

Mid-Atlantic Rat Terrier Club

2015

Issue 1

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Letter From The President



Welcome to the second edition of the Mid-Atlantic Rat Terrier Club newsletter. I hope you all had a great holiday season. I am looking forward to watching this club evolve and grow in the coming year. The club will be developing some educational tools this year to help people understand our wonderful breed and I can't wait to share them with you. I'd like MARTC to have the best educational tools for this breed and have people seek our opinion and support.

We've held our first fundraiser of 2015 with the pasta sale. I hope you were able to support the club and enjoy some delicious dishes

with your families. We will be holding additional fundraisers so that the club will have funds to promote the breed with prizes for performance and conformation exhibitors. Our funds also will cover the expense of finalizing our non-profit status, print the newsletter, and develop educational tools. Please continue to support the club through our fundraisers.

Thank you to everyone who contributed content and pictures to this edition. I hope as you look through the stories you might be inspired to try something new with your rat terrier. This breed loves to learn and is eager to work. So, get out there and have some fun!

Amy Miskiewicz
President
Mid-Atlantic Rat Terrier Club

Contact Us at:

Midatlanticratterrier@yahoo.com



This 'n That ...

Did you know ... you do not have to live in the Mid-Atlantic region to be a voting member of the club.

By joining you will find a supportive group of like minded friends who have Rat Terriers and who participate in a variety of venues with their dogs. You don't even have to participate in any venue to join and still find support from those who love the breed. All you need is to love the Rat Terrier breed. Finding sponsors is pretty easy, just ask and someone will step up. The application is at the back of this newsletter to make it easy for you and you can pay dues via PayPal or snail mail.

Right now our club newsletter is made public, but at some point that will probably not be the case. We welcome contributions in the form of brags about your dog successes in any venue, love photos of your dog just being a rattie, and if you have ideas for something that you'd like to see in the newsletter please let us know. midatlanticrtc@cox.net will get any newsletter contributions directly to Sandra OR you can send to the club email at midatlanticratterrier@yahoo.com.

*“Little did I know what a
‘jump in my yard’
would turn in to”
See Dillon’s story on
page 4.*



Board of Directors

Amy Miskiewicz ~ President
Tricia McCree ~ Vice-President
Jackie Maye Olsen ~ Secretary
Judith Babarsky ~ Treasurer

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Contact:
MidAtlanticRatTerrier@yahoo.com

Introducing your Newsletter Collaboration Team ...

Sandra Ball ~ Arizona
Kerry Maguire Cox ~ Maryland
Cory Downey Hart ~ Washington
Carol Krantz ~ Illinois
Tricia McCree ~ Maryland
Jackie Maye Olsen ~ Pennsylvania
Mandy Truitt ~ Pennsylvania

Contact email: MidAtlanticrtc@cox.net or
midatlanticratterrier@yahoo.com

We are continually looking for photos, articles, and news to include in a future newsletter. Please send us anything that you think might be of interest. Providing us with URL links for potential items is welcome too. We LOVE photos of the Rat Terrier doing those things that they were bred to do, plus them doing the various performance venues (Lure coursing, Barn Hunt, rally or obedience, agility, and on and on.). Help us make this newsletter something that you look forward to and want to keep.

Treasurers Report

It's been a busy and productive first year for MARTC. Officially incorporated as an LLC on February 25, 2014, we are continuing to build our membership base. This is a necessary task if we are to accomplish our primary goal of promoting the Rat Terrier through education and support. The newsletter in which you are reading this report is our second newsletter and serves to promote the entire breed, whether in the show ring, on the agility course, other performance activities (barn hunt, terrier racing, dock diving, lure coursing, rally and regular obedience), or just plain old sofa lounging!

The club has held two fun matches during its first year and one fundraiser (a raffle). A second fundraiser is winding up as this goes to press - a Fun Pasta sale online.

We are in process of finishing up an education project (\$250 paid) relating to coat colors/patterns for Ratties -- as you know there are many colors and even judges are easily confused!

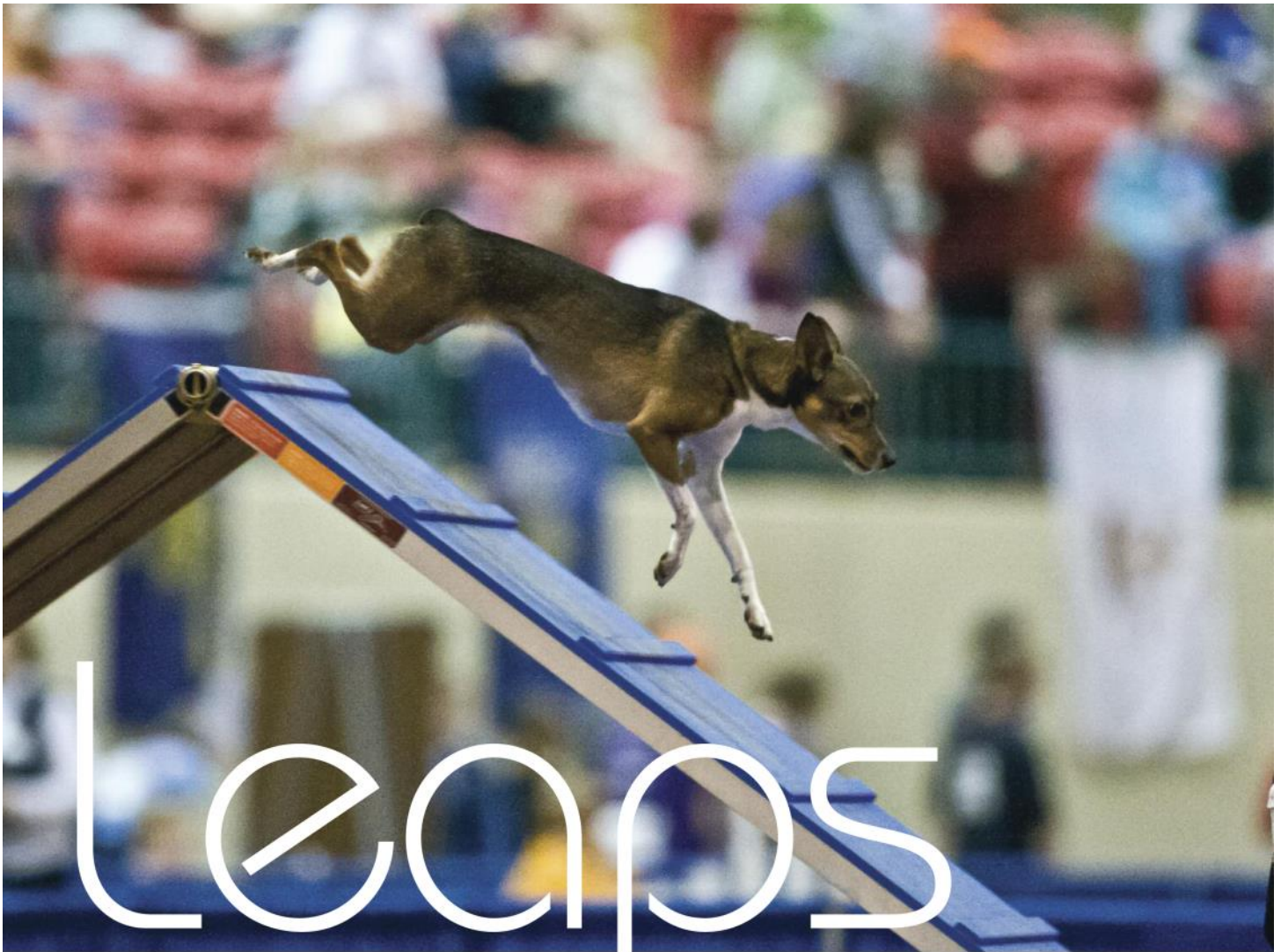
A significant expense - \$400 - needs to be undertaken soon for finalization of the 501c3 application for non-profit status.

As of February 23, 2015, the bank balance is \$659.47 and the PayPal balance is \$79.07 for a total accounts balance of \$738.54. We are current on all outstanding bills and, as mentioned above, are looking at an anticipated expenditure of \$400.00 for the 501c3 application. Once we achieve non-profit status all donations to the club will be tax-deductible!

Judith Babarsky
Treasurer



*“There are three
topics that you
shouldn’t discuss
with friends”
See page 22*



Leaps of Faith

By Caroline Coile

The teen and her terrier were not great candidates for agility stardom, but that didn't slow them down.

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S

he was an unlikely champion. She was a Rat Terrier from a shelter, she was timid, and her young owner, Angie Benacquisto, had never trained—or even owned—a dog of her own before.

Many dog trainers select agility prospects according to breed, or pedigree, or from responses to temperament tests. Angie selected 8-week-old Dylan because “she was cute.”

Angie enrolled Dylan in an obedience class for puppies. It was there she saw a flyer for agility classes. “I thought it might be fun to be able to set up a jump or such in my yard,” she recalls. “Little did I know what ‘a jump in my yard’ would turn in to.”





Dylan was anything but a natural. Shortly after starting class she began to develop fears. First it was the noise made when she knocked something over, like a jump bar. Then it turned into a general fear of PVC, which is what agility jumps are made of. And since most of every agility course is made up of jumps and PVC, an agility future seemed pretty unlikely!

Just to seal the “agility is not for me” deal, Dylan decided to add a fear of the teeter, also known as the seesaw. “It was terrible,” Angie says. “She couldn’t even

go into a room with one without hiding and peeing.”

Most people, even experienced trainers, would have quit. But Angie worked harder. She carried pieces of PVC on their walks and around the house. She fed Dylan her meals in rooms with a teeter, gradually feeding her closer and closer to it, until she was on it. She took Dylan to an agility class not to train, but just to watch the other dogs and get used to the normal sounds of agility.

Dylan eventually worked through her fears, but Angie says she never quite got

over her fear of noise. “Her trust in me got her through courses. I never did any cheerleading or clapping with her when she was afraid. I think it was the calmness of letting her work it out and make the choices that made it all work.”

One Step at a Time

Not immediately, but obstacle by obstacle, Dylan increased her confidence and improved her performance. Angie decided to enter some competitions. Their first trials didn’t go so well. Dylan missed jumps, jumped over contacts, and refused obstacles. As soon as one thing seemed mastered, another seemed a lost cause. But eventually, they all came together and Dylan started to qualify—in agility lingo,

to “Q.” By February 2007 she’d earned her Agility Dog and other USDAA (United States Dog Agility Association) starters titles. Dylan kept on qualifying, graduating from one level to the next, until she was competing at the highest level in all three major agility organizations: American Kennel Club (AKC), USDAA, and Canine Performance Events (CPE).

By the end of the year, she’d earned Agility Championships in all three organizations, a feat most agility competitors never accomplish even in one organization!

Dylan wasn’t just qualifying anymore; with her natural zest and energy she was rocketing through the courses. She continued to rack up points.





In 2008 she earned her MACH2 title (and Bronze Lifetime Achievement Award in AKC), and ADCH bronze and silver titles in USDAA. She was ranked number one nationally in every USDAA class. Her scores earned her berths in national competitions, where only the elite are invited to compete.

At the AKC Agility National she was also a finalist. At the AKC Agility Invitational she became the National Champion.

The streak continued through 2009 and 2010, with more and more advanced titles and championships. She finished fifth at the AKC Nationals, then came back a year later and won.

She traveled to Europe to compete as

part of the U.S. team, where she won the silver medal.

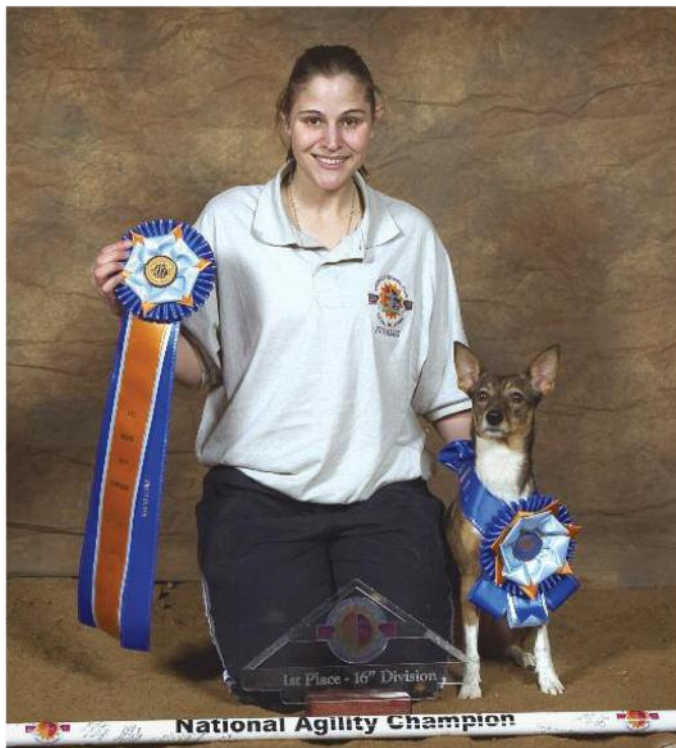
But disaster struck. A massage therapist working on Dylan after her last run at the European trials pointed out a lump. The news was devastating: At only 5½ years of age, Dylan was diagnosed with lymphoma. Even with treatment, she was given only months to live. Dylan was started on chemo immediately.

