

2022 Wilmington Kennel Club Training Classes

Puppy – Beginners

This is a critical time in the development of your young puppies. This class will help get your puppy started on the path to being a well behaved dog. This class teaches name & attention, sit, stay, down, come, and leash walking. This class prepares puppies for the next level – AKC STAR Puppy Program

Age Requirement: *limited to puppies between 10 - 16 weeks old at the start of class*

Class length: 45 minute class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Betsy Helm

AKC STAR Puppy Program

This class is designed for our older puppies and young adolescent dogs. Our goal is to teach basic good manners, by teaching you the fundamentals of positive reinforcement training. This class builds on the skills learned in Puppy –Beginners Class including....name & attention, sit, stay & wait, down, come when called, leash walking, leave it. This class prepares puppies for the next level - Family Pet Manners - Level 1

Age Requirement: *limited to puppies between 17 wks & 7 months old at the start of class*

Class length: 45 minute class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Betsy Helm

Puppy Manners for 5-10 Month Old Puppies

As your puppy grows it is important to be comfortable with its behavior. This course strengthens the basic sit, down, come, stay, and other basic commands by improving impulse control and increasing the duration of a command. It is definitely the next step in having a well behaved dog at your side. No more jumping, counter surfing or attention demands.

If you would like to increase your enjoyment of your puppy, this is the class for you. Through positive rewards and consistency in training, you will see your puppy grow into a happy and obedient companion.

Age Requirement: *limited to puppies between 5 months & 10 months old at the start of class*

Class length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Corey Edwards

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Family Pet Manners - Level 1

This class is for the family looking to train their family dog. It will focus on training your dog to exhibit good manners both in the home and when out and about in the community. Learn the fundamentals of positive reinforcement training techniques and effective canine communication.

Here are some of the skills taught in this class: Loose Leash Walking, Meeting and Greeting, Sit, Down, Wait/Stay, Come when Called, Leave it. This class prepares puppies for the next level - Family Pet Manners - Level 2

Age Requirement: *for dogs over 5 months at the start of class*

Class length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Amy Lasarko

Family Pet Manners - Level 2

This class builds on the skills learned in Family Pet Manners - Level 1. Your pet will learn how to improve responsiveness, reliability and duration among increasing distractions.

Age Requirement: *for dogs over 5 months at the start of class*

Class length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Amy Lasarko

Beginners Obedience

This class will focus on attention, loose leash walking, sit, down, stay, and recall. Exercises will be introduced to begin preparing you and your dog to become a well-mannered team when in public and in the home. Novice tricks such as spin, twist, and touch will be introduced.

Age Requirement: *for dogs over 6 months at the start of class*

Class length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Nancy Brock

Advanced Beginners Obedience

This class will continue to perfect the skills learned in Beginners Obedience. Fronts and finishes will be introduced, as well as more skills that will lead to becoming an AKC Canine Good Citizen. This class will help prepare those interested in pet therapy.

Age Requirement: *for dogs over 6 months at the start of class*

Prerequisite: *successfully completing Beginners Obedience or Family Pet Manners Level 2*

Class length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Nancy Brock

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Preparing for Competitive Obedience

Are you interested in taking your dogs to new heights and challenges found in the competition ring? Or you might have tried to compete at a trial but found that you needed more skills and information.

This course will prepare you to do just that—you will 1) Develop an understanding about competition 2) Be introduced to basic skills and foundations for competition 3) Demonstrate appropriate ring skills for entry level obedience. You and your dog will become confident in approaching a competitive trial. As you move through the course you will find new enjoyment working toward challenges and rewards found only in the competitive world.

Age Requirement: *for dogs over 6 months at the start of class*

Prerequisite: *successfully completing Advanced Obedience or Family Pet Manners*

Class length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Joanne Silver

Rally

AKC Rally is a fun family sport which is a perfect starting point for those who are new to canine sports. It's all about working as a team while performing the skills, with the dog under control. All dogs are welcome to participate in AKC Rally, whether purebred or mixed breed.

In this course you and your dog will learn to navigate a course, side-by-side, as you steer him through a course of 10-20 different signs based in obedience skills. There is a clear sense of teamwork between the dog and handler both during and between the numbered signs. This course will offer skills for all levels of AKC competition rally, from Novice to Masters.

Age Requirement: *for dogs over 6 months at the start of class*

Prerequisite: *successfully completing Advanced Obedience or Family Pet Manners Level 2*

Class length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Amy Lasarko

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Pet Therapy

Pet therapists are in great demand and there is a growing need for therapy dogs. This course prepares both you and your dog to visit nursing homes, hospitals, schools, libraries and a vast variety of other facilities. Opportunities for the pet therapy teams are endless. If you want to provide a wonderful and highly needed service to your community this may be the course for you. This course prepares you and your dog for certification as a Pet Therapy Team. If you have a friendly, outgoing dog and a desire to brighten someones life, this is a great opportunity to fulfill your goal.

