

KiwiDogAgility

NZDAC 2013 – Bulls

Karen de Wit

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The month of October is often spent in preparation for the biggest Event on the Dog Agility Calendar. The 2013 NZ Dog Agility Championships (NZDAC) were held during Labour Weekend at Bulls, and hosted by Zone 3.

The Venue was the Bulls Domain, featuring #1 Rugby field and club rooms, associated toilets and showers, #2 Rugby field surrounded by pleasant grassed areas and lots of trees. The South Rangitikei Club grounds were turned into a camping ground, and a large marquee as well as

smaller tents and gazebos also were erected, providing shelter from sun, wind and rain.

A great deal of time and effort had been put into the organisation of the event. It takes a lot of work and coordination to organise a normal event, and this one requires so much more – congregation of helpers, allocation of jobs, provision of suitable equipment, as well as additional features such as organising 60 campers, 50 ringside tents and 200 car parks. A mammoth task for volunteers who also have their own life (apart from agility), work and families.

The event began for some on Wednesday – marking out camp sites, ringside sites, getting rings up and assembly areas staked. It continued on Thursday with more setting up and the arrival of marquees, toilets, refuse bins and showers.

The NZDAC had been organised so that each day a special event or final was to be held. On Friday the special event was the Champ of Champions, Saturday the Inter-Zone Teams competition, Sunday Jumpers finals and Monday Agility finals. Unfortunately the Champ of Champions was run in poor conditions – driving wind and rain, but the others fared much better and all had good crowds watching and cheering.

The actual competition began on Friday morning with Flygility, two individual events and teams – which continued on for some time, even after the games had started. The Games of Snooker and Gamblers in the early afternoon were very well supported! Heaps of competitors

participated, far more than the organisers had anticipated. Whilst some people obviously knew what they were doing (maybe because of the monthly NALA runs) many were reading the information that had been printed off, and taking in any piece of information they could hear. For extra fun the Triathlon was on offer – combining scores of Games plus Jumpers1 classes. Junior Handler was also run during the early afternoon. A small group of 12 children ran their dogs around a Jumpers B course. Many of these youngsters compete with success against the adults on a regular basis. The Champ of Champions event was also held later in the afternoon. This provided a spectacle of superb dogs with their handlers on a very testing agility course. The Friday events were followed by cake cutting (it is 25 years since the first NZDAC was held in Zone 3) and nibbles that were quickly consumed!



On Saturday, there were Agility classes in the morning and Jumpers Classes and ADX advanced in the afternoon. The organisers were thrilled as the weather was fine and sunny, and some people got caught out – resulting in burned bodies! The day ended with the Inter-Zone event which was won by Zone 5 this year. The event was preceded by formalities such as handing back the shield, distribution of sashes and special leads by Owen Dance (NZKC President), a Team parade and also some fun cheerleading competitions. The Inter-Zone competition is one way of ensuring NZDAC is truly a national event, as the travel expenses of those from far away are paid for by NZAC, allowing people who would otherwise not be able to come the opportunity to compete. Prize giving on the Saturday also celebrated the wetting of Dyson Beasley for gaining his last ADX ADV to make up Rumour to Agility

Grand Champion—a great achievement. Caitlin Frater achieved the Agility Champion Title with Guese and received a well-deserved wetting among other things of interest dumped on her.

Sunday, had another set of Agility and the final set of Jumpers classes, plus AD. The day concluded with the finals for the Jumpers classes. There were some spectacular and thrilling runs enjoyed by everyone gathered around the rings, with the crowd really getting into the mood and cheering hard! Sunday evening was the Spit Roast dinner and Pub Quiz night which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who were involved.

Monday the 28th of October was the last day, with the 3rd set of Agility events, followed by the Agility finals. Again there were awesome runs, great handling and some close finishes to enthrall

the spectators and fellow competitors. Our Australian guest for the NZDAC, Kate Dall competed in the Intermediate maxi finals with a borrowed dog (Knight) and handled him to a well-deserved win. Maybe next year there will be more Australian visitors competing at our NZDAC and this time with their own dogs???

The finals were followed by the overall awards for Top dog. Then it was time to say goodbye to friends, and make plans for the next time. The organisers towed in trailers and took down rings and tents and generally just packed up, and finished off with a well-deserved fish and chip tea and glass of wine. Hard work that was worth it, and all in all a most enjoyable weekend.

