

BELGIAN MALINOIS BREAKS DOCK-DIVING WORLD RECORD

→ Like mother, like daughter — that proverb rings true when it comes to the Diving Dog world record. Inde, a 2-year-old Belgian Malinois, broke the record at the 17th Annual Purina Pro Plan Incredible Dog Challenge National Finals in September, jumping 33 feet 10 inches at the event, held at Purina Farms in Gray Summit, Mo. The former world record-holder? Fellow competitor Vhoebe, a 6-year-old Belgian Malinois who happens to be Inde's mother. She held the record for two years after diving 32 feet 3 inches at the 2012 National Finals.

During Diving Dog competitions, canines dive off a dock into a 19,000-gallon pool of water to retrieve a toy; the winning dog dives the farthest. Inde and her owner Michon Mills won that competition in May at the Incredible Dog Challenge Western Regionals, which took place in Huntington Beach, Calif. She jumped 31 feet 10 inches at that event.

The National Finals brought together the top dogs in the world of canine sports. Along with Diving Dog, events included

Large and Small Dog Agility, Freestyle Flying Disc, and Jack Russell Hurdle Racing, among others. Participants were top competitors from the 2014 Eastern and Western Regionals, and champions from the 2013 National Finals.

Check out highlights from the National Finals, including footage from athletes wearing GoPro cameras, by going to <http://tinyurl.com/qzecegm> and <http://tinyurl.com/nrh3m3x>

— Katie Ingmire



Inde jumped 33 feet 10 inches at the Purina Pro Plan Incredible Dog Challenge National Finals.

GOLDEN RETRIEVERS STILL NEEDED FOR LANDMARK STUDY

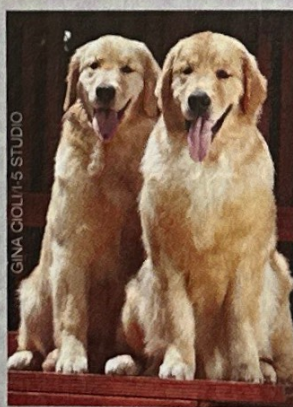
Your dog could be a lifesaver by participating in an important cancer research study. The Morris Animal Foundation is still looking for a few good dogs — about 1,000, in fact — to enroll in its Golden Retriever Lifetime Study. Now in its third year, the study is the largest, longest, and most complete one ever conducted in veterinary medicine, according to the Denver-based nonprofit. The research tracks enrolled dogs' health for life as a way to understand cancer and other diseases in canines.

MAF continues to enroll Golden Retrievers in the study, aiming for 3,000 dogs. It is seeking Goldens who are younger than 2 years old and live in the continental United States.

"We now have more than 1,900 dogs enrolled in the study," says David Haworth, D.V.M., Ph.D., president and CEO of MAF. "That is 1,900 families who hate disease in their beloved companions so much that they are willing to participate fully in this study. It is not easy, but it is so important."

The foundation plans to conduct the study for 10 to 12 years, learning about each of the Golden Retrievers through veterinary exams, owner questionnaires, blood tests, and genetic sequencing. It hopes to continue to follow the Goldens' puppies, and perhaps their offspring, for a lot longer.

If you would like to learn more or enroll your dog in the study, check out www.caninelifetimehealth.org — K.I.



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Deadline for entries is Dec. 26, 2014