A Tougher Course

It seemed Dylan's agility days were over, and that was certainly the least of Angie's worries. But Dylan loved agility, and loved competing. Could a dog on chemo really handle competition?

“Little did I know what ‘jump in my yard’ would turn into.”

At Dylan’s first agility trial after her diagnosis, she erased all doubt. Not only could she handle competition, but she was still the dog to beat. She continued to compete, earning her Platinum Lifetime Achievement Award: 500 Q’s. She became the USDAA Rocky Mountain Regional Steeplechase and DAM champion. She proved a dog on chemo really could run—



if she had enough heart.

Dylan had never really gone into remission, and eventually the chemo stopped working. Her disease had just been held off for a while. During this time Angie had been relentlessly searching for any treatment that might help. But there was none to be found.

Despite her declining health, the little dog still wanted to run. Days before the 2011 National Agility Championship, Dylan’s oncologists placed her on a double dose of medicine, but doubted she’d be able to run at all. Angie decided to let Dylan try for her enjoyment, but to just take it easy and go slowly—maybe a farewell round in front of her fans.

Dylan would have none of it. She made it plain she did not approve of the “slow and easy” part of the plan, so in the next round—the finals—Angie ran at Dylan speed: fast! Even sick from lymphoma, on a double dose of chemo, she finished second at the AKC Agility National.

The chemo continued to be ineffective, but Dylan refused to let her disease slow her down. Her last trial was the USDAA North Central Regional in August 2011, where she finished as the North Central Grand Prix Regional Champion. She died just a few weeks later. The agility world mourned.

Her friends knew her as Princess Pickle, or just Dylan. But technically, her AKC name was NAC MACH4 Dylan, MXC, MJB2, MXF, MFS, TQX. 🐾

Congratulations!!



Sands' Holy Mackerel (Mackerel), owned by Alison Raposo, earned his second rally leg with a third place finish at the Souhegan Kennel Club under Judge Nanci Hayes and finished his Rally Novice title under Judge Janet E. Induni at the Windham Country Kennel Club in December. On January 18, he earned his Barn Hunt Instinct Title at Fit-N-Trim Dog Sport Training in Rowley, MA under Judge Susan Sparks.



Skippin CJ Lucky Boy was Best Bred by, Best Owner Handler, Best of Winners for a major at the Desert Empire Terrier Club of Southern California on January 2. Owner/Breeder Christina Martinez. Judge Mrs. Anne S. Katona.



River Ridge Lock 'n Load (Gunner) earned his Barn Hunt Instinct title on January 24. He is owned and handled by Sandra Ball.



Send us your brags for next quarters newsletter!

Way to go!!!



Bingo is a 7 y/o rehome that we fostered... Forever! His nickname is Shorty and it's got nothing to do with his height. However, he's a sweet, biddable, happy dog who never forgets what he's learned, even if it does take him a little longer to catch on! This photo was taken at the all-terrier agility trials held in Pennsylvania in 2014. He qualified every run for 4 days except his first run of the week, something he'd never even come close to achieving before. His full name is: MACH ADCH Jus' Bingo CDX, U-CD, RE, XF, RL-2, RAT-S (and a few CPE titles to boot). He's actually about 2 Q's from his ADCH Bronze!

Zap is an 8 y/o rescue. Zap's nickname is Weanie-Boy and it's a friend's theory that he knew, at birth, he should have been born a cat.... I have never had a dog that hated all things doggy like this one! He also rocked it at the all-terrier trials with only 1 NQ on the last day when he wasn't feeling well. He hates to travel and that was at the end of 2 weeks on the road. His full name is: MACH ADCH-BRONZE U-ACH R' Short Circuit CDX, U-CDX, RE, XF, U-PA, RL-3, RAT-N (and a few CPE titles, too) he's on the cusp of an ADCH-Silver!

Proud owner of these two handsome boys is Barb Krynski.



River Ridge Rimfire Reloaded (Rimi) completed the requirements for her AKC S.T.A.R. puppy certification on January 29. She is owned and handled by Sandra Ball.



AWESOME!!!



Beverly Calhoun announces that Bree (Bur-Way After the Storm@KTR CAA CGC) earned her AKC CAX title on January 24. She is the first Rat Terrier to earn the Coursing Ability Excellent. WAY TO GO BREE!!!



So ... what is with all those genetic tests??

By Sandra Ball

It is not unusual to see mention of genetic testing for purebred dogs in various conversations. These days a lot of that communication occurs on Facebook and it can create quite the stir at times. We have breeders who believe in careful genetic testing to help guide their choices within their programs and we have those who do not. My goal is to try to educate about the various genetic tests that should be part of the portfolio that your breeder of choice offers for the parents of that puppy that you are in love with. As a puppy buyer, the decision to be made is about what genetic tests are important to you so you can make an informed decision about any puppy you might be considering. Part of your consideration will be influenced by the proposed goals that you have for that puppy: conformation, agility or other active sports, breeding, and/or as a loved member of your family. This is a versatile breed so the opportunities are numerous and a healthy puppy with a long lifespan is essential to any goal that you might have.

So, the question is: why should a puppy buyer even care about genetic testing? The answer is simple. We should care because when we bring a new puppy into our home it is with the intention of having it live a long and healthy life. While we understand that we will take care of our new pet for its lifetime, this can often involve very expensive veterinary fees. It certainly is desirable to know that we are not going to face certain health issues with our special pet. When a breeder performs a variety of genetic tests it helps them paint a picture about what the overall health status can potentially be for the life of that puppy. It is not a perfect tool, but when you know your puppy will not end up with a genetic eye disorder that is very reassuring. When you can search the OFA database for the parents and grandparents of your puppy and see that they had hips and elbows that passed the OFA standards that is also reassuring. Even though it is not a guarantee of perfect hips and elbows for your puppy it does give you a vision about what has a higher likelihood of happening. So far, researchers have isolated the gene for the eye disorder that causes primary lens luxation, but there is no gene that has been isolated to show hips, elbows, patella, hearing, and so on. The lack of isolated genes for these other potential disorders, that run in a specific breed, make it essential to rely on anecdotal evidence based upon generations of dogs with passing results.

One of the genetic tests available for the Rat Terrier is very definitive and provides an answer at a young age about the status of your puppy. You do not have to wait until your puppy is one or two years of age to have this evaluated. The test that I am referring to is the one for Primary Lens Luxation (PLL). This is a genetic condition that can cause your puppy to go blind, develop painful glaucoma, and require lens replacement surgery or eye removal. I recommend that you research this condition and understand why the parents of your puppy MUST be tested before they produce offspring. PLL is very easy to test for and it is not very expensive when you consider the information that is gained to help the breeders make a wise breeding choice. As a puppy buyer you want to know that your puppy will not be affected because he/she does not carry both genes for the condition. If your puppy carries no genes for PLL, he/she is clear. If he/she carries a single PLL gene they can potentially create affected puppies if they are bred unwisely. The single gene is not a huge issue by itself, but it does tell the breeder to make sure to breed to only a clear (no PLL genes) dog to

avoid producing any puppies in the future which carry both genes. Thus far, this particular genetic test is not a requirement for the CHIC (Canine Health Information Center) number for a specific dog. I hope that this is changed in the future so all Rat Terriers that carry the CHIC number as part of their credentials have had this very important genetic test done. The CHIC number is earned by a dog that has had the specific required genetic tests for the breed performed and recorded with OFA. A CHIC number does not mean that the dog passed all of the tests; it only means that the required tests were done.

When a Rat Terrier turns one year of age there are some genetic tests that can be done by a veterinarian or a specialist in the field. The patellar luxation is one of these tests. Patellar luxation is when the knee cap luxates or pops out of place and it can cause severe lameness. The knee cap is a small bone that is in the tendon of the extensor muscles of the thigh. The test can be performed by your veterinarian at the annual checkup for your puppy. You need to take along the proper OFA form and have your doctor examine the dog and fill out the form with his findings. For the patellar luxation the goal is to determine if the patellar has any degree of luxation or bony deformity that could eventually require orthopedic surgery to correct. This can affect the athletic ability of your dog and limit his/her future mobility and contribute to pain levels.

Another test that can be done at the first birthday checkup of your puppy is the cardiac exam. This test can be done by a practitioner or even better a cardiologist. In some areas, where there are a lot of dog shows and breeders, you can often find a cardiac clinic being held in conjunction with a dog show or other special canine event. The form for this is on the OFA site (link listed at the bottom on this article); you fill it out with the specific information that applies to your dog and then take it with you for the exam. The goal here is to identify any cardiac issues that would and should affect the decision about whether to breed your dog in the future. The ultimate goal is to always breed dogs that are as healthy and structurally sound as possible.

When your dog reaches the age of two, it is time for the OFA X-rays to determine the condition of the hips and elbows. Both sets of X-rays are looking for evidence of dysplasia. This is something that can often affect the future mobility and pain levels your dog might experience, plus the possible need for surgical intervention. The X-ray films are sent to OFA to be evaluated by three independent specialists and they are assessed to see which of the various levels from excellent to that the dog qualifies for. Some dogs fail to meet the guidelines for passing and are then graded for the degree by which they have failed to pass the exam. The hip X-rays are also used for the Rat Terrier to determine the Legge-Calve-Perthes status. OFA does not charge to evaluate and record this test, but you must send along the proper OFA form with the hip X-rays. Legge-Calve-Perthes is the degeneration of the head of the femur bone. This usually results in inflammation (pain) and the disintegration of the hip joint.

The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (AVCO) endorsed the OFA ECR (Eye Certification Registry) as of November 1, 2012. In 2014, OFA replaced the CERF (Canine Eye Registration Foundation) eye exam with the OFA ECR exam and recording process. The form will be provided by the examining clinic. The eye exam should be done annually and usually after the first birthday to monitor the condition of your dog's eyes and especially so as your dog ages. Often the Ophthalmology Specialty clinic in your area will conduct "clinics" and offer reduced rates on a given day to encourage many people to participate and check the condition of their dog's eyes.

You can see a brochure about this exam at http://www.offa.org/pdf/eye_flyer_web.pdf

Another, optional test, is the BAER (Brainstem Auditory Evoked Response) hearing test and it is one that must be conducted by a doctor with the proper equipment which OFA requires. This test is usually done on a litter of puppies at around the 7-8 week age. The form for the BAER exam is on the OFA site and you take it with you to the exam so that the test can be performed and the proper form filled out and signed by the performing doctor. You send the form, plus the actual

hearing tracings to OFA along with the recording fee. The desired result is for your dog to have bilateral hearing (both ears) and especially so if it is to be in a future breeding program.

For the person purchasing a pet, show or breeding quality puppy the genetic testing provides a sense of comfort. You know that your breeder of choice has done their best to produce a healthy, genetically and structurally sound puppy.

Below you will see a chart from OFA through December 2014 that shows the number of Rat Terriers that have been tested for various genetic issues.

