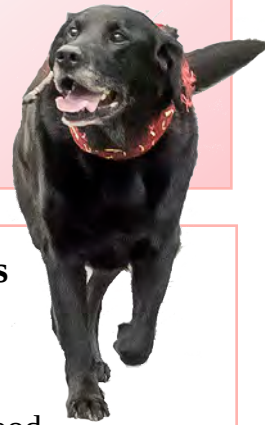




THE WAG

PAWS 2 DANCE NEWSLETTER VOL. 25 DECEMBER 2018



Choreography is a hugely important topic that will be featured in this and the next two **WAG** editions. See page 6 for some excellent practical ideas from Lenore about selecting music.

Welcome New Members

Lezlie Couch

Olga Krelin



From the Judges' Handbook - Proficiency Tests

Lydia Francescutti

Even if you never plan to enter a proficiency test, the progression of heel-work movement could be a useful training tool. The various moves encourage you to explore the eight different heel-work positions and to set goals for yourself and your dog. Hopefully, you would then incorporate the various moves into your freestyle and heel-work-to-music routines.

A couple things to keep in mind if you do enter: while Musical Freestyle does not *require* super-precise turns, some of the judges have competitive obedience backgrounds so may be quite exacting when it comes to precision in heel work. As much as possible, make your turns sharp and without a full stop. For changes of pace, be sure that your **dog** clearly exhibits a change in pace. Handlers should move smoothly, even in the slow pace. For pivots, the handler should imagine pivoting on a pie plate. While small hand-signals are permitted, luring or guiding the dog into a new position would not earn a pass.

Keep in mind that if you are not happy with your first attempt at an element, there is no need to panic. Reset your dog and try again. You have a full three minutes for the four elements and can try each one up to three times. And, since you can play with your dog between elements, you can make this a fun ring experience for your dog.

Calendar of Events

P2D Mini Events 2019

Sunday, January 13, 2 pm. Annette's

Friday, March 1, 7:30 pm. Brookwood

Friday, July 5, 7:30 pm. Brookwood

Saturday, August 10, Nanaimo (Yvonne's yard)

Saturday, October 5, 2 pm. Annette's

Friday, December 6, 7:30. Brookwood

Prancing Paws: Saturday, May 11. Annette's

Island Fling: Saturday, June 22. Nanaimo

Debbie Decker Workshop: May 18/19 Arlington

Deb Jones Seminar: July 13/14 Langley

Julie Flannery Sem: Aug. 31/Sep. 1 Abbotsford



Proficiency Test Videos

On the paws2dance.com site, click on *Freestyle Training* and scroll to *Useful Links*. Scroll down to *Proficiency Test Info* where you will find videos of the various elements. Just below the videos Lin has inserted a handy chart of the eight heeling positions. Left, Ray and Magic do a CCW pivot in a reverse position. Right, they execute a large 25' circle on the right side. Not all videos are up yet but soon will be.

