

MGDA

The Manitoba Gun Dog Association Newsletter



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- INFORMATION



Editor's Corner

Trial/Test season has come to an end. Hard to believe how quickly the summer passes us by. Hope everyone had a great summer and enjoyed the training and competition with their 4 legged friends. I see we have a number of young dogs in the club. That is great to see.

Have a great hunting season for those that partake. It is a fun time for our dogs.

If you have any suggestions or articles for the newsletter, please forward them to me. I really appreciate any help I can get.



ON THE COVER: Trailrunners Pathfinder WCI JH owned and handled by Tracy Lennartz. (Photo taken by Bob Norris)

THINKING OF YOU:

- *Kevin Howarth*
- *Trish & Dewayne Hay*
- *Tracy Lennartz*
- *Sue & Garry Taylor*

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTORS:

Marilyn Bayrak

Matt Mutcheson

Bob Norris

Judy Andrews

Brad Bobrowich

THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXCERPT FROM AN ARTICLE BY MIKE LARDY FROM 2002

Timing of Feedings

The most startling finding is that the endurance of sled dogs that fast for 24 hours prior to a race is twice that of dogs fed three, six, or nine hours before a race. This flies in the face of our intuition and calls into question the habit many of us have of feeding our dogs in the morning before hunting or training. Dr. Reynolds explained that two factors can explain these results. First, the dog with an empty digestive tract has better biomechanics. Sled dog racers will monitor every dog the morning of the race to make sure they have stooled out completely; the dog with an empty colon is better prepared for the run. This is probably a smaller factor for retrievers than sled dogs, but every advantage may count on a day-long upland hunt. Also, the colon is less likely to be irritated by the exercise that follows. Certainly, we have all seen our hunting dogs have frequent and runny or even bloody stools after hours of hunting. The second explanation has to do with biochemistry. Without explaining the details, Dr. Reynolds says, "Suffice it to say that the insulin spike in the bloodstream that follows eating can turn off the fat- mobilizing pathways. Since fat is the primary source of energy, the dog is less able to get the energy it needs." This leads to the recommendation that you not feed your dog in the morning prior to vigorous exercise. This certainly is contrary to what so many of us do on demanding hunting days! I asked Dr. Reynolds if it was all right to give the dog a snack during a hunting outing. "If you feel the need to give a snack, give a high fat snack, such as a piece of sausage, no more than fifteen minutes before works. There won't be sufficient time for an insulin spike to occur before exercise commences." He also said you could give such a snack in the middle of the hunt. Of course, if your dog suffers from certain maladies, such as hypoglycemia, be sure to follow your veterinarian's recommendations.

RECENT FDA WARNING **Grain Free Dog Food** **May Be Linked to Heart Disease**



OLIVER

DOB 7-29-14 DOD 8-3-18

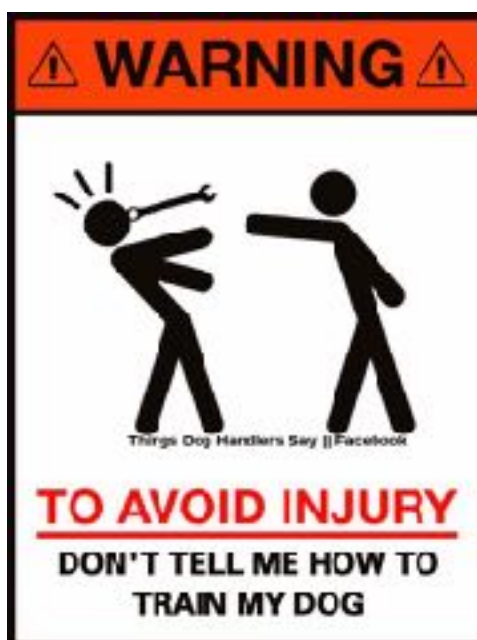
The Face of Dilated Cardiomyopathy

A heart disease called DCM (dilated cardiomyopathy) has recently been on the increase and may be associated with a deficiency of an amino acid (taurine) which is essential for heart health. Dogs that have been fed grain free foods which have legumes (peas, beans, chickpeas, soybeans, peanuts) or potatoes or sweet potatoes as their main ingredients have been shown to have low taurine levels and are at risk for developing DCM.

