



Class Descriptions for All Disciplines

Family Manners

A dog with manners is a joy to live with! Our Family Manners program is based on our belief that training a dog should be a fun, enjoyable experience for both you and your dog, whether your eventual goal is a well-mannered family pet or a competition champion. Classes emphasize life skills and household manners, and introduce students to a variety of fun and challenging dog sports. These classes teach handlers how to teach their dogs to love learning and working, providing a solid foundation for any dog sport.

Core Classes

Family Manners Puppies

Get your new family member off to the right start! If you want a friendly, confident, well-mannered adult dog, you need to lay the foundation in puppyhood. Those early months are a critical formative time, when the puppy learns to interact appropriately with all the different people, dogs and environments that the world has to offer. This class will help you make the most of this developmental window.

In class, puppies will have supervised playtime, which will be narrated to assist the owner in recognizing what is appropriate play. Owners will learn how to expose their young dog to a variety of real-world situations, people, places, and things. Information about house training, crate training, household manners, nipping, biting and impulse control will be provided. Puppies will begin to learn basic manners. Limit 8 teams.

For: Puppies, age 10 weeks to 5 months at the start of class, and their owners.

Prerequisites: None

Skills Introduced:

Name recognition	Loose leash walking
Sits & Downs	Impulse control
Recall	Exposure to real-world situations, people, dogs
Handling skills	

Family Manners Foundation

Introduce your dog to the skills it needs to become a well-mannered family pet. In this class, owners will learn to use dog-friendly training methods as they teach their pets to sit, lie down, wait, walk on a loose leash, come when called and more. This class will help you build a strong relationship with your dog, and to manage your pet comfortably in your home. Handouts and on-line support are provided. Limit 8 teams.

For: Dogs, age 5 months and older. Both you and your dog must be comfortable spending an hour with a group of canines of various sizes and energy levels.

Prerequisites: None

Special Requirements:

No dogs in the first class

Skills Introduced:

Sits & Downs	Stand
Wait	Recall
Loose leash walking	Leave It
Tug	

Family Manners Skills

Now that your dog knows how to "sit" and "down" and perform the other skills introduced in FM Foundation, you are ready to kick it up a notch. In this class, you will build reliability by training in an increasingly distracting environment and with gradually increased duration. What is the ultimate goal? A dog that will reliably respond to your cues no matter what is going on around him. As an added bonus, this class will offer a taste of the exciting world of competitive dog sports. Who knows? Your dog may be the next champion! Handouts and on-line support are provided. Limit 8 teams.

Prerequisites: Family Manners Foundation or equivalent.

Skills Introduced:

Perform basic skills reliably, on cue, with distraction and/or duration, including Sits & Downs, Stand, Wait, Recall, Loose Leash Walking, Leave It, Stay (introduced), Retrieve (introduced)

Family Manners Unleashed!

Go beyond the basics! Refine your skills and build teamwork as you work toward reliability off leash. In this class, you will continue to work on core skills such as, recalls, and stays in addition the new element of increased distance from your dog will be added to your training skill. New skills such as nose work and targeting will be introduced. Limit 8 teams.

Prerequisites: Family Manners Skills or equivalent.

Skills Introduced:

Perform basic skills at a distance and off-leash
Nosework (introduced)
Targeting (introduced)

Family Manners Electives

Canine Good Citizen and Therapy Dog Training (CGC/TDI)

The ultimate test of your Family Manners training, the Canine Good Citizen certificate is awarded to dogs that demonstrate good manners in the presence of other dogs and people. A Therapy Dog International (TDI) certificate is required by most health care facilities for visiting dogs. This class will help you prepare for these certificates and put the finishing touches on your basic training. The class culminates with the CGC/TDI test, included in your fees. Limit 6 teams.

For: Any dog, and in particular, those who may visit schools, nursing homes or other health care facilities. Note that a dog must be at least one year old to receive the TDI certificate.

Note: Deaf dogs are not eligible for registration with TDI
Dogs certified by other therapy organizations cannot be registered with TDI

Prerequisites: Family Manners Skills or equivalent.

