



Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of Great Britain



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A Guide to Activities for Rhodesian Ridgebacks

There many varied activities that you can do with your ridgeback from Ringcraft to Flyball, all of which require different amounts

of control and skills. When deciding which activity to take part in ask a few questions of the club, have a look around the club, and also check that your dog is old enough to take part before you part with any money. Some clubs won't refund money if you decide

you don't like their training methods. Also bear in mind that you or your dog may not get the enjoyment out of the activity that you thought, so may need to try another activity.



At a dog show you compete against other dogs of the same breed to see which the judge thinks is closest to the official Kennel Club Breed Standard.

The Breed Standard covers all aspects of the dog from temperament to being fit for purpose.

Ringcraft

This is more commonly known as dog showing or exhibiting and is one of the most popular

activities done with dogs. Your dog must be a pedigree dog, registered with the Kennel Club, and you can start showing your dog from 6 months old.

To find out more about

Showing,

visit:

www.thekennelclub.org.uk/dogshowing

Obedience

This activity is exactly what it says on the tin; it's all about how obedient your dog is, from walking to heel, staying in one position for a given time, to finding the correctly scented cloth. With this activity it's about

competing against every dog in your class. Classes range from pre beginner up to Class C which is the highest and most difficult. Your dog can compete once it is 6 months old.

To find out more about

Obedience

visit:

www.thekennelclub.org.uk/obedience

Dancing with dogs:

This activity is great fun and good for keeping your dog supple. It has two different classes which are heel-work to music and freestyle. The first of which shows the steadiness and control of the dog, and its ability to take direction. The second of which

gives the handler and the dog chance to show off a few more of those unique tricks that they have perfected. Each of the classes demands that your dog moves in the 8 different heel-work positions, and of course this is done to music, a chance for you and your dog to be creative.

To find out more about

Dancing with Dogs

visit:

www.thekennelclub.org.uk/heelworktomusic

Good Citizen Dog Scheme:

This is form of obedience, but it's not competitive- it's more about having a well behaved dog. The



first level is puppy foundation and can be achieved until your dog reaches 12 months old.

Assessment is carried out on an ongoing basis. The next levels of the scheme are Bronze, Silver and finally Gold which is the highest award you can receive. You and your dog take part in an assessment where all the tasks are to be completed to the standard required by the examiner to get your award.

Your dog does not need to be a pedigree dog for this activity.

To find out more about the

Good Citizen Scheme

Visit:

www.thekennelclub.org.uk/dogtraining



Agility:

This is a fun packed, fast and very exciting activity for you and your dog. It tests your ability to



handle and give direction to your dog, and also keeps you and your dog fit! There is a course set out that has obstacles for your dog to negotiate against the clock. These range from tunnels to jumps to weaves. The handler and dog who complete the



course in the quickest time, with the fewest mistakes will win.



Your dog should be at least a year old to begin this activity.

To find out more about

Agility

visit:

www.thekennelclub.org.uk/agility



Flyball:

This activity is fast fun for your dog. It is a race between two teams of dogs. Each dog runs over four jumps in succession triggering the box after the last jump to release a tennis ball. The dog must then run back over the jumps to the handler carrying the ball. The next dog will then do the same until all dogs have completed the relay. The team with the fastest time will win. Your dog should be at least 12 months old to begin this sport.



To find out more about

Flyball

visit:

www.thekennelclub.org.uk/flyball or www.flyball.org.uk



Working Trials:

This activity was originally developed for police dogs, and is a real test of your dogs' intelligence, and physical ability. It is great fun and very rewarding for both dog and handler. Dogs compete in different levels known as 'stakes'. Starting at companion dog and finishing at patrol dog. There are three different categories of exercises to be completed, Nose-work, Agility and Control.

Each category has various tests from heel-work, searching for hidden items, to long jump and scaling a wall.

Your dog can start competing at 18 months of age.

To find out more about

Working Trials

visit:

www.thekennelclub.org.uk/workingtrials