



Pinelands K-9 Training

Pre-Week 1 - Beginners

Introductions

- Welcome to Pinelands
- Instructor (Cathy, Jeannine)
- Assistants – (Pat, Robin, Ellen, Fran, Andrew)
- Students, Please share your goal with your dog

Please read through this entire presentation before attending class

Handler Info

- There can only be one handler in the ring for class
 - Others are welcome to come and watch OUTSIDE the ring so that they can also learn how to train the dog
 - Pinelands teaches you to teach your dog, so everyone in your home should know how to help teach your dog.

- Handlers should wear
- No heels
- No wedges



and not



- Nothing open toe or shoes that don't have backs.
- Leave coat and purses outside the ring or in your car – hard to train with those

Handler Info

- When entering and leaving the parking lot, drive SLOWLY.
 - Apply this to any dog event you may attend also.
Dogs can get loose accidentally. Drive safely for their sake.
- When entering the building (4H), keep your dog away from other dogs. Not all dogs are friendly.
- Your dog is here to “work” not socialize
- On the first night, stop at the table and check in
- Proceed to the beginner ring after check-in 1st night and all classes after
- From the second night forward, If class has not yet started, use the time to work with your dog, practice sits and downs, stay, watch-me and walk them around and settle them in for class.
 - This is a great time to practice with all the distractions.
 - Most dogs will quickly learn the exercises at home, but in a building with distractions, it's tougher. Use the time well.

Handler Info

- The instructor may need to pause to work with a student.
 - Use this time to work with your dog.
 - Have your dog sit or down and stay
 - Any exercises you learn in class can be reinforced with practice during down times in the ring.
 - Once you learn sit, down, stay....there should never be a time that you are “bored” and waiting. Work with your dog. Get their attention on YOU.

Handler Info

- Bring Treats....very small, soft
 - Whatever works best for your dog.
 - We will not overuse the treats but that can be an alternative to praise if praise is not enough.
 - Also, we can teach alternative ways to do the exercises
 - Eventually you wean your dog off treats
 - Treats for training do not need to be big...
- It is the handler responsibility to keep space between your dog and others.
 - Your priority is your dog. Period. Always be aware of your dog's behavior.
 - Not all dogs are dog friendly
 - If your dog is staring down another dog, break the stare.
 - Turn them and walk a few steps away and turn back.

Handler Info – Schedule for this session

- This session classes are 7pm to 7:50pm at 4H
- Sept 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th
- NO CLASS OCT 7th = Club Meeting night
- Oct 14th and 21st
- Assistants will be rotating throughout the classes
- Oct 21st – Graduation (last night of class) – Training Director Review
- Next Session Starts – Nov 11th
- Must attend 4 of 6 classes to get Certificate of Completion
- Instructor will discuss move up if ready – also see Week 5 criteria
- Many people repeat this Beginners Class

Collars and Leashes



Chain –
Training Collar



Toggle Training
Collar



Prong Training
Collar

Collars and Leashes

- What's the difference between a Choker or chain collar and a Prong
 - For most breeds, a “choker” collar is recommended for training
 - The collar should only be on your dog WHEN ACTIVELY TRAINING then REMOVED
 - All other collars should be removed when using training collar
 - Training with a flat collar is not recommended
 - Martingale collar could be an option
 - No harnesses
 - No Gentle leader
 - Prongs are only recommended if needed for better control.
 - **E-Collars are not permitted at Pinelands classes**



Collars and Leashes



Flexi Leash –
not permitted



Leather Leash –
6ft



Nylon Leash –
6ft

Collars and Leashes

- Demonstrate proper way to hold the leash....folded, J shape
 - Will be shown in class
- No Flexi leashes
 - You can use leather, nylon or cotton leashes – 6ft in length

In the Ring

- If your dog has an accident in the ring (or in the building)
 - We will hold your dog (if friendly) while you clean up
 - We have paper towels and spray
- If you think your dog needs to potty, leave the ring and take them outside.
- Do not feed your dog right before class
 - Either wait til class is over
 - Or feed early and potty them before class
 - Clean up after your dog on 4H grounds (& everywhere)
 - If you need a bag, ask



In the Ring

- Heel position- your dog sitting on your left
 - Start in heel position when walking with your dog; dog on left sitting
 - Start walking (forward) with your left foot when you want your dog to follow along with you
 - Right foot first if you want them to stay in place – Non verbal communication

Left side is the standard for Obedience and Rally
During class if your dog is on the opposite side, there will be chaos when circling left and right.

