

Bunker Hill Dog Training Rules & Requirements

- All dogs must be vaccinated appropriate to their age and free from internal and external parasites.
- Owners are required to clean up after their own dogs.
- No aggressive dogs are allowed on the premises. (Ask about private lessons.)
- Owners must be physically capable of controlling their dogs at all times.
- Abusive, disruptive or rude behavior will not be tolerated. No smoking or being under the influence on the premises. Violators will be asked to leave with no refund of fees.

Check in at the desk upon arrival to confirm proper registration, vaccination and worming records as well as to check training equipment to make sure that it is adequate for your dog's size and temperament. We have training equipment, treats and toys available for purchase, if needed.

Equipment Requirements

You must have a properly fitted collar and lead for your dog. Collars may be buckle, martingale/no-slip, chain or nylon slip, prong or head harness styles. (No body harnesses allowed.) Leads should be made of leather or cloth and must be between two and six feet long. (No chain leads allowed.) You will also need a retractable lead (all-tape style preferred) for distance training. The use of food and toy rewards is encouraged during training.

Proper Attire

Please dress appropriately for training. It is recommended that you wear flat, non-slip, rubber soled shoes (no flip flops, high heels, etc.). There will be a lot of bending, so avoid low neckline blouses, dangling necklaces, ties, etc. that could be distracting or dangerous during training.

Training Philosophy

Training should be a positive experience for both you and your dog. Keep your dog motivated with a pleasant attitude and generous praise. Pay attention to your dog while training, even if you are talking with or listening to others. Have your dog sit quietly when not working. Do not allow your dog to jump up, bark at or sniff other dogs or people while entering or exiting.

Dogs are introduced to new exercises with treats, toys and/or praise as motivation. If they don't complete the exercise for toys or treats, they are placed into the correct position and praised for compliance. As each exercise is fully understood, the motivational item is gradually reduced or removed until the dog is responding without added incentives. All commands are given a single time and then followed up with either praise or a correction to put the dog in the proper position.

How well your dog does in training will directly depend upon the amount of time committed to effective training. You may use everyday situations to employ training exercises (ie: sitting and staying while their food dish is placed on the floor, waiting for permission before going out an open door or gate, etc.). Training will be more effective if used in everyday situations, such as not pulling on the leash every time it is put on, not just for "heeling" exercises. You should devote 10 to 20 minutes per day reviewing the lessons with your dog. As your dog becomes more proficient, you may

add distractions and take the dog away from home into more “real life” situations to train. This additional training will help your dog become confident when they are in stressful situations, such as while at the veterinary clinic or when company comes to your home.

Classes

Puppy Kindergarten class works on basic puppy manners, socialization with dogs and people, grooming and solving puppy issues. It is geared toward your puppy’s shorter attention span with lots of play and praise incorporated into the training. Your puppy will be introduced to all of the basic beginner level exercises as well.

Beginner class covers walking in “heel” position on a loose lead, the figure “8” (which teaches walking around people and other dogs without sniffing, jumping, etc.), standing for an examination, coming when called and sit and down stay exercises. This is an entry-level class and exercises are performed on lead.

Novice class follows Puppy Kindergarten and/or Beginner and introduces off lead work and lots of distractions.

Rally uses signs to indicate what exercise the dog is to complete at each station throughout a course. It is for dogs/handlers that are familiar with the Beginner or Puppy Kindergarten levels of training and proceeds through several levels of training as your dog progresses.

There are several advanced classes offered including Open and Utility as well as Conformation classes. Private lessons are also available by appointment.

Absences

Please call **815-362-2045** if you cannot attend class. Your homework assignment is in your booklet and you may ask any questions related to training for the week at that time. Missing two or more classes in a row may be cause for dismissal if you are unable to keep up with the class, as this is unfair to your fellow classmates. This will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The decision of the instructor is final in this situation and no refund of fee will be provided. If you or your dog has an illness or injury and you are unsure if you should attend class, please call your instructor to discuss the matter further. Do not bring your dog to class immediately after a major surgery or if it has parasites or a communicable condition! We will try to accommodate you whenever possible to help resolve issues relating to illness or injury that may cause you to miss class.

Registration fees are non-refundable; so make sure that you are serious about training your dog before joining a class.

Owners who adopted their dog from a shelter will receive \$5.00 off of their training fee. This discount is always in addition to any other promotions that may be offered. Proof of adoption is required at the time of registration to receive this discount.

These are one hour classes. There are no public rest room facilities, so please consider this before coming out for training.

Thank you,

Tracy Regole
Director of Training
815-362-2045