

Pre-Agility

This class will cover introduction to clicker training, targeting, "baby" obstacle familiarization, focus, on and off switches, and groundwork. Dogs should know sit and down stay for at least 10 seconds and come when called. This class is held indoors.

Agility 1 - Groundwork

This class is designed to follow pre-agility and is taught outside in a more distracting environment. Having a dog that offers behaviors is an advantage for training in agility. You will learn the technique for using this approach as well as teaching the dog how to jump, increasing focus, and basic handling. You will also learn the techniques for developing drive lines, beginning contact skills on a plank, developing independent object confidence, weave poles, and 2 X 2 entries. Dogs must reliably come when called and must work off leash around other dogs without visiting. Prerequisites: Pre agility or instructor approval.

Agility 2 - Obstacle Commitment

This class is intended for teams that have completed "Agility 1 - Groundwork."

This class will build upon skills learned in Agility 1 - Groundwork. Focus will be on the dog learning to perform the objects with confidence in short sequences. We will include beginning contacts and weave pole performance. There will be multiple stations working at the same time. Off leash control with a reliable recall is REQUIRED around working dogs. Start line stay of 10 feet and a 5 foot send to obstacle is recommended. Plan to bring visible treats and or toy (with or without food in it) to throw.

Agility 3 - Beginner Handling

This class is intended for teams that have completed "Agility 1 - Groundwork" and "Agility 2 - Obstacle Commitment" already.

This class will introduce handling techniques in short sequences. Focus will be on handler cueing crosses appropriately in flow with independent object commitment. We will also include continued contact and weave pole performance. There will be multiple stations working at the same time. Off leash control with a reliable recall is REQUIRED around working dogs. Start line stay of 10 feet and a 5 foot send to obstacle is recommended. Plan to bring visible treats and or toy (with or without food in it) to throw.

ABC Agility Sequencing

In this class we will be learning to recognize patterns and how to handle short 6-10 obstacle sequences using Nancy Gyes' Alphabet drills-book. Jumps and tunnels will be used, but we may occasionally also incorporate weaves and a contact.

Prerequisites: Dogs must be able to run short sequences, in flow. Dogs should be able to do contacts and closed weaves unaided. If not yet proficient on a particular obstacle handler will elect not to do that particular part of the exercise. Instead a modification of the exercise will be offered for the dogs that are not yet fully trained on that piece of equipment.

Advanced Handling

This is a handling class for dogs performing at the novice and open level. We set up a course with appropriate challenges for this level and work on how to best run it. Dogs should be able to perform all obstacles and have solid stays, off lead control, and consistent recalls. Dogs that meet most of the criteria can participate with instructor approval.

Contacts and Weaves 1

Designed to develop independent contact and weave performance. Dogs must be physically fit and in good condition. Prerequisites: Groundwork, solid stays, off-lead control, consistent recall or instructor approval. Dogs may be evaluated before class assignment.

Jumps and Turns

This class is for dogs with some agility skills. We will use jump chutes and grids to develop good jumping form and drive lines. We will focus on handling turns as well as front, rear, and blind crosses, when to use each turn and how to handle and cue them. Prerequisites: Ground Work or instructor approval, solid stays, off-lead control, and consistent recall. Dogs must be in good physical condition.