The WAG

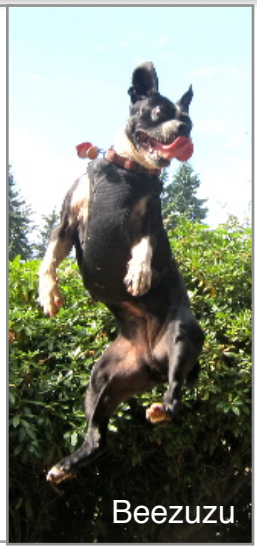
January 2015 Volume 18 ***Paws 2 Dance*** *Newsletter*



Coaches' Corner - Ray Underwood
Train Attitude along with Movement

Some tips

- break out of the position to let the dog know it has correctly completed the move
- handler move away from the dog so that the dog can move into the handler
- use praise and play as often as treats
- pump the dog up for every move, including getting into position
- maintain the intensity for the entire move, whether fast or slow
- train 90% short (1 or 2 moves) and 10% long.



Calendar of Events

Feb. 28/March 1: Handler's Workshop, Langley
March 7 & 8: Seattle Kennel Club Demos
March 28, 29: Emerald City WCFO, Arlington (Tentative)
May 2 & 3: P2D and Emerald City co-host 2-day Prancing Paws/Boot Scootin' Boogie event, Langley (Tentative)
June 14th: Island Fling, Nanaimo
July 11 & 12: P2D hosts WCFO, Langley
August 13 - 16: WCFO conference

From the Judges' Handbook - Lyd (On behalf of Executive)

All About Music and Length of Routines

Innovation makes for a dynamic sport. With that in mind, hats off to new members who are pushing the artistic envelope and sending the judges to the rule books to check things over. Specifically, some questions have arisen lately regarding when the timing starts for a routine and what is or is not permitted.

The rule: Timing starts with first dog or handler movement while music is playing, +/– ten seconds.

1. Many handlers rev up their dogs when they enter the ring by having the dogs do a favorite trick or two – say a spin and a couple jumps. *Admissible.* The music hasn't started yet and the tricks are clearly not part of the routine.

2. Many pairs or teams have a choreographed entrance. For "Poker Face," for example, the team set up very precisely, their poker faces on. Similarly, the "Who Let the Dogs Out?" team use a hilarious entrance. *Admissible.* In neither case is the entrance part of the routine since the music has not started, but the entrances do a great job of grabbing everyone's attention and setting the tone for the ensuing routine. These entrances, however, should not take much longer than it would take to enter with the dogs and set up. And, handlers should keep in mind that judges will not give credit for the pre-music moves.

3. Another handler performed several tricks with his dog prior to the music starting – tricks that introduced the routine and had specific props and costume. *This one is a little trickier.* If we went strictly by the rules, then the timing would not start until the music started. However, that would mean that all the tricks done before the music would not receive any credit. That would be a shame. The executive has chosen to interpret things a little more loosely, deciding that "spoken word" would be equivalent to the music. That way, the tricks would receive credit. **However, the spoken word or some other sound cue would have to be included on the submitted recording.** That way, the handler – and timer – would know exactly how long the routine is. **Judges will make deductions of 1 full mark if the entrance is excessive or used to extend the routine beyond the allotted time.**

It's great to see competitors creating innovative ways to engage the crowd and heighten artistic impression! At the same time, we need to have clear guidelines to help both competitors and judges.

Remembering Arlene 1956 - 2014

-Wendy Wallace, Island Freestylers



What people remember most about Arlene Bishop was her willingness to help. She was heavily involved in the local camera club, conducted regular photo walks, was a long time member of a local band, and a very, very active member of the local dog obedience club. She also worked at London Drugs. Despite this already busy life, Arlene always found time to help the Island Freestylers.

Arlene first became involved in freestyle after taking classes from Magi Schoffield-Reid with her miniature schnauzer, Zoe, and later with her younger schnauzer, Sassy. She participated in her first competition in 2008, then entered every Island Fling up to and including the 2014 competition. There were few jobs that she did not take on during those years, from planning food, making goody bags, printing up certificates and designing the island Freesylers logo, to taking on the responsibilities of the show secretary on more than one occasion She was the trial chair for the 2011 competition and that same year judged her first dressage competition.

