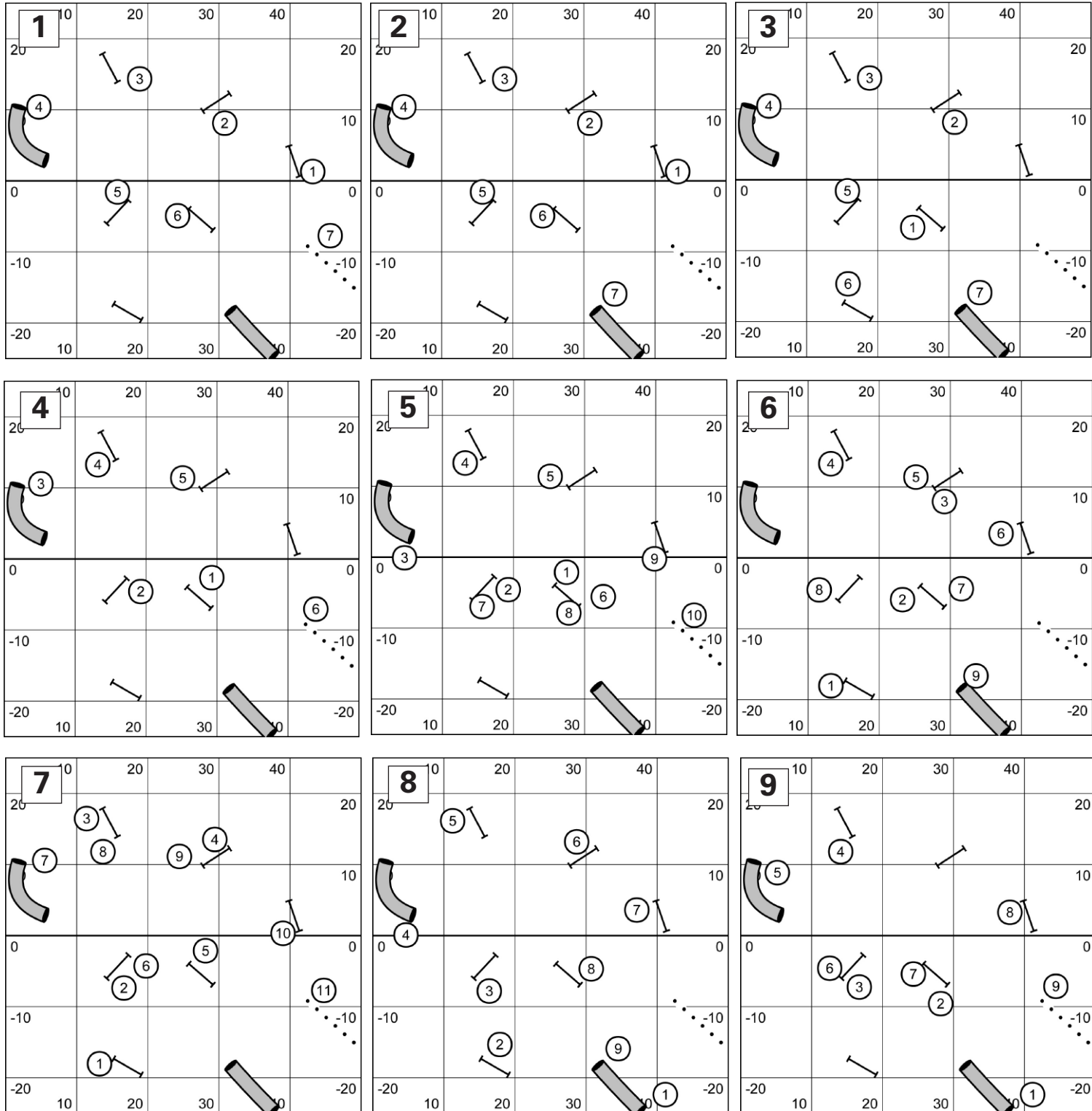


HOME IMPROVEMENT

by Tracy Sklenar

This month's Home Improvement exercises are inspired by the Dog Agility Masters and Performance Versatility Pairs classes at USDA's World Cynosport Games. Exercises 1 through 9 are based on the middle section of the Team Jumpers class.

Exercise 1 is very similar to the actual sequence, while 2 through 9 are variations on a theme. These sequences are meant to challenge your weave entries and tunnel discriminations. Exercises 10 through 14 are based on an early section of the Team



Standard course, where a lot of folks struggled to keep their dogs on course and to get flowing lines. In these exercises, I am using an A-frame to save space, rather than the dog walk used in the original course. However, you should find the challenges to be just as difficult. The last set of exercises (15 through 18) are based on the closing of the Team Standard course — how

can you handle these to get the best lines to the last jump. Please remember that all of these are middle-of-the-course sequences that are best practiced by starting with (or behind) your dog, and not giving yourself a long lead-out. The courses on which they are based can be found in their entirety at www.usdaa.com.

