

KiwiDogAgility

Visiting Agility in Holland

by Peter de Wit

In April Peter de Wit travelled to Holland on a short family visit and took one day off to travel to an Agility event, 140km from where he was staying. The competition was Kennel club run under FCI rules. In Holland they also run IFCS and IMCA() competitions. Veterans classes are also offered.*

In Holland, not all grades for all sizes of dog are offered on the same day, as in NZ. The competition scheduled on the day Pete visited was for large dogs in the top grade only. The top grade is split into two sections, the top one being "C" and the other being B2. The next day was for medium and small dogs in the same grades.

Holland runs a points system in each grade. At the end of the year the top 75 dogs in grade C, stay there and the rest go down to grade B2. The top 25 dogs from grade B2 go into grade C. Dogs in grade B2 can move up during the year if they have a number of wins. 80 points were awarded to 1st down to 1 pt for 29th. There were 90 dogs competition in C and another 90 dogs in B2. There were two rings, one for C and one for B2. Pete noted "They don't spend any time discussing the basic rules as they just use a set of international rules."

Each ring always runs a Jumpers then agility then a Game. The games are basically either agility or jumpers with a small twist.

The ring size is only 35m x 25m and can be much smaller during the winter when all competitions are run inside horse training venues.

Over the winter temperatures are very cold – it might only be -15 cel inside!! The use of a small ring made the equipment very close and the courses very tight.

The course walk is always only 10min. This can be broken into two groups. The dogs running first are in the first course walk.

The cost of entry is 15 euro for the day. When they enter there is no entry form, they just bank 15 euro into the clubs account. The clubs send a list of "Dog license numbers" to the competition secretary. The handlers wore their numbers on their ankles.

There were at least 40% male competitors and 60% female! The locals said that in the lower grades there are less men.

Pete enjoyed the competition and spent some time chatting to ?????// who runs the results programmes for Holland.

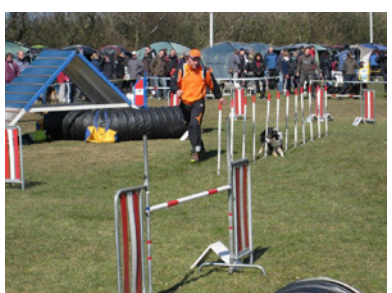
You can view a number of European judges and their courses at <http://www.belgians.nl/>

*IMCA stands for International Mix & breed Championship Agility. This event is held in annually in August-October, in conjunction with the ParAgility World Cup , (PAWC).

It is for all countries (recognised International Nations), only one team from each country.

It is for all dogs, breed - with or without pedigree - and mix breed,

An interesting thing that isn't currently allowed under our rules, is the competition of Bitches in season. Bitches in heat are allowed to





compete when they are announced to the organization of the event. They have to be separated from the other competing dogs and run last in the competition of their category. They can take part on the training when they are wearing a special dog- trousers. When they are not they can train the end of the day with no sit still on the contact-obstacles and between the obstacles and using the special carpet by the start

** PAWC is an agility competition where Competitors have a physical (mobility) or mental impairment. Groups of disability are:- GROUPS OF DISABILITY:

Group 1: - competitors using battery-powered vehicle (like electric wheelchair, scooter...)

Group 2: - competitors using manually powered vehicle (manual wheelchair)

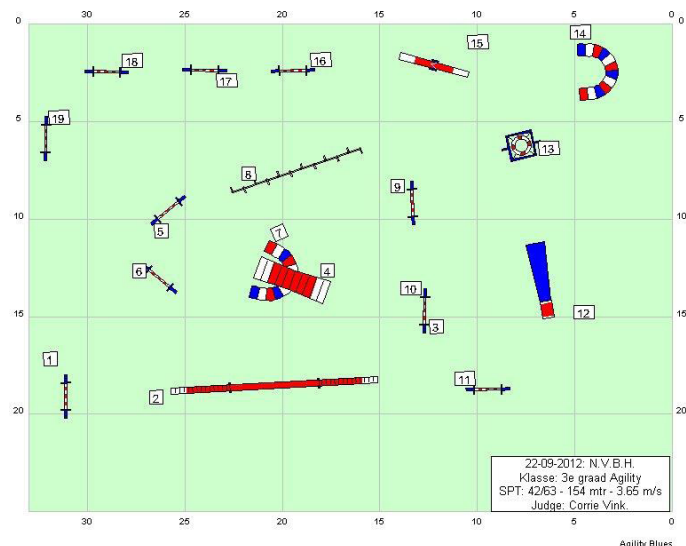
Group 3: - competitors who have a limitation concerning walking,- can move passable (reasonably) fast- may use assistive devices (like canes, braces)

Group 4: - competitors who have a strong limitation concerning walking,- can move passable (reasonably) slow- may use assistive devices (canes, braces)

Group 5: - competitors who have a very strong limitation concerning walking,- can move very slow- may use assistive devices (canes, braces)

Group 6: - competitors with not any limitation concerning walking (like vision, hearing, and paralyzed arm)

Group 7: - competitors with a mental disability 2nd Maree Butterworth/ Jet 82pts



ZONE 3 ANNUAL AWARDS

There are 4 plaques, donated by Zone 3 dog agility club, and ribbons for winners and runner-ups, donated by the Agility Committee.

They have been awarded since 2005. They are awarded to the team with the most points in a variety of classes.

This year the winners were:-

AGILITY

Starters/Novice

1st Lorraine Hazelwood/Bella 75pts,

2nd Karen de Wit/Finn 58pts

Novice/Intermediate

1st Aprille McGee/Fancy 47 pts,

2nd Jan Check/Bess 26 pts

Intermediate/Senior

1st Peter de Wit/Quick 169 pts,

2nd Maree Butterworth/Jet 82pts

JUMPERS

1st Peter de Wit/Quick 76 pts,

2nd= Maree Butterworth/Jet 60pts,

2nd= Kevin Burnette/Jiggy 60pts

SMALL (add Agility+Jumpers)

1st Cath Dillon/Daniel and Zing 146 pts,

2nd John Fraser/Rico 135 pts