Skills Introduced:

- Behave politely around people and other dogs
- Accept grooming and handling
- Loose leash walking
- Sit, Down, Stay
- Recall
- Respond with confidence to distractions

Canine Musical Freestyle 1

Canine Musical Freestyle is a performance sport that mixes elements of obedience, rally and agility with creative tricks – all while the dog/handler team moves in harmony to music. This is a great class for dogs of all ages. It provides an enjoyable, creative platform for improving your teamwork, your training skills, and your dog's attention to you. In all classes, you'll have fun training to different types of music. You'll learn to combine tricks with moving exercises and transitional moves. We'll bring these skills together to create a simple routine. Students will learn skills applicable for all competition venues. (MDSA, CFF, WCFO)

Prerequisites: Family Manners Skills or equivalent

Skills Introduced:

- Moving together to music
- Working the dog on different sides of one's body
- Spins, circles, flips, weaves and other foundational moves
- Simple transitions and combinations
- Routine building

Canine Musical Freestyle 2

This class builds on the teamwork, focus and moves taught in CMF 1. Overt prompts and cues for learned behaviors will be faded, and more advanced moves, transitions, and heel positions will be taught. Basic requirements for entry-level competition via different freestyle venues will be discussed.

Prerequisites: Canine Musical Freestyle 1

Skills Introduced:

Intermediate moves: back up, jump, side passes, etc.	Working with props
Combinations with transitions	Signature poses
Four advanced heel positions	Working with props
Beginning choreography	

Canine Musical Freestyle 3

The technical and artistic aspects of freestyle performance will come together for students ready to put a routine together. Students will be shown how to design and polish brief off-leash routines and set them to music that showcases the unique strengths of their individual dogs. Optional videotaping will be offered for music-matching and performed routines.

Prerequisites: Canine Musical Freestyle 2

Skills Introduced:

Choosing music for each specific team	Choreographing with the music
Building a routine from skills learned	Interactive attention and motivation
Distance work and fading of re-inforcers	Required and optional movements for competition

Clicker training

Using the basics of operant conditioning, this class will teach you how to use the clicker to create unparalleled communication between you and your dog. Learn intricacies of timing and reinforcement to teach complicated behaviors and behavior chains using catching, shaping and luring. Techniques can be applied to any dog sport or activity, including competition obedience, freestyle, therapy work and more!

Prerequisites: Family Manners Foundation or equivalent basic training

Crate Games

The goal of this 4-week class is a dog who happily runs into a crate and settles there calmly and quietly -- any time, anywhere. Whether your dog resists going into his crate at home, or is happy in his home crate but barks when crated at PCOTC, this class is for you. Appropriate for competition dogs (nose work, agility, or obedience) that must be crated while other dogs are working in class and at trials. Class limit: 8 dogs and handlers.

Focus and Impulse Control

Is your dog easily distracted and/or a bit over the top?

Class exercises are aimed at helping your dog become a more attentive and well-mannered companion. Exercises are appropriate for dogs in performance sports to build focus in the face of distractions and reinforce impulse control. Training plans will be geared towards the individual dog. Handlers are expected to practice daily on their own. Limits: Six teams

Prerequisite: None

Skills Introduced:

Crate games	Auto checkin's
Impulse control in everyday life	What's That Game
Go To Mat	Sit Tug Sit

Grumpy Growler

If your dog reacts aggressively – lunging, barking, snapping – when encountering a strange dog, this class can help. Your dog will learn a new way to perceive canine strangers, and you will learn how to read your dog's signals and gain some valuable tools and techniques to help you manage dog-to-dog encounters. We will use reward-based training, and muzzles where necessary. Limit 6 teams.

Prerequisites: None

Special Requirements:

Submit behavior questionnaire prior to first class.
Dog must be on a flat collar, martingale collar, harness or head halter. No prong or choke collars are permitted.
No dogs in the first class

Skills Introduced

Your dog will learn to accept the presence of a strange dog.
The handler will learn how to read the dog's signals, and how to manage dog-dog encounters.

Grumpy Growler Advanced

The class is only open to GG alumni by invitation. It is to further the capability of the dog and handler to function in everyday life. As in the pre-requisite class this geared towards dogs that are reactive when encountering strange dogs. The goal is to improve the relationship between the dog and the owner by giving the owner the tools to manage critical situations and change the perception of the dog to strange dogs. This will be achieved using reward-based training and muzzles if necessary. The dog will be handled on a flat-collar, martingale, harness or a head-halter. No prong-collars or choke chains allowed. Class Limited to 8 participants.