RAT TERRIER

Evaluations through December 2014

Registry	Rank	Evaluations	Percent Abnormal	Percent Normal	Percent Carrier	Percent Equivocal
BAER HEARING TEST	N/A	32	.0	100.0	.0	.0
CARDIAC	40	831	.5	99.3	.0	.2
DEGENERATIVE MYELOPATHY	N/A	8	.0	100.0	.0	.0
ELBOW	90	328	1.5	98.2	.0	.0
EYES	N/A	16	.0	100.0	.0	.0
FANCONI SYNDROME	N/A	3	.0	100.0	.0	.0
HIPS	161	523	2.9	96.6	.0	.0
LEGG-CALVE-PERTHES	10	474	.4	99.6	.0	.0
PATELLA	39	1172	3.9	96.1	.0	.0
PRIMARY LENS LUXATION	3	1153	2.9	62.0	35.1	.0
THYROID	N/A	5	.0	100.0	.0	.0





Canine Health Information Center

RAT TERRIER

www.caninehealthinfo.org

Congenital Cardiac Database

- ❖ OFA (Orthopedic Foundation for Animals) Evaluation

Hip Dysplasia

- ❖ OFA Evaluation - OR
- ❖ PennHIP Evaluation

Patellar Luxation

- ❖ OFA Evaluation

Legg-Calve-Perthes

- ❖ Legg-Calves-Perthes
- ❖ OFA Evaluation

Eye Examination by a boarded ACVO Ophthalmologist- Annual exams until at least Age 8ys (96mo) (Optional)

- ❖ Results registered with OFA – OR
- ❖ Results registered with CERF (CERF has now been replaced by the OFA eye exam program)

Congenital Deafness (Optional)

- ❖ OFA evaluation based on BAER test
- ❖ GDC evaluation based on BAER test

Elbow Dysplasia (Optional)

- ❖ OFA Evaluation

Primary Lens Luxation (Optional)

- ❖ PRIMARY LENS LUXATION OFA/University of Missouri DNA Test

OFA forms can be found here: <http://www.offa.org/applications.html>

OFA PLL kit can be found here: <http://www.offa.org/dnatesting/pll.html>

My simple list for Genetic Testing

Recommended genetic testing for the Rat Terrier (make sure the dog has a microchip before you begin testing because OFA does require the microchip be verified as part of its documentation):

All this assumes you are seeking an AKC or UKC Rat Terrier and want to have a good genetic base and understanding of what you are proposing to breed (or simply wish to know about your pet). The only test which is definitive about predicting future outcome is the eye test for PLL. The others are an indication only of the dog tested, but enough testing in the pedigree provides a pattern to feel more confident about. There is no way to guarantee that hips, elbows, patellar, or heart will not develop problems. But, if the family tree has good results, the odds are much better.

* PLL (Primary Lens Luxation – blindness and potentially painful/expensive eye issues). This is a simple swab test and costs \$65. It is a very important test to determine whether a dog carries zero, one, or both genes. The PLL eye test will give you results of clear, carrier, or affected (at risk). Carrier only has a single gene and if bred to a clear, they will never produce a puppy with the disease. Clear is just that – no genes with the disease. An affected means that they have both genes and will quite likely have their lens luxate. It is not unusual for both lenses to luxate on a PLL affected dog. For breeding purposes at least one parent should be clear. Any other combination could potentially result in affected offspring. These tests can and should be done on a young pup so that you know what you have and if you will need to put aside funds for a future expensive corrective eye surgery. <http://www.offa.org/dnatesting/pll.html>

* For both elbows and hips, you want the results recorded in the OFA database. A veterinarian reading the results and announcing that the dog has good or excellent hips is NOT good enough. You want an official reading because veterinarians can be wrong.

OFA Hip application that accompanies hip X-rays, this is done after the dog turns two:
http://www.offa.org/pdf/hdedapp_bw.pdf

OFA Elbow application that accompanies elbow X-rays, this is done after the dog turns two:
http://www.offa.org/pdf/hdedapp_bw.pdf

OFA Legge-Calve-Perthes application that should accompany the hip X-rays and will be evaluated and recorded at no fee: http://www.offa.org/pdf/lcpapp_bw.pdf

* BAER – hearing application that is filled out by a doctor certified to do the exam. This is the FIRST test that a breeder should do on a new litter and it is done at around 7 - 8 weeks of age. It has to be performed by a certified veterinarian for the BAER. You take the filled out application with you to the exam and the certified vet fills it in when the pup passes or fails: http://www.offa.org/pdf/deafapp_bw.pdf

* Patella exam – this can be done by your vet after the age of one year. You fill out the application with identifying information and your vet completes it. http://www.offa.org/pdf/plapp_bw.pdf

* Cardiac exam – this can be done by your vet after the age of one. It is better to have it done by a cardiologist, if that option exists for you. http://www.offa.org/pdf/cardapp_bw.pdf



New Rattitude

Rat Terrier Rescue



What New Rattitude is About

Meet Dante – He is available and resides in VA. Dante represents one of the many faces that New Rattitude rescues and rehomes each year.

We are seeking adoptive homes. You can view our available dogs, see several photos and read their full bio at: <http://www.newrattitude.org/dogs.htm>. All New Rattitude dogs are neutered/spayed, wormed, checked for heartworm and on preventative, up to date on vaccinations, and microchipped. Adoption fee is \$175 for adult dogs and \$225 for puppies under six months of age.

All adoption fees go toward rescue and care of Rat Terriers in need.

New Rattitude has many opportunities available to those who are able to volunteer a little or a lot of their time and energies. We would love to have you join us simply submit a member application found on our site.

We have a great retail store where you can purchase dog toys for less and the money supports the dogs in need.

New Rattitude is a national, all-volunteer organization that rescues and rehomes Rat Terriers and Rat Terrier mixes. We are a tax-exempt, non-profit 501(c)3 charitable corporation. We were incorporated August 4, 2008, and are licensed by the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

<http://www.newrattitude.org>

Board of Directors

Jena Gammon (Louisiana) - President

Susan Beard (North Carolina) - Vice President

Terry Beale (Georgia) - Secretary

Sue Kangas (Michigan) - Treasurer

Julee Allen (Washington) - Director

Debbie Collins (Alabama) - Director

Stephanie Mathson (Michigan) - Director

THE NATIONAL SHOW

PHILADELPHIA, PA

NOVEMBER 2014



GCH CH Stoneybay's Ur Martini's Serv'd CM was awarded Best of Breed

**MARTC Booth
is selected as a
FINALIST!**





This past year at the National Dog Show held in Oaks PA, the Mid-Atlantic Rat Terrier Club created the booth to represent the Rat Terrier at the show and entered the judging contest. The booth had a theme of Rat Terriers Importance to Organic Farming. We had lots of information on how Rat Terriers hunt and rid rodents on organic farms. Since this show is one of only three benched shows for the public, we had thousands of people coming through to visit our booth, meet and greet the Rat Terriers that were entered. There were even chocolate candy Rats for them to take with them and enjoy.

A lot of work went into getting this handmade booth designed, painted and assembled. Special thank you to Louise Schroll and Denise Hileman for making this booth possible. Winning 2nd place and \$50.00 really was not the award, it was all the education we were able to give as people stopped and spent time at this very inviting booth! Can't wait to see what we design for 2015. Be sure to put the National Dog Show on your calendar for 2015.

**MARTC Booth is
Awarded SECOND!!**

*Congratulations
Hannah!!!* ***



*AKC Top-Producing Dam
All-Breeds for 2014
with 12 Champions*



River Ridge Shineon Sweet Stuff

*UKC Grand Champion
Breeder: Stacy McWilliams*

Spay, Neuter And Joint Disease

by Dana Scott in Featured Articles, Holistic Care



There are three topics you shouldn't discuss with friends:

- religion
- politics
- and mandatory spay/neuter.

Talking frankly about spay/neuter is worth the backlash however because the health risks associated with it, especially when done in a young dog, are worthy of discussion. That isn't to say that dogs shouldn't be spayed or neutered; that's a personal decision best left to the pet owner. Like vaccines and most routine veterinary procedures however, vets spend a lot of time discussing why you should spay or neuter your dog, but spend very little time talking about why you shouldn't. The goal of this article is to give you the information your vet doesn't, so you can make the best possible decision for your dog.

I'll preface the article by stating that I breed Labrador Retrievers, a breed that can be prone to hip and elbow dysplasia, as well as cruciate tears. The families that get one of my puppies receive a warranty of sorts, saying that I have done everything I can to prevent these issues and if, despite my best efforts, the puppy I've bred ends up with a debilitating joint issue, I will refund the purchase price to the puppy's family.

There is one disclaimer however and it's as follows: if the family decides to spay or neuter the puppy before 24 months of age, my warranty is null and void. The reason is that research shows I can't guarantee the puppy's joints won't be affected by this seemingly simple medical procedure. Spay/neuter has the capability of permanently changing a healthy puppy joint into an unhealthy one.

Abnormal Growth

At the heart of the matter is how spay/neuter affects the dog's hormones. When a dog's reproductive organs are surgically removed, the sex hormones they produce also disappear. The sex hormones are responsible for more than just sexual behaviors and one of their responsibilities is regulating growth.

Breeders can readily spot the difference between an intact dog and a neutered dog: neutered dogs have longer limbs, narrower heads and bodies, and they are lighter in bone. When the sex hormones are removed, the growth hormones are missing important regulatory input and the bones continue to grow longer than they ought to. Studies have proven this to be true (Salmeri et al, JAVMA 1991).

Spay, Neuter And Joint Disease, Continued

In each long bone there is a growth (epiphyseal) plate, which is a band of cartilage found near the joint. This growth plate lays down bone as a puppy develops and, as it builds bone, the bone becomes longer and the puppy gets larger and taller. Once maturity is reached, this growth plate turns into bone and the puppy's full height is reached.

When dogs are sterilized before maturity, the closure of some but not all growth plates may be delayed and this would be especially true if a dog is sterilized when only some of his growth plates are closed.

The dog's elbow and stifle joints are similarly designed. Above each joint is one bone (the humerus and femur respectively), and below are two bones (in the elbow there is the radius and ulna and in the stifle there is the tibia and fibula). One bone effectively sits on two. What would happen if one of those bones underneath the joint stopped growing before the other bone and they ended up being different lengths? It would be very much like building a house on a slope: the weight of the home wouldn't be evenly distributed and there would be increased load at the lowermost corner of the house.

The same could very well happen in the elbow and stifle joint when closure of the growth plates is artificially delayed and this could in turn lead to increased risk of both elbow dysplasia and cranial cruciate ligament tears.

There is research that supports this. Whitehair et al (JAVMA Oct 1993), found that spayed and neutered dogs were twice as likely to suffer cranial cruciate ligament rupture. Slaughterbeck et al also found an increased risk (Clin Orthop Relat Res Dec 2004).

Chris Zinc DVM PhD DACVP explains, "...if the femur has achieved its genetically determined normal length at eight months when a dog gets spayed or neutered, but the tibia, which normally stops growing at 12 to 14 months of age continues to grow, then an abnormal angle may develop at the stifle. In addition, with the extra growth, the lower leg below the stifle likely becomes heavier (because it is longer), and may cause increased stresses on the cranial cruciate ligament."

Additionally, sterilization can cause a loss of bone mass (Martin et al, Bone 1987), and obesity (Edney et al, Vet Rec Apr 1986). Both of these factors could lead to an increased risk of cranial cruciate ligament tear. Furthermore, spayed/neutered dogs are greater than three times more likely to suffer from patellar luxation (Vidoni et al, Wien Tierartztl Mschr 2005).

Hip Dysplasia

The thought of hip dysplasia is enough to strike fear into any large breed dog lover. For that reason, the bulk of research on spay/neuter and joint disease is focused on this disorder.

Dogs who are sterilized before the age of six months have a 70% increased risk of developing hip dysplasia. The authors of this study (Spain et al, JAVMA 2004), propose that "it is possible that the increase in bone length that results from early-age gonadectomy results in changes in joint conformation, which could lead to a diagnosis of hip dysplasia."

There is more evidence that spay/neuter can increase the risk of hip dysplasia. Van Hagen et al (Am J Vet Res, Feb 2005), found that of the sample dogs diagnosed with hip dysplasia, those that were neutered six months prior to the diagnosis were nearly twice as likely to develop hip dysplasia.

Interestingly, a study by Dannuccia et al (Calcif Tissue Int, 1986), found that removing the ovaries of Beagles caused increased remodeling of the pelvic bone, which also suggests an increased risk of hip dysplasia with sterilization.

Osteosarcoma

Although not technically a joint issue, osteosarcoma is a cancer of the bone. This bears mentioning because spayed and neutered dogs are twice as likely to develop this deadly disease (Ru et al, Vet J, Jul 1998).

In another study, male Rottweilers, a breed susceptible to osteosarcoma, were nearly four times more likely to develop osteosarcoma than intact dogs (Cooley et al, Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev, Nov 2002). In fact, Rottweilers spayed or neutered before one year of age had a 28.4%(males) and 25.1% (females) risk of developing osteosarcoma.

Interestingly, the researchers concluded from their results that the longer the dogs were exposed to sex hormones, the lower their risk of osteosarcoma.

Playing Roulette

There are other related risks with spay/neuter, including an increased risk of many cancers, hypothyroidism, diabetes, urogenital disorders, cognitive impairment, obesity and adverse vaccine reactions – not to mention the risk associated with the surgery and the anesthetic. These risks should all be considered when it comes time to decide if spay/neuter is an option for your dog.

Spay, Neuter And Joint Disease, Continued

What does seem to be clear is that the risk of joint disease in particular is greatly exaggerated if the dog is sterilized before the growth plates close. It's important to remember that the sex hormones do play a synergistic role in your dog's growth and development and their removal will create imbalance in the body. Just what the fallout from this imbalance entails remains to be seen, as research into the effects of sterilization is in its infancy, even though hysterectomies on humans and spay/neuter on dogs has been accepted as a normal procedure for decades!

