



NDTA News

Welcome to NDTA News—this is a chance for the NDTA 2009 Committee to tell you about some of the things we've been working hard on for the last year or so as we prepare to host this year's NDTA.

The NDTA keeps growing and changing and it's a challenge to meet the needs of this growth and change while upholding long standing traditions. We hope we've got the balance right and we're looking forward to you all joining us at this year's event for a great time with your dogs and some real Southern Hospitality.

Don't forget to keep logging on to the web site as information is being added all the time. If there's anything you'd like to see added to the site please let us know.

The NDTA 2009 Team

Home Of The Great Southern Dog



This year's NDTA theme is The Great Southern Dog and our logo is the working collie who has been part of the Southern landscape since the days of the early settlers.

One of these dogs was Friday, who was owned by the infamous James Mackenzie in the late 1800s.

Mackenzie would roam hundreds of miles from South Canterbury to Southland, staying on sheep farms while overnight, Friday, on her own, would round up a flock of sheep and move them away before daylight. Mackenzie would reunite with Friday and the sheep she had 'acquired' and drive them to the sale yards in Southland where he would receive a good price.

Mackenzie and Friday overstepped the mark when they stole a mob of 1000 sheep and moved these through the pass and into the area which now bear his name—the Mackenzie Pass and the Mackenzie Country. Mackenzie was captured but legend has it that Friday continued to drive the sheep on her own, evading capture for some time.

Mackenzie and Friday were tried at the Lyttleton Courthouse, Friday reputedly being the only dog ever tried in a New Zealand court. They were found guilty and Mackenzie received a sentence of 5 years penal servitude but he was eventually pardoned and, after his release, disappeared. There are several differing reports about what happened to Friday, some say she was branded a witch and sentenced to death, others that she was re-homed but would never work for anyone else. In any case, nobody knows whether master and faithful dog were ever reunited.

Venue

NDTA 2009 will be held at the Otago-Taieri A&P Showgrounds on the corner of Dukes Road and Gordon Road in Mosgiel, Dunedin. We are looking forward to hosting the NDTA at this fantastic venue which offers acres of space set in the beautiful Otago countryside. We are looking to create a true "NDTA Village" with camping, stalls, food and functions all onsite—there's really no need to leave! See the web site for a venue map.

While the venue offers plenty of space which will include a large dog exercise area, the layout also means that the main Obedience and Agility rings and the food and retail stalls will all be close enough to each other to allow easy access between each area.

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Contents:

Day Tents	2
VIP Raffle	2
SportCheck	2
Doggy Daycare	2
Overnight Camping	3
Shopping	3
No Tie-Up Policy	3
Badges & Key Rings	3
Sponsorship	3
Agility	4
Top Dog Awards	4
Food & Functions	4
Obedience	5
Working Trials	5
Registration Packs	5
Catalogue	5
Young Kennel Club	6
Rally-Obedience	6
Heelwork to Music	6
Flygility	6
Contacts	6

Can You Help?

If you can help with any of the following please contact Roy Thorndycraft.

- Sponsorship of classes by individuals, clubs or businesses
- Donations of goods or services for raffle prizes or for inclusion in the goodie bags
- Stewarding/Ring Crew

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Obedience & Agility Day Tents

Obedience

Day-tenting hasn't been a traditional feature of NDTA Obedience but as most Obedience will be outdoors this year we are offering the opportunity for Obedience competitors to book a day tent site around the Obedience rings. The location of the Obedience rings in the main arena at the A&P grounds means that we can't offer car parking around the rings so a day tent provides a place to store your gear, crate your dogs and relax or socialise with friends between runs, not to mention shelter from the Dunedin sunshine!

All Obedience day tent sites are 4m x 5m and must be pre-booked and pre-paid. Booking forms are available on the NDTA web site.

Agility

This year all Agility day tent sites have to be pre-booked and pre-paid. There are two options—1) A 5m x 5m tent site with two single car parks behind or 2) a 4m x 5m day tent only site. The tent + parks option costs \$50 for the whole NDTA and the tent only option is \$20. By pre-booking your tent site your space is assured and you can set up your tent at your leisure. Booking forms are available on the NDTA web site.

Be An NDTA VIP!

