

VHOC Wins Top Dog for the Second Year In a Row!



Saturday, November 10, brought a crisp fall day with gusty winds for the 2012 Southern California Dog Obedience Council's Top Dog Competition in Bloomington, CA. Our VHOC team stood tall and shone brightly, competing with a total of 14 SCDOC Obedience Clubs. For the second year in a row, our team finished the day in first place, even bettering last year's score by earning 1133 points out of a possible 1200!

In Top Dog, each participating club sends two dog and handler teams to compete in each of the three levels: novice, open and utility. Teams accumulate points for each exercise successfully completed, rather than the "pass/fail" nature of a traditional competition. Round one scores determine each club's team placements. The top four dogs from each of six rings (two from each level) advance to round two, and the scores from each are added to determine individual placements.

We are so proud that ALL SIX VHOC dogs finished in the top four in their first round, and ALL SIX were called back for round two!

The day was not without its challenges, but our dog/handler teams came through beautifully! Here are the Individual Team Stats:

NOVICE

Sarah & Brio finished Round One in 3rd place. Advanced to round two and finished the day as the 4th place Novice

Dog out of 28 Novice teams. Sarah says, "Brio was awesome in the first round with just a little bobble. His second round was wonderful!" He was a joy to watch!

Kim & Lizzie finished round one in 4th place. Advanced to round two. We could not be more proud of Kim and Lizzie. During the first round recall, a dog from the adjoining ring charged Lizzie. But Kim was there in a flash and got Lizzie away from the other dog. She was allowed to repeat the recall and Lizzie did it perfectly!! Kim says, "Bizzie Lizzie is the Best Dog in the

World"! She said this at least ten times and made sure Lizzie knew it too. Kudos to Kim and Lizzie!!

Jinny & Jasmine (alt) - this was an eventful group exercise for our Novice Alternate dog and handler! After watching 4 other dogs go down on the long sit, Jasmine decided to join them. Jinny says, "Her long down was perfect!" That's the spirit!

OPEN

Tink & Cher finished round one in 2nd place. Advanced to round two. Tink says, "Cher was fabulous in round one and just a little sleepy for her heeling in round two." We are very proud of Tink and Cher; they were awesome!

Gwen & Pasta finished round one in 2nd place. Advanced to round two and finished the day as the 3rd place

Open Dog out of 28 Open teams. Gwen says, "Pasta had a little bobble on her fronts for the drop on recall, but all-in-all she was a very good girl!" Yes, she was!

Cindi & Jenna (alt) - completed the out of sight Open Groups successfully. Cindi says, "I am just so thrilled with her after 8 months without doing a group exercise! She was perfect!" Good girl, Jenna!

UTILITY

Patti & Chili finished round one in 2nd place. Advanced to round two and finished the day as the 3rd place Utility Dog out of 28 Utility teams. Chili had a wonderful first round if you overlook that she took the bar jump on the way out to her first go-out! She redeemed herself in round two with a very nice performance. Patti says, "Um, Chili....it would help a lot if you remember to hold your mark instead of watching the groups in the next ring!" Guess what Chili will be working on....

Sharon & Pepper finished round one in 5th place and was moved to 4th place when one of the top four teams left early. She missed her signal sit in round two. What does Sharon have to say? Sharon says, "Pepper was wonderful!" And she was!

Joyce & Jill (alt) - Jill got the day off as our Utility alternates and spent the day eating cookies and dog-watching, while Joyce pitched in to help anyone who needed a hand! Thank you, Joyce and Jill!

We owe a very special thanks to:

Joyce Davis who drove all the way down to Bloomington to stake out our space on Friday and played paparazza with her camera all day! Thank you, Joyce!

Cindi Malchose who put together our raffle basket for us and also played paparazza with her camera! Thank you, Cindi! Sterling Chow who helped set up and take down, and assisted where needed throughout the day, in addition to taking photos. You, sir, are a gem! Thank you, Sterling!

Carole Raschella, who, year after year, volunteers her time to design our wonderful team T-Shirts! Thank you, Carole!

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2012 TOP DOG TEAM!

We are so proud of all of you, and thank you for making VHOC look so good!

Patti Rovtar & Sarah Sykes
2012 VHOC Top Dog Co-Captains