The age at which the growth plates close is entirely dependent on the dog and the breed. In general, the larger the dog, the later the growth plates will close. In giant breeds, this could be nearly two years of age.

Conclusion

Getting back to my puppy contract, given the above research, I simply can't guarantee the puppies I breed will have healthy joints if they are spayed or neutered, especially before the age of two. Whether the puppy's family decides to keep their dog intact or sterilize him after that age is entirely up to the family. I do an extremely good job of screening the homes that apply for one of my puppies and if they aren't responsible enough to keep an intact animal, they certainly aren't responsible enough to deserve one of my precious puppies in the first place.

People who are involved in rescues and shelters may have a different view on this and they are certainly entitled to it. When considering if and when your dog should be spayed or neutered however, it's important that you make the decision based on facts and try to steer clear of an emotional response that may affect the health and longevity of your dog. It's really not for me – or your vet – to dictate what you should do with your dog.

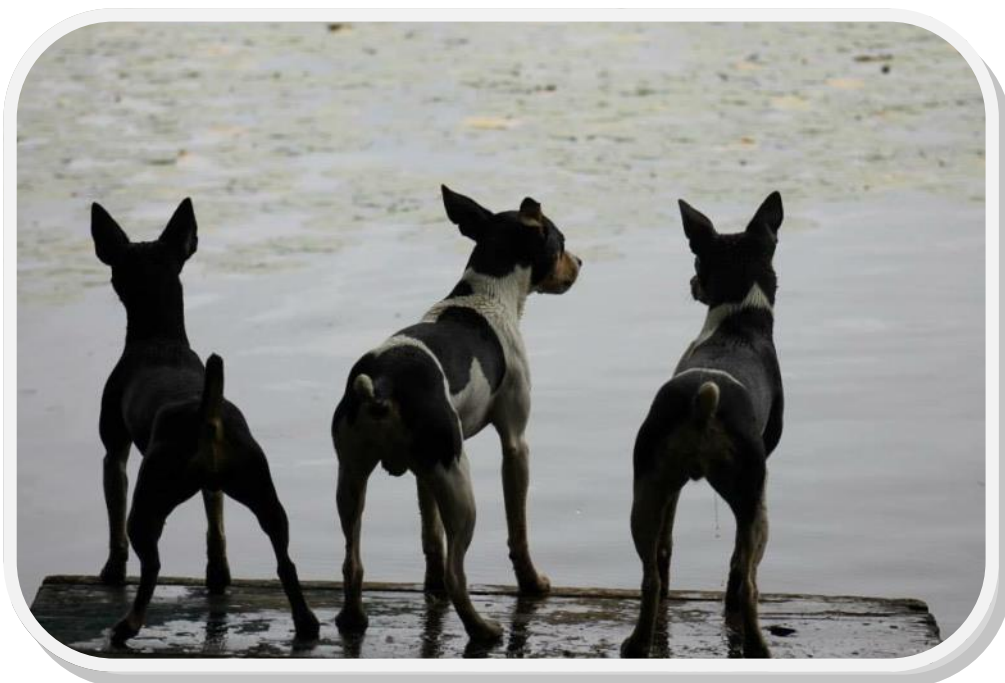
Happily, there are alternatives to the complete removal of the sexual organs. Vets are starting to experiment with zinc injections to sterilize male dogs. This leaves about half of the circulating testosterone available to the body. Vasectomies and tubal ligations are also becoming more popular and they have the happy consequence of less interference with the sex hormones – and your dog gets to keep his reproductive organs right where nature intended them to be.

You have a choice in whether and when your dog is spayed or neutered and how important it is to you that his/her sexual organs and hormones remain in place. Once your dog is spayed or neutered, you can't reverse your decision, so dig a little deeper and you just might find a solution that you and your dog can live with, happily and healthfully.

<http://www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com/spay-neuter-and-joint-disease/>

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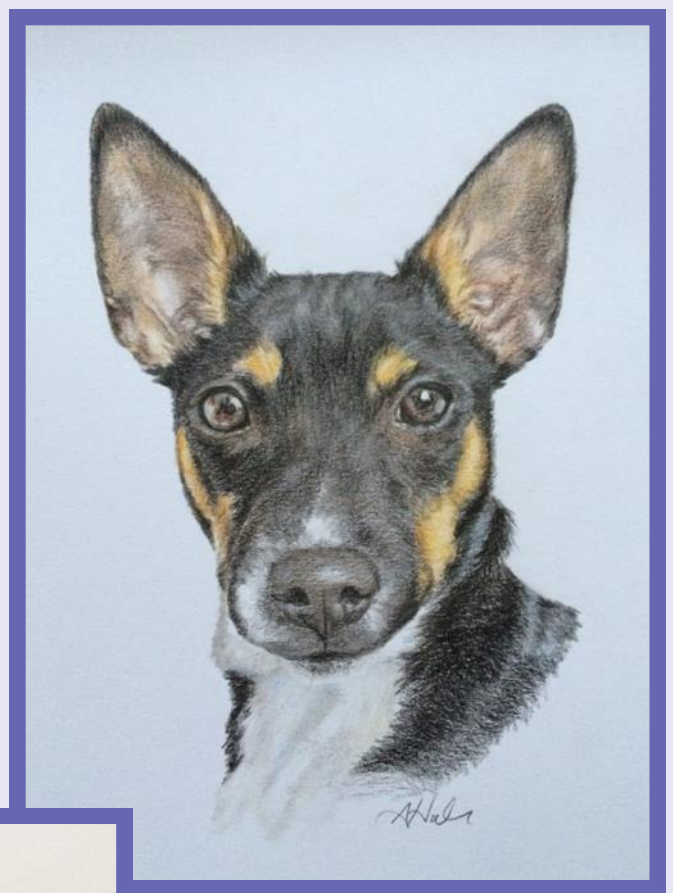
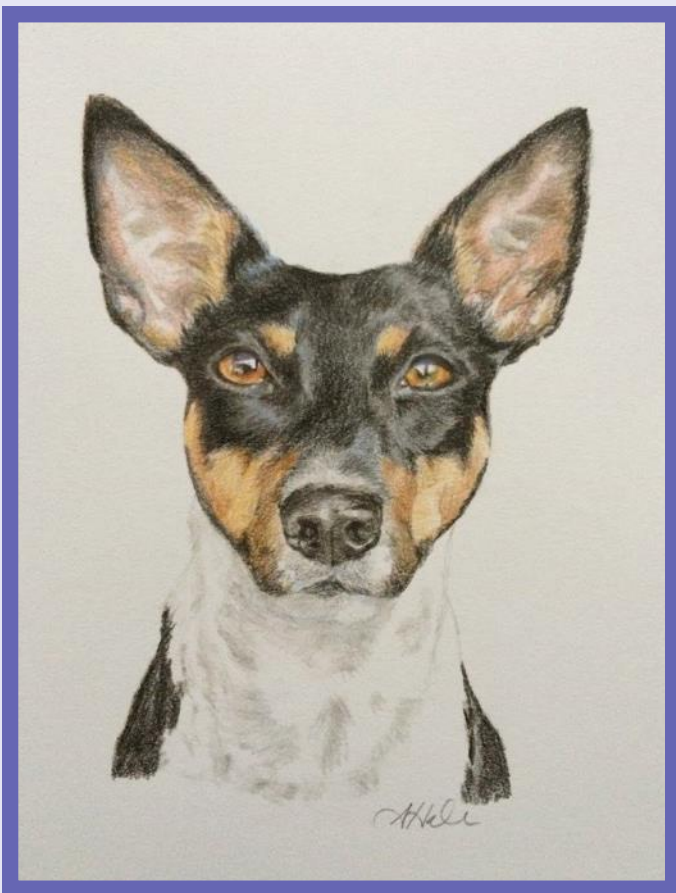
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The Art of Amanda Hall

"yowwowTails"

The "eyes" say it ALL



CHECK OUT

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And Bogart's blog at:
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Congratulations!!



Remus (officially RiverRidge Mischief Managed RN MXJ MX MXF T2B) has always had a big “need for speed” and huge passion for agility. That was recognized in the 2014 Power 10 Breed rankings for the fastest agility dogs in each breed, and in each height category. Remus ranked #1 in his height category (16”) and also in all heights for the Rat Terrier breed. He was ranked highest in overall PowerScore, and also had the highest Average Yards Per Second all heights in both Jumpers and Standard agility classes. His speed and exuberance have been quite challenging to manage on the agility course, and we are still working on becoming the team we hope to be someday. But we are having an amazing time together in the process. Love you Remus – never lose your incredible spirit and unique “Remus” style!” Owned/loved/handled by Deb Stevenson.

See the stats
on page 42

Way to go!!!

MARTI

Silver GCH Stoneybay's
Ur Martini's Serv'd CM

2014 #1 Rat Terrier*



*Breed Owner Handler Series
& GCH standings

Ending the 2014 Show year as #1 Rat Terrier in Breed and Owner Handler Series
The only Silver level GCH
CHIC# 83181 & DNA
Sire of 9 AKC CH & 8 AKC GCH to date.

Drum Roll!!

River Ridge Proudly Presents our New GCH
GCH Crosswinds Big Man in Town

Kirby



River Ridge's Give em Someth'n 2 Talk About (Jaxson) Best Of Winners at Eukanuba for a 3 point Major- Dec 14 2014

Owner handler bred by Jackie Maye

Owned by Jackie Maye/Beth Szczygiel/Stacy McWilliams



Wildcliff's Rumor Has It (Stan) owned by Cindi Etheridge and Tracey Colombo took his first major and Cindi's first owner-handler major at the Alexandria Kennel Club in Louisiana on January 24.

Co-breeders are Tracey Colombo and Stacy McWilliams.

Collar or harness, what to choose?

By Chantal Conscience-di Renzo

CCOTI, PB, RM

Now that you have your puppy at home what collar and trainer should you choose?

As some of you already know, the use of choke, prong and e-collar are now banned from many European countries. Trainers be aware that North America will also get there, it always takes some years but Europe really leads as far as positive dog training.

So let's review the reasons for the ban.

Choke, prong: the secondary effects can be devastating. On some sensitive dogs it can provoke trachea and cervical lesions. Don't think that the dog will stop pulling on the leash just because he is wearing this tool. It's the fear and/or the pain afflicted that stops the behaviour but it doesn't solve the problem. It is also called negative reinforcement.

The principal of these collars is really simple; you give a quick jerk on the leash each time your dog is pulling. If you are persistent your dog will start walking gently by your side like a vegetable. It's an easy choice: obey or feel pain.

E-collar uses a slight to more powerful electric impulse to train the dog. A recent study from University of Lincoln, UK shows that dogs trained with e-collars showed behavioural changes that were consistent with a negative response. These included showing more signs of tension, more yawning and less time engaged in environmental interaction.

In short, if you have not been trained to use these types of collars DO NOT try them. Unfortunately in my long career working with dogs I saw many owners but also trainers using them and ruining perfect puppies. I used to be one of them because at the time no other alternative training was offered. Research by renowned veterinarians and animal behaviourists has showed us that positive reinforcement training is giving successful and long lasting results, but most importantly a well balance pet. You will have to invest a lot of time to regain the confidence that got lost with the pain. With positive reinforcement, love and patience you can re-train your dog in just a few months and never look back again. The best puppy garden class you can find is one where all the training is done off leash. Then you upgrade to basic obedience and work with the leash.

When looking for a trainer or a canine behaviourist, don't let him/her convince you to use one of the above-mentioned collars. You will obtain better results if you put a little time into the training or rehabilitation by using your voice and treats to lure and reward. Many trainers have not been properly trained to use the above collars. Nowadays a trainer should be able to teach you and your dog without having to use harsh and painful punishment. The same goes for a behaviourist, we can rehabilitate without inflicting pain or fear.

Another dangerous tool is the head collar (halter). It does work, but at what cost? Imagine your little puppy jumping in front of you to go meet a new dog and when at the end of the leash his head swill turn so hard that it will touch his shoulder. Dogs don't have necks as powerful as horses. The idea behind the head collar came from training horses, but horses and dogs are not built the same way and it can cause real damages to a puppy. It's a useful tool if you learn how to use it properly. If you are not sure DON'T use it!

