

Agility and Rally for Fun (ARF)

Training Policy

Agility and Rally for Fun uses reward-based, positive reinforcement training methods. Our goal is to provide a safe and fun training environment and quality instruction for handlers and dogs to enable all class participants to meet their personal training goals. Positive training with PAWSitive results!

THE FOLLOWING GENERAL TRAINING RULES MUST BE FOLLOWED IN ALL CLASSES:

- Dogs must be on leash unless running a course or sequence, or performing an exercise.
- Only flat buckle collars or quick release collars, with no tags attached, are allowed. Choke chains, prong, or shock collars are not permitted. A gentle leader or harness may be permitted with consent of the lead instructor.
- Dogs are not permitted to “play” with other dogs in the training center, either before, during, or after class.
- Harsh corrections, jerking and pulling and/or intimidating training methods will not be tolerated. ARF classes are reward based and focus on dog friendly training methods.
- **DISRUPTIVE DOGS IN CLASS** - Dogs must be under control at all times. Handlers are responsible for keeping their eye on their dog and not allowing their dog to invade the space of other dogs in the training ring, to charge other dogs or people, or to run around the ring. Disruptive dogs may be asked to leave the training ring and take a time out if the handler is unable to control the dog in a reasonable length of time. Dogs that are repeatedly out of control may be excused for the sequence being run, or for the night. If the dog’s behavior is unsafe, either for other dogs or people, the dog will be excused. Refunds will not be given for dogs that are excused for the session. ARF will be happy to assist handlers in finding additional training opportunities to work on control, if needed, so that the dog can return to agility training.
- Some barking in class is to be expected. However, handlers should make every attempt to keep dogs as quiet as possible.
- **BITCHES IN SEASON** are not allowed in class. No refund if dog comes in season during the session. A credit for the missed weeks may be given. Such request must be in writing to the training coordinator and must be received no later than one week after the first missed class.
- **AGGRESSIVE DOGS** are not allowed in class.
- Handlers are responsible for cleaning up after their dogs, inside or out. Bags and cleaning supplies are provided.

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ARF TRAINING POLICY

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SAFETY - Handlers will be taught how to safely and properly use equipment. It is always the responsibility of the handler to keep an eye on their dog.

AGE - Dogs must be 6 months of age or older for regular agility classes. There are puppy classes available for those younger than 6 months.

HANDLER - One handler must handle the dog for entire session in Beginner I & II Agility.

MULTIPLE DOGS IN ONE CLASS - In the intermediate and advanced agility classes (beyond Beg II), and in rally and conformation classes, handlers may split their time with 2 or more dogs, however, the handler will only get one turn on each set, (unless more than one spot has been paid for) That doesn't mean one turn with each dog. *If a handler wants to work multiple dogs in the full class (all sets) a separate class registration form for each dog is required.*

COLLARS, LEASHES AND TREATS - For almost all classes a leather or nylon buckle or quick release collar with no tags and a leash are required. Flexi leashes are not allowed. Handlers should also have treats or a toy for reward.

CLASS LENGTH is usually 55 minutes a week for 7 weeks. In the final 5 minutes of each class the instructors will review the class activity with everyone in the class, suggest exercises to practice at home, make announcements, etc. Classes that are not full may be shorter if the full lesson plan is completed in less than 55 minutes.

MISSED CLASSES - There is not enough free time in the training schedule for handlers to make up classes that are missed. Handlers may not switch to another night if they have to miss one of their regular classes. Instructors will review missed exercises when the handler returns to class.

SEVERE WEATHER – Classes may be called off for severe weather. A make-up night may be offered if the schedule permits.

CLASS PROGRESSION – Handlers should consult their instructor to see if they are ready to move on.

CLASS REGISTRATION is on a first come first serve basis. A registration includes payment of class fee.

A **REFUND** of class registration fees will be given if only the first night of class, or no class, is attended, and if the written request for a refund is received by the training coordinator prior to the start of the second night of the same class. The request must include the reason for asking for a refund. A credit for a future class may be requested in lieu of a cash refund. The refund or credit amount will be adjusted for one night of class or 1/7th of the fee paid.

In case of injury to either the dog or handler after the first week, a credit will be given on a per case basis. Other refund requests will only be approved if there are extreme extenuating circumstances as determined by the ARF owners.