

BEDOG Agility Program 2008

The new agility program

The agility program is designed to offer two options for people who want to play agility with their dogs.

- 1) **Agility Puzzles** classes are for handlers who never intend to compete in agility with their dog but who enjoy seeing their dog learn to perform obstacles and working with their teammate on solving agility puzzles together. The short cuts used to teach the dogs to perform the obstacles and the lower level of skill expected of the handler in training and handling do not lead to the best competitive results and may not be easily retrained later.
- 2) **Sport Agility** classes are for handlers who think they might be interested in competing in agility with their dog and who are willing to invest the time and effort into the rigorous training that is required for themselves and their dog that enables confident, safe, fast and accurate performance.

What class should I take?

- 1) **Agility Puzzles:** Agility students that are not planning to compete would start with either Agility Puzzles or More Agility Puzzles (if their dog is familiar with the agility equipment).
- 2) **Sport Agility:** Agility students that that are planning to compete (or think they might) would start with the Building Blocks class, even if they have taken other BEDOG classes or taken classes at other organizations.
- 3) **Building Blocks:** This is a prerequisite for the Sport Agility classes but it is also a great foundation class for anyone wanting improve their relationship with their dog.

Please see the class descriptions located on the website www.bedog.org under training for more information about the classes offered and prerequisites.

The goal

The goal of the BEDOG sport agility classes is to give students an excellent foundation in agility. Anyone interested in further completing competitive agility training will need to transfer to one of the excellent competitive programs in the local area. Anyone moving from the sport agility track to an another competitive program will find they have an excellent foundation.

The BEDOG facility is great for teaching certain aspects of agility - it is clean, well lit, the equipment is in good shape and the learning environment is perfect for the classes being offered. However, the footing and space constraints limit some of the challenges that we can safely ask the dogs to perform and so only sport agility training and agility puzzles that are appropriate for the facility are included in the agility program.

For more information on Agility classes please go to our website www.bedog.org under training and check out the class descriptions