Agility Competitors have the chance to enter our very special VIP Day Tent raffle. You can be in to win a "Fully Furnished" Agility day tent for you and your guests for the entire NDTA. The prize includes two car parks behind the tent and treats and refreshments for you and your dogs. No setup is required—just walk in and enjoy!

Tickets are limited to 300 and are just \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and can be purchased by emailing Rae Leckie at raeleckie@gmail.com. The raffle will be drawn on 9th October or when all the tickets are sold. If you've already purchased a day tent site and you win the raffle we'll refund your tent site money.

Sport Check—Be Informed!

We're all hoping that NDTA goes smoothly but there's always the possibility that something outside our control will disrupt the event.

To allow us to communicate easily with you in the event of unforeseen circumstances we've partnered with SportCheck to offer Agility and Obedience competitors the opportunity to sign up for text messaging.

Texts cost 50c to receive but we will only send out a text when there are important and unforeseen last minute notices or schedule changes.

Details of how to sign up to SportCheck for NDTA are on the web site.



Sightseeing?

Leave Your Dogs at Lealsam Retreat

If you're spending a bit of time in Dunedin you might like to visit some of the local attractions—maybe take in a tour of Speights or Cadburys or visit the Royal Albatross Colony. Lealsam Retreat, set in a rural location just minutes from the NDTA venue, are pleased to offer NDTA attendees daycare options for your dogs while you're busy sightseeing etc. Contact Denise at Lealsam Retreat for more information or to book. Phone (03) 489-5678 or Email lealsam@xtra.co.nz

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Overnight Camping

We are pleased to be able to offer competitors the option of overnight camping at NDTA. Unfortunately all powered sites are gone but there are still plenty of unpowered sites available for \$25 per night per site.

Camping at the NDTA venue means that there's no traveling time each day and as all the functions are onsite there's no worries about driving after social events.

There will be evening catering at the venue on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights—use the Registration form to book the meals.

The Overnight Camping booking form is available from the NDTA web site.

Shop Till You Drop at NDTA!!!

A feature of this year's event will be a "shopping mall" of great retailers and service providers located between the obedience and agility rings. You can check out some of the products and services that will be available at NDTA by going to the Supporters page of the NDTA web site. Retailers with onsite stalls have a shopping cart symbol and a web link so you can check out their great products.

We also know that some of the best products are sold, and sometimes even made, by people involved in dog training, so if you've got something to sell please contact Karen Grant for stallholder information. Please note that we will not be allowing any un-authorized product sales at NDTA.

No Tie-Up Policy

In the interests of safety there will be a No Tie-Up Policy in place at NDTA 2009. This means that unattended dogs may not be tied up anywhere.

Dogs may be tethered inside day tents while handlers are with them provided they are not in a position to interfere with passing dogs and/or people. If left unattended they should be crated. If dogs are in a vehicle they must not be able to get their head out and are not to be tethered in open vehicles.

Badges & Key Rings

As well as the traditional badge, the NDTA 2009 emblem is also available with a split ring—use it as a key ring, a zipper pull on your jacket or gear bag, or attach it to your dog's collar.

Both badges and key rings are just \$6 each and can be purchased via the registration form.



Sponsorship & Donations

The NDTA 2009 Committee would like to thank all the clubs, individuals and businesses who are supporting this year's event.

If you, your club or business would like the opportunity to sponsor a class at NDTA there are a range of options available. Class sponsorship ranges from \$50 to \$200 per class and sponsors will receive recognition on our web site and in the catalogue and get their name on the ribbons of the sponsored class. If you would like to know more please contact Sallie Remon or Karen Grant.

We are also seeking donations of goods and services for raffles and inclusion in the goodie bags etc. If you have something to donate or you wish to make a cash contribution please contact Sallie Remon, Roy Thorndycraft or Karen Grant.

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Page 3

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Thanks To These Sponsors of The Agility Finals Trophies:

Louise Marsh
Paul & Mia Beswick
Nick Chester
Taieri Canine Training Club
Fiona Ferrar
Otago Canine Training Club
Claire Horncastle

Agility

The agility sub-committee looks forward to welcoming you all to this year's NDTA. The committee spent many hours listening to the feedback from handlers and giving consideration to the new aspects of Agility introduced at the beginning of this year. The programme we have come up with will hopefully have something for everyone and be extensive enough to make the long trip South worthwhile for our North Island friends.