If you are feeding a grain free food to your dog

PLEASE

Look at the ingredients and make sure that legumes and potatoes are not in the top 5 ingredients.





I think the reason we
are born with two
hands is so we can
pet two dogs at
once.

SUPPORT OUR FUND RAISER

SELL THOSE GREY CUP TICKETS



PROBLEMS WITH BLINDS

By Danny Farmer

Once the dog has left the line. . .

Training and competing with retrievers have been Danny Farmer's lifelong passions. Over the years he has trained more than 80 Field Champions and won the American National Retriever Championship three times. He has a variety of educational materials, from print to videos available. Below is his take on training on blinds.

Several winters ago I was able to train on his property and was introduced to Danny—a nicer, more accommodating person you could never meet.

Marilyn

Running a successful blind consists of three important things: initial line, stopping and casting.

One of the problems you get on an initial line is the dog not going where you want him to go. The most important solution is to do a lot of blinds and a lot of multiple blinds - by that I mean that from the same line, you may have three, four or five blinds that are relatively tight to one another out in the field. For example, you may run a blind toward 9 o'clock, 10 o'clock, and so on but not necessarily in order – you can run nine, then 12, then back to 10 and so on.

Just doing a lot of multiple blinds with no corrections other than handling the dog is one way to establish the dog's idea of what an initial line is. It's important when you do this to handle the dog relatively tight on line. This will vary depending on the level of the dog – you cannot handle a young, beginning dog that tightly on line, but it's important as your dog advances to do multiple binds and keep your dog on line. It may seem like you're not working on initial lines, but the result will be a better initial line, especially if you do this four or five days in a row.

I am going to describe three water blinds and the problems that may occur with each and their solutions these solutions are based on dogs that have a solid foundation in basics.

Blind #1: Water Blind on and off a Point

Factors: Long land entry, get on and off a point with a strong crosswind pushing dog to shore

In this blind you need to insist the dog seek water and hold into the wind. Make sure you communicate with the dog what you want.

For example, you cast toward a point, but the dog doesn't take enough cast and seeks water. We've spent a lot of time training the dog to seek water not land, so I would blow and stop again and cast toward the *point* in a friendly motion that conveys, *It's okay--I give you permission to get on land*. Once the dog gets on land, I will blow a sit-whistle and let him see all is well; then, cast off the point. (Note this is training, I would cast off the point fairly quickly.)

It's important to keep your training balanced, you want the dog to stay away from land if you tell him to, but you also need him to go to land if you give him that direction. If your dog won't cast toward land, then your dog is telling you you've done too much training on staying away from land. So now, come back and simplify – make land a bigger part of water blinds where you can't avoid it.

Blind #1 Problems

Avoiding water on initial line: If you have the dog pointed at water and he fades away slightly, just blow and handle without pressure. If the dog makes no effort to go toward the water and you've made it obvious that is the way to go, then blow the whistle and apply pressure. The level of pressure depends on the dog and if he has a habit of doing this or not. If so, I would possibly apply more pressure.

Fading with the wind: This is when the dog drifts in toward the shore and does not try to stay in the water to the point. I would generally handle; the first handle would be without pressure, and if I had to handle again, I would use pressure and adjust it according to the dog.

Dog doesn't want to get on point: I would not use pressure at all here. I would just keep handling and use a soft cast – keep waving my arm and wrist toward the point as if saying, "okay."

Getting the dog off the point: I would stop the dog on the point, and in training, I would give a literal cast, which means directly from where the dog is to where the

blind is, which could be a straight back or slightly angled. In competition, I would give a bigger angle with possible movement toward the water – that would be considered a “helpful” cast away from the suction as opposed to directly toward the blind with a literal cast.

