

GOLD at IFCS World Agility Championships!



Photo courtesy of www.aacwt.com

Rotorua teenager, Chelsea Marriner, is on top of the world. As one of three handlers chosen to represent New Zealand at the country's first ever trip to the International Federation of Cynological Sports (IFCS) world agility championships, Chelsea put in a faultless run with Border Collie "Moss" to win the individual Jumping competition for "Maxi" dogs.

The quarantine and travel implications to the UK made it nigh on impossible for the three NZ team members (the "Paw Blacks") to take their own dogs with them, so they had to run dogs borrowed from local owners who had not qualified for the Great Britain team. Chelsea, along with Palmerston North's Kevin Burnette and Timaru's Natasha Coulter, only had 3 or 4 days to get acquainted with the dogs prior to the championships starting.

Chelsea had earlier finished fourth in the Gamblers class (a points accumulation competition which requires not only speed and accuracy but also the ability to strategise the optimum course path and to handle the dog from a distance) and this combined with her Jumping class win and results from the two other classes saw her placed a highly credible eighth overall.

Kevin, also competing in the Maxi division with "Harry", finished 24th in the individual standings and had a strong run in the Team Agility class which saw the Paw Blacks placed eighth going into the last of the three legs (the results from the final leg of the Team competition are expected Monday night).

Natasha, running "Lily" in the Mini division, finished 18th overall and a respectable 9th in the "Biathlon" (which combines results from a Standard Agility class and a Jumping class).

Heartiest congratulations go out to Chelsea, Kevin and Natasha – you've done yourselves and New Zealand proud!

Ron Frater – New Zealand Kennel Club Agility Committee – 17 May 2010



FINAL RESULTS

INDIVIDUAL STANDARD MAXI JUMPING RESULTS

Place	Handler	Dog	Country	Faults	Time
1ST	Chelsea Marriner	Shanowl Ona Mission	New Zealand	0	29.128
2ND	Ann Zarr	Skylar	USA	0	30.698
3RD	Tiffany Salmon	Rio	Canada	0	31.088

Official result taken from www.wac2010.com