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South Island Primary & Secondary Schools Dog Agility Championships 2024

The South Island Primary and Secondary Schools' Championships have been a regular feature on the Agility calendar for six years now. They were developed to raise the profile of Agility as a sport in schools so that students could receive badges and awards for their sport, like their peers do for more traditional sports such as rugby and netball.

To give the competition some mana, they are held each year indoors at the Riding For the Disabled Building in Christchurch, after a regular club championship show. The event has grown in popularity every year with many spectators now choosing to stay after the show to watch the students.

The event is split into the Primary Age Group and the Secondary Age Group. Each age group then competes in four events. The first two are the Jumpers and Agility Open Handlers. Students are allocated a donated dog from a random draw for this event. We are always so grateful to all the owners who give us dogs each year. The students spend a few minutes bonding with the dog, learning its commands from the owner and walking the course. Then they compete. These classes are a great opportunity for students to show their handling skills, their adaptability and their confidence

under pressure. These two classes are often the most talked about each year, as the students really enjoy running different breeds and sized dogs of their own. We often have new handlers enter this competition too, if their own dog is not quite ready to compete.

The last two classes are the Experienced Jumpers and Agility classes. Here the students run their own or their family dogs. Students can enter as many Agility-trained dogs as they like, as long as the dog is their own/family or a dog they regularly compete with. Over the years we have seen an increase in the number of dogs that are solely trained by the students to a very high standard. Some compete with their own champions for example. This competition is always very tight and exciting.

At the end of the event we have prize-giving. We have always been very generously sponsored by businesses and individuals. We always have ribbons and prizes to third as well as spectacular trophies. In addition to the individual prizes we award Top School trophies and this year we began the Most Promising Handler Award. This year was our largest event yet. Below are our prize giving photos. Prize-giving photos and results are sent to all schools who

had a winner and they often appear in school newsletters or are acknowledged in assemblies. Once again, raising the profile of Agility as a sport!

If you are interested in competing next year, you must be a member of JDT, or a dog Agility club. Your dog must also be trained in Agility. The competition is open for anyone who attends a primary or secondary school in the South Island (although North Islanders are welcome to come along and enter the experienced classes unofficially). 🐾

Susan Tansey





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South Island Secondary Schools Dog Agility Championships 2024 Results

Top Secondary School Overall: Wakatipu High School (Jess Wilkinson and Sarah Taylor) 22 points

Winner of Most Promising Handler: Miniah Hall

Experienced Agility				School points
1st	Jess Wilkinson	Zoom	0/30.506	5
2nd	Isabella Paulsen	Rae	0/30.938	4
3rd	Jess Wilkinson	Flare	5/35.217	3
4th	Jess Wilkinson	Mac	5/37.480	2
5th	Miniah Hall	Echo	5/37.603	1
6th	Adele Matthews	Bibbi	5/39.148	
7th	Charlie White	Molly	5/40.110	
8th	James Jones	Rocket	5/53.655	
9th	Kate Crilly	Szylie	10/33.694	

Open Handler Agility			Owner		School points
1st	Miniah Hall	RBizzy	Els Desert	0/30.788	5
2nd	Kate Crilly	Risk	Jess Pallister-Coward	0/31.452	4
3rd	Patrick Conolly	Vogue	Sallie Remon	0/37.766	3
4th	Hannah Sidey	Zoom	Nicole Wilkinson	5/31.834	2
5th	Niamh Lappin	Nugget	Sian Remon	5/43.747	1
6th	Jade Harris	Coke	Nicole Wilkinson	5/47.171	
7th	Jess Wilkinson	Sonic	Shelley Baikie	10/29.018	
8th	Isabella Paulsen	Lava	Jess Pallister-Coward	15/32.437	
9th	Charlie White	Millie	Karina Greenhill	15/49.975	

Experienced Jumpers				School points
1st	Jess Wilkinson	Zoom	0/29.861	5
2nd	Patrick Conolly	Spider	0/33.477	4
3rd	Adele Matthews	Bibbi	0/38.202	3
4th	Isabella Paulsen	Rae	5/30.607	2
5th	Hannah Sidey	Nelly	5/33.465	1
6th	Jess Wilkinson	Flare	5/35.016	
7th	Charlie White	Molly	5/39.818	
8th	Jess Wilkinson	Mac	10/33.404	
9th	Kate Crilly	Szylie	10/37.899	
10th	Laura Roberts	Pandee	15/38.967	
11th	Niamh Lappin	Sketch	20/34.920	
12th	Hannah Sidey	Fritz	20/35.320	

Open Handler Jumpers			Owner		School points
1st	Niamh Lappin	Alby	Donna Donnelly	0/24.909	5
2nd	Sarah Taylor	Tempo	Sallie Remon	0/30.139	4
3rd	Jess Wilkinson	Nugget	Sian Remon	0/35.244	3
4th	Adele Matthews	Lava	Jess Pallister-Coward	5/26.945	2
5th	Kate Crilly	Vogue	Sallie Remon	5/32.819	1
6th	Charlie White	Peppa	Martin Steyn	5/36.114	
7th	Isabella Paulsen	Bizzy	Els Desert	10/24.758	
8th	Jade Harris	Blaze	Tarah Spyve	10/32.764	
9th	Hannah Sidey	Millie	Karina Greenhill	15/33.459	

South Island Primary Schools Dog Agility Championships 2024 Results

Top Primary School Overall: Ellesmere College (Isaac Conolly) 14 points

Experienced Agility				School points
1st	Isaac Conolly	Catch	0/25.577	5

Open Handler Agility			Owner		School points
1st	Clark Hunt	Peppa	Martin Steyn	0/46.084	5

Experienced Jumpers				School points
1st	Isaac Conolly	Catch	0/18.045	5
2nd	Evelyn Burchell	Monty	0/28.922	4

Open Handler Jumpers			Owner		School points
1st	Evelyn Burchell	Ember	Tara Spyve	0/27.966	5
2nd	Isaac Conolly	Coke		0/59.433	4