If you decide that you want to use a regular collar, the nylon one's are the best. Make sure you fit it perfectly so your dog can't come out inadvertently. A good rule of thumb is to run one finger all around the neck between the skin and the collar. If you have large fingers, use the smallest one to test it. While your puppy is growing don't forget to regularly check the collar and make sure it is not too tight. The same apply if your dog gains or loses some weight. I like the idea of removing the collar when the dog is at home, because you won't be able to fit the collar if the neck gets larger. I see so many dogs getting a bold neck due to an inappropriate collar fit. Just like us, dogs have the tendency to get "wider" with age and like us they need new garments. J. Martingale collars are like flat collars but they tighten when the dog pulls. Even though they tighten, they are generally not used for giving a correction the way a choke chain is. Rather, they are used because they are less likely to slip over the dog's head when adjusted correctly than a flat collar is. These collars should be adjusted so that even at their tightest they cannot accidentally strangle the dog, ask for help when fitting it if not sure.

The best option remains the harness; most of them are safer than collars. Again you have to make sure you fit it well, and please don't let your dog run free with it or when playing with another dog it may get tangle and arm the dogs. The dog should always wear a collar with a tag when free, even if it is at the fully fenced off leash park. You can't trust the gates to be well closed at all times. Better be safe than sorry.

Some harnesses are better than others. Make sure that your dog can move freely and that no hardware or stitches will rub anywhere. The new generation of harnesses with a front buckle can be a good training tool, provided that it's of good quality and not a cheap copy, and that your dog does not lounge at things. As for the head collar, the harness with a front buckle works from the idea that when the dog gets to the end of the leash his whole body will have to turn back. It does work most of the time, but at a cost to the physical health of your dog.

It takes 6 months of your dog's life to make him/her the perfect dog for your family, well worth it if you think you will have him/her for many years.

If you don't have the time or patience to go through the training process choose a more mature dog that knows already the basics or send your puppy to a good trainer that will board and train. Make sure the trainer use a method that you agree on. Using shaping tools (e-collar) they are not design to train your dog on basic manners. Find one that is positive reinforcement oriented. It may seem to take a little longer but once the basics are learned it is forever and in a balanced and humane manner. You can have your dog back after only few weeks and the trainer will follow up with you until the puppy is fully trained. But most of all choose a trainer that will use his/her voice to train, in the last 15-20 years with the arrival a clicker training we forgot to vocally communicate with our dogs. You need your voice to effectively communicate with your dog when off leash.

Shelters try to rehabilitate the animals in their care, but it is not always possible. Rescues put their dogs in foster homes where they start working on behaviour rehabilitation or basic training. You may not get a fully trained dog from either ones, but they may have a good base for you to continue training.

Whatever your choice, make sure to choose the right breed for your lifestyle, if you want a pure bred dog search the national/provincial club and check their breeders list. Don't hesitate to call or email the executives of the club(s) for more information about the breed or breeders in your area. They can also direct you to the specific breed rescue organization. If you prefer a mix breed or don't care about a dog with pedigree, you can contact the local shelter or the rescue organizations, they may already have the right dog for you in a foster home waiting to be adopted.

Chantal Conscience-di Renzo is a Certified Canine Obedience Trainer-Instructor, Pet Behaviourist, Reiki Master-Instructor and have a long experience working with difficult dogs. She is owner/operator at Domtom Services and Chantal's Pet & Home Sitting since 2001.

Thank you to Chantal for granting us permission to use her article in our newsletter.



HANK

WESTMINSTER 2015



2015 BREED JUDGING RESULTS

RAT TERRIER

Judge:
Day: February 17, 2015
Time: 9:00
Ring: 3

B 11 GCH Stoneybays Ur Martini's Serv'D CM

Breed: Rat Terrier
Sex: Dog
AKC: RN 15746701
Date of Birth: January 16, 2008
Breeder: Tammy Jordan
Sire: Irishglyn's Crimson N Clover NBT
Dam: RPK's Black Elegance@SBK
Owner: Stacy McWilliams & Tammy Jordan

OS 12 GCH King Pen Rnb's Queen Ann

Breed: Rat Terrier
Sex: Bitch
AKC: RN 20982903
Date of Birth: June 23, 2010
Breeder: Sherry Hendrix
Sire: King Pen's Oz Over Thee Rainbow
Dam: King Pen Whoopie Lee
Owner: Sherry Hendrix

SEL 16 GCH Rnb Dos Defying Gravity

Breed: Rat Terrier
Sex: Dog
AKC: RN 25836508
Date of Birth: September 20, 2013
Breeder: Sherry Hendrix
Sire: Ch DOS He's The Wizard
Dam: Ch King Pen RNB's Queen Ann
Owner: Tracey Gillies & Darin Gillies

SEL 17 Ch Call Me One Tuff Cricket

Breed: Rat Terrier
Sex: Bitch
AKC: RN 21126201
Date of Birth: March 31, 2010
Breeder: Cynthia Humphrey
Sire: Call Me Lighting Strikes Twice
Dam: Call Me Italian Chocolate

AOM 18 Ch Crosswind The Big Man In Town

Breed: Rat Terrier
Sex: Dog
AKC: RN 24887403
Date of Birth: December 30, 2012
Breeder: Judy LaBonte & Stacy McWilliams
Sire: Four Paws Amber's Twist Fate
Dam: Stoneybay's Cross'N Riverridge
Owner: Louise Schroll & Stacy McWilliams

AOM 20 GCH Kenann's Liv'N N Lov' N Life CM

Breed: Rat Terrier
Sex: Dog
AKC: RN 20916903
Date of Birth: May 22, 2010
Breeder: Kenny & Sheila Wilcher
Sire: Kenann's Man On Fire
Dam: Sands Hallmark Hazelanna
Owner: Annette Agostine

American-Bred Dogs

1/R 21 Wildcliff Steady N Strong Duty Calls

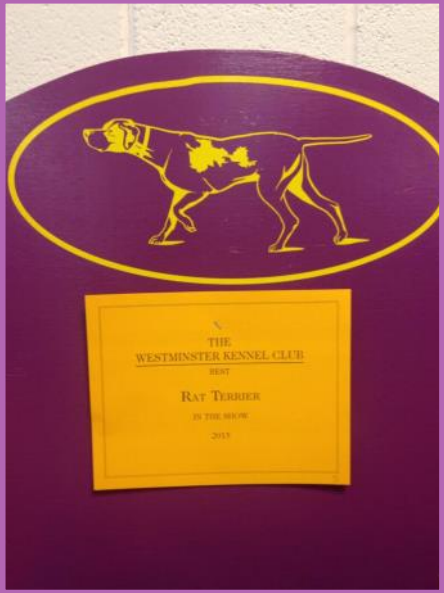
Breed: Rat Terrier
Sex: Dog
AKC: RN 26346305
Date of Birth: December 21, 2013
Breeder: Tracey Spillane & Stacey McWilliams
Sire: GCH Stoneybays UR Martini's Serv'd
Dam: River Ridge Selfn The Drama
Owner: Annette Agostine & Tracey Spillane

Open Dogs

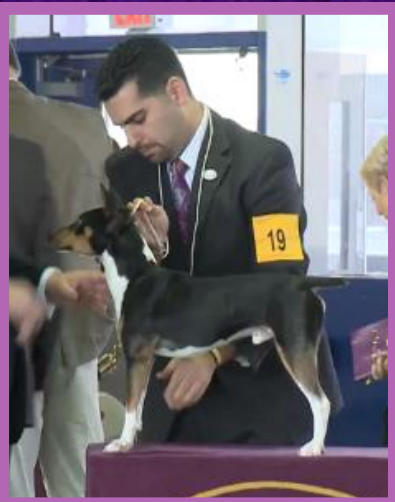
1/W 14 Seegmillers Challenge Accepted

Breed: Rat Terrier
Sex: Dog
AKC: RN 24706001
Date of Birth: October 19, 2012
Breeder: Kimberly Seegmiller
Sire: Seegmillers Axle Rose
Dam: Seegmillers Mission Complete
Owner: Kimberly Seegmiller & Amy Chesnut

2015



Rat Terriers in the Ring!!



The STATISTICS

Conformation

2014 Rat Terrier AKC Owner-Handler Series

(as shown on Canine Chronicle)

Rank	Dog Name	Owner-Handler Name	Breed	OHS Points
1	GCH CH Stoneybays Ur Martini s Serv D CM	Stacy McWilliams Tammy Jordan	Rat Terrier	280
2	Ratitatt Blue Ooh Lala CGC	Laura A Gallagher Valerie Luchsinger	Rat Terrier	80
3	GCH CH Kenann s Liv N N Lov N Life CM	Annette Agostine	Rat Terrier	70
4	GCH CH River Ridge s I Put A Spell On U	Judith R Babarsky Stacy McWilliams	Rat Terrier	55
5	River Ridge Raftin The Rapids	Ashley E Mroz Stacy McWilliams	Rat Terrier	50
6	CH Call Me One Tuff Cricket RN CA	Cynthia Humphrey Brandy Pettry	Rat Terrier	40
6	CH River Ridge s Blue Solar Flare	Ms. Beth Szczygiel	Rat Terrier	40
8	GCH CH Riverridge Trin2 Sail 2 The Top CM CA	Balynda Brown Stacy McWilliams	Rat Terrier	25
9	GCH CH Raganrat s Quintessential Q CM RN AX AXJ NF	Darice Ragan Harriett Browne	Rat Terrier	20
9	GCH CH River Ridge Winning Ways	Loretta Iazzetti Stacy McWilliams	Rat Terrier	20
9	CH Bur-Way Without Limits	Barbara Trammell Felicity Trammell	Rat Terrier	20
9	Bray Ridge Flying High Jesse CGC	Robin L Rudolph	Rat Terrier	20
9	Brtk Kimi Of Mt Hood Wyr RN	Terri Wilson	Rat Terrier	20
14	GCH CH Riverridge Writ N N The Stars	DONNA MCMAHAN Stacy McWilliams	Rat Terrier	15
14	River Ridge Hear Me Roar	Heather Bailey	Rat Terrier	15

Conformation

2014 Rat Terrier AKC Breed Statistics

(as shown on Canine Chronicle)

Rank	Name	Sex	Points	BIS	GRPI	Owner
1	GCH CH Stoneybays Ur Martini's Serv'D CM	M	235	0	0	S McWilliams/T Jordan
2	GCH CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch	M	203	0	0	T Little/R Little
3	GCH CH Kenann's Liv'N N Lov' N Life CM	M	97	0	0	A Agostine
4	GCH CH King Pen Rnb's Queen Ann	F	79	0	0	S Hendrix
5	GCH CH Rock-E-Hill Tennesse	M	63	0	0	L Hibbard
6	CH Trimark's Ooh La-La-Polka-Dah	F	56	0	0	B Veltri
6	GCH CH Dos Kn Pn Rnb He's The Wizard	M	56	0	0	S Hendrix/D Hendrix
8	GCH CH Rnb Dos Defying Gravity	M	53	0	0	T Gillies/D Gillies
9	GCH CH River Ridge's I Put A Spell On U	M	52	0	0	J Babarsky/S McWilliams
10	GCH CH Clover Valley's She's Got Whatever It Is F		43	0	0	D Kneeland/C Kneeland
11	GCH CH Riverridge Sank Ur Battleship	M	39	0	0	B Brown/S McWilliams
12	CH Gg's Dancing In The Dark	F	38	0	0	L Hibbard
12	GCH CH Aacres Go The Distance	F	38	0	0	T Dennis
14	GCH CH Skippin Cj Freedom	M	37	0	0	C Martinez
15	GCH CH Seegmillers Dark Anthem	F	34	0	0	K Seegmiller
16	GCH CH Skippin Cj Golden Rose CM	F	33	0	0	C Martinez/M Simon
17	CH King Pen Stack The Deck	M	31	0	0	R Kramer
18	CH Riverridge Who Do U Think Ur	M	29	0	0	M Fabian
18	GCH CH Cohills You Can Do Magic	M	29	0	0	A Hill/C Dennis
20	GCH CH River Ridge Winning Ways	M	28	0	0	L Iazzetti/S McWilliams