Normally when a dog comes off a point, he tends to want to hut the point, and the problem with that is you can't see him. This would be a serious problem in competition and hunting. You want the dog to come off the point wide toward the water; once you see him, you can adjust him properly toward the blind. If the dog will not come off the point, I would blow the whistle again and apply pressure suitable to the dog, repeating until the dog properly comes off the point.

Another alternative, especially if you have a dog that has a problem getting off points, is to have an emergency blind planted across from the point where an over cast would lead the dog directly to the emergency blind; If the dog came off the point well, then continue to the original blind; if not handle to the emergency blind.

Remember on all blinds to stay focused all the way to the end of the blind while working hard at keeping the dog on line.

Blind #2: Water Blind By a Point

Factors: Long land entry with high cover and a strong crosswind pushing dog to shore

Try to set up your blind where the crosswind is blowing your dog to shore. This makes corrections on the dog easier for him to understand and makes for a very good training test. (Note: In a strong crosswind, make line corrections for fading early in our blind – the further out the dog is, the harder it is to get the cast into the wind.)

There are times in training on a blind going past a point that your dog rarely attempts to get on the point, you may want to change the blind and put him on it. In doing this, you are keeping your dog balanced and flexible.

Blind #2 Problems

Dog not seeking water on entry: Handle and only use pressure if the dog is avoiding water after the first or second attempt to change his direction toward water (also the same as Blind #1).

Dog not holding into the wind: The dog needs to hold into the wind across the water. I would adjust the amount of pressure I put on the dog by the amount of effort he gives to fight the wind. So if I've got a dog that I gave the same cast to and he held it for a short time and then headed to shore, I would handle without pressure and just keep handling without pressure if he was giving me initial effort.

Another technique to help the dog hold the wind would be an emergency blind, as described in Blind #1, or to throw a bumper in the direction you want the dog to go and insist he take an over from the shore out to the bumper. Just abandon your original blind and work on getting the cast away from the shore. You are doing this without pressure – just keep stopping and handling until you get the dog to the emergency blind or the bumper you threw.

Blind #3: Water Blind On and Off a Scented Point

Factors: Long angle entry with high cover, get high on a scented point, and get back in water

Blind #3 Problems

Dog not seeking water with entry:

Follow the same procedure as previous blinds.

Dog not wanting to come off the point:

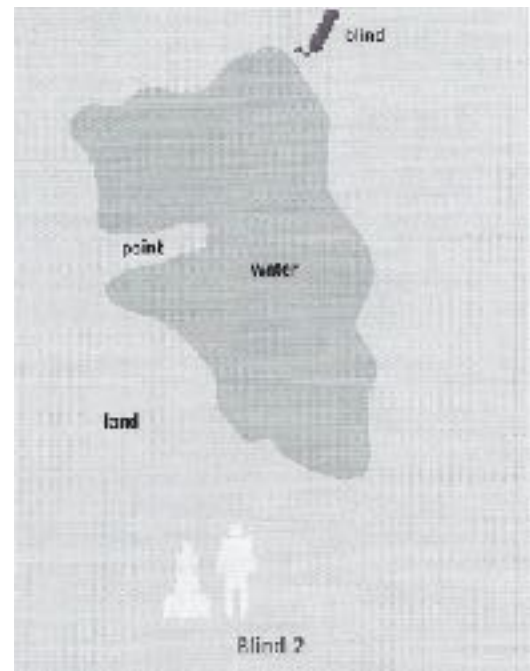
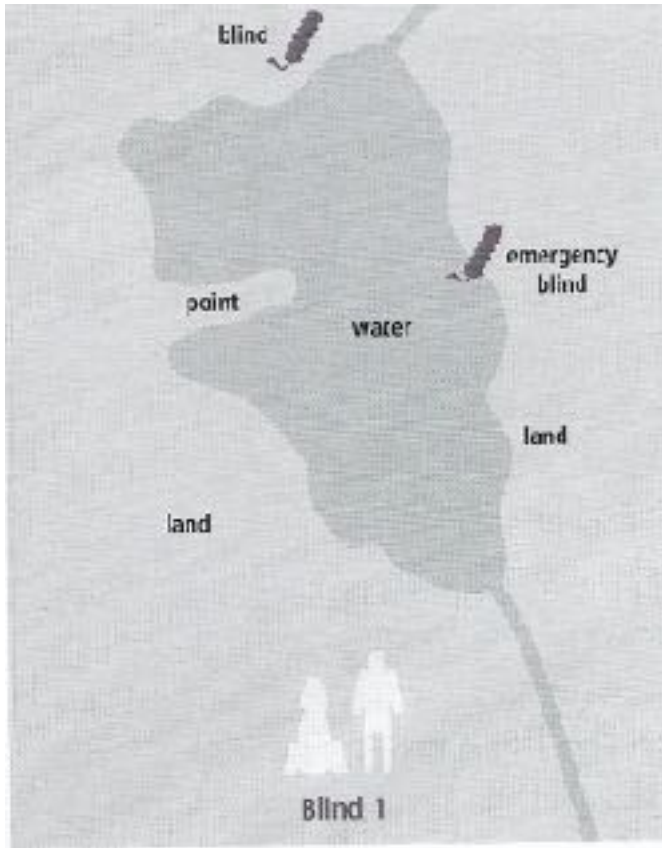
The point is heavily scented to teach the dog to cast out of scent when he is told to do so. Note: Putting a dog through a scented point is an advanced concept – you do not want to do that with a dog that is young and doesn't handle well. It is something you definitely want to train on a more advanced dog.