Prerequisites: Grumpy Growler and instructor permission

Leave it!

Does your dog become distracted on walks by items that attract his attention, such as sticks, leaves, trash, or worse? Does he pick up items in your home such as children's toys or shoes, or "counter surf" for food? This 4-week class will focus on teaching your dog to ignore or turn away from items of interest that they shouldn't approach or pick up, when requested. Household management to prevent counter surfing and "stolen" items--when you're not there to supervise--will also be addressed. Limit 8 teams (assuming that we will have the larger space upstairs)

Prerequisite: FM Foundation or the equivalent.

Recalls & Loose Leash Walking (4 weeks)

Your dog always comes when you call him...unless he has something better to do. Walks would be fun...if your dog would only stop dragging you down the street. Sound familiar? This short class will focus in on those challenge areas, and have your dog coming like a rocket and walking politely at your side in no time at all. Limit 8 dogs and handlers

Prerequisites: Family Manners Foundation or equivalent.

Skills Introduced:

Reliable recall
Loose leash walking

Resource Guardians

Does your dog become aggressive or stressed when you try to take things away from him or her? Dogs may resource-guard food, toys, "stolen" items such as shoes, locations such as a bed, or a person. The guarding may show up as growling, snapping, biting, or in more subtle forms such as freezing, eating faster, or running away with the item. This 4-week class will address resource-guarding issues using reward-based methods. Limit 6 teams.

Prerequisites: None

Special Requirements:

Contact instructor at harmony@nyc.rr.com prior to enrollment.
Dog must be on a flat collar, martingale collar, harness or head halter. No prong or choke collars are permitted. Muzzles will be used as necessary for safety.
No dogs in the first class.

Skills Introduced

Your dog will learn to allow handler to approach and/or take away items.
The handler will learn how to read the dog's signals, and how to manage the environment to avoid guarding incidents.

Shy / Fearful Dog

This class will focus on understanding fearful emotion in dogs, behaviors manifesting from fear and appropriate interactions and training methods. The goal will be enrichment of the dog and owner's life through education, enhanced communication and employment of counter-conditioning and desensitization techniques. Students should contact instructor prior to enrollment at goweave@optonline.net to determine if their dog is an appropriate candidate for this class. Limit 8 teams.

Stays & Distractions

Learn, retrain or fix problem stays. Distractions with stays that set up your dog for success will also be introduced.

Prerequisites: FM Foundation

Tricks

Why teach tricks? Not just because they are fun! Teaching tricks can be a valuable learning experience for you and your dog. They help you teach your dog to think and solve problems with you as a team, help you perfect your timing of feedback, and engage your dogs interest in all his training. Use this class to round out your dog's education, show off his natural talent, and challenge him mentally while learning invaluable tricks for therapy work or everyday life.

Pre-Requisites: Family Manners Puppies or Family Manners Foundation

Agility

A fast-paced, exciting sport that brings out the athlete in your canine, agility is fun for both dog and handler. The dog, under his handler's direction, negotiates an obstacle course where he will go through tunnels, over jumps, weave through upright poles, climb an A-Frame or a seesaw, or jump through a tire. The agility course, or sequence and placement of obstacles, is different in each trial. Many people take agility classes with no intention of competing — they do it because they and their dogs simply have such a good time.

CORE CLASSES

Agility Foundations 1:

This class will teach the essential foundation skills for agility. Basics such as clicker training and the principles of operant conditioning will be covered. Emphasis will be on flat work and jumping basics. Introduction to contact equipment will be covered, but will not be the area of focus. This class should be repeated as often as necessary; instructor permission is required to move on to the next level. Limit 10 teams.

For: Dogs of any age including puppies.

Prerequisites: None

Skills Introduced:

Come, sit, lie down, stay, and off-leash work as they relate to agility	
Free shaping	Lead changes
Crate training	Front crosses
Targeting	Weave pole entry
Directional's	Extension and collection (jumping)

Agility Foundations 2:

This class picks up where Foundation I ends, with emphasis on more competent behaviors on all equipment and handling skills. Instructor permission required to move to the Intermediate Agility level. Limit 8 teams.