Conformation

2014 Rat Terrier AKC All Breed Standings (as shown on Canine Chronicle)

Rank	Name	Sex	Points	BIS	GRP1	Owner
1	GCH CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch	M	516	0	0	T Little/R Little
2	GCH CH Stoneybays Ur Martini's Serv'D CM	M	309	0	0	S McWilliams/T Jordan
3	GCH CH Kenann's Liv'N N Lov' N Life CM	M	97	0	0	A Agostine
4	GCH CH King Pen Rnb's Queen Ann	F	79	0	0	S Hendrix
5	GCH CH Clover Valley's She's Got Whatever It Is F		77	0	0	D Kneeland/C Kneeland
6	GCH CH Riverridge Sank Ur Battleship	M	75	0	0	B Brown/S McWilliams
7	GCH CH Rock-E-Hill Tennesse	M	63	0	0	L Hibbard
8	CH Trimark's Ooh La-La-Polka-Dah	F	56	0	0	B Veltri
8	GCH CH Dos Kn Pn Rnb He's The Wizard	M	56	0	0	S Hendrix/D Hendrix
10	GCH CH Rnb Dos Defying Gravity	M	53	0	0	T Gillies/D Gillies
11	GCH CH River Ridge's I Put A Spell On U	M	52	0	0	J Babarsky/S McWilli
12	GCH CH River Ridge Winning Ways	M	48	0	0	L Iazzetti/S McWilliar
13	CH Gg's Dancing In The Dark	F	38	0	0	L Hibbard
13	GCH CH Aacres Go The Distance	F	38	0	0	T Dennis
15	GCH CH Skippin Cj Freedom	M	37	0	0	C Martinez
16	GCH CH Seegmillers Dark Anthem	F	34	0	0	K Seegmiller
17	GCH CH Skippin Cj Golden Rose CM	F	33	0	0	C Martinez/M Simon
18	CH King Pen Stack The Deck	M	31	0	0	R Kramer
19	CH Riverridge Who Do U Think Ur	M	29	0	0	M Fabian
19	GCH CH Cohills You Can Do Magic	M	29	0	0	A Hill/C Dennis

Conformation

2014 Rat Terrier AKC Grand Championship Rankings (as shown on Canine Chronicle)

Rank	Name	Sex	Points	Owner
1	GCH CH Stoneybays Ur Martini's Serv'D CM	M	176	S McWilliams/T Jordan
2	GCH CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch	M	134	T Little/R Little
3	GCH CH Kenann's Liv'N N Lov' N Life CM	M	81	A Agostine
4	GCH CH Rock-E-Hill Tennesse	M	72	L Hibbard
5	GCH CH King Pen Rnb's Queen Ann	F	71	S Hendrix
6	GCH CH Seegmillers Dark Anthem	F	64	K Seegmiller
7	GCH CH River Ridge's I Put A Spell On U	M	61	J Babarsky/S McWilliams
8	GCH CH Aacres Go The Distance	F	57	T Dennis
9	GCH CH Dos Kn Pn Rnb He's The Wizard	M	55	S Hendrix/D Hendrix
10	CH Crosswind's Little Black Dress	F	45	C Hileman/D Hileman
11	GCH CH Rnb Dos Defying Gravity	M	43	T Gillies/D Gillies
12	GCH CH River Ridge Winning Ways	M	42	L Iazzetti/S McWilliams
13	GCH CH Clover Valley's She's Got Whatever It Is	F	41	D Kneeland/C Kneeland
14	GCH CH Riverridge Writ'N N The Stars	F	36	D MCMAHAN/S
15	GCH CH Sands' Black Diamond Wilson BN RE CGC	M	35	McWilliams L Lee/J Leigh
15	GCH CH Seegmillers Suzy Q CM	F	35	C Martinez
17	GCH CH Ratitatt Buzablu Daisy Jamboree BN RE CGC	F	33	L Lee/V Luchsinger/J
17	CH Trimark's Ooh La-La-Polka-Dah	F	33	Leigh B Veltri
19	GCH CH Riverridge Sank Ur Battleship	M	32	B Brown/S McWilliams
20	GCH CH Skippin Cj Golden Rose CM	F	30	C Martinez/M Simon

Conformation

Grand Championship Points Ranking

Events are processed through December 31, 2014.

This listing displays the rankings of dogs by Grand Championship Points. Dogs may appear in the rankings for multiple states, based on the residency of all of the owners of record.

Rank	Dog Name	Sex	GCH Points
No. 1	GCH CH Stoneybays Ur Martin's Serv'D CM	Dog	176
No. 2	GCH CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch	Dog	134
No. 3	GCH CH Kenann's Liv'N N Lov' N Life CM	Dog	81
No. 4	GCH CH Rock-E-Hill Tennesse	Dog	72
No. 5	GCH CH King Pen Rnb's Queen Ann	Bitch	71
No. 6	GCH CH Seegmillers Dark Anthem	Bitch	64
No. 7	GCH CH River Ridge's I Put A Spell On U	Dog	61
No. 8	GCH CH Aacres Go The Distance	Bitch	57
No. 9	GCH CH Dos Kn Pn Rnb He's The Wizard	Dog	55
No. 10	CH Crosswind's Little Black Dress	Bitch	45
No. 11	GCH CH Rnb Dos Defying Gravity	Dog	43
No. 12	GCH CH River Ridge Winning Ways	Dog	42
No. 13	GCH CH Clover Valley's She's Got Whatever It Is	Bitch	41
No. 14	GCH CH Riverridge Writ'N N The Stars	Bitch	36
No. 15	GCH CH Seegmillers Suzy Q CM	Bitch	35
	GCH CH Sands' Black Diamond Wilson BN RE CGC	Dog	35
No. 17	CH Trimark's Ooh La-La-Polka-Dah	Bitch	33
	GCH CH Ratitatt Buzablu Daisy Jamboree BN RE CGC	Bitch	33
No. 19	GCH CH Riverridge Sank Ur Battleship	Dog	32
No. 20	GCH CH Skippin Cj Golden Rose CM	Bitch	30
No. 21	GCH CH Skippin Cj Freedom	Dog	28
	GCH CH River Ridge's Level Of Intrigue	Dog	28
No. 23	GCH CH Cohills You Can Do Magic	Dog	26
	CH Cohills Spotted Eye Kandi CGC	Bitch	26
No. 25	GCH CH Riverridge Nice Tri Blu By-U	Bitch	24
	CH Raganratitatt Absolut Lee Blu	Bitch	24
No. 27	CH River Ridge's Blue Solar Flare	Bitch	23
No. 28	CH Bur-Way Without Limits	Dog	22
	CH Gg's Dancing In The Dark	Bitch	22
No. 30	CH Ratitatt Gala Shindig	Bitch	21
No. 31	CH Crosswind The Big Man In Town	Dog	20
No. 32	CH Hogssden Buzablu Leo A Wonder BN RE OA OAJ NF CGC	Dog	15
No. 33	CH Bluegks Eat Ur Heart Out Boyz CM	Bitch	14
No. 34	CH Riverridge Who Do U Think Ur	Dog	13
No. 35	CH King Pen Stack The Deck	Dog	12
No. 36	CH Ratituee Grand Slam I Am	Dog	11
	CH Trimark's Take It All River Ridge	Bitch	11
No. 38	CH Wild Oaks Courage Under Fire	Bitch	9
No. 39	CH Rnb She's A Witchy Woman	Bitch	8
No. 40	CH Call Me One Tuff Cricket RN CA	Bitch	7
No. 41	CH Cal Val lb A Red Chili Pepper	Bitch	5
	GCH CH Riverridge Trin2 Sail 2 The Top CM CA	Dog	5
	CH River Ridge's Top Gun	Dog	5
	CH Aacres Go For It	Bitch	5
No. 45	CH King Pen's Lost Echo CM	Dog	4
No. 46	CH Cal Val Stiletto's Igo Tequila	Bitch	3
	CH Cohills Night Passage	Dog	3
No. 48	CH River Ridge And Justice For All At Kejo	Dog	2
	CH Blue Haven Painted Skys CM	Bitch	2
	CH River Ridge's Flower In Her Hair	Bitch	2
No. 51	CH River Ridge's Passion 4 Perfection	Dog	1

This ranking report is based on number of Grand Championship points earned and may include dogs who have not yet completed the requirements to earn the Grand Championship title. From AKC site <http://www.akc.org/grandchampionship>

Conformation

Grand Championship by Date Earned

Events are processed through December 31, 2014.

This listing displays all dogs that have earned their Grand Championship title in date titled order.

Dog Name	Breed	Date Titled
GCH CH Riverridge Trin2 Sail 2 The Top CM CA	Rat Terrier	09-05-2013
GCH CH Stoneybays Ur Martini's Serv'D CM	Rat Terrier	09-08-2013
GCH CH River Ridge's I Put A Spell On U	Rat Terrier	11-02-2013
GCH CH River Ridge's Level Of Intrigue	Rat Terrier	11-03-2013
GCH CH Raganrat's Quintessential Q CM RN AX AXJ NF	Rat Terrier	12-10-2013
GCH CH Riverridge Sank Ur Battleship	Rat Terrier	03-28-2014
GCH CH Riverridge Nice Tri Blu By-U	Rat Terrier	03-29-2014
GCH CH King Pen Rnb's Queen Ann	Rat Terrier	04-10-2014
GCH CH Dos Kn Pn Rnb He's The Wizard	Rat Terrier	04-12-2014
GCH CH Sands' Black Diamond Wilson BN RE CGC	Rat Terrier	04-13-2014
GCH CH Riverridge Writ'N N The Stars	Rat Terrier	04-19-2014
GCH CH Aacres Go The Distance	Rat Terrier	05-11-2014
GCH CH Seegmillers Suzy Q CM	Rat Terrier	05-23-2014
GCH CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch	Rat Terrier	06-07-2014
GCH CH Kenann's Liv'N N Lov' N Life CM	Rat Terrier	06-27-2014
GCH CH River Ridge Winning Ways	Rat Terrier	06-29-2014
GCH CH Ratitatt Buzablu Daisy Jamboree BN RE CGC	Rat Terrier	07-13-2014
GCH CH Skippin Cj Golden Rose CM	Rat Terrier	07-13-2014
GCH CH Seegmillers Dark Anthem	Rat Terrier	07-18-2014
GCH CH Rock-E-Hill Tennessee	Rat Terrier	08-03-2014
GCH CH Rnb Dos Defying Gravity	Rat Terrier	08-09-2014
GCH CH Skippin Cj Freedom	Rat Terrier	09-13-2014
GCH CH Clover Valley's She's Got Whatever It Is	Rat Terrier	09-14-2014
GCH CH Cohills You Can Do Magic	Rat Terrier	11-29-2014

From AKC site - <http://www.akc.org/grandchampionship>



AGILITY

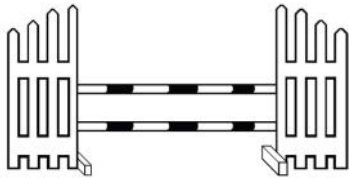
AKC TopDogsSM in Agility MACH Competition for Rat Terriers

Considering Events Held Between January 1, 2014 and Ending December 31, 2014

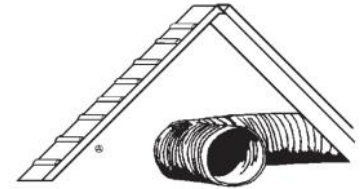
But Limited To Events Processed Through Wednesday, December 31, 2014

Sorted by the Score (Double Q's x 10) + MACH points

1	MACH18 Lady Maria Isabella Boyd MXC4 MJG5 MXF TOX T2B	B	3,942	93	4,872
2	MACH8 Ratitatt Portrait Of The Queen MXG2 MJC2	B	3,844	76	4,604
3	MACH10 Lady Abigail Chase My Mom MXB4 MJG3 OF	B	2,901	84	3,741
4	MACH21 Pebbles' Magic Act MXG5 MJB6 MXF TOX T2B	B	2,293	55	2,843
5	MACH3 Ellie May MXC MJB2 MXF T2B4	B	2,396	38	2,776
6	MACH8 MR. Big MXB3 MJG3 FTC1 MFG2 TOX T2B	D	1,283	35	1,633
7	MACH2 Call Me Greased Lightning MXG MJC XF T2B CA	D	1,158	15	1,308
8	MACH Bur-Way Anything Goes MXS MJB T2B CA	D	1,043	19	1,233
9	MACH Mk's Warp Speed Commander Cody MXS MJG MXF MFS TOX T2B4	D	965	18	1,145
10	Burway Ryder On The Storm CM MX MXB MXJ MJB RATN	D	1,073	6	1,133
11	MACH4 Maggie Mae Becker MXB2 MJS2 XF	B	832	29	1,122
12	MACH9 Ratitatt Wood U Buzz Me MXB3 MJC3 MXF MFS TOX T2B	D	903	19	1,093
13	MACH3 Windwood Rafael TD MXC MJS2 MXF MFS TOX T2B3 CAA	D	796	23	1,026
14	MACH2 Ratitatt Cool Jazz MXS MJC XF	D	811	18	991
15	MACH Matthew's Caesar Augustus MXB MJS	D	786	19	976
16	MACH2 It's A Bugs Life MXG MJG	D	741	15	891
17	MACH4 It's A Knickknack Paddywack RN MXC MJB3 MXF	D	729	11	839
18	MACH Ratitatt Gusters Rebel Force CD BN RA MXB MJS XF T2B	D	681	14	821
19	MACH Taylorswift MXB MJS	B	657	12	777
20	MACH Penelope's Pied Piper MXS MJB	B	608	7	678
21	Skye Blue MX MXJ NF	B	466	3	496
22	Riverridge Mischief Managed RN MX MXJ MJB MXF T2B	D	469	1	479
23	MACH5 Hve's Never Say Never MXC2 MJC3 XF T2B	D	455	2	475