Make sure when training on this that you put the dog up high on the point, close to shore, to really challenge the dog. You should really have a high standard with the dog taking your cast. You will blow a sit-whistle and as Blind #1, I would give a literal cast as opposed to a "helpful" cast, and follow guidelines from Blind #1.

MGDA

Water blinds tend to be the most challenging blinds with problems that occur in the field. The dog's focus has to be totally on the water. If not, you need to send a message to your dog that *you are going to do a water blind*. You must change his attitude.

If he is fixated on land, back up from the mat while saying, "No, here," in order to re-heel the dog, and reline with his focus totally on the water. Remember, the amount of pressure you use for cash refusals will depend on your dog. Keep working on multiple blinds but be smart to monitor your dog's energy level.



A old Newf is stopped by the police around 2 a.m. and is asked where he is going at this time of night.

The Newf says, "I am on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as smoking and staying out late." The officer then asks, "Really? Who is giving that lecture at this time of night?"

The Newf says, "That would be da wife."

Have you ever met someone so stupid you felt bad for their dog?

HUNT TEST RESULTS (CLUB MEMBERS)

MANITOBA GUN DOG ASSOCIATION

JUNIOR

Judy Wilson - Zaniri It Had To Be You

Jim Robinson - Kyon's Robinson Crusoe

Bob Norris - Win-Toba's Saffron Sassy

Judy Andrew - CH Audeo's Life Is A Highway CDX

Senior - Saturday

Brandon Sutherland - Razor's Northern Red Oak

Master - Saturday

Tracy Lennartz - Trailrunners Pathfinder WCI JH

Trent Sproule - Misty Marsh's Leaping Lizzy

Keith Lovelace - Ekinoxboreal Go Get'Em Champ MH

Dewayne Hay - Head's Up For Goldenworks Roo MH QFTR WCX

Junior- Sunday

Nick Hawkins - Thunderstruck Reddy Or Not

Judy Andrew - Audeo's Life is a Highway WCX

Judy Wilson - Zaniri It Had To Be You JH

Bob Norris - Win-Toba's Saffron Sassy

Geoff Plouffe - Prairiestorm Summer Skye JH WC

Master - Sunday

Tracy Lennartz - Trailrunners Pathfinder WCI JH

Dewayne Hay - Head's Up For Goldenworks Roo MH QFTR WCX

Judy Wilson - Goldenworks Stormy Weather SH WCX

RESULTS FOR MGDA MEMBERS IN FIELD TRIALS IN MANITOBA

FOR COMPLETE RESULTS PLEASE GO TO NRCC WEBSITE

DELTA MARSH RETRIEVER CLUB

OPEN AUG 18TH

3RD - FTCH Pilkingtons Chasing Liberty QFTR - Gail Komadoski
RCM - NFTCH AFTCH OCG's Equalizer QFTR JFTR - Larry Baker

