

Obedience Club of Daytona

BASIC MANNERS Class Outline & Instructor's Guide

BEFORE the first week of class, an EMAIL copy of the following docs should be sent to each student: **1) Building – Class – Training Etiquette, 2) Chain Collar Instructions, 3) Leash Handling & Protective Leadership Skills**. COPY the Instructor on the email sent to students. Have extra copies at class incase someone didn't get it or read it.

Each week should follow a similar format:

15 Minutes before class starts: Ring set up if your ring is available

5 Minutes before class starts: Check collars & leashes

½ hour into class if needed: Quick "water and pee break"

**** Each week** the students will be given or emailed a homework packet which will contain

- 1) Homework for the week, 2) Articles about some of the things you've talked about in class,
- 3) Other useful articles & information.

As of March 1, 2020, For the purpose of continuity and consistency **all Basic Manners Class Instructors will follow this outline. We realize that each instructor may have some *personal touch additions* to this outline.** As long as everyone stays within the general framework of the instructions outlined here, personal additions are fine. We simply ask you to keep the Training Directors in the loop. What you learn in the process of teaching, ideas to improve concepts and teaching the concepts, should be shared with all our instructors. If you discover ways to improve any of our material, written or how something is being taught, please send an email note with a copy of the material to dianeschultz4295@gmail.com. We will make updates to this document as needed. If you need help understanding something, don't hesitate to ask. ALL written material, including homework documents will be available on the OCOD Website under "Members Only."
THIS outline is only an outline. While it does provide you with a fair amount of detail, not all instructions for teaching the concepts and exercises are here. Instructors and Assistants must read the HOMEWORK and HANDOUT documents for each week prior to teaching that weeks class.

IF you have a problem dog: **1)** Please provide the owner with a copy of "The Rules of Leadership" by Brandy Schmid (available on the website under "Members Only." **2)** See the club document, "OCOD Problem Dog Procedure for Instructors."

LECTURE TOPICS AND/OR HANDOUTS:

- **Week One**: Acclimation to the building and class, How to Create a Positive Marker, using a Negative Marker, When to Add Commands to Behavior, and Loose Leash Walking. Homework!
- **Week Two**: Importance of Exercise – Physical & Mental, and Loose Leash Walking. Homework!
- **Week Three**: Talk about "tones" of voice. Homework!
- **Week Four**: Emergency Recalls. Homework!
- **Week Five**: Responsible dog ownership topics, CONGRATULATE them on staying vested in training! Problem Solving topics by requests i.e. jumping up etc.
- **Week Six**: Preparing them for the final evaluation.
- **Week Seven**: Decide who goes onto **Advanced Basic** etc. Provide them with information about the next class and final document with useful links.

SKILLS: Review previous taught skills and teach these new skills/concepts each week

- **Week One:** “Calming Techniques”, “Name Game”, “Loading the Positive Marker”, “Positive Conditioning - Put a Cookie on It” (collar handling, examining dog, your legs and feet touching them, etc.)
- **Week Two:** “Handler Focus”, “Name Game” “Loose Leash Walking”, “Mat Work with Position Changes” i.e. sit, stand, down mixed sequence
- **Week Three:** “It’s Your Choice”, “MORE Loose Leash Work”, “Leave It-Come”
- **Week Four:** “Break & Play”, “Settle”, “Trade this for that”, SIT w Restraint, Recalls
- **Week Five:** “Sit & Wait”, “Give/Out”, More Loose Leash Work
- **Week Six:** Review of all the above, “Sit to Meet”, “Self-Control Work”
- **Week Seven:** Evaluation of Teams & Demo of Advanced Skills by an Advanced Team. Keep this fun, light and motivational!