New Paws 2 Dance Competition Guidelines for MF and HTM at a Glance		
Ring Coverage	50% - 75% (smaller dogs closer to 50%, larger dogs closer to 75%) Reasonable, effective, and aesthetically pleasing.	
Music	Routines must be no less than one minute and no longer than 4 minutes. Deductions for over or under time. <i>Suggested</i> times: Starter - 1:30 Novice - 2:30 Intermediate - 3:30 Advanced - 4:00	
Props	May be used to enhance the routine but not as training aids. Handler must be able to set up props on own within one minute.	
Leashes	Allowed in training, starters or exceptional circumstances. Held loosely. Deductions for tight leash.	
Qualifying	At all levels, a qualifying score is 150 out of 200.	
	Musical Freestyle	Heel-work to Music
Definitions	• minimum 75% freestyle moves • maximum 25% heeling	• minimum 75% in approved heel positions • maximum 25% out of approved heel positions • no distance work
Starters 14 points required for title with one win or two second places	• on or off leash • Competence: some cues may be evident, dog under a fair amount of control, heel-work and elements precise roughly 65% of time; dog should respond to 1st or 2nd cue • Choreography: must be evident	
	10 different moves including but not limited to any of the following or variations: • Heel-work variations • Circles and spins • Waits, poses, bow, greeting, beg • Weaving – front, figure 8, back • backing, work at distance, • jumps, paw work, rollovers • back through legs • crawling, hind-leg work	• at least one change of pace • heel-work in at least two approved 1 - 8 HW positions • at least one variation of above • at least 4 turns
Novice 21 points required for title 1 win or 2 2nds	Off leash • Suggestions: at least one change of pace, at least one pose, at least two positions/moves in 2 directions • Competence: some cues may be evident; dog is nicely controlled; heel-work and elements precise roughly 75% of time; dog should respond to first cue most of the time. • Choreography: must be evident: dog and handler should move in time with the music	
Intermediate 21 points required for title 1 win or 2 2nds	Off leash • Suggestions: slow, normal, fast pace; at least one pose; 2-3 positions/moves in 2 directions • Competence: cues rarely noticeable; dog is highly controlled; heel-work and elements precise roughly 85% of the time; dog should respond to 1st cue • Choreography: must be evident with high level of interpretation of music and reflective of tempo and rhythm of music through turns, changes of pace, etc.	
Advanced 21 points required for title 1 win or 2 2nds	Off leash • Suggestions: multiple changes of pace; 2 or more poses; at least 4 positions and 4 moves in several directions • Competence: cues not noticeable, dog is fully controlled, heel-work and elements precise roughly 95% of the time; dog should respond to first cue. • Choreography: must be evident and the routine must demonstrate excellent interpretation of the music. Changes of positions, directions, etc., should be smoothly executed and in keeping with the tempo and rhythm of the music.	
Specialty	Non-titling. Will be scored by judges and given comments. Ribbons for qualifying scores. Pairs, Braces, teams, handicap, seniors (7+ for dogs/ 65+ for handlers)	
FEO	Partial routines at specific levels. Must be indicated on entry form. Judges will observe and assess.	
Training	Toys, food, training aids allowed. Not scored. No Judges' comments. Offered if time available.	
Scoring	See Score Sheet for categories in Artistic Merit and Technical Merit and deductions and disqualifications	

Sonic
2004- 2018



Dylan
2003- 2018



***Dogs are not
our whole life,
but they make
our lives whole.***

Tess
2003- 2018



Ali
2005- 2018



***In
Memoriam***

Snowy
2005- 2018



Photo Challenge: Dogs on Vacation

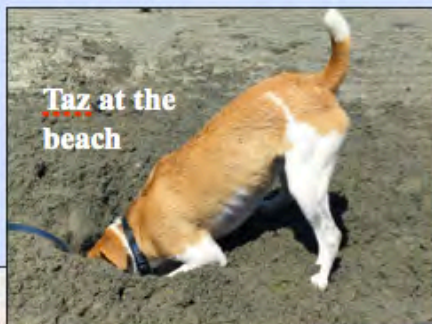


Benny Kayaking

**Tucker in
Mexico
with new
friend**



**Taz at the
beach**



Whisper at Tofino



**Hunter at
the beach**



Island Fling 2018

This year's fling was marked by creative use of props, high-energy routines, and much laughter. Organizers thought of everything and kept things rolling smoothly. The Island Canine Entertainers took the training opportunity to work out their team routine. Congratulations to out-going president, Carol, for another excellent competition. Photographs by Gerald Hogrefe.



Dance the Skies 2018

Using stealth tactics worthy of a thriller movie spy, Don captured many candid moments. It seems participants had many opportunities to share a laugh. Judge Marjorie Geiger appeared to have a particularly fun time. Visitors were treated to many innovative and lively routines. Meanwhile Jackie and Lin collaborated in a very successful silent auction. Photos by Don Bennett.



