

LOVE²PLAY

Dog Training

Beginner Recreational Agility Lesson 4

BASIC OBEDIENCE

How are you doing with last week's challenge?

Can you walk around your dog while he stays? Can you throw a toy (not close to dog) and he stays?

BODY AWARENESS

If your dog is not able to sit beside you yet, you can teach your dog to come between your legs to line up for a start line (some people call it: place, line up, between, legs, etc). You can use a target to get the position and then reward the position.

AROUSAL / CONTROL PRACTICE

Challenge (same as last week): Play with your dog (with a toy please, NOT with your hands) or play chase....ask for a sit. The MOMENT their butt hits the ground, release and start playing again (if you are playing with a toy, I would cue 'get it'...so it would sound like "ok; get it"). This helps them to practice impulse control when they are aroused. Initially this is NOT an obedience sit (ie, NO duration)....it is fast...the only way to get the game started again, is to get the butt on the ground. If your dog doesn't play, then run with them and stop and ask for a sit. As soon as the butt hits the ground, release to run again.

JUMPING

3 jumps off-set (this is called a slice)

PLEASE continue to use a target plate so your dog looks FORWARD instead of at you when it is jumping!

WEAVE POLES

Continue to have your dog follow the chopstick through the weaves. After the last weave, THROW your food so the dog continues to look forward (looking at you for the treat MAY cause them to pop the last pole when they are weaving 12 poles). Work with your dog on your left and right. DO NOT use your hand...we want YOU out of the picture!

TABLE

How fast is your sit or down on the table? Can you walk around the table? Can you toss food or a toy nearby?

HOOP

Call, send, run with (same as we did with jumps).

DOGWALK (still lowered)

Unless your dog is nervous still, no more food on the dogwalk, just at the end. Make sure they start on it slowly and continue to use a target plate with food at the end to encourage them to stop in the correct position (2 on 2 off).....feed them in this position, head low, to help them stay there until YOU release them. Release STRAIGHT off—do not encourage them to come off to the side.

TEETER

Continue where you are at.

CHUTE

Continue

CONTACTS

Continue at home to work on stairs or an angled plank.

A FRAME (lowered)

Encourage the dog up and over the AFrame, remembering to have a target plate at the end.

OUT and ABOUT

Continue to explore the world with an eye to what new and different things can your dog safely explore. DON'T PUSH your dog to do anything that it is afraid of, but instead build on its confidence.....Continue to find things that your dog can MAKE NOISE with.