Week One

Discuss & Do:

- **Did you read the handouts sent to you?** TELL students: Here in class, keep your dogs close to you, on a short leash. Any questions?
- **Discuss** collars & leashes. A martingale or chain collar comes with the class. Fit the dogs accordingly. They are in the red toolbox in the back. Prong collars are there for sale.
- **Handling Tips** – REVIEW, what to do with your dog while you’re listening to instructions. Discuss, Show & Do (**use Dead Leash**) emailed
- **Calming Techniques** – Discuss & Show, and DO
- **Discuss** the importance of bringing a hungry dog to class with small but super treats. Bring enough of your own from home to share!
- **Take Food Gently** - How does the dog take treats from hand? If grabbing, use a closed hand, squeal out an “ouch.” Discuss and work as needed.
- **Name Game** – Say the dog’s name, give them a cookie.
- What is a **Positive Marker**? A word, sound that you can say in a happy, uplifting tone. Most people use “Yes!”. Move the teams away from each other so they can practice this.
- What is a **Negative Marker**? They probably use “no” a lot already. ☺ You might encourage them to use a word besides “no” because the NM is an informational word, that should mean, “that’s not right, try again,” something like “ut-oh” perhaps.
- **Positive Conditioning** – Discuss & Show and ask them to follow up with this at home as HOMEWORK. (Put a cookie on it – examine legs, feet, toes, ears etc.)
- **Loose Leash Walking** – Discuss how to use food to lure the dog to stay with them while nibbling on the food this week. Practice at Home. This is 100% luring right now.
- **NEXT WEEK** – **Bring a super hungry dog, lots of great treats your dog likes, your dog’s favorite toy and a mat (rug like, just the right size and slightly elevated as in thick enough the dog feels it under him.**
- **HANDOUTS:**
 - **HOMEWORK**

Week Two

Discuss & Do: Review – Teach

- **Calming Techniques** – have them show you as needed.
- **Name Game** – Say dogs name, dog must look at its person to get the cookie.
- **Discuss the importance of exercise, both physical and mental!**
 - Provide handout about dog puzzles at end of class. If you have a puzzle to demo with using your dog or assistants' dog, do so.
- **Handler Focus** exercise. Sit in chair, have dog between their feet facing them standing or sitting, doesn't matter. Cookies in their lap or hands or bowl centered. The dog is not allowed to self-serve, use the Negative Marker if needed. Handler brings a cookie up to their face (not dogs) with both hands, and then out to the dog. Handlers may praise but it isn't critical.
- **Loose Leash Walking – NO circle with dogs following each other in class**, this only encourages pulling. Have the handlers **lure with food** and raise the food some if possible so the food is not stuck to the dog's mouth. Have them **stop** as soon as the dog gets out of position, and/or **turn and go the other way. Introduce the beginning concept of "Counter Moves."** (See Handout)
- **Mat work:** Give **value** to the mat by dropping cookies onto it for the dog to eat.
- **Position changes on the Mat:** The handler will be alongside the dog. Lure with hands-on assistance, Sit, Down, Stand in random mixed sequences. Only lure without saying the command. Only say the command when the dog is doing the behavior. (See Handout: "OCOD Teaching Behaviors 101")
- **HANDOUTS:**
 - **Dog Puzzles – Chewy endorsement**
 - **HOMEWORK and OCOD Teaching Behaviors 101**

Week Three

Discuss & Do: Review – Teach

- **Mat work with Position Changes.** If possible, have the handler work this while alongside and in front of the dog. **Supervise luring technique!**
- **Ask** if there are issues with any of the other skills they are working on.
- **Loose Leash Walking – Add the command "Let's Go!"** Each week get creative with various set ups. Use gating to set up sections, use cones to walk around. Depending on the # of dogs you have in class, split the class 5 & 5. If there are crates available, ½ the class in crates and those handlers milling about on the floor while the others work. Change up the picture to avoid boredom with this exercise. **IT IS THE KEYSTONE TO EVERYTHING ELSE! Work "Counter Moves."**
- **Counter Moves:** FOLLOW the handout instructions in week 3 Homework.
- **"It's Yer Choice"** – Susan Garrett. Follow the Handout instructions. Discuss, Show and Do. **(In class use Dead Leash)**
- **Discuss the importance of "tones" of voice.** Example "Leave it" said with authority, and "Come" said in a more happy, uplifting tone. **SEE Homework.**
- **"Leave It"** – somethings you can't let the dog make a choice about. Set this up in class with items on the floor and lure the dog off away from them.
- **"Come"** – this can be used with the "Leave it" Lesson. They can be used and taught together. Handler lures the dog towards them.
- **HANDOUTS:**
 - **HOMEWORK Week 3 & It's Yer Choice, bring dog's favorite toy next week!**