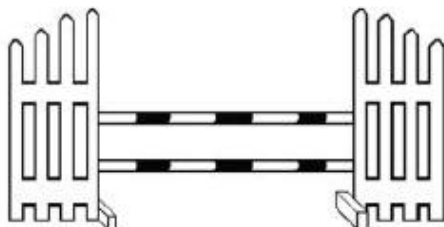


~ American Kennel Club ~
 2015 National Agility
 Championship
 List of Eligible Dogs



- Mary Backstrom ~ MACH Matthew's Caesar Augustus MXB MJS Rat ~ Terrier
 MARY BASU ~ MACH Ratitatt Gusters Rebel Force CD BN RA MXB MJS XF T2B ~ Rat Terrier
 Bill Becker ~ MACH4 Maggie Mae Becker MXB2 MJS2 XF ~ Rat Terrier
 Kathy Brown ~ MACH2 Call Me Greased Lightning MXG MJC XF T2B CA ~ Rat Terrier
 Gayle Capen ~ MACH10 Lady Abigail Chase My Mom MXC3 MJG3 OF ~ Rat Terrier
 Gayle Capen ~ MACH17 Lady Maria Isabella Boyd MXC4 MJG5 MXF TQX T2B ~ Rat Terrier
 Catherine Clemente ~ Burway Ryder On The Storm CM MX MXB MXJ MJB RATN ~ Rat Terrier
 Denise Kennedy ~ MACH21 Pebbles' Magic Act I MXG5 MJB6 MXF TQX T2B ~ Rat Terrier
 Melissa Liebhardt ~ MACH7 Ratitatt Portrait Of The Queen MXG2 MJC2 ~ Rat Terrier
 Lynn Mancino ~ MACH3 Windwood Rafael TD MXC MJS2 MXF MFS TQX T2B3 CAA ~ Rat Terrier
 Yvonne Mancino ~ MACH9 Ratitatt Wood U Buzz Me MXB3 MJC3 MXF MFS TQX T2B ~ Rat Terrier
 Susan McGinty ~ MACH Taylorswift MXB MJB ~ Rat Terrier
 Vicky Meyer ~ MACH4 PACH Dragonfly's Shooting Star MXG2 MJG2 MXPB MJP5 MJPS PAX2 MXF MFC TQX T2B6 ~ Rat Terrier
 Victoria Meyer ~ MACH Mk's Warp Speed Commander Cody MXS MJG MXF MFS TQX T2B4 ~ Rat Terrier
 Linda Neiger ~ MACH4 It's A Knickknack Paddywack RN MXC MJC2 MXF ~ Rat Terrier
 Mary Obidinski ~ MACH Bur-Way Anything Goes MXS MJB T2B CA ~ Rat Terrier
 Mary Obidinski ~ MACH6 PACH Willis MXS2 MJG2 MJPB PAX T2B ~ Rat Terrier
 Candice Oman ~ MACH7 MR. Big MXB3 MJG3 FTC1 MFG2 TQX T2B ~ Rat Terrier
 Nora Sewell ~ MACH Penelope's Pied Piper MXS MJB ~ Rat Terrier
 Charlotte Smith ~ MACH2 Ratitatt Cool Jazz MXS MJC XF ~ Rat Terrier
 Catherine Webster ~ MACH It's A Bugs Life MXS MJG ~ Rat Terrier
 Hiroko Williams ~ MACH3 Ellie May MXC MJC MXF T2B3 ~ Rat Terrier

~ ~ ~ ~ ~





AGILITY

Rat Terrier Ranking by PowerScore for 2014

8" Regular

	Power Score	Dog	Owner	JWW YPS	STD YPS
1	12.28	Howard — MACH5 Hye's Never Say Never MXC2 MJC3 XF T2B	M Doyle	4.59	3.84
2	12.25	Elie — MACH3 Elie May MXC MJB2 MXF T2B4	H Williams/B Williams	4.75	3.75
3	12.25	Penny Lane — MACH8 Rattatt Portrait Of The Queen MXG2 MJC2	M Liebhardt/V Luchsinger	4.69	3.78
4	11.32	Skye Blue MX MXJ NF	H Williams/B Williams	4.18	3.57
5	9.36	Beretch's Musical Zeaner RE AX AXJ	P Meeks	3.52	2.92
6	8.90	Maggie — Maggie May Rattle Rock Star MX MXB MXJ MJB OF	B Marlow/R Marlow	3.24	2.83

16" Regular

	Power Score	Dog	Owner	JWW YPS	STD YPS
1	15.12	Riverridge Mischief Managed RN MX MXJ MJB MXF T2B	D Stevenson	5.81	4.65
2	13.59	Porter — MACH Bun-Way Anything Goes MXS MJB T2B CA	M Obidinski	5.20	4.20
3	13.57	Taylor — MACH Taylorswift MXB MUS	S Moginty	5.16	4.21
4	13.38	Tuckaway Arrow AX AXJ NF	P Caldwell	5.13	4.12
5	12.89	MACH R Short Circuit CDX RA MXS MUS XF	B Krynski/T Woepse	4.94	3.98
6	12.04	MACH Mk's Warp Speed Commander Cody MXS MUS MXF MFS TQX T2B4	V Meyer	4.85	3.59
7	11.95	MACH8 MR. Big MXB3 MUG3 FTC1 MFG2 TQX T2B	C Oman	4.70	3.62
8	11.71	Warren Mtn's Roman Gnome AX MXJ OF	L McCay	4.74	3.48
9	11.63	MACH3 Windwood Rafael TD MXC MJS2 MXF MFS TQX T2B3 CAA	L Mancino	4.47	3.58
10	11.57	MACH Rattatt Gotta Hava Kikkat MXB MJB	R Nicotra	4.57	3.50

12" Regular

	Power Score	Dog	Owner	JWW YPS	STD YPS
1	13.18	Ryder — Burway Ryder On The Storm CM MX MXB MXJ MJB RATN	C Clemente	5.08	4.05
2	13.01	Gus — MACH Rattatt Gusters Rebel Force CD BN RA MXB MUS XF T2B	M BASU/V Luchsinger	5.13	3.94
3	12.87	Woody — MACH9 Rattatt Wood U Buzz Me MXB3 MJC3 MXF MFS TQX T2B	Y Mancino/D Mancino	4.97	3.95
4	12.59	MACH18 Lady Maria Isabella Boyd MXC4 MUG5 MXF TQX T2B	G Capen	4.81	3.89
5	12.45	MACH4 Rattatt Chamin Zboys MXC MJB2 MXF TQX CA	K Meyer	4.62	3.91
6	12.38	Paddy — MACH4 It's A Knickknack Paddywack RN MXC MJB3 MXF	L Neiger	4.52	3.93
7	12.36	MACH21 Pebbles' Magic Act MXG5 MJB6 MXF TQX T2B	D Kennedy	4.94	3.71
8	12.35	MACH Penelope's Pled Piper MXS MJB	N Sewell	4.76	3.80
9	12.23	Flash — MACH2 Call Me Greased Lightning MXG MJC XF T2B CA	K Brown	4.96	3.84
10	12.12	Spring — MACH2 Smartypants Spring Loaded RA MXS MJC MXF	A Greiner/S Koehner	5.19	3.46

8" Preferred

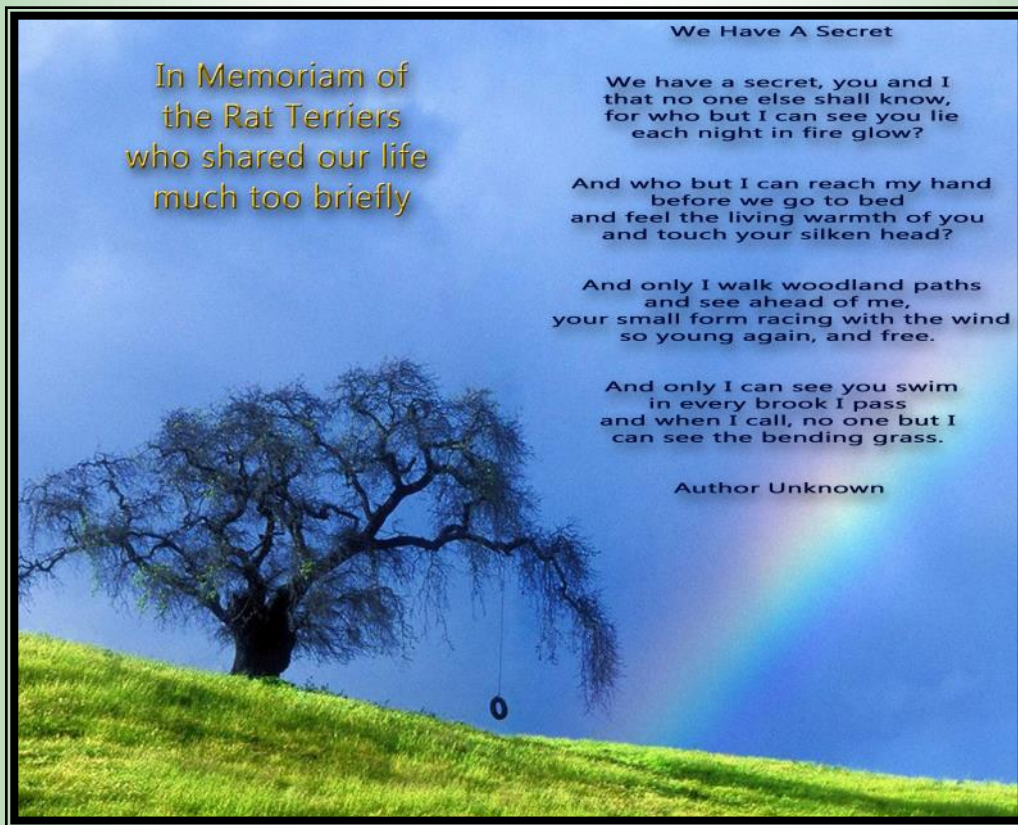
	Power Score	Dog	Owner	JWW YPS	STD YPS
1	9.69	Stella — MACH4 PACH Dragonfly's Shooting Star MXG2 MUG2 MXP5 MXP5 MUP5 MUPS PAX2 MXF MFC TQX T2B6	V Meyer	3.49	3.10
2	9.04	Austin — MACH10 PACH Hollys Hope Of Austins Powers MXB3 MJS3 MXP3 MXPB MJP3 MJPB PAX MXF MFS TQX MFP T2B T2BP	K Wells, Dvm	3.35	2.85
3	8.32	Shadow Stanfield CDX RAE MXP4 MXPB MJP7 MUPS PAX NFP	R Stanfield/R Stanfield	3.13	2.60

12" Preferred

	Power Score	Dog	Owner	JWW YPS	STD YPS
1	12.85	Willis — MACH6 PACH Willis MXS2 MUG2 MXPB MJPB PAX T2B	M Obidinski	5.10	3.88
2	11.63	MACH Rattatt Gotta Hava Kikkat MXB MJB	R Nicotra	4.46	3.68
3	9.44	Eddie — MACH2 PACH2 Eddie Belfour MXC MJB2 MXP10 MXPC MJP10 MJPB PAX3 MXF MFB TQX MFP T2BP2	D Key	3.51	2.96

The statistics included in these rankings are based upon AKC data, but not provided by AKC . These are compiled manually and therefore are not considered AKC "official". You may see the full Breed Power 10 rankings for various breeds at:

<http://http://baddogagility.com/> Permission to reprint has been granted by Bad Dog Agility with the above disclaimer.



This is Alley (aka Allison Lee Miller). She was born February 12, 2002 and left her family on January 30, 2015. Alley was the loving and cherished pet of Bruce & Raechelle Miller and is greatly missed.

Rat Terrier Breed Standard

General Appearance

The Rat Terrier was originally bred for ratting and farm work. A multipurpose companion dog that is capable of hunting rodents and vermin above and below ground, and to course small game. He is a sturdy, compact, small-to-medium sized parti-colored dog giving the appearance of elegance and fitness, denoting speed, power and balance. Honorable scars or a couple of broken or missing canines or incisors teeth are not to be faulted. The following is a description of the ideal Rat Terrier. Variations are penalized to the extent of the deviation.