On a more personal level Arlene was always willing to help fellow freestylers, especially when it came to anything involving computers, such as shortening music or altering photos. She was often the go-to person who always seemed to have the answers to any questions that came up during the preparations for competitions.

Arlene loved a challenge, whether it was in training a move or planning her choreography and could be quite inventive in coming up with solutions to any problems she encountered. An ardent clicker trainer, she especially enjoyed teaching her dogs tricks. Both dogs had quite an impressive repertoire which they happily performed for any receptive audience. Children especially enjoyed being entertained by Zoe and Sassy.

What we will miss most about Arlene, though, is her engaging smile and her great sense of humor. She loved a joke and could always find the humor in any poor training session or performance.

Sadly, we say good-bye to Marlene's Shalom, a big dog with a big heart and a love of dance.



Welcome to P2D

Kris Knight **Lydia Samperi**

Photo Challenge

Taking pictures of the dogs playing in snow this winter certainly proved to be a challenge! Fortunately, a couple members managed to snap a few. Thank you for the pics of Morgan and Keeper at play.



Boot Scootin' Boogie 2014

Pumpkin Patch Ball

BSB this year had participants enjoying Halloween a month early and putting on their thinking caps to come up with special prizes that reflected the season. Witches' hats off to organizers Carolyn and Kris and to all the people who helped make the event a success and to competitors who embraced the theme with fun tricks for their treats. Photos by Kathy Kolatski. See more of her photos at 2dogsandaflounder.zenfolio.com



