

Info shared by Pitbull SA.

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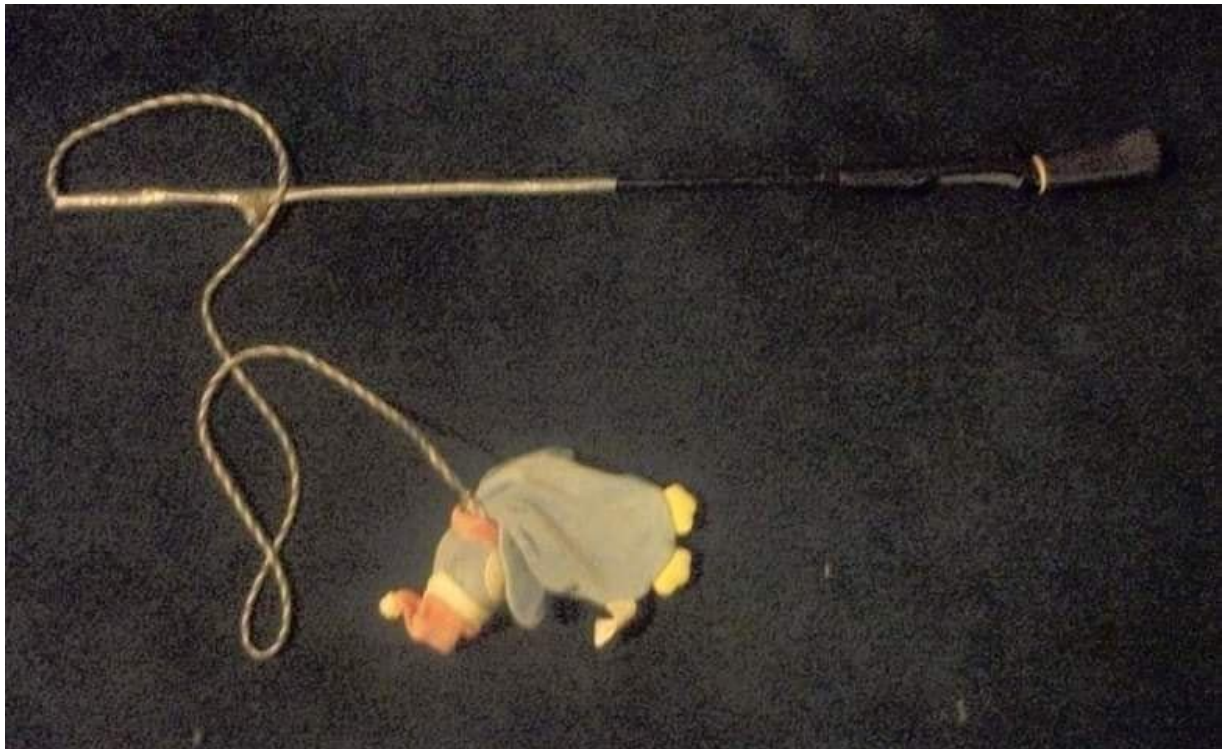
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History of the flirt pole.



Kennel or owner items kept and use with active working dogs (some especially questionable and frowned upon today – 2019- if you keeping and conditioning APBT working dogs) are not in the least as said to be – but if you own it ... or an been using it ... you will be “stamped and sealed” as an animal abuser and charged for cruelty to animals by “some” ... could make the “authorities” make you out to be a **dog fighter** – **and then you have to prove the opposite - I still love my APBT’s.**

Let’s take look and talk about **what is “thought” to be dog fighting paraphernalia and what precisely the items are** and then for what **precisely these items are used if you are a dogman and keep APBT –**

Then as aids in exercising and conditioning the APBT as working dog and why these “paraphernalia” used **does not make you or anyone else a dog fighter.**

The flirt pole has a long history as a dog conditioning tool.

Reference to flirt and spring-pole devices can be found in literature as far back as the mid 1800's.

Here is an example taken from a booklet on "Sporting Bull Terriers" by Eugene Glass published in **1915**.

Here, describing how to train a dog for a rat killing contest, he has this to say about the flirt-pole:

Speed is and agility the main things to train for.

Then at the same time the dog is sharpening prey drive intensity and also their bite, shake and kill instinct.

Ten days is plenty of time to condition a dog for a short ratting contest. For the first day's work give your dog a run of five minutes on the some milling work, follow this with flirt pole work for about the same time. After you have taken off your dog's extra weight, work the dog entirely on the flirt pole and alternate with the spring-pole.

Arrange the skin lure at such a height that the dog's forefeet are off the ground when he has a hold of the lure.

You may work him twice a day, if you think it desirable; but if you adopt this plan - don't work him too long at a time.

Occasionally work him on the flirt pole by leaving the lure skin on the ground all the time, pulling it back and forth and around, exercising him to turn and snap quickly, as he will have to do in the rat pit.

A grass lawn or sandy ground is the best for this sort of work, so your dog will not hurt his feet.

The flirt pole is still used for the conditioning of dogs to face any adversity in combat, however, it is finding increasing favor with those who value their dogs as companions and pets.

The flirt pole is fun for any breed of dog which has reasonable prey drive or playfulness.

Terriers in particular enjoy it.