

National Agility Sub-Committee



of the Federal Council of the Kennel Union of Southern Africa

National Convener's Report – June 2021

Unsurprisingly the last year has been challenging, with the COVID-19 epidemic having affected agility since March 2020 to date. During the last year, the NAgSC has also seen its fair share of challenges with a new committee being formed, and a new Convener and Secretary appointed. This is the case of looking forward to the next year, for both for the NAgSC and agility in general.

I am confident that the NAgSC will provide direction and guidance for the next few years and hope to achieve the objective of growth of KUSA agility in South Africa.

The epidemic had negative impacts on agility including the cancellation of the European Open due to be held in Portugal in July and the AWC 2021, which was scheduled to be held in Estonia in September. We hope that 2022 will see a return to these prestigious international events.

The past year was not all negative, and we have some notable highlights including the following.

- **National Agility League 2020**

Despite the inevitable postponement of NAL 2020 due to COVID-19 we were able to finish the competition, and congratulations to all those who participated. Carmen van der Merwe did an outstanding job as National Coordinator and her hard work was appreciated.

- **South African Agility Championships Trials 2021**

Much like NAL 2020, COVID-19 had an inevitable impact on the SAC 2021 trials, but through the organization within the provinces we were still able to complete SAC 2021 trials within (barely) enough time prior to SAC 2021. I would like to thank all the provincial agility-sub-committees, provincial co-ordinators and Patrick Scott, the National Coordinator for their perseverance and patience in completing the trials in time.

We also need to thank all handlers who participated and congratulate all of those who entered the SAC trials 2021.

- **South African Agility Championships 2021**

The NAPC agility sub-committee hosted SAC 2021 at the Goldfields KC grounds in Bedfordview from the 11th to 13th June. This was held under strict COVID-19 regulations, and by all accounts the event was a real success. I would like to thank the NAPC agility sub-committee, all the helpers, judges and competitors for their contributions towards the success of the event.

Thankfully, the event was held its scheduled slot on the KUSA calendar as it would likely have needed to be postponed or cancelled had the event not been held when it was. Congratulations to all the competitors, and those who achieved their goals at SAC 2021.

- **Nutribyte – sponsor for SAC 2021**

We welcomed Nutribyte Feeds to sponsor SAC 2021. Nutribyte provided goodie bags to all competitors, covered the costs of all trophies and rosettes, and lovely prizes to all the winners.

The Nutribyte representative on site at SAC 2021 said that she had never been to any dog event quite like this before. She was amazed at the skill, determination and control of both handlers and dogs. She commented positively on the atmosphere and the sportsmanship shown, and that she has never been involved in an event that was so well organized, planned and executed.

The MD of Nutribyte has already indicated that they want to partner with us in 2022, and we hope to start planning on their involvement in 2022 shortly. Our sincere thanks go out to Marko Botha, MD of Nutribyte Feeds.

- **Eastern Province Disciplines Weekend – March 2021**

2021 saw the return of the Eastern Province Disciplines weekend, after the previous year's cancellation. It was held at the Baakens Valley Dog Training grounds and was a great success. Handlers from around the country participated in 5 Championship shows. Our thanks to all those involved.

- **Northern Areas Bumper Weekend – April 2021**

The NAPC Bumper weekend also made a return in 2021, with over 200 dogs competing in a total of 7 Championship shows including KUSA Nationals and an FCI Champ show. The event also included flyball, dog jumping, CGC, and obedience. We are very appreciative that Mrs Jenny Hubbard, Chairperson of the Executive Council of KUSA was able to attend. Thank you, Jenny.

Yours Faithfully,

Rob Hall

National Convener - NAgSC