

For immediate release

Agria Agility Challenge 2019



After a spring and summer of incredible heats, the 50 finalists for the Agria Agility Challenge final have all been decided. The last qualifier of 2019 took place at stunning Chatsworth Country Fair, which was an unusual heat in the way that the results were completely collie-free!

Topping the results was a super-fast Staffie, and the last finalist to get in was Gary the Gooner with a wonderful performance that was a great testament to owner Alan's hard work with him throughout the summer.

Heat nine took place at Bromsgrove Premier Agility Show. This was one of our hottest days of the year, which didn't suit all the dogs despite Judge Ben Elsworthy's best efforts to set an appropriate course.

One or two familiar Midland faces made the line up at the penultimate heat of the Challenge, and winning was a delighted Kim Watts, who most will know has achieved success with many dogs and seems to yet again to be a rising star of the agility world!

All the way back to heat eight at the Welsh Kennel Club Show, where the weather was an altogether different prospect; fortunately for us, the purpose built RWAS showground welcomed Championship Agility, Breed and Obedience with none of the mud that shows at other venues were dealing with.

Judge Robin Gretenkort luckily got the best of the weather as he found our Welsh connected qualifiers for this year's Challenge.

Good luck to all the finalists and special thanks to all our host events; judges, ring parties and hard-working show secretaries who make a massive contribution to this competition for the rising stars of the Agility world.

The Challenge returns in 2020!

Results - Agria Agility Challenge Qualifiers, Heat 8, Welsh Kennel Club

1. Izzy Hill with Little Dynamo Deno C 33.653 secs
2. Lois Harris with Hawksflight Jus Lyk A Movie C 36.905 secs
3. Lauren O'Connor with Griffsgirls Concealed 5 faults 39.161 secs
4. Barbara Flood-Page with Tilly Quickstep 5 faults 43.126 secs
5. Julia Maclean with Freyasway Emerald Yolo 5 Faults 45.156 secs

Results - Agria Agility Challenge Qualifiers, Heat 9, Bromsgrove Premier Show

1. Kim Watts with Weircourt Darcy
2. Julie Stevens with Kinaway Greased Lightning
3. Jan Gordon with Wilihaze Kwik Save Me
4. Trisha White with Flyaway on my Zephyr
5. Melissa Royall with Fairground Floss

Results - Agria Agility Challenge Qualifiers, Heat 10, Chatsworth Country Fair

1. Craig Woodhead with Buffalo Gal Go Round D'Outside C 39.071 secs
2. Charlotte Ward with Gillygals Dream Boat C 42.969 secs
3. Naomi Thorn with Mayhem Earth 5 faults 51.371 secs
4. Rachel Webb with The Dizbomb 8.522 faults 60.522 secs
5. Alan Brickley with Gary The Gooner 10 faults 35.768 secs

Huge congratulations to all of our qualifiers – we cannot wait to watch you in action at the final!!

Agria Pet Insurance was recently awarded 'Pet Insurance Provider of the Year' and 'Best Claims Service' for the second consecutive year at the Moneyfacts Consumer Awards 2019. The specialist pet insurance provider is one of the very few to cover dogs while they work – including agility dogs during training, travelling to events and competing.

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Notes for editors:

Agria is one of the world's leading animal insurers, specialising in small animal, equine and agricultural insurance. Founded in Sweden over 125 years ago, Agria started underwriting policies in the UK in 2009 and is now a prominent player in the UK pet insurance sector. Agria UK works with vets, breeders and affiliates providing insurance for cats and dogs. Agria also administers pet insurance schemes for the leading small animal registration bodies, The Kennel Club and the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy (GCCF).

Agria strongly believes in animals leading full, happy and healthy lives, and so supporting agility is a natural match. Agility training enriches dogs' lives by giving them a mental and physical outlet, enhancing their level of focus and self-assurance while encouraging a strong owner/ animal bond. Agria is proud to support an activity that fosters such positive outcomes.