

My Perfect Competition Partner

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My very special companion is Luca, (Tisane Hurdle Jumper), he was born in July 2016, and was bred by Sara Bingham and Michelle Crawford from Jeeves and Ocean.

I wanted a standard poodle and hoped to compete in agility, but I quickly realised during puppy classes that when Luca decided to work he was good, but when he was in his 'Zoomie' mood he was a challenge and lived up to his breed name being a Parti Poodle who loved to *PARTY!*

That said, he managed to pass his Good Citizen Bronze, Silver and Gold Exams by the age of 18 months!



We then moved to pure obedience and the indoor shows proved to be more successful than the exciting outside ones. With the outdoor shows I would enter Luca but instead found myself with the 'Zoomie' version of Luca.

For example, I'd be asked "*Handler are you ready?*", "*Yes, forward*", which was the cue for 'Zoomie' to appear, or disappear!!

With perseverance we have progressed and are working Limit A & B and Open Novice & A, collecting some trophies along the way.

The agility competitions have also been challenging, especially when toys were to be found on the ground just outside the arena!



I attended a large Agility Festival at the beginning of May held over 2 weekends back in 2019, when my prime objective was still to keep Luca in the ring with me.

Well, he surpassed that and managed two 4th places, one 3rd and one 1st.

For the finals on Monday he was the 5th highest qualifying dog in his grade out of 22. What a result considering all I had hoped for was for him to stay in the ring!