

Korina Standley Age: 16

As an avid trainer with Jumping Chollas, I feel that I am on the correct pathway to becoming a well rounded person. Nothing in life comes easy unless you truly work hard for it. The same goes for agility; you can't just start training your dog and expect to have the fastest and most agile canine out there. It takes time to develop a strong bond with your dog and to fully train them. When I am older, I will understand that when applying for a job I will start on a lower level, and will have to work my way up to the top and not give up. Life and agility are very similar, in life there are many set backs and obstacles you have to deal with and take on one at a time. If something comes up you need to deal with it and find a way to get through it.

When running in a competition you have to be ready for anything. People have off days and dogs have days where they just act like they have no idea what you want them to do. You can't give up. Instead of just giving up and quitting, understand that these things happen and think of a way to solve the issue and move on. People have no control over other people. In agility, you do not fully control your dog. You could tell your dog to sit and he or she would just look at you like your crazy. They do what they want to do. People do what they want to do. When I am grown and am in the business world, I will have to accept the fact that I can't make anyone do anything whether they are my employees or not. If they have a problem with something or someone I could take action to solve the dilemma or even give suggestions. Giving up would solve nothing. It would just simply show that people have control over me, and like I said, nobody can truly control anyone else.

Everyone has at least one person they can turn to when they need help or advice. I feel that I have more than just one person to turn to. In fact, I have an entire club to turn to. When I need a few pointers on what route to take in a course or what method to use when sending my dog to an obstacle, I know that I can always count on anyone in the Jumping Chollas agility club. It doesn't matter who you ask, they all are willing to give advice or help you even if they aren't quite sure themselves. When going to agility classes I feel welcomed and at ease knowing that even if I make a mistake no one will judge me. Instead people will help me improve and keep my spirits up. Anywhere else it seems that people are just waiting for others to make mistakes so they can judge them and bring them down.

Usually when you do something for awhile you get bored and want to do something else. In school it's like a broken record, everything just repeats itself. Lesson, notes, and then homework. Agility class helps me get through the week. Just knowing that I get to go to agility keeps me going through the long weeks. Agility is all I talk about. With all the competitions and events planned due to the hard work of the members of Jumping Chollas, what else is there to talk about?