

# BEDOG Class Descriptions

- ❖ BEDOG uses positive training methods only in our classes.
- ❖ Class sessions run for 6 weeks.
- ❖ Classes start on the hour and are 50 minutes in length.
- ❖ Not all classes will be available all sessions.
- ❖ Classes may be repeated if desired.
- ❖ All non-aggressive dogs are welcome in all classes, mixed breed or purebred.
- ❖ Please check the class descriptions for prerequisites and ensure you meet these before signing up for class.
- ❖ Contact the Training Coordinator [training@bedog.org](mailto:training@bedog.org) for questions about class content and prerequisites.
- ❖ The Sport Agility and More Agility Puzzles classes are now requiring that the dogs be crate trained. In these classes the handlers need to go walk the course and the dogs need to be safely confined during this time. BEDOG will provide crates for dogs enrolled in class or you can bring your own. If your dog has not yet learned that a crate is a great place to be please consider enrolling for our new Crate Games class. If you have questions about this new requirement, please email [training@bedog.org](mailto:training@bedog.org).

For further questions on registration please contact the Training Coordinator [training@bedog.org](mailto:training@bedog.org) or call the registrar 425-965-4197 (message phone)

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## Basic Manners

This is the place to start. Canine Manners is the ideal class for those individuals who have never taken a dog training class. It is the perfect foundation class for individuals with a new dog or old dog who just needs some basic manners or for anyone who just wants to have fun with their dog. It is also the foundation for attending the Rally, Agility and Competition Obedience classes. This course introduces you and your dog to the basic concepts necessary for your canine companion to become a welcome family member. Topics covered are sit, down, stay, coming when called and walking on a leash.

**Do not bring Dogs to the first class.** The first class of the session is orientation and your attendance is required.

Prerequisite: Dogs should be 4 months or older.

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## Beyond Basic Manners

This class will focus on increasing distance, duration and distractions of the exercises learned in the Basic Manners class. We will also work on a few new things like; leave it, go to your place, stand, finish and playing crate games to get dogs to think that their crates are a great place to be.

Prerequisites: Basic Manners or equivalent experience. Dogs should have the basic concepts of Sit, Come, and Stay, though none of these need to be mastered in order to participate. Dogs must be 4 months or older.

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## Beginning Rally

Find out what the latest crazy in obedience training is all about - AKC Rally! The focus of this class is to teach the handlers how to interpret and perform all 31 Novice Rally exercises, individually and on courses.

For more information about Rally Obedience: <http://www.akc.org/events/rally/index.cfm>

AKC has embraced this new competitive, title-earning program as a transition between the Canine Good Citizen program and traditional Competition Obedience. Dogs and handlers perform obedience exercises on a course that is designed by the judge. A significant difference between Rally and Obedience is that unlimited praise and communication is allowed (and encouraged!) while on the course. At the Novice level, all exercises are performed on leash, with no other dogs on the course, so this is an ideal training ground for those interested in Obedience Competition down stream. Even if not interested in competition, the twisty-turny courses require a teamwork connection between dog and handler that many find rewarding.

Prerequisites: Basic Manners or equivalent experience. Dogs are expected to be well mannered and have the basic concepts of Sit, Down, Come, Stay and leash manners, though none of these need to be mastered in order to participate. Dogs must be 6 months or older.

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## Advanced Rally

The focus of this class is to teach the handlers how to perform the 20 Advanced and Excellent exercises, individually and on courses.

Prerequisites: Beginning Rally or familiar with all Novice Rally exercises. Dogs must be 6 months or older.

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## Crate Games

A crate is a portable house often used to ensure that your dog has a safe and comfortable place to rest when you aren't able to keep an eye on them. But did you know that crate training your dog has many additional benefits?

This class will show you how to make your dog's crate a relaxing and desirable place to be. As a result, we can use it to build other behaviors like a really good stay, a speedy recall, better attention and focus on you, better self control and a keener desire to perform behaviors that you want. This class is based on positive training methods using games and play, much like the Building Blocks class.

For more information and home study, we can recommend Crate Games DVD by Susan Garrett. To see a preview: <http://www.dogwise.com/itemdetails.cfm?ID=DTA287>

Prerequisites: Basic Manners or equivalent experience. Dogs are expected to be okay on leash and be potty trained. Dogs should also have the basic concepts of Sit, Come, and Stay, though none of these need to be mastered in order to participate. Dogs must be 4 months or older. Humans must be 14 years or older. Due to the educational content, precision training and the excitement level of the dog this class will not be appropriate for most children.

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## Building Blocks

This class is for individuals who would like to improve their relationship with their dog. In this class you will learn how to engage your dog in a willing partnership through effective communication, play, reinforcement and positive training fundamentals. You will learn how to make working with you so rewarding for your dog, that they will exert themselves for the opportunity to interact with you - they will pay more attention, concentrate harder, and execute behaviors with more precision, willingness and speed. We will incorporate handy household behaviors like sit, down, stay and come into games to make them more reliable and rewarding for your dog to do. Also we will teach you how to make training and play indistinguishable to your dog so both of you can enjoy the training process to the fullest.

This is a great foundation class for all other dog activities and is a great class to take to prepare for Rally, Competitive Obedience and Agility. This class is a prerequisite for the Sport Agility classes.

In addition, this class is excellent for individuals who have dogs who are shy, concerned about their environment, easily distracted away from the owner or who have learned to work for treats only.

Prerequisites: Basic Manners or equivalent experience. Dogs are expected to be okay on leash and be potty trained. Dogs should also have the basic concepts of Sit, Come, and Stay, though none of these need to be mastered in order to participate. Dogs must be 4 months or older. Humans must be 14 years or older. Due to the educational content, precision training and the excitement level of the dog this class will not be appropriate for most children.