Prerequisites: Foundation 1

Skills Introduced: Solid start line stay

Solid contact behavior	Rear crosses
Jumping in sequence	Six weave poles
Extension and collection	Competency on all contact equipment

Intermediate Agility

This level will cover more complex handler skills, longer sequences, and faster, more confident teamwork. Limit 8 Teams.

Prerequisites: Foundation 2

Skills Introduced:

Increasing weave poles to 12
Handling short sequences and novice courses

AGILITY ELECTIVES

SKILLS

Contacts/Weaves:

This class will teach independent obstacle performance on all contact equipment and weave poles. Obstacles will be lowered to improve speed, accuracy, and then be brought back up to full height. Contacts trained will be a 2 on 2 off. Weaves are for dogs who are starting their weave pole training or those who need help on their entries/exits and independence. Limit 8 teams.

Prerequisites: Foundation II or above

Course Strategy:

This class will teach you how to read a course, find the changes in direction, and choose a handling plan for maximum accuracy, speed and success. Teams will work full courses and learn how to execute the handling they have selected. Limit 8 teams.

Prerequisites: Intermediate Agility

Contact Speed Drills

This class is designed for those already competing and/or those getting ready to compete. The class will concentrate on consistent fast contact behaviors on the dog walk, A-frame and seesaw. Students must have proficient contact behaviors, as this class will not include instruction on how to train each piece. Limit 6 students

Prerequisites: Graduated from Intermediate Agility or instructor approval

Distance Skill Work:

This class focuses on teaching the dog to move away from the handler while the handler continues on a designated path. Independent skills will be the focus so the dog can maintain the same speed through a sequence with much greater distance from the handler. Distance will be taught and increased gradually. Limit 6 students

Prerequisites: Intermediate Agility

Foundation I (Weave pole & seesaw focus)

This class is open to all dogs with no previous agility training or graduates of the Foundation I class that need more training on weave poles and the seesaw. This class will concentrate on teaching both obstacles from the beginning while building accuracy, drive and solid skills. Limit 8 teams.

Prerequisites: none

Independent Weave Poles

This class will focus on getting consistent weave pole performance with the handler in all positions. All other obstacles will be used in short sequencing. Dog must have an understanding of weaving and are looking to get weave poles as a trained independent obstacle.

Jump Chutes & Speed Drills

This class is for any level of agility student after Foundations classes have been completed. Emphasis will be on teaching dogs how to manage jump chutes at maximum speed. Speed drills will include fast-paced work on very short obstacles sequences. Obstacle equipment and jumps will be kept at a low level. Limit 8 students

Prerequisites: Foundation 2

Rear Crosses

Rear Crosses will be taught from the ground up. Each piece will be systematically broken down for greater understanding. Throughout the class, rear crosses will be put into small sequences allowing handler/dog teams to execute with confidence and proficiency. Limit 8 students

Prerequisites: Foundation 2

Single Jump Work

This class is open to all dogs with no previous agility experience, graduates of Foundation 1 or any dog needing extra jump training. The focus of this class will be proper jump technique. Dogs will learn independent jump skills, proper form over a jump, tight turns, extension and collection jumping and positional handler cues. The 6 recall to heel positions at a jump will also be covered including how to use them on course. Limit 8 teams.

Prerequisites: none

Competition Obedience

Consider taking your dog's basic training to another level! Competition Obedience is a performance sport in which handler and dog work together to demonstrate that the dog can consistently accomplish various tasks. Each level of obedience competition - novice, open, and utility - requires mastering a specific skill set before advancing to the next level. Training for obedience competition - whether you eventually trial and title or not - will strengthen and deepen the bond between you and your dog.

Core Classes

Beginner Novice

The AKC's Beginner Novice optional titling class is perfect for newcomers to competition obedience, experienced competitors with a new dog, or anyone seeking to gain ring experience largely on-leash. This class will cover the exercises and rules of Beginner Novice and will prepare you to compete at the Beginner Novice level.