Week Four

Discuss & Do: Review – Teach

- **Review – “Handler Focus” using “Its Yer Choice” game.** Let them show you how good their dog is doing with this game. ☺ People sitting in chairs with their dogs sitting between their feet. Food in both their hands, dog must look at handlers face to get a cookie.
- **“Let’s Go” - Loose Leash Walking using Counter Moves -** Use ring gates as dividers to split the ring as needed. **See Week Three above. REVIEW: Counter Moves in Week 3’s homework.** It is important to make sure they are doing this correctly. It is the key to getting the dog to being aware of its person.
- **Slide Sits** – introduce these with hands on. **SEE HANDOUT**
- **Position Changes** without using the mat, at the dog’s side, both sides if possible, and from in front.
- **“With Me”** – This is an exercise used to further teach the dog that pulling out in front of the handler is not an option. **SEE HANDOUT.**
- **Introduce Toys** – **“Break & Play” with toy and Trade**
 - **Play with Toy** – Discuss how to Play! Discuss how to “break” out of an exercise to play. Play with the dog with the toy THEN
 - Have the handler trade the toy for a cookie. The handler can say “Trade” when offering the cookie and taking the toy or “Thank you”
- **Introduce “Settle”** -This is for the dogs who have learned and accepted the Brenda Aloff “Be Still” exercise. It is an extension of “Be Still” and is a quick means to “settle the dog. All action stops, handler holds dog still, calmly and as soon as dog is still, “Settle, Good settle” using calm praise and touch. Then release and do again. The dogs will be a bit amped from toy play. Toy play is a perfect time to introduce the “Settle.” We also call this concept, “turn it on, turn it off.” The dog is allowed to get full of itself (in play) but then must learn to settle when asked to do so.
- **RECALLS** – depending on the class and the dog(s) see if hold back recalls is an option. Leash must be attached to the dead ring of whatever collar is being used! Do not force a dog to allow you to hold it back if it is being fearful. No injuries to instructors or dogs! Split the ring. Depending on the number of teachers, you should be able to do 2 dogs at a time. Instructor DEMO first of course!
 - **The dog doesn’t need to be in a sit to start this exercise.** Instructor holds dog by collar or body or leash, instructor only speaks to dog to calm it if necessary.
 - Have the handler show the dog a treat in their hand.
 - Handler doesn’t need to say anything when they leave the dog
 - Handler walks to other end, turns to face dog, then calls it and may bend down (not over or the dog won’t come close to the person) to feed the dog the cookie close to the handlers body and steps on the leash as needed to keep control of the dog.
- **HANDOUTS:**
 - **HOMEWORK & Emergency Recall!**

Week Five

Discuss & Do: Review – Teach

- **Introduce “Wait”** – Begin this with the dog in a SIT, keep the handlers very close to the dog and duration is very short. Set the teams up for success!
- **Position changes** without using the mat.
- **Recalls** – watch for pitfalls and address them.
 - **Discuss** the importance of adding one challenge at a time in all things they teach their dog.
 - **Distance – too far**
 - **Distraction – too much**
 - **Duration – keeping the dog waiting too long**
- **Discuss** general good dog ownership, grooming, vet checks etc. and ask if there are any specific questions/problems?
- **Toy Release** – “Give/Out” without “trading.” **Show them ways to get a release. Demo at Instructors meeting.**
- **Loose Leash Walking** – depending on the dogs and number of instructors work at doors, coming and going. **DEMO at Instructors Meeting.** This is not a “wait” exercise per se. This is a combination of Handler Focus, Impulse Control, and Loose Leash understanding.
- **“Sit”** – add this to the Loose Leash Walking
- **Ask the handlers to teach their dog a trick at home**, Google it if they must, and be prepared to show the trick in class next week. **THIS** will encourage and challenge them to continue to improve their training skills!
- **HANDOUTS**
 - **HOMEWORK**

