

## KEYSTONE CANINE TRAINING CLUB

### INFORMATION ON PREPARING FOR YOUR FIRST CLASS

We want you and your dog to be safe and have fun! Here is what you need to know:

**What should I bring to class?** Bring a lot of small, soft treats, and a treat bag (we sell them very inexpensively if you don't have one). Make sure your dog is hungry before class! Before your class, feed your dog lightly or not at all. Also, for Puppy Pre-School, Building Puppy Confidence, and Family Manners Obedience classes (including those with puppies), please bring a mat with your dog's scent on it.

**What should I wear?** Wear loose, comfortable clothes that you don't mind kneeling or sitting on the floor with. Also wear comfortable shoes (we recommend athletic shoes), because you will be moving around a lot and occasionally walking fast or jogging. And for agility classes, you will be running. Please do not wear sandals or flip-flops.

**What collars and leashes should I use?** All dogs must be on leash or crated when not working. For most classes, a six-foot lead is the preferred length. Also, for most classes, flat buckle, martingale, slip or chain collars, and harnesses may be used. When dogs are actively working during class, the following restrictions apply: Flexible leashes such as "Flexi-leads" cannot be used when you are working your dog in a class, and we discourage the use of prong collars. For Agility *classes*, only flat buckle collars may be used (for safety). Additional restrictions may apply to specific classes, based on dog safety or competition rules for that venue. If appropriate, your instructor may suggest a collar different from the one you have in order to help you with handling/teaching your dog

**My female dog will be in heat during at least one of the class sessions .**

**Can she come to class?** No – please wait until the next class (or come without your dog if only one session is affected – you can still practice at home). Female dogs in heat would be a major distraction to male dogs that have not been neutered.

**What if my dog has an “accident” during class?** To help preclude accidents, please take your dog to the potty area on the right side of the parking lot **BEFORE YOU ENTER THE BUILDING**. If your dog has an accident during class, don't worry! Just clean up after your dog. We have paper towels, liquid cleaner, and plastic bags. Put all waste in plastic bags, and dispose of any solid waste in one of the trash cans adjacent to the potty areas. Please do not allow your dog to use the parking lot or the club's exterior walls as a bathroom.

**Can my child handle our dog in class?** Except for kid's classes, children must be 13 or over to handle a dog, and a parent must be present for all children under 16.

**What if my dog turns out to be aggressive towards other dogs?** If you feel you have an aggressive dog, please call us before you enroll in a class.

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