Dance the Skies 2018 Picnic and Fun Match

Under the trees at Annette's, participants had a chance to relax before diving into food prepared by the Barclays.



CHOREOGRAPHY PART I – Selecting Music – *Lenore Baskin*

- Look for music in TV shows or a movie that inspires you. Roam around on YouTube. Listen to other people's favourites. There is so much out there that will inspire you!
- Choose music that has meaning or inspiration to you.
- Once you think you have chosen a piece of music, ask yourself a few key questions;
 - o Does the song have different tempos or rhythms, or even a different pulse?
 - o Does the song have a character or a feeling?
 - o How does the music make you feel and decide how you can bring that into your routine to show your audience?
- If your song does not offer you answers to these questions then maybe it the song will not lend itself to a good routine. Use it for practice.
- Finding a good piece of music takes time and a bit of effort. This should not deter you because listening to different music is very inspiring and it opens our minds to new and wonderful songs!





Meet The **Island Canine Entertainers** – a group of mad, dog/dance/fun people on Vancouver Island. The original idea was started by Carol Toms some years ago. Just a few of us would go to seniors' homes and perform for the residents. (See photos below) Carol got involved in scent work, etc., so I took over the group, gave us the name and we started going to various homes around Nanaimo once a month. I now get the activity directors calling me and asking us when we can fit them in. Our show lasts about an hour. Some months we manage a couple of visits, as the need is certainly there to give enjoyment to the residents. We love dressing up for the seniors, especially Christmas; we love putting on the holiday shows. The group also takes part in the Annual VIEx (See photos above) with members joining us from Victoria and Campbell River. Needless to say, we all enjoy ourselves. I actually think the favourite part is when we go around after dancing and let everyone touch the dogs and have a snuggle. Top Row: Melody & Sailor, Heather & Dansa, Carrie & General, Sandy & Daisy, Melody & Surfer; Bottom: Ron & Tweed, Lenora & Sir Lance, Carol & Hunter, Yvonne & Tax, Sharon & LC, Anila & Archie. Yvonne for I.C.E. Photos by Sandy Lim and Yvonne Downey



Ron and Tweed
Yvonne and Taz



Tweed



Jan and Flynn

Boot Scootin' Boogie

Despite a small entry, ECK9 and friends pulled together to host the 2018 BSB event. Below, Lezlie is admiring the fine spread delivered by Vickie and augmented by many others. Marilyn and Pat man the raffle table while Annette stands by anxiously awaiting the results of the twin puppy item. She won! A couple people we haven't seen for a while made it to the event – Corinne to join judges Beth and Vickie, and Shelley to perform. Two Pats and Marilyn were on hand to help out with everything. The best news is that Carolyn was well enough to attend. There was no photographer, but Lin set up a video camera. Most of these shots are taken from the videos so the quality isn't great. However, sometimes taking shots from a video allows one to capture pretty decent moments.



Demos in the Lower Mainland

The heavy smoke actually worked in our favour by blocking out the sun at the Delta Pet Expo in Ladner, August 19th. Juno, Poet, Deja, Benny and Casey performed routines and Bandit & Juno did some tricks. Photos by Karen Walker.



A couple weeks later we were at a Senior's Residence where Joyce joined us with Tobi and Skye. We had a great time afterwards meeting the residents. One resident, a 106-year-old woman enjoyed having Bandit on her lap.



And in November, we were joined by Annette, Jake and Bobbie for a performance for an appreciative audience. The show stealer was Ann's new puppy Cedar who took on the resident puppy in a 3-round wrestling match. Because we had extra time to fill, we added barrel races, Papillon Style, and Karen wowed the crowd with a hoop routine – no dog.



Your Next WAG – What would you like to see?

- We have many new dogs in the club. Send in photos of your new puppies and a bit of information.
- Do you have questions about the new format? Score Sheets? I'll do my best to find the answers.
- Read anything lately that is helpful or entertaining? Send me sites or titles. Lydia at freya9@telus.net