If there is a reason your dog needs to be on the other side, please let us know.



In the Ring

- Listen, watch then try
 - Listen to the instructor explain the next exercise
 - Watch the demo dog
 - Instructor will tell you when to try
 - Assistants and Instructor will come around and make sure you understand the exercise
 - We teach you to teach your dog – just want to see that you are teaching your dog “correctly”
 - If one way is not working for your dog, we can try other ways to teach
- Praise your dog
 - While you are working with your dog
 - Let them know when they have done something good or correctly

In the Ring

- Tone of your voice is important
 - Happy excited voice is good to praise
 - Low deep voice implies the dog has done something wrong
 - Keep your voice up and happy and your dog will be eager to please
- Keep a brisk pace when heeling with your dog in the ring
 - They won't have a chance to stop and sniff that way
 - If they stop and sniff, keep them moving, pop the leash to keep them going
- Talk to your dog
 - Talk about “anything”, your day, your friends, your family
 - Keep talking and your dog will keep his or her attention on you
 - Your dog doesn't care what you are saying, just that you are talking to them



In the Ring

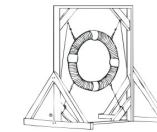
- Command, Correct and Praise
 - Give your dog a command.
 - Correct if necessary (we will teach you – how to correct)
 - When your dog has done the command or exercise correctly – praise
 - Depending on the command you may need to praise lightly or big praise
 - Explain lightly example vs big praise
- Try not to get frustrated with your dog – take a break if you feel frustrated
- If you can not hear, let the instructor know
- When the instructor is speaking, move in closer BUT maintain distance between your dog and other dogs

After Classes

- Stay to watch other training, if you can. (Rally at 8pm)
 - It's great to see other things you can do with your dog once you have started their obedience skills
- Practice daily 10-15 minutes sessions (two a day is fine)
- Do NOT get frustrated with your dog – if you are frustrated or having a bad day, stop or skip training
- At home, use the exercises you have been taught in real world situations - We will talk more about these in class in the next 6 weeks

After Classes

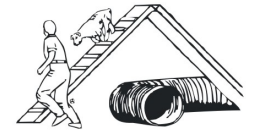
- So many things you can do with your dog
 - We teach obedience – once you have some obedience training it can help you in various other things
 - Show in Obedience
 - Show in Rally
 - Barn Hunting (BHA)
 - Herding
 - Agility
 - Trick Dog
 - Therapy Dog
 - Hunting
 - ATT Temperament Test
 - Fetch Dog
 - Dock Diving (NADD, UDD)



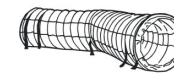
Tire jump



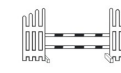
Tire with Golden



Agility Scene



Tunnel



Jump



Jump 2



Dog Walk



Frame Tunnel



Pause Table



Teeter



Chute

CGC Canine Good Citizen

- Much of what you will learn in this class will prepare you for testing for the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Certificate or Title
- What is CGC ?
 - It's a test administered by an AKC Approved Evaluator to see if your dog is a good citizen in the community. There are different levels: CGC, CGCA (Advanced), CGCU (Urban).
 - You can submit the paperwork (with a fee) to the AKC, and your dog will have a title after their name
 - Most evaluators charge a fee for your dog to be evaluated (Club Members can be evaluated free when offered)

CGC Canine Good Citizen

- There are 10 exercises to get a CGC title
- <https://www.akc.org/products-services/training-programs/canine-good-citizen/canine-good-citizen-test-items/>
- We will do most of those exercises in class

Follow on from basic CGC:

- CGC Advanced (Community K9 Test) - <https://www.akc.org/products-services/training-programs/canine-good-citizen/akc-community-canine/test-items/>
- CGC Urban - <https://www.akc.org/products-services/training-programs/canine-good-citizen/akc-urban-canine-good-citizen/test-items-for-akc-urban-cgc/>

Club Membership

- The fee for training is \$120 for first session, \$90 for each consecutive session
- **As a club member** its \$120 for the year
 - You will be asked to help set up or break down if you are training your dog
 - You need to attend most meetings (First Tues of each month)
 - You should attend at least 1 social function (Awards dinners are nice)
- Meetings are the first Tuesday of every month 7:30pm
 - Next meeting November 4th, 2025
 - To join – must take 2 classes (sessions) and attend 3 meetings and then be voted in by the board
 - Access to trainers with experience
 - Join in Rally classes (members only at this time)

Please see club website for Membership Application
<https://www.pinelandsk9club.com/>