

DAYTON DOG TRAINING CLUB, INC.
DESCRIPTION AND TIMES OF AGILITY CLASSES OFFERED
ALL CLASSES ARE OPEN TO REGISTRATIONS BY BOTH MIXED BREED AND PUREBRED DOGS

Class times and days are subject to change based on instructor availability as we are all volunteers.

EACH SESSION COSTS \$85.00. A SESSION IS MADE UP ONE CLASS PER WEEK FOR 7 WEEKS. EACH CLASS LASTS APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR. CLASS SIZES ARE LIMITED

PUPPY AGILITY

- This class is for beginner puppies too young to start running agility
- Work on marker words and verbal commands
- Using toys to encourage your pup to follow you
- Working on planks, wobble boards and sending around cones
- Restrained recalls and start line stays
- This class will be offered as puppy 1 and will repeat for puppy 2 the following session
- * These 2 sessions will give you the tools to work at home until your puppy's growth plates are closed and ready to start our agility program
- **OFFERED WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT 7:45 PM**

Dogs must be at least 10 months old to start our Agility Program

LEVEL 1A FOUNDATION

Prerequisite: Must have successfully completed 2 Obedience classes or 2 Puppy Agility classes.

Or by Director of Agility Permission

- Building attention/focus/relationship between dog and handler
- Introduce basic agility skills using different obstacles/contacts at lower heights which include table, ladder, wobble board, speed bumps, tunnels, wide 6 channel weaves and A Frame.
- Focus and attention to moving on from obstacle to obstacle
- Will be working on and off leash
- Education on proper use of reinforcements – treats/toys/verbal
- **OFFERED TUESDAY NIGHTS AT 6:30 PM**

LEVEL 1B FLATWORK

Prerequisite: Must have successfully completed 2 Obedience classes or 2 Puppy Agility classes.

Or by Director of Agility Permission

- Focus on building attention/focus/relationship between dog and handler
- Focus and attention to moving around the ring and from obstacle to obstacle on left and right sides
- Introduce obstacles including, tunnel, table, speed bump, jump stanchions, cones, etc.
- Will be working on and off leash
- Education on proper use of reinforcements – treats/toys/verbal
- **OFFERED TUESDAY NIGHTS AT 7:45 PM**

LEVEL 2 CONTACTS AND WEAVES

Prerequisite: Must successfully pass Level 1 A & B with instructor permission.

Dogs must be confident and able to work off leash.

- Continue working on attention/focus/relationship between dog and handler to allow increased work off leash
- Build on weave performance to introduce 12 weaves
- Contact performance with 2 on 2 off target method
- Education on proper use of reinforcements
- **EXPECT REPEATING CLASS 2 times or more** per instructor recommendation
- **OFFERED TUESDAY NIGHTS AT 7:45 PM**

LEVEL 3 INTRODUCTION TO AGILITY

Prerequisite: Must successfully pass Level 2 with instructor permission.

Dogs must be confident on the teeter and dog walk, have a solid recall and understand the weave pole criteria.

- Introduction to a variety of obstacles such as tire, double/triple/broad jumps
- Continuing to progress contact performance with Dog walk, A Frame and Teeter with use of targets
- Continuing to confirm a start line stay and table stay with very short lead out
- Continuing to progress 12 weave performance decreasing distance between poles on left and right
- Continuing education on proper use of reinforcers – treats/toys/verbal praise
- Begin to introduce importance of body position, use of hands, verbal cues when working on the above skills (as appropriate)
- **EXPECT REPEATING CLASS 2 times or more** per instructor recommendation
- **OFFERED TUESDAY MORNING AT 11:00 AM**
- **OFFERED TUESDAY NIGHTS AT 6:30 PM**

INTERMEDIATE WEAVE CLASS

- *Prerequisite: Must successfully pass Level 3 with instructor permission.*
- Offers additional opportunity to work on weave performance for those struggling with accuracy, consistency, independence and speed
- Other obstacles will be added to address entries and exits
- **NOT OFFERED AT THIS TIME**

LEVEL 4 SKILLS AND HANDLING

- *Prerequisite: Must successfully pass Level 3 with instructor permission.*
- Continuing to build attention/focus/relationship between dog and handler – expanding education of importance of body position, hand signals, verbal commands
- Continue to confirm a start line sit-stay/table stay (with sit or down) to allow short lead out
- Will be working off leash and demonstrate a good recall if dog gets distracted
- Introducing short sequences (6-8 obstacles) with mixture of contacts, jumps and tunnels
 - Begin more formal training on side changes - front and rear crosses
- Continued education on proper use of reinforcers – treats/toys/verbal praise with periodic decrease in use of treats/toys (if appropriate) to assess dogs understanding of skills being taught. Continue use of verbal praise.
- Asking for short stay in 2 on 2 off position on all contacts before release to allow short lead out
- Continue 12 pole weave training with added obstacles on both left and right side
- **EXPECT REPEATING CLASS 1-2 times** per instructor recommendation
- **OFFERED TUESDAY AFTERNOON AT 5:00 PM**
- **OFFERED TUESDAY NIGHTS AT 7:45 PM**

PRE-NOVICE

Prerequisite: Must successfully pass Level 4 with instructor permission.

