

Positive Animal Solutions

The Service Your Pet Would Choose

Agility Classes

We're delighted to be able to announce that we are now holding agility classes on a Friday evening at Willerby Hill Competition Yard on the outskirts of Hull. Directions to the venue can be found at <http://www.willerbyhillcompetitionyard.co.uk>.

Willerby Hill provides us with a huge indoor, enclosed working area with an anti-shock surface to help both handler and dog! We have a viewing gallery for friends and family who would like to come and watch, lots of parking and access to toilets. As you can imagine we are very keen to maintain excellent relations with the site owners and for this reason there are a number of ground rules which we need to abide by and these are detailed on page 4.

Our class schedule -

18.00 – 19.00 Introductory Agility (45 minute lesson, 15 minute set-up time)

19.00 – 20.45 Intermediate Agility (45 minute lesson)

20.00 – 21.00 Progressive Agility (45 minute lesson, 15 minute pack-up time)

Progress in agility is quickest when dogs have the basics of obedience in place already and this includes a good recall and a sit or down stay. If you're unsure if your dog is ready for agility classes please let us know and we can advise.

At present most of our classes are full but we will have spaces for dogs and handlers in the 18.00 Introductory course which commences on Friday 22nd August.

Places on courses are strictly limited and will be reserved and confirmed only on the receipt of the completed application form and full payment.

We look forward to meeting you at Willerby Hill in 2008!

Regards

Lynda Taylor
Positive Animal Solutions

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Introduction to Agility (6-week course) is for dogs who have done either very little or no agility before. The course is designed so that the dogs gain confidence on each piece of equipment and learn to complete small sequences of obstacles. With only 6 dogs on the course there's lots of practise time and little standing around waiting for your turn.

Equipment will initially be set-up at below competition height whilst the dogs learn to negotiate each item safely and because of this the course is suitable for dogs aged from 12 months. *

Progression in agility is quickest when the dog already has a good level of control and to gain most benefit from this course your dog will have -

- Recall off lead
- Sit or down stay
- Be sociable with other dogs and people
- Have a favourite (non squeaking!) toy such as a tug toy which allows you to play with your dog

*Dogs are welcome to attend from 12 months but it may be necessary to limit the height of both jumps and contact equipment whilst they are still growing

Intermediate Agility (6 or 12 week course dependent on numbers in class) is designed for dogs that understand how to complete each item of equipment in isolation but need additional practice to put together sequences of obstacles. It's also ideal for handlers who would like to progress their dogs knowledge but who do not intend to go on to compete

We'll be working on your dog gaining the confidence to work away from you and introducing key handling techniques to assist owners in being in the right place at the right time to help their dogs around a course.

To progress to this class dogs should be able to –

- Complete 3 jumps in a row
- Confidently go across the A-frame and dog walk
- Go through both tunnels with minimal assistance
- Be able to work off lead around both people and other dogs

Progressive Agility (6 or 12 week course dependent on numbers in class) is designed for dogs that can complete a Grade 1 agility or jumping course and for handlers who would like to compete with their dogs

With an emphasis on handling we'll be introducing combinations of obstacles which require your dog to listen to your instructions and learn to work accurately at speed. We'll also be working on reliable weave entries and contacts whilst always ensuring your dog is having a great time under your direction.

There'll also be the opportunity to use individual pieces of equipment that may need more practise to perfect. Maximum of 8 dogs

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Agility Class Application form

Name			
Address			
Contact Tel. No.			
Email			
Emergency contact	Name	Tel. No.	
Do <u>you</u> have any medical problems that could be important for us to know about?			
Dog 1	Name	Agility Experience	
	Breed		
	Age		
	Course	Introductory 18.00	Intermediate 19.00
			Progressive 20.00
Is there any other information that you think we should know about you or your dog, which will help us in planning classes?			

Class fees

Introductory – up to 6 handlers and dogs, 6 week course £50

Intermediate – up to 6 handlers and dogs, 6-week course £50
7 handlers and dogs 12-week course £85
8 handlers and dogs 12 week course £75

Progressive - up to 6 handlers and dogs, 6-week course £50
7 handlers and dogs 12-week course £85
8 handlers and dogs 12 week course £75

Cheques should be made payable to "Positive Animal Solutions"

Every reasonable precaution will be taken to ensure the safety of you and your dog whilst attending our agility classes, but please remember that these courses are undertaken at your own risk. Please sign below to confirm that you have understood and agree with the terms stated in our literature on page four of this document.

Name:

Signed:

Date:

To reserve a place on a course please return this form with payment to –
Lynda Taylor, Positive Animal Solutions, 22 Sluice Road, South Ferriby, North Lincs DN18 6JG

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We believe passionately in reward-based training methods and as such we encourage all our handlers to use clicker-training and other positive reinforcement training methods. We also need to ensure that the training environment is safe for both handlers and dogs and that by example we promote responsible dog ownership. As such it is necessary to have guidelines and rules to ensure that everyone who attends our classes has a joint understanding on how we can achieve this. By attending our classes you agree to the following points -

Venue

1. On turning into Green Lane take an immediate left turn through the automatic gates. This is the only area in which we can park.
2. Please ensure you keep an access route through the car park for visiting horse boxes
3. The venue is strictly no smoking
4. Please clear up after your dog every time and take full bags home with you for disposal. Spare bags are available if needed
5. If walking dogs prior to the class please don't go any further up the lane than the bungalow on the left hand side just beyond the arenas
6. Please take all rubbish home with you

Handlers

1. Please come wrapped up warm in clothes which you won't worry about should they get dirty
2. Trainers or similar footwear should be worn
3. Please note that we will ask anyone treating their own or any other dog harshly, to leave
4. Please don't enter the arena until the previous class has finished
5. Please leave dogs in your car on arrival to assist with setting up equipment
6. Handlers will be asked to assist with the setting up of equipment prior to the first class and breaking down and putting away of equipment after the last class

What To Bring

1. A favourite toy but please no squeakies
2. Great tibbits, cooked meat, hotdog sausage and cheese tend to be favourites for most dogs. Please cut up into tiny rewards, the size of your small fingernail is plenty big enough for large dogs. We just want to give our dogs a taste, not fill them up
3. Head collars or harnesses are fine for waiting your turn but dogs should be run in a flat collar. No check or half check chain collars are allowed in any of the classes nor any type of punishment collar
4. For the Introductory Course a long lead, ideally at least 6 foot long. The Halti training leads are ideal and can be purchased directly from us.

Dogs

1. Please make sure your dog is walked and toileted before coming to class
2. Do not feed your dog a meal for at least 2 hours prior to class
3. If your dog is coughing or seems unwell please do not bring him that week
4. Dogs should always be on lead unless otherwise advised by an Instructor
5. Please keep your dog under close control when working off lead. Do not allow it to invade other dogs' space
6. For safety reasons, no unsupervised practising on equipment except with prior permission from your instructor
7. Please try to keep dogs as quiet as possible, if you have a dog who is a barker we may ask you to move to a position whereby your dog is able to cope with the excitement levels without barking

Payment

1. Payment must be made in full prior to starting lessons
2. Due to the high cost of hiring the venue, refunds or deferments cannot be made once the course has begun should a handler be unable to attend a class or complete the course
3. Classes are run subject to minimum numbers of handlers enrolling on the course