Age Requirement: *for dogs over 6 months at the start of class*

Prerequisite: *successfully completing Advanced Obedience or Family Pet Manners Level 2*

Class length: 1 hour class meeting for 4 weeks

Instructor: Joanne Silver

Introduction to Fun with Obstacles

Everyone wants to enjoy time with their dog. This course allows handlers and dogs to learn how to manage a variety of obstacles together. Dogs will maneuver around posts, over jumps and through tunnels. In the later part of the program the handlers will learn to guide their dogs through short obstacle courses.

If you would like to find a new way to give your dog new challenges while enjoying the interplay, this is the course for you. Using agility equipment, dogs will gain confidence as they master each obstacle.

Age Requirement: *dogs must be at least 1 year old at the start of class*

Prerequisite: *successfully completing Advanced Obedience or Family Pet Manners Level 2 and dogs must have the ability to sit and stay as well as be easily and well controlled on a leash.*

Class length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Corey Edwards

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Skills for Dog Sports

Want to do more with your dog? Dog Sports Skills will give you and your dog the foundation for a variety of sports: Rally, agility, competitive obedience, freestyle, etc. Handlers new to dog sports training will get an overview of what each sport entails and what qualities and training are required to be successful. Exercises will build focus and attention skills, introduce working on both sides of the handler, and shape several complex behavior sequences, such as going out to a target and circling an object.

Age Requirement: *dogs must be at least 1 year old at the start of class*

Prerequisite: *successfully completing Advanced Obedience or Family Pet Manners and comfort working around other dogs in a distracting environment.*

Class Length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Nancy Fitzgerald

Dog Sports Sampler

Now that you and your dog have gained additional skills in preparation for dog sports training, what sport should you do? Making a good choice for you and your dog is difficult if you don't understand all your options! The Dog Sports Sampler class will devote each class to a specific dog sport, so you'll get to try out Rally Obedience, Tricks, Freestyle, Agility and more. Find out what you like and what your dog is good at doing.

Age Requirement: *dogs must be at least 1 year old at the start of class*

Prerequisites: *successfully completing Advanced Obedience or Family Pet Manners and Dog Sports Skills*

Class Length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Nancy Fitzgerald

Tricks, Clicks & Treats!

Learn how to teach your dog complex tasks quickly and effectively using clicker training. In clicker training, an acoustical marker signals to the dog when he is right and has earned a reward. In this class, handlers will learn how to communicate clearly with their dog with good clicker mechanics while their dog learns fun tricks, such as "Clean Up Your Room" and "Go to Your Place." All levels of handlers are welcome; no prior clicker experience is required.

Age Requirements: *dogs must be at least 1 year old at the start of class*

Prerequisite: *successfully completing Family Pet Manners 1 or Beginner Obedience Class*

Length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Nancy Fitzgerald

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Senior Canine Comfort

Is your long term companion showing signs of aging? Are you concerned about possible sore joints, declining activity and a lack of desire to do the things you used to do with your dog? Massage techniques are great to minimize the effects of aging. This course will teach you how to massage your senior dog to increase comfort and relaxation. You will learn how to minimize some of the early signs of aging various massage and bodywork techniques. Each week you will be able to review the previous weeks' techniques and then learn additional ones. Learning how to manage your dog's comfort will reward both you and your canine companion.

Age requirements: any adult dog
Prerequisite: Ability to sit, lie down and stay
Class length: 90 minutes for 4 weeks
Instructor: Ronni Yaskin

Happy Ratter (A Prep course for Barn Hunt)

All dogs have a natural desire to hunt. Would you like a positive experience with your dogs as they follow their prey drive searching for vermin. This course has been developed as an indoor program to prepare both the handlers and dogs for competition in AKC Barn Hunt Trials. This fun learning experience teaches dogs to use their natural instinct while locating rats that are safely enclosed in a specialized tube. Instead of hay bales, Happy Ratter uses clean newsprint, boxes and tunnels to create the hunt course. Enjoy fun with your best friend by registering for this unique course.

Age Requirements: *dogs must be at least 6 months old at the start of class*
Prerequisite: *successfully completing Family Pet Manners 1 or Beginner Obedience Class*
Class Length: 90 minutes for 4 weeks
Instructor: Alicia Fencer

Scent Work - Intermediate

Train your dog to locate a scent and communicate to the handler that the scent has been found. We are now offering two levels of training in Scent Work:

Age Requirements: *pets must be at least 6 months at the start of class*
Prerequisite: *successfully completing Advanced Beginners Obedience or Family Pet Manners Level 2*
Class length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks
Instructor: Sue Schneider

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Scent Work - Advanced

Train your dog to locate a scent and communicate to the handler that the scent has been found.
We are now offering two levels of training in Scent Work:

Age Requirements: *pets must be at least 6 months at the start of class*

Prerequisite: *successfully completing Scent Work Intermediate*

Class length: 1 hour class meeting for 6 weeks

Instructor: Sue Schneider
