



Week 5 – Pre-Novice

Pinelands K9

Schedule

Schedule:

- Week 1 – Nov 12th, 2024
- Week 2 – Nov 19th, 2024
- Week 3 – Nov 26th, 2024
- Week 4 – Dec 3rd, 2024
- Week 5 – Dec 10th, 2024 – You are here
- Week 6 – Dec 17th, 2024

Agenda

- **REVIEW (see next page)**
- **HEEL: On Leash –**
- **HEEL: With “umbilical cord”**
- **HEEL: Off Leash**
- **CHANGING SPEEDS:**
- **FINISH:**
- **STAND FOR EXAM**
- **SIT/STAY, DOWN/STAY**
- **FIGURE 8**
- **FRONT**
- **GRADUATION - Discussion**



Review

Each Handler should demonstrate:

- ☐ Heeling – Automatic Sit during heeling, Marker Words upon completion of heeling, Return to Heel, ready after heeling, About Turns, Circle Right, Circle Left With Distractions, With Umbilical Cord Finish to the left
- ☐ Turn in Place – Right Turn, Left Turn
- ☐ Finish – to the left
- ☐ Random Recall
- ☐ Watch Me with distractions
- ☐ Stand Stay
- ☐ Stand for Exam
- ☐ FIGURE 8
- ☐ FRONT
- ☐ FINISH – To the Left
- ☐ STAND/STAY
- ☐ SIT/STAY, DOWN/STAY

HEEL: On Leash

Heel On Leash:

- Be aware of the rhythm of your pace, it will help when you are off-leash.
- Correct for lack of attention, being out of heel position, and slow automatic sits.
- Hold up your end of the team and make your dog responsible for his half.
- The dog's attention must be only on you.
- Release at random times during practice, make unexpected turns.
- Praise, praise, praise for a job well done!

HEEL: with Umbilical Cord

Heel with Umbilical Cord:

- Do **NOT** touch your leash for any reason other than a correction.
- This week we are adding the about turn.
- Make sure your footwork is correct, since your dog will rely on your footwork instead of a leash to alert him to the turn.
- Use your voice to help them.
- Complete your about turn, take about 5 steps, stop, sit, then praise.

HEEL: Off Leash

Heel Off Leash:

- With the dog sitting next to you, unclip the leash.
- Give your heel command and take 5 steps, stop, sit, then praise, praise, praise.
- Practice until you can go 15 steps. Strive for quality not quantity.

Changing Speeds

Changing Speeds:

- Keep your stride and rhythm the same as you change speed.
- When slowing down, keep your stride smooth so the dog does not anticipate a sit.
- Speed back up to normal pace and praise.
- To go fast, there must be a visible change of pace in your dog.
- Keep the dog in heel position.
- Slow back down to a normal pace.
- Use your voice to help the dog change pace, a lower voice to slow down, a happy high voice to speed up.

Finish

Finish:

- There is no moving of the feet this week.
- Give the command and help guide the dog into position.
- If the dog seems to be struggling, go back to the two-step and work harder.

Stand for Exam

Stand for Exam:

- Remember, they cannot move even a foot.
- Keep your dog's attention on you, not the examiner.
- Have lots of people examine your dog so your dog becomes comfortable with being touched.

Sit/Stay Down/Stay

Sit/Stay Down/Stay:

- Make sure you add distractions when practicing at home.
- Take your dog to a park,
 - outside a store,
 - have the kids running around,
 - run around the dog yourself.
- Any distraction you can think of, including
 - clapping,
 - ball throwing
 - eating.
 - These are all things your dog may encounter at a show.

FIGURE 8

Figure 8:

- Try this week with either the leash over your shoulder or your dog off-leash.
- Use your body language and voice to control your dog.
- If your dog wanders off, put him back on-leash
- Work harder on keeping his attention on you at all times in the ring.

Front

Front:

- Get rid of that chute yet?
- Make sure your dog sits directly in front of you, not off to one side.
- Praise is important for a good front, so the dog knows just what is expected.
- Do not practice the front and finish together all the time.
- The dog will anticipate the finish and skip the sit in front.

Graduation

Graduation:

- Next week is graduation.
- Don't panic. Some will move to the next level, many will not.
- We will practice the exercises necessary to move you to the next level.
- This will give you an idea of how far you have come.
- The rest is practice, patience, and persistence.
- Have fun with your practices.
- If you are having fun, so will your dog.
- If you are relaxed, your dog will be also.
- Trust your dog to use his brain and he needs to be able to trust your body language and signals.
- You must work as a team to excel.

Things to Remember

Praise

- Praise with your voice ONLY when you are working on an exercise with your dog. Praise with your voice AND petting when the exercise is finished.

Train

- Train your dog for 15 minutes, once or twice a day. Some commands should be part of everyday life, like walking on the leash without pulling and doing a sit-stay at the door instead of bolting out.

Front

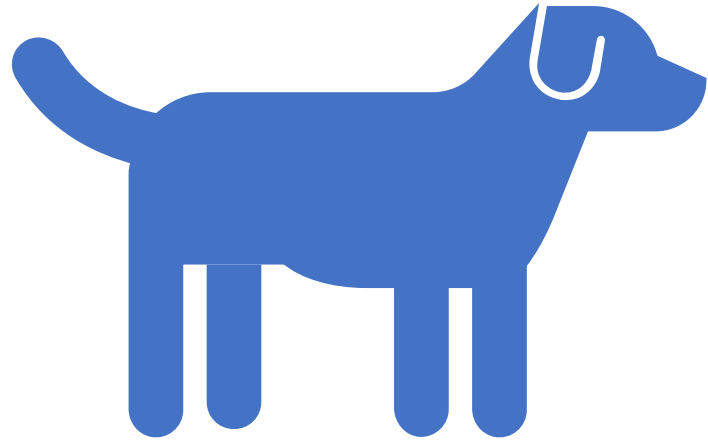
- Front and Finish should not be practiced together at this point. Your dog may skip the sit on the front in anticipation of the finish.

Stand for Exam

- Ask others to examine your dog. Head back and butt. The more people the better so that your dog gets used to other touching them when YOU allow it.

Heel Off Leash

- Only practice this when it is safe to do so, a ring at class, a fenced back yard or inside your home or another safe building. Be aware of your surroundings in the event your dog may get distracted..



Things to Remember

- Always bring treats.
- Treats should be small and easy to eat
- Make sure collar is on correctly
- Hold the leash with two hands
- Enter the building keeping space between dogs
- Potty your dog before class
- Exercise your dog before class
- Practice, Practice, Practice