Pre-requisites: Family Manners Skills, Intro to Competition Obedience or PreNovice / PreRally

Building Blocks for Obedience

A lot of attention is paid to the "finished product" of each obedience exercise, but what are the physical skills needed to perform them well? In this class, we will explore core skills such as hind end awareness, heads-up heeling, movement, and tidy sits using shaping and targeting. Class limit: 8 teams

Pre-requisites: Family Manners Skills or above

Introduction To Competition Obedience

Are you interested in exploring Competition or Rally Obedience? This is the class for you! All of the foundation elements for competition obedience will be taught while building stronger working relationships. All key venues of competition obedience will be discussed.

Pre-requisites: Family Manners Skills or equivalent. Dogs should have the ability of dog to sit on cue, walk on a loose leash, stay in position for brief periods, and come when called from short distances.

Skills Introduced:

Attention with distractions
Straight sits at front and in heel position
Reliable stays

Heeling with turns/changes of pace
Stand and sit for exam
Enthusiastic Recalls

Pre-Novice/Pre-Rally

This class will help you master all the behaviors that were introduced in beginner classes. Your dog will be prepared to take classes in Competition Obedience and Rally. Enhance your dog's ability to walk with attention, eventually heeling with automatic sits. Heeling patterns will be introduced as well as the Stand for Exam, recalls (with fronts and finishes), group Stay exercises and the dumbbell. All exercises will be covered every week.

Pre-Requisite: Ability to perform basic skills such as sit, down, and recall.

Skills Introduced:

Heeling with automatic sit, heeling patterns, Figure 8	Stand for Exam
Sit, Down, Stay	Recall with Front and Finishes
Dumbbell retrieve (introduced)	

Novice

In Competition Obedience, the Novice Class demonstrates good canine companion skills such as heeling, both with and without a leash, coming when called, standing for a simple physical examination, and staying in both a sit and a down position with a group of dogs. This class will prepare you and your dog to compete at the Novice* level, and to earn the title of Companion Dog (CD).

Pre-Requisite: Introduction to Competition Obedience or PreNovice / PreRally

Skills Introduced:

Heeling	Figure 8
Stand for Exam	Recall
Group Stays (Sit & Down)	Dumbbell retrieve

*The AKC also offers the Beginner Novice titling class, which tests a simpler form of these exercises.

Open

The Open Class in Competition Obedience presents a greater challenge to dog and handler. More exercises are done off leash, and retrieving and jumping challenges are added. This class will prepare you and your dog to compete at the Open level and earn the title of Companion Dog Excellent (CDX) – or simply to enjoy the fun of learning and practicing these complex exercises.

Pre-Requisite: Novice plus mastery of Dumbbell retrieve

Skills Introduced:

Novice exercises, PLUS	Dumbbell retrieve
Jumps (High & Broad)	Drop on Recall

Utility

The most challenging class in Competition Obedience is the Utility Class, which includes scent discrimination, directed retrieves and directed jumping. This class will prepare you and your dog to compete at the Utility level and earn a Utility Dog (UD) title. Or you can simply enjoy the challenge of training at a high level.

Pre-Requisite: dog needs to be able to heel off leash heeling and retrieve a dumbbell

Skills Introduced:

Signal exercise
Scent discrimination
Directed Retrieve
Moving Stand
Directed Jumping

Obedience Electives

Attention

Attention is the foundation for everything in dog sports.. And for a well behaved companion dog, too. Once you have attention, all training flows more easily. In this class, we will shape attention from the ground up and then use games and strategic distractions to show how magnetic you can become to your dog! Open to anyone, especially those who are competing or aspire to compete in dog sports. Class limit: 8

CDSP Obedience Ring Prep

CDSP (Companion Dog Sports Program) obedience is similar to AKC obedience with some notable differences. Quiet praise and food rewards are allowed, making it an enjoyable, challenging competition venue and a valuable preparatory step for AKC and other competition obedience arenas. In addition to CDSP rules and scoring as compared to AKC, we will cover several key elements that contribute to a successful ring experience in any venue. Particular attention will be given to handler body language and cueing, entering the ring, handling between exercises, and conquering ring nerves.

