

# \* TEXAS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP \*

**October 13, 2007 - White Rock Lake**

**Held in conjunction with:**

**Mystics, Mutts & Moonpies Festival**

What a day! It was beautiful weather except for that nagging wind! Sometimes it blew hard, sometimes it was the competitors and taunting them as to when it would kick up and which direction it would be blowing. With it faster than the dogs and other discs experienced a hard slam down by the wind. It made for some exciting th

The top "dog" at the Texas State Championship turned out not to be from Texas, but from Colorado! That's right, Matt DiAno & Maggie came in and, with a high score of the day in Toss N Catch (17.5 pts), cruised through to 1st place in the Open Division. Congratulations Matt!

It was a tough battle for 2nd and 3rd place between two competitors from Houston and two from Dallas. Lisa Ward of Dallas walked away with special honors for having the highest Freestyle score with a 35.8 and even though it wasn't needed, she also had the highest Catch Ratio for the day at 86%. But in the end, the Toss N Catch score is what clinched it for Mark McNitt & Jackson from Houston to take 2nd place and Pennie Mahon & Gabe from Houston taking 3rd. Kelly Miller & Rio and Lisa Ward & Brie both of Dallas rounded out 4th and 5th.

This year there were enough competitors to warrant the need for a Freestyle round in the Intermediate Division with 13 competitors. It was an exciting day and in the end Deb Carlson & Taz (Houston) took 1st place by 0.4 pts over our friendly Boomer Sooner, Lee Fairchild & Gracie, of Oklahoma. Christopher Steele & Ringo finished in a strong 3rd place.

There was only one Toss N Catch division this year with novice and experienced all lumped together. But again, past favorites were daunted by unpredictable winds and there were many a missed discs snatched from the ground versus snatched from the air! Lee Fairchild (Oklahoma) & General took first with a total of 14 pts. Kathy Richards (Dallas) swept 2nd and 3rd with Freckles and Poppy, respectively. I remember when those siblings were just puppies! Kelly Miller & Tobe (Dallas) came in 4th and newcomer from Dallas, Ben Wardlow & Rocco came in 5th.

Since I'm with the Dallas club, I'd like to give some kudos to two Dallas club members:

- Kathy Mazzola from the Dallas club entered her first ever competition with her two dogs, Handsome and Gorgeous, in Toss N Catch. Kathy works night shifts and came to the competition straight from work. She was tired and nervous, but after round one she found herself in 1st place with 8.5 pts. Unfortunately, Kathy needed to get some much needed sleep before going to work again that night so she had to scratch from round two. Who knows? A second round might have landed Kathy in the top 3! I hope that's encouragement to Kathy as she and her dogs did a great job.

- I also want to give out a shout out to El Pacheco for her first freestyle ever with Cheeky and Nacho. She did really well and had some nice catch ratio percentages.

**BIG THANKS** to our judges Chuck Middleton and Billy Hasty who forgo competing to allow us all to compete. It's a tough job, but they always step up to the plate to help out. Also **THANKS** to Lisa Middleton for judging execution (catch ratio) and helping set up. It's so nice to have someone so reliable. **THANKS** to Mike McIlraith for MC'ing and doing just a fantastic job. And last but not least **THANKS** to everyone who pitched in during the day whether it was moving hay bails, setting up flags, setting up registration, etc. Everything goes faster, smoother when we all pitch in.

**The Dallas club hopes everyone had a fun time and thanks for coming out!**