QUALIFYING AUG 18TH

1st - Razor's Eye In The Sky - Dustin Dola
2nd - Amraam's Fire and Forget - James Oake

OPEN AUG 19TH

RCM - Razor's Puddle Duck Teal QFTR - James Oake

MANITOBA GUN DOG ASSOCIATION

Open SEPT 1ST

1ST - NFTCH AFTCH OCG's Equalizer - Larry Baker

QUALIFYING SEPT 1ST

2ND - Razor's Eye In The Sky - Dustin Dola
4TH - White Rose Charlie - Shaun Booth
RCM - Amraam's Fire and Forget - James Oake

Junior Sept 1st

3rd - Amraam's Irish Storm - Shaun Booth
RCM - Win-Toba's Saffron Sassy - Bob Norris

Open Sept 2nd

2nd - FTCH Pilkington's Put'n On The Ritz QFTR- Gail Komadoski
3rd - FTCH Pilkington's Chasing Liberty QFTR - Gail Komadoski

Qualifying Sept 2nd

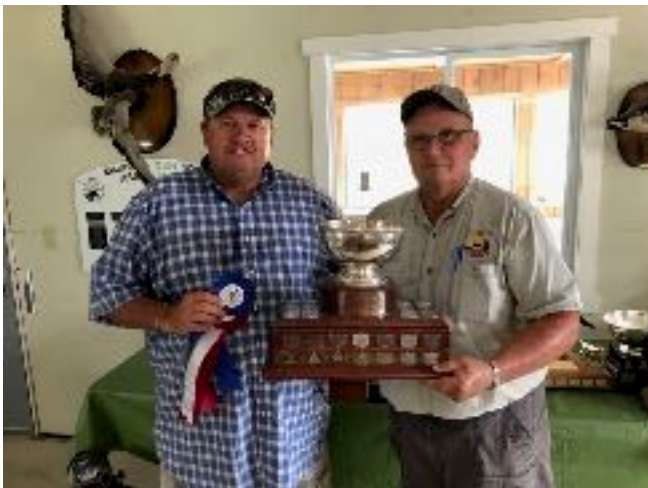
1st - Amraam's Fire and Forget - James Oake
2nd - Razor's Eye In The Sky - Dustin Dola
RCM - Razor's Livin On Da Edge - Scott Anderson

Junior Sept 2nd

1st - Amraam's Irish Storm - Shaun Booth

PHOTOS FROM THE DELTA MARSH TRIAL

Chris Brandl received trophies for winning the Open on Saturday and having the most competitive dog for the weekend. Neal Hunter received the trophy for winning the Open on Sunday. Charlie Ross and “Pink” was presented the trophy for the “Dog of the Year”.



Some photos from the Trials, Hunt Tests



Executive Committee

President	Matt Mutcheson
Past President	Charlie Ross
1st VP	Blake Hasiuk
2nd VP	Gail Komadoski
Secretary	Crystal Fulton
Treasurer	Marilyn Bayrak
Director	Shaun Booth
Director	Mark Hastie
Director	Colin McMichael
Director	Keith Lovelace

Submissions Welcome!

This is a publication of The Manitoba Gun Dog Association Inc. We are always looking for content. You can send us your ideas, photos or articles to larryjbaker99@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER
Fall 2016

MGDA
MANITOBA GUN DOG
ASSOCIATION



Preserving Working Retrievers Since 1935

The MGDA was originally formed in 1935 by a group of hunters and sportsmen with an interest in training retrievers for waterfowl hunting and competition. Incorporated in 1972, The Manitoba Gun Dog Association Inc. has played an important role in Canadian working retriever history. Today the MGDA has approximately 75 members. The Club hosts two Canadian Kennel Club licensed Field Trials and two CKC licensed Hunt Tests annually. In addition the club provides a number of informal Picnic Trials and Retriever Workshops each year .

<http://www.manitobagundog.com>