

Foundations for Competition Obedience 2

In this course we will continue to master skills necessary to perform Canadian Kennel Club exercises in the Novice class. Many of these skills transition well into other sports including Rally Obedience, Rally FrEe etc. This course will be taught by a CKC Licensed Judge and handler who has completed several CKC Obedience Trail Champions as well as many other Rally, Rally FrEe, Agility and Nosework titles on her Shelties and Papillons over thirty years of active training and trialling. Much of the material we will draw from is consistent with the methods used by some of the top trainers in the Obedience ring today. During the 6-week class you will be shown how to apply consistent terminology and engaging activities to encourage focussed attention and a willingness to perform heeling, recalls, stand for examination and stays. Your dog will learn to understand when he has responded correctly as well as when he is incorrect, using fair and measured consequences that are appropriate for your dog. Ultimately, we aim to make this fun for everyone!

Equipment Needed

Plain flat or martingale collar and leash

- 6 ft for those working towards a Pre-Novice title.
- 4 or 6 ft for those working towards Novice or higher titles.

Platforms (2)

Rectangle - Should measure just wide enough for dog to sit and long enough to stand and lay down on. Generally, 2-4" thick, depending on size of dog. May be made of wood, rubber matting, ¾-1" PVC pipe or other durable but light materials. Non skid is important.

Target plates – white yogurt etc lids 3-4.

Toys: What is your dog's most favorite toy? **Bring it!** If a ball, please put inside a tied sock to keep it from rolling. No squeakies please.

Treats: You will want to bring your dog's favorite treats. Roast beef, cheese, beef jerky are all on the table. Light coloured treats are often best for use on our dark floor. Let us know if your dog has food allergies.

Prerequisites:

Successful competition obedience requires a solid relationship between the dog and handler and a commitment to practicing between classes. You will need to practice with your dog several times per week to see any results. Plan to start in a very quiet location with few, if any, distractions. Later, to build focus and cope with distractions, you will want to look for more interesting yet safe places to practice.

Please understand that this class is intended for teams that are ready for competition, not for addressing basic pet manners. Your dog should understand a continuing and terminal marker, have a solid a focus command and be familiar with platforms. You will need to be able to keep your dog focussed on you and quiet while we are working.