There was a strong preference for quadruple Agility and with the changes of regulations this year we have decided to also offer two Championship Jumpers Events and a Gamblers Event (Gamblers will be run at Ribbon Trial level). Champion of Champions also makes a welcome return to the programme.

As has become the norm recent years the Regional Teams event will be held on Sunday afternoon. Sunday is "Teams Day" with the Flygility Inter-Area teams and Agility Interclub Teams competitions being run after the Regional Teams event.

The concept of Agility Finals was well received when pioneered in Fielding in 2008. We have decided to continue with this and extend it to include Jumpers events. Due to generous sponsorship from the Agility community we are pleased to announce we will be presenting perpetual trophies for the Finals competition. The names of last years winners will be engraved on the trophies too. Details of the finals competition, including qualification criteria, will be on the web site.

To provide such an extensive program which also includes AD and ADXA Trials, the YKC Agility events and Flygility we have taken the step of running the event over four full days.

To run 22 championship classes and all the other classes will take a lot of manpower and would potentially put a massive strain on the 5 local clubs. It is our plan to provide lead runners and jump stewards for all classes from outside of the sport by supporting local sports clubs and schools. We have also received offers of help from many individuals and clubs outside Historic Zone 5 which is greatly appreciated.

Top Dog Awards

We are pleased to announce that there will be Top Dog Awards for both Agility and Obedience. The Top Dog Award winners will both receive fabulous high-tech dog jackets generously donated by D-fa of Wanaka.

Details of the calculation methods for the Top Dog Awards at NDTA 2009 will be posted on the web site. Check out the great products from D-fa at www.d-fa.com

Food & Functions

Plenty of good food will be available at NDTA 2009. We have employed a caterer to provide food to the cafeteria and there will be a range of food and drink stalls at the venue, including our very own Rose Lock's famous chocolate brownies. Bacon sandwiches will be available each morning for breakfast from 7am.

There will also be food available each evening: In addition to the finger food at the Friday night welcome you have the option to purchase a meal (lasagna and salad) for \$10. On Saturday night a roast dinner and dessert will be available for \$15 in conjunction with the Heelwork to Music competition. The Sunday night "Southern Experience" function includes dinner and a band for just \$27.50 per head. Children under 13 pay by age—e.g. a 9 year old costs \$9 for the Sunday function.

All evening meals need to be booked on the registration form.

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Obedience

As you will probably have already heard, most of the Obedience Tests will be held outside on grass, however all stays and scents for the outdoor tests will be held indoors at specified times in the Wallace Pavilion at the A&P grounds.

The Inter-Regional Teams Competition, Test C on Saturday and Test A on Monday (inclusive of scents and stays) will be run indoors in the Main Hall. The floor surface in this hall is concrete. See the map on the web site for the location of the indoor and outdoor rings, scents and stays and prizegiving stage.

There will be a roped off warm-up area immediately around the outdoor rings. Only the two dogs following the dog/handler in the ring will be allowed in the warm-up area. There will be plenty of space to practice, walk and toilet your dogs elsewhere at the grounds.

Because most of the Tests will be outdoors we have made provision for day tents around the rings. At past NDTAs Obedience competitors have not had the need to use day tents, however, due to the outdoor location of the rings and the fact that the car park is a fair distance from the rings, it would be a good idea to book yourself a tent site if you want your dog and other belongings close at hand. See the web site for the day tent booking form and a map of the Obedience rings.

Working Trials

This year we have been fortunate to have land offered to hold the Working Trials within 15 minutes of the main venue.

For the Inter-Region Trials Team competition the dogs will complete the control section at the main venue on the Sunday, in between the Inter-Region Obedience Team competition Tests so other NDTA competitors will get a chance to view some of the Working Trials action. If you wish to watch any of the tracks see the web site for details of the track locations. Viewing of the UD will be from the road. Both the WD and TD sites have limited off-road parking for a small number of cars. If you are watching the tracking please DO NOT walk in any paddocks.

Because Labour Weekend falls in the middle of lambing, the Trials will run from Wednesday to Saturday as only a limited number of tracks will be able to be run on each day due to the limited availability of farm land.