Time to pack up and head back home with a host of memories and to give our dogs a well-earned break.

RESULTS

Agility Finals

Starters – Louise Marsh & Rainstar Smoke And Mirrors (Trickster)

Novice – Chelsea Marriner & Cliffhanger Kryptonite JD (Rip)

Intermediate – Peter de Wit & AgGrCh JGrCh Quickmagic C's the Day ADXA Gold JDX (Quick)

Senior – Kathryn Martin & Xtra High Voltage (Volt)



Chelsea and Rip



Volt



Pete and Quick

Jumpers Finals

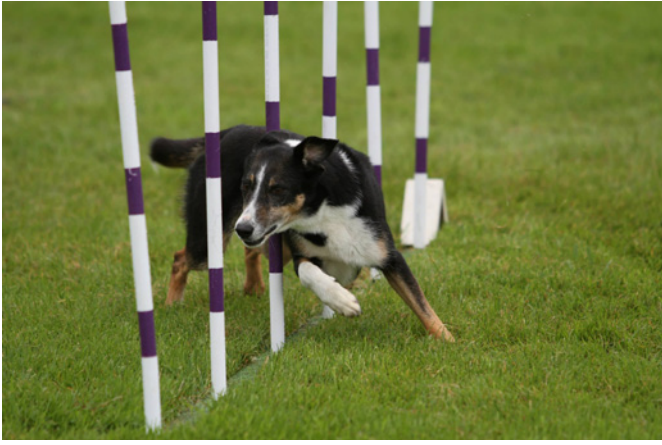
Jumpers C – Billie Fletcher & Do It Or Elsie (Elsie)

Jumpers B – Bevan Dale & Relko Daytona Dominio Efect JD (Kasey)

Jumpers A – Peter de Wit & JCh Quickpaws Ali Cs the day AD JDX (Ali)



Ali



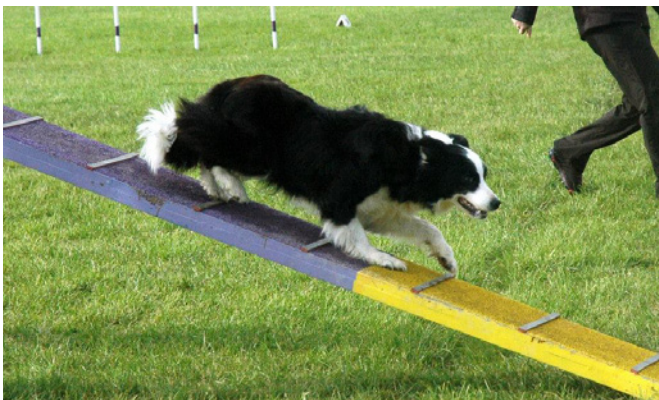
Flash



Shake



Holly



Bolt

Overall winners

Awarded to dogs that accumulated the most number of points over the weekend, in both Jumpers and Agility.

Maxi – Chelsea Marriner & AgGrCh JCh Sheez Flash of Glen Tilt (Flash)

Midi – Elaine Rohde & AgCh JGrCh Aquila Lightning Bolt ADXA Bronze (Bolt)

Mini – Jane Aukett & Beaucourt Dare To Frolic (Holly)

Micro – Lisa Duff and Shaken Not Stirred JD (Shake)



Overall winner, and presented with the Sarah trophy – Lisa Duff & Shaken Not Stirred JD

A big thank you to everyone who made the event possible and particularly to the principle Sponsors Eukanuba, and our other supporters – Woofawares, Decked Out Dogs, McKeebuilt, Wairarapa DOC, Akarana DTC, Wanganui DTC, Taieri CTC, Bowtech, Southland DTC, Quality, PauaWorld, Lyn Sayers/Agility Stuff, USL Medical/Debbie Middlemiss, Naranja Orange, Back on track, Horowhenua ODTc, 0800 2 Fixit, NorthShore DTC, Animals Back in, Southridge Working Border, The Mat, Animal Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Ltd, Jump Innovation – as well the Judges – Allan Rohde (Auckland), Bernadette Thompson (Ashburton), Beth Oliver (Central Hawkes bay), Danny Gotlieb (Lower Hutt), Dyson Beasley (Rotorua), Keri Neilson (Hamilton), Lyn Sayers (Taupo), Teresa Ford (Christchurch).

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