Comments on 2022 ARFF Practices

General

Because we have few people for setup, we've generally offered one exercise with multiple variations. There are a couple of USDAA@Home courses and Snooker courses. You can download the PDFs of the setup and the exercise variations on the ARFF website (arffagility.com) under "Practices." The site will list any additional materials for that week's practice.

Most exercises use just a few obstacles. The setup diagram will show **unnumbered** gridlines (in 10-foot squares). We expect you to be able to set up the exercises by eyeballing. Remember that the jump bars are all 5 feet long (half the length of a grid square). If there are a fair number of obstacles, or if there's a particular line of obstacles where the spacing and angles make a difference (for instance, an opening of a challenging course), we've included the obstacle coordinates on a **numbered** grid, so that you can wheel the setup for more precision.

Workshops

- ARFF members Nini Bloch and Susan Giordano will be offering seven workshops this season.

- Each workshop will run from 2-4 hours on a Saturday. Watch for a separate announcement of the workshops. You'll be able to sign up well in advance on the website. Auditors welcome.

- Each workshop has a similarly themed practice the Wednesday after so you can practice what you you've learned.

- We've scheduled all but one workshop for the spring/early summer (early in the season) before things get too hot and/or people go away. We figure you would want this info at the start of the season.

- We've scheduled the How to Build a Skill and Backchaining for Success workshops back-to-back because we think of them as a pair—they build on each other.

Gambles Galore

Some members have asked if we can offer more opportunities to practice gambles. We won't schedule these, but we are supplying a wishlist of every classical gamble you could think of, courtesy of legendary agility competitor/trainer/author Linda Mecklenburg. Her list is organized so that you can see a beginner version and then compare it to the intermediate version and the advanced version. For instance, the advanced version may have you sending your dog to the farther end of the tunnel, or place a jump along the gamble line you're running on that may lure your dog back over the line, or require you to send your dog away from you twice in one gamble. It's instructive to study the differences. "Gambles Scramble" is loaded on the website under "Practices." We can leave a laminated version in the cage.