Pre-requisite: Introduction to Competition Obedience, Pre-Novice/Pre-Rally or equivalent. Teams should be familiar with AKC and/or CDSP competition obedience exercises and be close to or already competing. Class limit 6.

Conquer the Dumbbell

Some dogs take to the dumbbell right away.... and others don't. This class is for dogs that need some extra help in learning to take, retrieve and hold the dumbbell until released.

Pre-Requisite: Pre-Novice/Pre-Rally

Special Considerations: 4 weeks

Skills Introduced: Dumbbell retrieve

Click to Heel

In this class, you will teach your dog to heel through the magic of shaping, using a clicker to mark the behavior you want, and gradually increasing your criteria for success. Your dog will be trotting smartly along beside you in no time, managing turns and pace changes with ease.

Pre-Requisite: Loose leash walking

Special Considerations: 4 weeks

Skills Introduced: Heeling

Heel to Success in Novice

Attentive heeling is crucial for successful AKC Obedience competition at all levels. In this class, you will lay a solid foundation for Novice and beyond, grounded in attention at heel. Each week we will build on the previous week's lessons. All Novice exercises will be covered and exercises from Open and will be introduced.

Heeling Workshop

Take some time to focus on the precise activity of heeling. Learn to hold your dog's attention and keep him with you as you move through complex heeling patterns, pace changes and Figure 8s. Practice your own footwork and handling techniques so that the two of you can move together as one.

Pre-Requisite: Loose leash walking

Special Considerations: 4 weeks

Skills Introduced: Heeling

Novice Potpourri

There are many wonderful opportunities for teams beginning their competitive obedience efforts. This class will introduce them all. The exercises of AKC Beginner Novice and Novice as well as CDSP Novice will be covered and the similarities and differences will be explained. This class will prepare you to enter Beginner Novice trials and will lay solid groundwork for competition at the AKC and CDSP Novice levels. Limit: 8 teams

Prerequisites: Pre-Novice/Pre-Rally or Intro to Competition Obedience

Play Training

Games and play destroy canine boredom and create enthusiasm and flash in your dog's exercise performance. The class will focus on using play to teach/strengthen obedience exercises, create more "want to" in your dog and alleviate reliance on food. Limit 6 teams

Pre-Requisite: None

For: Obedience teams of any level

Utility Workshop

This class will focus on two of the exercises in the Utility level of Competition Obedience. This is a 4-week class.

Pre-Requisite: Heeling with attention and the Dumbbell Retrieve

Skills Introduced: Variable

Signal exercise

Directed Retrieve

Directed Jumping

Scent discrimination

Moving Stand

Rally

Build teamwork with your canine partner with Rally, a fun and exciting sport for dogs and their handlers where the focus is on working together! The dog and handler move together at a brisk pace through a course with numbered signs indicating a stationary or moving exercise to perform, such as Left Pivot or a Moving Down. Exhibitors may talk to, encourage, and praise their dogs throughout their run. Rally promotes fun and enjoyment for dogs at all levels, while strengthening the bond between dog and handler.

Beginning Rally

This class will introduce you to the fun and challenging sport of Rally. All exercises in the AKC Rally Novice and APDT Rally Level 1, which are performed on leash, will be covered. You will also learn the rules and regulations of the sport and have fun practicing on real rally courses. Whether or not you plan to rally toward your Rally Novice or Level 1 titles, you and your dog will improve your teamwork and enjoy working together.

Pre-Requisite: Family Manners Skills, Intro to Competition Obedience or Rally Concepts

Skills Introduced:

All 31 exercises in the Novice level of AKC Rally competition (and other Rally venues)

Rules and regulations of AKC Rally and other forms of Rally competition

Intro to Rally Concepts (8 Weeks)

Looking for a class that will improve your relationship with your dog and introduce you to this fun ring sport? Here you go! Using the APDT Rally exercises, this class builds the core skills needed for all Rally venues.

Basic Rally moves will be built and honed using interactive play, meaningful praise and well-timed rewards to foster teamwork and attention. By the end of the session you will be familiar with the exercises of a Level 1 course and will have a good start on knowing the rules and regulations of both APDT and AKC Rally.