Competitors are reminded that they need to produce a vet certificate to show their dogs have been dosed by a vet for sheep measles within the previous 30 days.

We will try to have some pull over the weather conditions- all rain dances have ceased in the Southern Region and positive vibes are being sent skywards!! So hopes are high for a warm, fine weekend.

Further details of the Working Trials timetable, venues and other important information is available on the Trials page of the NDTA web site.

Registration Packs

You can pick up your registration pack from the cafeteria anytime from 2pm to 4pm on the Thursday or on Friday from 8am through until the Welcome function. You can also start setting up your day tent or your overnight camp site any time from 2pm on Thursday.

Catalogue

This year's catalogue will be free to download from the NDTA web site or will be \$10 printed (order with registration).

www.ndta2009.org.nz



Thanks To These Supporters:

Vivienne Good, Robby Brown
Barbara Lowen, Rose Lock
Fox Equestrian Services
Roy Thorndycraft
Otago Canine Training Club
Waikato Canine Obedience Club
North Shore Dog Training Club
Christchurch Dog Training Club
Nelson Dog Training Club



Contacts

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- Flygility
- Stalls

Karen Grant
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Entry Forms

NDTA Entry Forms for the following events are available from the NDTA Web Site:

- Agility
- Agility Club Teams
- Obedience Club Teams
- Young Kennel Club
- Rally Obedience
- Heelwork to Music
- Flygility

Young Kennel Club

The Young Kennel Club are eagerly awaiting the start of this years NDTA. YKC members can enter the YKC Agility (or Give It A Go Agility), YKC Jumpers and YKC Rally-O. Those who have gained a high enough percentage in standard Obedience tests throughout the year also able to enter the YKC Experienced Obedience. If you think you may be eligible for the YKC Experienced Obedience and wish to check, please e-mail Karen Sadler at agradeanimals@xtra.co.nz

Even if you aren't a member of the YKC, you can still enter YKC Rally-O and the Give It A Go Agility which are open to everyone. If you don't have a dog that will run for you, you can still have a go in the Give it a Go Agility with a borrowed dog (please let us know in advance so this can be arranged). If you want to join YKC the membership form is available from the NDTA web site. For more information on YKC go to www.ykc.org.nz

There will also be a colouring competition open to all youngsters attending NDTA (soon to be available for download from the NDTA website). Keep an eye on the web site for further updates on activities for children at NDTA 2009.

Rally-Obedience

What is Rally? In New Zealand's newest dog sport handlers and dogs negotiate a numbered course of around fifteen "stations", performing the obedience-based exercise indicated at each station. The run is scored as for obedience, but also timed – the time is used as a tie breaker when dogs are on the same points.

Exact precision is not required and you can talk to your dog as much as you like. Only basic skills are needed and at Novice level dogs of any age can enter - it's great for a retired agility or obedience dog that still wants a job to do!

There will be two Rally trials run at NDTA this year, one on Saturday and one on Monday, each consisting of a Novice A class and a Novice B class. These trials will be official qualifying trials under the Southern Region code, giving handlers and dogs the opportunity to earn qualifying runs towards their first Rally title.

Heelwork To Music

Dinner and a Show! HTM will be run in the Main Hall on Saturday night starting at 7:30pm. A roast dinner with dessert is available for just \$15 (this needs to be pre-booked on the registration form.) As always, spectators are most welcome and entry for spectators is free.

If you are entered in HTM please hand your music (preferably on CD) to Gabriella Stuart or Nicky Rutherford by lunchtime on Saturday. Food will be allowed in the ring for the Starters classes (but not Open), but it is to be kept inside a container or sealable bag and not given to the dog until it is well away from the ring.

Flygility

Since its introduction in 2006 Flygility has become a regular feature of the NDTA. As this year's Agility events will span four days Flygility has been incorporated into the main programme with individual events (Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced) being held on the Friday morning.

The most significant change this year is to the Inter-Area Teams event. Previously an all-comers event held on the same day as the individual Flygility classes this year the Inter-Area Teams will be restricted to one team per area and will be run on Sunday afternoon following the Inter-Zone Agility Teams. This promises to be an awesome display of great racing and a fabulous showcase for Flygility.