT & WSD) - 8.61 secs.

Position	Names	Breeds	Time
1st	Ted & Barney	JRT / WSD	8.64 secs
2nd	William & Misty	C Spaniel / WSD	8.93
3rd	Jack & Toby	BC / Lakeland T	9.34
4th	Fly & Binnie	WSD / JRT	9.91
5th	Spex & Bob	WSD / JRT	9.92
6th	Bobby & Toby	JRT / WSD	10.14
7th	Tigger & Pia	BC / Xbreed	10.24
8th	Bramble & Gracie	Min Poodle/ X breed	11.19
9th	Daisy & Gael	Yorkie x / WSD	11.51
10th	Frankie & Paddy	Sheltie /WSD	11.76
11th	Marvin & Dodger	Boxer / Border T	11.95
12th	Carrow & Max	C. Spaniel / Weimareiner	12.07
13th	Steady Eddie & Thorn	JRT / WSD	13.20
14th	Tam Tam & Cassie	Papillon / BC	14.54
15th	Harry & Battie	WSD / JRT	15.14
16th	Monty & Bonny	CKCS / Lab x	14.65

8th	Bracken & Paddy	WSD x 2	10.72 secs
9th	Bobby & Woody	JRT / WSD	10.85
10th	Cassie & Tam Tam	BC / Papillon	16.33

Open Pairs

Anything goes in open pairs and 6" off the shoulder height gave the larger dogs a little bit of an advantage for a change! The overall winners in this section were Striker and Frenzy two small WSD's with an impressive 8.99 secs. The Beastie Boy Special however, had to go to a pair just outside the qualifying time - Buster (Dobe x Rottie) and Hoochie Coochie (Great Dane x Bull Terrier). This pair gave their box-loader a bit of a pasting with their combined power!

Position	Names	Breeds	Time
1st	Striker & Frenzy	WSD x 2	8.99 secs
2nd	Casper & Oscar	WSD / Goldie	9.11
3rd	Barney & Maddie	WSD x 2	8.85
4th	Freddie & Misty	Lab / WSD	8.89
5th	Jack & Moss	WSD x 2	9.13
6th	William & Bob	C. Spaniel / WSD	9.34
7th	Gilli & Amy	BC / BCx	9.40
8th	Tegwin & Toad	BC x 2	9.95
9th	Buster & Hoochie	Dobe/Rottie /Grt Dx	10.28
10th	Jadie & Ice	BC / WSD	10.29
11th	Cas & Charley	BC x 2	10.40
12th	Tess & Harry	WSD x 2	10.45

ever increasing number of shows in the diary. Most show organisers would be more than willing to let you have a go. Try starting with a pairs or fun class.

Remember be fair, be firm and have fun.

If you are interested in becoming a Flyball Judge the BFA runs courses covering both theory and practice. Speak to Peter Roberts the Area Rep and Course Co-ordinator on ☎ 01604 648085

Current Approved BFA Judges

Andy Bawden

Chris Fulford

Kevin McNicholas

Neil Meeking

Betty Owen *

Gwain Theobald

Tony Warren

Nigel Bouckley

Dave Hume

Gary Metherall

Wayne O'Rourke

Peter Roberts

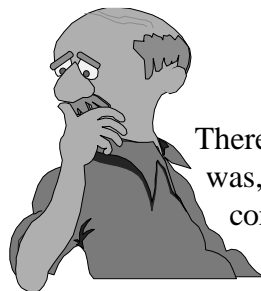
Keith Williams

Anton Wittwer

***Come on ladies! Betty must be feeling a bit isolated out there !**

**GOLD AWARD
JAKE
20th February 1999
a WSD owned by
SHIRLEY PAINE
of the
TORnADOES**

**SILVER AWARD
TED
31st January 1999
A JRT owned by
ALISON O'ROURKE
of the
JETS**



Flyball? I thought it was all over

There I was,

By Tim Toller

coming up for my 70th birthday later this year, lying in a hospital bed being told I had had a mild heart attack. HELP!!!!!!

One of the first things that went through my mind (yes I have got one!) was 'S..T! That's the end of Flyball for Georgie-Girl and I, and we've only just got started.' Life's not fair is it?

Then a day or two later they started telling me about heart attacks and life after one, and suddenly everything changed. I wonder how many people are as ignorant about common things like heart attacks as I was? I thought it meant that one had something seriously wrong with one's heart. Now I know better. In fact I am damn nearly an expert!

Anyway they told me that with a good diet, good training and a bit of medication I could run in the London Marathon. They had obviously not seen my arthritic limp down the corridor!!

I realized our flyball was back on course and hey life was wonderful!

The only blot on the horizon was in the food and drink department. Sue, my wife, having looked at what was bad for me, decided that if I liked it it was on the black list. So, in consultation with my G.P, we decided that as with so many things in life, I would have to compromise. No silly rigid diet that I would not keep to but 'moderation in all things. BOR-ING!

The moral of all this is life is still wonderful. I have a fantastic supportive wife and family, lots of good friends, andwait for it....FLYBALL! So any of you that have health or ageing problems keep up the flyball and, if it kills any of us, at least we will have died enjoying ourselves - being flyball manic nutters! God, we must all be crazy (all the best are) and we do have a lot of FUN!!!!

Reminder from Membership Secretary that renewals were due from 01.04.99. £10.00 Single. £15.00 Joint. £20.00 Family. Any problems ring Carol on 01730 266633.

PODS FLYBALL TEAM

Present

Flyball racing in the heart of
England

At

SPORTS CONNEXION

Ryton-on-Dunsmore

Saturday 24th April

Open team tournament & singles
time trial

Contact Delia Roberts 01604
648085



STARTERS This was the highest

standard of starters racing I've seen for a long time! It was the breath of fresh air that the sport has been waiting for.

Even though the netting was in place most of these dogs didn't seem to notice and there's little doubt in my mind that we are looking at some phenomenal future talent.

Position	Names	Breeds	Best Time
1st	Stan & Janna	BC x 2	9.37 secs
2nd	Ben & Ben	BC x 2	9.95
3rd	Cokey & Pepsi	BC x 2	10.22
4th	Jadi & Ice	BC / WSD	9.72
5th	Jossie & Bleach	WSD x 2	9.98
6th	Thorn & Jess	WSD x 2	9.37
7th	Tally & Abbie	WSD & Cross-breed	10.33