Pre-Requisite: - FM Unleashed, Intro to Competition Obedience, or equivalent skill level

Advanced Rally

Once you've mastered the Rally Novice exercises, you and your dog will be ready for the challenging exercises in the Advance and Excellent levels of competition. These exercises are performed off-leash and include jumps and distance work.

Pre-Requisite: Beginning Rally

Skills Introduced:

Specialties

An interesting array of classes that allow you and your dog to bond, learn a new sport or just have fun while learning some new skills. Not all classes are given each session. Check the schedule online each session to see what's being given.

Breed Handling

Breed Handling classes prepare both handler and dog for competing in the conformation ring. Dogs learn how to "stack" (stand correctly and show off their lines) for the judge, and the correct "gaits" (moving correctly). There are many tools and methods that we can use to get the best performance from our dog, and win major points in the ring! The goal is a happy, tail-wagging dog, displayed to perfection. Dog and handler practice the typical patterns called by competition judges. We'll also cover rules and ring procedures. Experienced handlers are welcome.

For: Handlers of pure-breed dogs planning to compete in conformation

Special Requirements: a light 6-foot show lead and choke collar

Skills Introduced:

- Stack
- Stand for inspection
- Heel and gait

Clicker Training: In this positive approach to dog training, you mark the behavior you want with a click, and pair it with a reward (food, praise, play). In no time, you'll find your dog thinking furiously about what he needs to do to produce that click – and bring on the reward. In this class, we will learn to "capture" a behavior that approximates the activity we are training, and then "shape" it into the perfected action. We will teach our dogs to target and then use this skill to train other behaviors. Luring, and how to quickly fade the lure, will be covered.

Prerequisites: Family Manners Foundation, Fast Track, or equivalent basic training.

Skills Introduced:

- The basics of Operant Conditioning
- Use of clicker to "capture" and "shape" behavior

Flyball:

In this exciting, fast-paced sport, two teams of four dogs each race side-by-side down a 51-foot lane of jumps. The dogs on each team run in relay down the set of jumps, trigger a flyball box to release a ball, retrieve the ball, and return over the jumps. Once a dog runs down the jumps and comes back with the ball the next dog on the team is released to run the course. The first team to have all four dogs finish the course without error wins the heat.

Pre-Requisite: Handlers must have reliable control of their dogs off leash.

Skills Introduced:

- Basic flyball skills, including triggering the flyball box, retrieving the ball, and running the jumps course (introduced)
- Rules and regulations of flyball competition.

Intro to Disc Dogging

There are few dogs that don't seem to be downright thrilled to play Frisbee®. Here's a chance to appeal to your dog's athletic instincts: Teach him to catch a flying disc! The goal of this class is to show your dog how to catch a flying disc and to teach you how to throw one safely to him. A step-by-step program introduces the disc to your dog, develops his drive for the disc, and then turns the furry member of your team into a disc-catching superstar. A simple, time-tested throwing program is used to help each handler throw consistently and, more importantly, safely. Class will also cover the tools of the trade (which discs to use). By the end of class, you will be able to enjoy a friendly catch, play some really neat games, and even compete with your best friend. Bring your buddy, and if he has one, his favorite disc. One competition disc will be provided. Dress comfortably and be prepared to smile a lot. Limit 10 working teams, 6 auditors.

Prerequisites: Dog should chase, tug, and have something of a recall.

Skills Introduced:

- Throw disc consistently and safely (handler)
- Catch disc safely (dog)

Introduction to Treibball:

Treibball is a new canine sport in which dogs are directed to large inflated balls and herd them into goal nets. For dogs of any breed who need a job. You and your dog will learn new skills and improve your team work.. Pre-requisite: basic obedience skills—which including sit, down, come and stay. Acquaintance with shaping, targeting and clicker training is desirable. Dogs must be able to work off leash around other dogs (not appropriate for reactive dogs).

SAMPLER

If you are thinking about participating in a dog sport, but aren't sure which one, this four-week sampler class is just for you. Jump into the ring with your dog and get paws-on experience in Rally, Competition Obedience, Nose Work and Agility. Find out what each of these sports is all about, and see which ones appeal to you - and to your dog. Each class period will be devoted to a different dog sport, so by the end of four weeks you'll have tried them all. Pre-requisite: Family Manners or equivalent