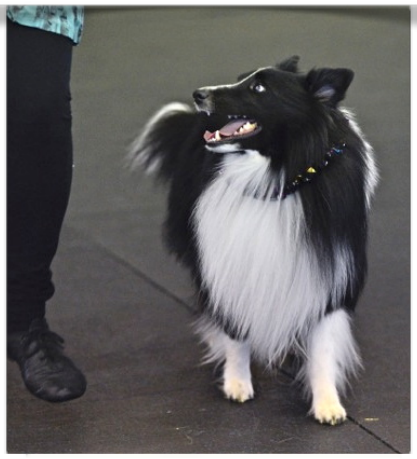














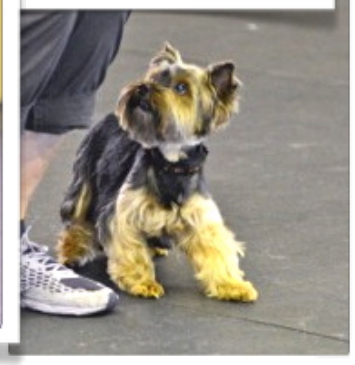



























2 Dogs & A Flounder
Creative Cards and Photos
kathyktolatski@yahoo.com
2dogsandaflounder.carfolio.com


Competition Regulations: Differences at a Glance

	Paws 2 Dance	WCFO
Music	Timing starts with first dog or handler movement while music is playing,+/- 10 secs. (see front page) **Musical Freestyle** Junior, Novice, Veterans: 1:30 - 2:30 Novice X: 1:30 - 3:00 Intermediate, Advanced, Advanced X, Masters: 1:30 - 3:30 **Dressage** Novice 1, 2, 3: 1:30 - 3:30 Intermediate 1, 2, 3: 2:00 - 3:30 Advanced 1, 2, 3: 2:30 - 3:30 **Training:** Up to 5 minutes. Not judged	Timing starts with first dog or handler movement. Same time for both MF and HTM +/- 15 seconds **Beginner**, Sassy Senior, Handi-Dandi: 1:30 - 2:15 **Novice**: 1:45 - 2:30 Sassy Senior, Handi-Dandi: 1:30 - 2:15 **Intermediate:** 2:00 - 2:45 Sassy Senior. Handi-Dandi: 1:45 - 2:30 **Advanced:** 2:15 - 3:15 Sassy Senior, Handi-Dandi: 1:45 - 2:30 **Innovation:** Not judged
Props	• Handler has one minute to install and remove props. Assistance is not permitted in ring.	
Leash	• Handler may use a leash in Novice MF and may drop it any time. On-leash and off-leash routines are judged equally. • training chains & martingales permissible • leashes required for all Novice Dressage routines	• On-leash and off-leash routines are in separate divisions (in Beginners only) If a handler uses a leash, must hold leash for at least 75% of routine. • training chains or martingales *not* permissible
Titles	• Musical Freestyle: two legs required for title. Entrants may *start* at any level • Dressage: one leg required for title Entrants may start no higher than Novice 3	• Musical Freestyle & Heelwork To Music: • Beginner: 2 legs required for title • All other levels: 3 legs required for title Entrants must all start at Beginner Level
Musical Freestyle	• Both judged on Artistic Impression and Technical Merit. Any move is permissible. Props and costume permissible. Routine may interpret music, tell a story, or both.	
	• Artistic and Technical scores are averaged	• Must pass both Artistic and Technical to earn leg
Dressage HTM	**Dressage**	**Heelwork to Music**
	• Judging focusses primarily on dog movement. Criteria: choreography, heeling, dog attitude and workability, handler style, elements. • Dog should be in heel-position 80% of time • Weaves, circles, fronts, etc. are permitted as transitions • Each level has specific element requirements. Required elements must be completed for a pass. (see *Competition Guide* for specific elements) • Left side, right side, and reverse heeling are recognized as heel positions.	• Judging is similar to Musical Freestyle – with both Artistic Impression and Technical Merit assessed. • Not Permissible: Distance moves, weaves, and jumps. • Successive levels require variety of heel positions: left side, right side, front, behind, - Beginner: 2 sides - Novice: 3 sides minimum - Intermediate and Advanced: 4 sides
Ring	• Ring-size minimum 1800 square feet. Shortest side no less than 30'. Size must be published in Premium List.	• Ring-size minimum 1800 square feet. Shortest side no less than 30'. Longest side no more than 80'.
Ring Coverage	• Assessed on a continuum: stationary (low) to highly effective use of ring (high) • Consideration given to dog size	• Must cover 75% of ring. • 50% for small dogs – under 14" at withers
Details	• see *Competition Guide*	• see WCFO site.

Dance the Skies 2014

Welcome back! WCFO returned to BC after a 14-year hiatus. Anna Schloff travelled from Michigan to judge every routine over the two-day event. Spear-headed by Annette, Ray, and Lin, P2D pulled out all the stops: spot-lit ring, lively DJ, northern lights decorations, a fun-filled banquet. As usual, Carolyn organized the special awards. Photographs by Dave. See more of his work at ***oneeyedguy***.*shawwebspace.ca/*





















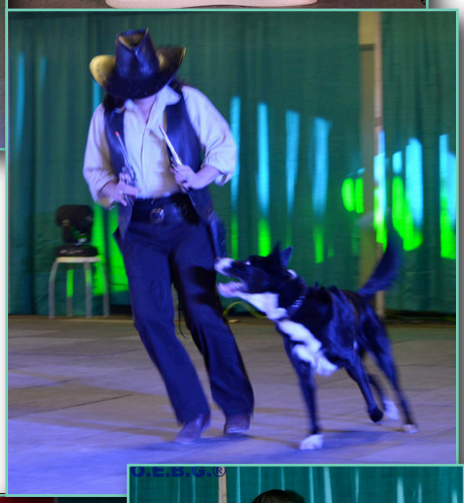


O.E.B.G.®
BY DAVE H...

O.E.B.G.®

BY DAVE H...

O.E.B.G.®
BY DAVE H...

O.E.B.G.®


BY DAVE H...

O.E.B.G.®
BY DAVE H...

O.E.B.G.®

O.E.B.G.®





BY DAVE H...

Dance the Skies Demos

After competition on Saturday, the audience was treated to superb performances by WCFO judge Anna Schloff with Jack, Tristan with both kite and his dog, Magic, and Ray with Merlin.







Photographs by Dave. ***oneeyedguy***.*shawwebspace.ca/*

Artistic Expressions















Always exploring new ways of showcasing musical freestyle, Ray has pulled together a group including Tristan, Lin and Annette from Paws 2 Dance, two contortionists, Erin Carnie and Brianna MacDonald, and an illusionist, Matt Johnson, to create a unique artistic spectacle that includes freestyle, kite-flying, dance, contortion, magic – the sky's the limit. So far they have performed at a Cancer Foundation fundraiser at the Bell Performing Arts Centre to excellent reviews. For more information about this group, check out their website: www.artisticexpressionsbc.com

Photos by Shannon Underwood.

Emerald City Winds up 2014