Size, Proportion, Substance

Size- There are two separate size divisions. Miniature At least 10 inches, not to exceed 13 inches. Standard \geq over 13 inches, and up to and including 18 inches in height measured at the withers. Any dog six months of age or older measuring less than 10 inches, or any dog over 18 inches are to be disqualified.

Proportion - The Rat Terrier is just slightly longer than tall. The height, measured vertically from the ground to the highest point of the withers, is slightly less than the length, measured horizontally from the point of the shoulders to the point of the buttocks. Shortness in leg is a serious fault.

Substance - Moderate bone in proportion to size. A well-balanced, hard-muscled dog with smooth lines under taut skin. This dog should not be rangy nor fine boned and toyish, and never bulky or coarse. They are shown in good, hard physical working condition.

Head

The head resembles a smooth, blunt wedge from a front or profile view. When seen from the front, the head widens gradually towards the base of the ears in an unbroken line and is well filled up under the eyes. The expression is intelligent, alert and full of interest. The eyes are not large. They are obliquely set wide apart and are oval in shape. Eye color varies with coat color from darkest brown to hazel. Eye rim pigmentation corresponds with nose color and facial markings. Gray eyes are acceptable in blue or blue-fawn dogs only, being a serious fault in other colorations. Any blue in the eye(s) is a disqualification.

Ears- Set on the top outer edge of the skull, V-shaped, with the length in proportion to the head moderately pointed at the tip. When viewed from the side, the base of the ear is on line with the outer corner of the eye. Ears should match in shape and carriage when alert, and can be carried erect, semi-erect and tipped, or button without preference. When alert, a rose ear is a fault. Cropped ears are a disqualification.

Skull -When viewed from the front the skull is moderate in width, relatively flat on top, and rounded at crown and the sides as it widens smoothly from the corner of the eyes to the base of the ears. The occiput is not prominent. The cheeks are flat and well-muscled, but never bulging. The stop is moderate but distinct. The muzzle is strong, just slightly shorter in length than the skull and tapers smoothly along the sides to the nose. The nose color corresponds with the body color and is entirely pigmented. Flesh-colored noses are considered a fault in lemon or light apricot colorations while being a serious fault in other colorations. Seasonal fading is permitted. The lips are clean and tight, and correspond in color with the nose leather or may be pink; either solid or spotted is acceptable. The lower jaw and teeth are strong and well developed with no sign of being snipey or weak.

Bite- A scissor bite is preferred. A level bite is acceptable.

Neck, Topline, Body

Neck-Length of neck is in proportion to the head. Strong, arched along the crest and dry, the neck blends smoothly into the flat shoulder blades.

Topline- Smooth and blending from the back through the loin and set of the tail. **Body \square** The body is compact, strong and flexible with well sprung ribs. The brisket extends to the elbow. When viewed from the front, the ribs appear to be oval. The Rat Terrier, while muscled and fit, has flat muscles that blend into the body. The chest is moderately wide and well filled with a discernible forechest. The underline ascends gradually with the ribs extending well back to a moderate tuck-up.

Back - The back is level and firm from the withers to the loin. The short loin has a slight muscular arch blending into the gently rounded croup.

Tail- The tail set is a continuation of the spine. Tails are customarily docked between the second and third joint, or can be a natural bobtail or left naturally long and tapering to the hock joint. Length is unimportant. The carriage is variable depending on attitude, carried from slightly below horizontal to almost erect, but not over the back or a ring tail.

Forequarters

The shoulder blades are well laid back with flat muscles providing enough space between the shoulder blades to allow for free movement. The shoulder blades and the upper arms are nearly equal in length and well set back so that the elbows fall directly under the highest point of the shoulder blade. The depth of the body at the elbow is the same distance as from the elbow to the ground. The forelegs stand straight and parallel with elbows turning neither in nor out. The pasterns are slightly sloping when viewed from the side. The feet are oval in shape. The toes turn neither in nor out, are compact, moderately arched, with thick pads and strong nails. The front dewclaws may be removed.

Hindquarters

The hindquarters are muscular but smooth and in balance with the forequarters. They should not be bulging or coarse. Stifles are well-bent with short hocks that are parallel and perpendicular to the ground. The hind feet although slightly smaller are similar to the front feet. Rear dewclaws are removed.

Coat

Short, close lying, smooth and shiny coat. Texture varies; a very slight ruff or wave along the back is allowed, but undesirable. Any suggestion of kink or curl is cause for disqualification. Whiskers must not be removed. Absence of coat (total genetic hairlessness) is a disqualification.

Color

Any variation of Pied patterning is acceptable. Pied is described as comparatively large patches of one or more colors in combination with white. Except for the "solid white" extreme piebald dog with only mottled/spotted skin. Disqualification - Rat Terriers are never a solid ground color without white markings, or bi-colored without one color being white. Acceptable colors with or without "tan points", include the predominate Black, or Chocolate, Red, Apricot, Blue, Fawn, Tan, Lemon, or White. Intense, dark shades of color with clearly defined and delineated coloration is preferred. White on the body is preferred to be between 10% and 90%, but all Patterns; spotted, patched or splashed with white in conjunction with (or without) any combination of white on the face, head or ears are equally acceptable without prejudice. "Tan Points" are common and vary in shades of cream to rust. Badger markings are acceptable. Speckling, ticking and mottling is common, but heavy ticking is undesirable. Sabbling is permitted in the coat or as shading on the head or penciling on the toes. A "black mask/black muzzle", on a dog not having black as coloration is to be seriously faulted. A few white hairs do not constitute an acceptable marking. A minimum white marking consists of a patch or strip of white with underlying white/pink skin on the forehead or body that exceeds one inch. Less than one inch of white at its widest dimension is a disqualification. Brindle or Merle color patterns are disqualifications.

Gait

A ground-covering efficient trot with good reach and drive suggesting agility, speed and power. The legs are parallel at a trot, but as speed increases, the legs converge toward a center line. There should be no elbowing out, weaving or rolling action while in motion.

Temperament

Keenly observant, devoted, full of energy, yet easily trained and obedient to command. The Rat Terrier is a non-sparring breed and generally friendly with other dogs, but may be reserved with strangers. Submissiveness is not a fault. Overt aggression and excessive shyness should be penalized.

Disqualifications

Any dog over six months of age measuring less than 10 inches, or over 18 inches. Any blue color in the eye(s). Cropped ears. An absence of coat (genetic hairlessness). Any suggestion of kink or curl, or coat type other than described. Solid colorations (other than white). Bi colors without white, or dogs with a patch or strip of white measuring less than one inch at its widest dimension. Brindle or Merle color patterns.

Approved November 11, 2009
Effective July 1, 2010



Shameless Plug for ...

NEW members!!!

We hope that you have enjoyed reading our newsletters and are finding them helpful, enjoyable, and worthy of archiving on your computer for future reference.

Please consider joining our MARTC family and developing friendships with people who share a common interest in the Rat Terrier breed at all levels and becoming a part of the work to continue to help the breed grow and prosper within AKC rules and guidelines.

While MARTC is not an AKC affiliated club at this time, it is the hope and future goal to become an AKC affiliated regional breed club. As has been mentioned previously in this newsletter, you can become a voting member and not live in the Mid-Atlantic region. This right gives you the opportunity to have a say in the future path that the club takes. How exciting it is to anticipate the growth of a club with the goals of benefitting the breed, educating the public, and developing friendships all across the country!!

We welcome people who participate in conformation, agility, barn hunt, lure coursing, rally, obedience and any other venues with this delightful breed. More importantly, we welcome people who have the pets that never compete in any venue because, for all of us, our dogs are pets first and the rest is frosting on top.

Old and new members will be welcomed and appreciated. Let's set the goal together of developing an awesome platform from which to promote our breed!!!

MID-ATLANTIC RAT TERRIER CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Type of Membership:

- Regular-\$25.00**
Individual adult member residing in the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, including the right to hold office.
- Regular Household-\$30.00**
Two adult members (same household) in the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, including the right to hold office.
- Associate-\$20.00**
Individual adult member residing outside the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office.
- Associate Household \$25.00**
Two adult members (in the same household) outside the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office .
- Junior-\$15.00**
Individual under 18 years of age. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office and the right to vote.

**The "Mid-Atlantic" shall include only the following states: MD, NJ, DE, DC, VA, WV, NY, and PA.*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please check one or more of the following that best describes your interests:

- Agility Barn Hunt Breeder Conformation Obedience Pet Owner Other _____

Tell us about yourself and your dogs...

We would love to hear about your hobbies, accomplishments, show brags or how your dogs like to spend their time. Please include registered names and call names for your dogs, as well as anything else you would like to share!

If you are a member of any other dog clubs, please list them here. (Note any Board or other elected positions you currently hold.)

This club is run entirely by volunteers, if you would like to contribute, please list any special skills or areas of interest you may have.

Please provide the names of two current MARTC members who have agreed to sponsor your membership in the Club.

1. _____ 2. _____

You agree that, if accepted in membership, you will abide by the MARTC Constitution, Bylaws, and Codes for Ethical Behavior and Good Sportsmanship. You will also adhere to the rules set forth by AKC and their Code of Sportsmanship.

Consent to Electronic Communications

You understand and agree to accept notification of Club meetings, dues notices, minutes, and newsletters, as well as Board of Director notifications of meetings, and minutes from said meetings via email. This authorization (which is revocable in writing) also releases the Club from liability should the notification be received late or not received by the member due to circumstances beyond the Club's control.

Electronic Signatures

By typing your name below, you understand that you are electronically signing this document and are agreeing to all of the policies, terms and conditions set forth above. If you understand, accept and agree to the policies, terms and conditions set out above, then type in your name on the line below to acknowledge your acceptance.

Member Name: _____

For Quickest Processing:

Send Dues via PayPal to:
MidAtlanticRatTerrier@yahoo.com
Applications will also be accepted electronically to the above e-mail address

For Regular Mail:

Make personal checks payable to **MARTC** and mail to: Judith Babarsky
37649 Snickersville Tpke
Purcellville, VA 20132

MID-ATLANTIC RAT TERRIER CLUB 2015 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL



Type of Membership Renewal:

- Regular-\$25.00**
Individual adult member residing in the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, including the right to hold office.
- Regular Household-\$30.00**
Two adult members (same household) in the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, including the right to hold office.
- Associate-\$20.00**
Individual adult member residing outside the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office.
- Associate Household \$25.00**
Two adult members (in the same household) outside the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office.
- Junior-\$15.00**
Individual under 18 years of age. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office and the right to vote.

**The "Mid-Atlantic" shall include only the following states: MD, NJ, DE, DC, VA, WV, NY, and PA.*

Name: _____

**Please update any address, email or other information which has changed. If there are no changes to the information provided on your original application, please leave these fields blank.*

Address*: _____

City*: _____ State*: _____ Zip Code*: _____

Home Phone*: _____ Cell Phone*: _____

Email*: _____

Please check one or more of the following that best describes your interests:*

Agility Barn Hunt Breeder Conformation Obedience Pet Owner Other _____

Tell us about yourself and your dogs...

We would love to hear about your hobbies, accomplishments, show brags or how your dogs like to spend their time. Please include registered names and call names for your dogs, as well as anything else you would like to share!

If you are a member of any other dog clubs, please list them here. (Note any Board or other elected positions you currently hold.)

This club is run entirely by volunteers, if you would like to contribute, please list any special skills or areas of interest you may have.

You agree that, if accepted in membership, you will abide by the MARTC Constitution, Bylaws, and Codes for Ethical Behavior and Good Sportsmanship. You will also adhere to the rules set forth by AKC and their Code of Sportsmanship.

Consent to Electronic Communications

You understand and agree to accept notification of Club meetings, dues notices, minutes, and newsletters, as well as Board of Director notifications of meetings, and minutes from said meetings via email. This authorization (which is revocable in writing) also releases the Club from liability should the notification be received late or not received by the member due to circumstances beyond the Club's control.

Electronic Signatures

By typing your name below, you understand that you are electronically signing this document and are agreeing to all of the policies, terms and conditions set forth above. If you understand, accept and agree to the policies, terms and conditions set out above, then type in your name on the line below to acknowledge your acceptance.

Member Name: _____

For Quickest Processing:

Send Dues via PayPal to:

MidAtlanticRatTerrier@yahoo.com

Applications will also be accepted electronically to the above e-mail address

For Regular Mail:

Make personal checks payable to MARTC and mail to: Judith Babarsky

37649 Snickersville Tpke

Purcellville, VA 20132

The faces we adore



Don't forget to send us your fun photos to include in future issues of our newsletter.

and ... Doing what they do



Thank you ... Thank you!!! To our many contributors who help make our newsletter a success. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and valued.



THE END

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SEE YOU NEXT ISSUE!!