

DOGGIE MANNERS™

Training Your Dog
to do what You Want©
www.DoggieManners.com



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CLASS POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

These policies and regulations are for the safety and well-being of owners/guardians/handlers, their dogs, other class members, other dogs, the general public, and the instructor. Class time is for you to learn how to teach your dog. Your dog learns by practicing at home. Many behavior problems diminish with obedience training. Although some behavior problems may be discussed in class, this is *not* a class to solve behavior problems. Because each situation is unique to the dog and owner, **behavior problems are addressed in private sessions.**

Maintain a minimum distance of six feet between dogs at all times *including before and after class*** unless under my specific direction.**

Please follow my instructions during class. I will try to work with each dog individually when introducing a new exercise. Please wait until I work with your dog before you begin working with him unless instructed otherwise. If I am not working with you, practice an exercise you have already learned or listen to what I'm saying. **Please don't talk to your neighbor.**

Wear comfortable clothing, but **no sandals, flip-flops, or shorts.** Shoes with low heels and rubber soles are best – tennis shoes are excellent. Any person who is dressed inappropriately will be asked to leave.

No food, drink (other than water for you or your dog), cell phone use, or smoking is permitted during class or around the training area. No one is permitted in class if there is evidence of alcohol or drug use.

Class attendance is important. If you know you will miss a class, please call me to let me know. Also, if you are absent, call me to find out if class will be held the following week. I may announce when you are absent that there will not be class the next week, and I don't want you coming to class when no one else will be there. I will send emails weekly, some of which may announce schedule changes.

Your entire family is encouraged to attend class. However, because your dog needs consistency in handling, **only one person may handle the dog during class.** All family members are encouraged to practice the exercises at home. **Children are welcome to observe** during class but need to be under direct adult supervision at all times and must watch quietly. **If children under 10 years old are attending class, then there needs to be two adults present.** Children aged 12-18 participating in the class need to be accompanied by an adult who will be present during the entire class. Anyone who is disruptive will be asked to leave.

Please provide proof of vaccination or titer. Puppies also need a negative fecal report. **Bitches that are in heat and dogs that are ill may not attend class.** Illness includes coughing, nose or eye discharge, or sarcoptic mange. Please don't expose other dogs to whatever ailment your dog has. If your dog has been spayed or neutered, wait at least a week before returning to class.

If your dog is generally very active and/or anxious, walk him or exercise him thoroughly *before* coming to class to tire him out a bit. Any dog who is continually disruptive will be asked to leave, and we will need to work with him in a private session before continuing in class. **Feed your dog a SMALL meal before coming to each class** -- enough so he appreciates the food you are giving him as rewards. He shouldn't be starving, nor should he have been fed his entire meal.

Make sure that your dog's collar will not come off during class. It should be tight enough so it cannot slip over his ears. All dogs must be on a leash held by you at all times. No dog may be left unattended, left with another student, or tied up at any time. Please clean up after your dog. If your dog does eliminate during class, keep him in one area rather than moving him as he is going because it is easier to clean it up if it is in one place.

Group classes are not designed to solve aggression problems. Aggression cases need to be worked with during private sessions. Supervise your dog so he does not pose a threat to any person or dog during class. If your dog is aggressive during class, you will be asked to leave. **Distract your dog or walk away with him if you see him staring at another dog, person, or other animal for more than 2 seconds.** You are responsible for your dog if a fight occurs.

Dogs of the same breed or dogs whose owners know each other may not stand next to each other during class.

Please do not make appointments for friends to meet you during class time. It is very disruptive to the rest of the class. Anyone who abuses his dog will be immediately expelled. Abuse is choking, hitting, yelling, helicoptering, hanging, kicking, or any other activity that I feel is abuse. **Thank you for adhering to these policies.**