

Clever K9s

Class Descriptions

CORE CLASSES

Our core classes include everything you need to train your dog to be a well-behaved family member. Each class is broken into 3 components: obedience, socialization and confidence building. Exercises are modified for each individual dogs' needs and learning style. These classes are divided by age, you must attend the class that is appropriate to your dog's age. Our classes run on a 6 week schedule.

Puppy Manners: Puppies 12 weeks – 6 months of age.

Curriculum consists of teaching real-life relevant skills that will set your puppy on the right track for being a good dog the rest of his life. Building a trusting relationship with his owner, socialization with other dogs and people, conquering new things in his environment and learning all important life skills are addressed in class.

Basic Manners: All dogs over 6 months or graduates of puppy.

The class can be tailored to fit a wide range of skill levels.

This class is important socially for dogs in their adolescent ages from 6 months to 18 months. It is critical for them to continue dog to human socialization. Curriculum consists of teaching real-life relevant skills that will set your dog on the right track for being a good dog the rest of his life. Building a trusting relationship with his owner, socialization with other dogs and people, conquering new things in his environment and learning all-important life skills with ever increasing distractions are all expanded upon in classes.

This class also is very fitting for bringing a new older dog into your household which can sometimes be more challenging than a puppy. It help you and your new dog with the transition. We will help get your dog on track with everything from potty training an adult dog to achieving a well-mannered family dog.

Real life Skills addressed are:

Attention to name, Leashing up, Nose touch, Stay, Wait for food bowl, Body handling, Leave it, Pass by other dogs, Settle, Table/Meal manners, Come when called, Wait in the car and doorway, Loose leash walking, Tricks, Meet and Greets, Sit and Down stays.

EXTRACIRRICULAR CLASSES

Tricks and Clicks (Must be 4 months of age)

In this class you will learn how to teach your dog fun and unique tricks! We will also discuss how to incorporate using a clicker in trick training. Be sure to bring plenty of good treats!

NOSEWORK

INTRO TO K9 NOSEWORK® (12 weeks)

This class is open to all dogs. Reactive dogs are welcome as long as they are reactive to dogs and not people. This foundation class introduces the concept of the game, builds handler observation skills and timing, and gets dogs focused. Food or a toy are used to build hunting drive while keeping the game FUN! We start with boxes and move on to interiors and elevated hides with food or a toy. Distractions are introduced along with wind

INTRO TO ODOR (12 weeks)

This class is open to those who have taken an Intro to K9 Nosework®. It will begin by going back to basics repeating many of the exercises from the Intro class, only instead of food, odor is introduced. We start with Birch as the first target odor. Searches expand in difficulty and observation skills along with leash handling will expand. The class will be focusing on containers and interiors along with buried hides in containers. This class will prepare you for an ORT (odor recognition test) or AKC Scentwork Novice Containers competition.

VEHICLES AND EXTERIORS (12 weeks)

This class is open to those who have taken Intro to Odor. The class will focus on finding odor on vehicles and in exteriors. Wind and distractions will be taught and practiced. Leash handling will be key for these exercises. The dogs will learn that searching a vehicle is productive because odor is there. Observation skills are needed as handlers will have to deal with wind and environment

AGILITY CLASSES

Fun With Agility (6 weeks)

This class is open to all dogs over the age of 4 months. This is an introductory class for both dogs and handlers. Whether you are planning to compete or not, this class will introduce the dogs to the obstacles and handlers how to run a short sequence in a way that will allow teams to continue agility training if they desire. This class will focus on confidence building, burning some energy and having fun with your dog on the equipment in a safe setting along with introducing foundation skills like shaping behaviors, toy play and how to train focus and teamwork in a distracting environment.

Agility- LEVEL 1 (12 weeks)

This class is open to all dogs over the age of 6 months. Class content is geared towards owners or dogs who have never trained or competed in agility but wish to get the right start with important foundation skills to possibly compete in the future. Handlers and dogs will be introduced to how to shape behaviors as an introduction to agility equipment and flat work skills, how to use toys and treats to reward correct behaviors and the basics of agility handling. There will also be exercises geared toward teaching focus and building teamwork. No prerequisites are required for this class but it is highly recommended that students have taken their dogs through at least one puppy or basic manners class.

Agility- LEVEL 2 (12 weeks)

This class is a progression of Agility 1. Dogs must have attended at least one 12 WEEK SESSION of Agility- LEVEL 1 and be approved by the instructor prior to signing up. In this class we focus on progressing dogs to full-height equipment, discuss and practice contact performance, build up obstacle confidence and independence and chain together short sequences. Handlers continue learning basic handling skills, the different types of crosses and when to use them. 2-5 obstacle sequence sets will be used to build upon teamwork and focus skills begun in Level 1.

Agility- LEVEL 3 (12 weeks)

This class is a progression from Agility- Level 2. Dogs must have attended at least one 12 WEEK SESSION of Agility- LEVEL 2 and be approved by the instructor prior to signing up. We will start putting together full 12-15 obstacle novice level courses and continue working on independent equipment performance. Continued emphasis will be placed on building the dog's drive and enthusiasm for the game, focus and confidence. Handlers will work on maintaining criteria for start lines and contact performance and getting more comfortable with handling maneuvers and when and where to use them on course. An introduction to preparing for trialing and how courses are judged will also be provided to those students who have never competed before.

AGILITY CLASSES (cont)

Agility-Level 4 (12 weeks)

This class is a progression from Agility- Level 3. Dogs must have attended at least one 12 WEEK SESSION of Agility- LEVEL 3 and be approved by the instructor prior to signing up. This class will continue to work on all skills progressing to preparing for higher levels of competition. Skills will continue to be perfected for handling dogs through more complicated sequences and dogs will continue to build confidence on equipment. This will include proofing behaviors and building on the ability to focus on obstacle performance and teamwork on course despite distractions. We will also work on obstacle discrimination skills along with handlers learning about seeing the dog's line and how to handle those lines most efficiently.

Advanced Agility (ongoing-see calendar for class dates)

This class is a progression from Agility- Level 4. Dogs must have attended at least one 12 WEEK SESSION of Agility- LEVEL 3 and be approved by the instructor prior to signing up. This is for dogs and handlers competing in open or masters levels and wishing to continue perfecting their teamwork and skills. In this class we focus on full challenging course work, continuing to build drive, speed and confidence in dogs, proofing obstacle performance, training more distance and independent obstacle handling, working on course analysis and finding the best lines and handling techniques to get through international style courses cleanly and efficiently.