Working towards 12 straight up weave poles

- Teams will continue to build on improving contact and weave performance
- Longer sequences focused on more advanced handling skills including different crosses/side changes that would include: Front crosses, rear crosses, crosses on flat and blind crosses
- Strengthening start line stays, stays on table and on contacts to allow lead outs
- Strengthening understanding and demonstration of proper hand signals, body position, verbal prompts when running sequences
- Continued focus on proper use of reinforcers with increased focus on verbal praise/delayed reinforcement leading to decreased focus on treats from handler
- All work off leash
- **OFFERED TUESDAY AFTERNOONS AT 3:30 PM**
- **OFFERED WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT 6:30 PM**

NOVICE

Prerequisite: Must have successfully completed Pre-Novice or competing at this level

Must be able to weave 12 straight poles 80% of the time and solid contact behavior

- Running longer sequences challenging skills needed to successfully compete in Novice level
- This class is a split class with one side addressing handling skills using primarily jumps, tunnel, weaves, table and other side using contacts, jumps and tunnels.
- 2 of 7 classes will be a full course reflecting what you would see in Novice competition
- Focus on course analysis, ways to best manage a sequence/course depending on each individual team skills
- Will have strong focus on the different side changes which include body position/movement, hand signals, verbal cues to allow distance and keeping the dog focus on successfully completing a sequence/course
- Improving management of contacts and 12 weaves within a variety of sequences where entries and exits will vary requiring more independent weave performance as well as more independent contact performance allowing handler to move in position depending on the sequence
- Continue focus on use of reinforcements to maximize team performance
- **OFFERED WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS AT 12:30 PM**
- **OFFERED MONDAY NIGHTS AT 5:15 PM**
- **OFFERED MONDAY NIGHTS AT 7:45 PM**

ADVANCED HANDLING SKILLS

Prerequisite: Competing at Open or Excellent level Or by Director of Agility Permission.

- **Must be able to weave 12 straight poles consistently and solid contact behavior**
- Introduce higher level skills such as backsides, serpentines, threadles, discriminations, and challenging weave/contact entries and exits
- Focus on improving overall handling skills – fine tuning various side changes
- **OFFERED MONDAY AFTERNOONS AT 1:00 PM**
- **OFFERED WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT 7:45 PM**

OPEN/EXCELLENT

Prerequisite: Must have successfully completed Novice or the skills required to compete at AKC Agility Open Level or by Instructor/Agility Director Approval

Must be able to weave 12 straight poles consistently and solid contact behavior

- This class is split into 2 groups, switching sides halfway. One side addressing handling skills using jumps, tunnels and 12 straight up weaves. The other side using jumps, tunnels and contacts.
- The class will cover 5 different handling skills and two full courses. Typical skills covered are Front Cross, Rear Cross, Blind Cross, obstacle discrimination, weave and contact entries/exits and handler motion
- Course analysis will be discussed – the best path and handling skills for your dog
- **OFFERED MONDAY NIGHTS AT 5:15 PM**
- **OFFERED MONDAY NIGHTS AT 6:30 PM**

DISTANCE AND HANDLING (DAYTIME)

Prerequisite: Must have successfully completed Pre-Novice, competing in Novice level or by Director of Agility Permission. Dog must have the potential of a high level of enthusiasm and drive to allow dog to move away from handler.

- **Must be able to weave 12 straight poles consistently and solid contact behavior**
- Handlers must be open to learn different verbal cues/body and hand signals to get best results
- Must be willing to do “homework” between classes
- Teaching new ways to communicate through verbal cues, body movement, hand signals
- Stressing the importance of timing to communicate both physical and verbal cues to dog
- Stressing importance of rewarding the dog – different types of rewards, when to reward and not to reward, and for what type of behaviors
- Learning to trust your dog to work away from you
- Importance of using distance skills learned when outside of class to reinforce the skills
- **OFFERED WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS AT 2:00 PM class lasts 1 to 1.5 hours**

OPEN/EXCELLENT/MASTERS (DAYTIME)

Prerequisite: Must have successfully completed Novice or the skills required to compete at AKC Agility Open Level or by Instructor/Agility Director Approval

Must be able to weave 12 straight poles consistently and solid contact behavior

- Sequences become more advanced with distance work and good understanding of side changes
- Understanding course analysis – the best pathway for your dog
- All work off leash
- **OFFERED WEDNESDAY MORNING AT 11:00 AM**

MASTER COMPETITION CLASS IS 1.5 HOURS

Prerequisite: Competing in Excellent or Master level or instructor permission

- **Must be able to weave 12 straight poles consistently and solid contact behavior**
- Will be running full master/premier courses, identify and address troubled areas.
- Improving handling for successful entries and exits within higher level sequences
- Course analysis focusing on different ways a course or sections of a course could be run based on handler/dog skill level, knowledge of side changes/different crosses, how much distance your dog is capable of, other skills you have learned in previous classes
- **OFFERED THURSDAY NIGHTS AT 6:00 PM**
- **OFFERED THURSDAY NIGHTS AT 7:30 PM**

ADVANCED WEAVE CLASS (DAYTIME)

Prerequisite: By Instructor approval only

Must be able to weave 12 straight poles

- Increasing independence, speed, and accuracy with weave performance
- improving consistent entries from all angles, on right and left side, from a distance, moving away while dog stays in and finishes
- Weaves are incorporated in different sequences that may include contacts in addition to a tunnel and variety of jumps to challenge more difficult entries and exits seen in competition
- **OFFERED TUESDAY EVENINGS AT 5:15 PM**