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## Building Blocks Practice – New Class!

This class will give you a chance to practice the skills you learned in the building blocks class. There is no formal curriculum however for interest and efficiency, each class day will focus on a general topic area: 1) self control behaviors, 2) recalls, 3) crate games, 4) loose leash walking, 5) stay games and 6) tricks. Within the framework of each topic – each student decides what they would like to practice and/or get help with. The purpose of the practice class is to give you a chance to become more comfortable with using a clicker, and more proficient with shaping, luring, timing and placement of rewards, designing a training plan for a specific behavior, strengthening the dogs desire to offer certain behaviors, increasing the precision of certain behaviors and teaching new behaviors. **The use of a clicker will be mandatory in this class.**

Prerequisites: Building Blocks

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## Agility Puzzles

This class is for individuals who would like to give their dog the opportunity to experience the confidence building and enjoyment of solving agility puzzles - but who do not ever intend to take these skills into competition. Individuals will learn how to make solving the mental and physical challenges easy and fun for their dog. They will teach their dog to go through, around and over obstacles of many types and will learn to direct them to do so in sequences. Dogs will be required only to perform to minimal criteria necessary for safety, training aides will be used.

This class is excellent for individuals who would like to experience the teamwork and communication associated with solving agility puzzles or who want to get in some exercise for themselves and their dogs. It is appropriate for overweight and older dogs, shy or under socialized dogs and dogs who have trouble adapting to novel situations. This class is not appropriate for individuals who intend to compete in agility because obstacles are introduced without laying the extensive foundation needed. This class is a pre-requisite for the More Agility Puzzles Class.

Prerequisites: Basic Manners or equivalent experience. Dogs are expected to be okay on leash and be potty trained. Dogs should also have the basic concepts of Sit, Come, and Stay, though none of these need to be mastered in order to participate. Dogs must be 6 months or older.

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## **More Agility Puzzles**

This class is an ongoing opportunity to "get on equipment" and play with your dog. Agility equipment remains low and any resemblance to actual competition courses is incidental. Handlers will learn good communication skills to direct their dog through simple sequences. Training aides will be used to help the dogs be successful and safe. Puzzles can and will include actual agility equipment, distractions and games.

This class is excellent for individuals who would like to experience the teamwork and communication associated with solving agility puzzles or who want to get in some exercise for themselves and their dogs. It is appropriate for overweight and older dogs, shy or under socialized dogs and dogs who have trouble adapting to novel situations. This class is not appropriate for individuals who intend to compete in agility because obstacles are introduced without laying the extensive foundation needed.

Prerequisites: Agility Puzzles, equivalent equipment familiarization or instructor permission. Dogs must be 6 months or older and be crate trained. If your dog is not crate trained please consider enrolling in the Crate Games class before enrolling in this class.

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## **Sport Agility Foundation**

In this class, individuals will build on what they have learned about playing with their dog to train the foundation behaviors that will enable excellent competition agility performance. Individuals will also learn training fundamentals that will be used throughout the dog's agility training. Dogs will learn to be comfortable offering foundation behaviors such as self-control, targeting, attention and focus, speed, making choices, holding position etc.

This class is excellent for individuals who enjoy the challenges of training their dog to execute precision behaviors at speed. Individuals completing this class will have the know-how and mechanical skills to train future agility behaviors to a high level of performance. Their dogs will have a good foundation that will enable them to begin obstacle training.

Prerequisites: Building Blocks. Dogs must be 6 months or older and be crate trained. If your dog is not crate trained please consider enrolling in the Crate Games class before enrolling in this class.

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## **Sport Agility Obstacle Training**

In this class, individuals will begin to train their dogs to perform agility obstacles. Speed, safety and independent performance will be emphasized from the first steps. Dogs will proceed at a pace that suits their owner's abilities and opportunity to practice. Individuals will learn how to encourage their dog's best performance, how to set the dog up for success, when to make the training more challenging and when to make it easier. Individuals will learn how to train the dog in ways that are consistent with how they will ultimately handle the dog on course.

Note: Foundation Jump training will be started in this class however, individuals who are intending to compete should arrange to complete jump training through other programs. Large dogs will not be allowed to jump competition height in this facility out of concern for the impact to their joints.

Prerequisite: Sport Agility Foundation

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## **Sport Agility Handling**

In this class, individuals will learn how to handle their dog through an agility course by giving them unambiguous cues. Dogs will be rewarded for responding to these cues with the goal of producing confident, quick and cohesive teamwork. Common pieces of sequences will be trained and assembled into short sequences to perfect body language and timing. Individuals will learn how to analyze sequences in order to decide how best to handle them with their dog.

Most sequences will involve low jumps, gates or hoops - agility obstacle proficiency beyond this is not required for this class. Individuals who complete this class will be very well prepared to move into a long-term training program and competitive career.

Prerequisites: Building Blocks. Dogs must be 6 months or older and be crate trained. If your dog is not crate trained please consider enrolling in the Crate Games class before enrolling in this class.

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## **Sport Agility Problem Solving**

In this class, individuals can focus on specific holes in their training. These are facilitated working sessions as needed by the students. Examples of situations where this class would be beneficial include: dogs that might have missed some foundation work, dogs who need experience working in novel environments or on different equipment, dogs who have had a bad experience and need to rebuild confidence, retraining issues and/or handlers who just need an extra pair of hands or eyes to help them.

Prerequisites: Sport Agility Obstacle Training and Sport Agility Handling or instructor's permission

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