Week Six

Discuss & Do: Review – Teach: Your job as instructors and assistants this week is to see the progress each team has made, and to encourage continuation of training. Training is for LIFE, not for a few weeks!

- **Loose Leash Walking – “Let’s Go” with the “SIT”** at the handler’s side. Hands on assistance for the sit as needed.
- **Sit & Wait** while a person walks up to talk to the handler. **Person avoids eye contact with dog. Tell handler to focus on their dog, not the distraction.**
- **It’s Yer Choice – where can the food be**, open hand, on the floor? Each dog will be at different learning places and that is OK! Stress this to the handlers.
- **Recalls**
- **Tricks** – Have each team demo something
- **HANDOUTS**
 - **HOMEWORK**

Week Seven

Discuss & Do: Evaluate each team:

- **Name Association, Leave it and Come, and It's yer choice**
- **Position changes** on or off the mat, handler's choice
- **Let's Go, Loose leash walking with a sit**
- **Play with a toy and release it to the handler**
- **"Sit, Wait"** – stranger approaches dog practices self-control
- As the instructor you should have recommendations for each team. Do they need to repeat the Basic Manners class? Are they ready for the Advanced Basic class? Etc. Do your best to encourage them to sign up for additional training.

ASK a competition person to come do a demo for your class. These demos have long been successful in encouraging people to further explore the world of dog training.

Our primary goal is to help people learn how to teach their dog to be a well-behaved pet. All of what we will be teaching in the new classes is the foundation for having a well-behaved dog, regardless of what the person intends to do with their dog. This foundation, if taught, trained and maintained, will create a dog that can behave in public around people and other dogs. This foundation will also benefit people who have a desire to participate in any of the many dog sports available.

Additional Notes to Instructors:

- 1. The Name Game and Handler Focus behaviors are the foundation for attention work.** No one can teach a dog to do something if they can't get the dog to tune in.
- 2. Loose leash walking is the foundation for "With Me" and then Heelwork.** They are all connected.
- 3. Position changes are the foundation for Sit, Down and Stand.**
- 4. "Be Still", "Settle" and Self-Control exercises ("It's yer choice")** are life behaviors that address a variety of anxiety issues and are the foundation for "Wait" and/or "Stay."
- 5. Positive Conditioning,** handling of the dog, is the foundation for "examinations" be they at the vet's office or the obedience ring.
- 6. Leave it and Give/Out** are life exercises to keep the dog from potentially harmful objects, to get something out of their mouth, and are some of the foundation skills for retrieving.
- 7. You will be provided many useful documents for your students and you to use.** Don't hesitate to be proactive and forward thinking. You can GOOGLE just about anything to help you help your students with specific problems. Some instructors have asked if they can send YouTube video links to their students to further assist with training, ABSOLUTELY! PLEASE be sure to tap into the resources readily available to you here at the club. We are all dog trainers, pet, companions, competition people. All training begins with the fundamental principles outlined in these beginner level classes. When something comes up, if you have concerns, contact the Training Directors, they are here to help you.
- 8. Encourage your students.** Thank them for investing in their dog's education. Remind them that by signing up for this class they have taken one of the most important steps towards responsible dog ownership. Those who invest in their dogs training are much more likely to keep their dogs for life.

Once again, THANK YOU!!! Thank you for being willing to teach! You are very much appreciated!