

What Is Agility?

Agility is the fastest growing sport for dogs and their owners. First developed in England in 1978 as a spectator sport, it has grown to encompass a worldwide following with competitions being held in Europe, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

Dog agility training increases a dog's overall fitness, flexibility, and awareness and responsiveness to its handler. Agility equipment and courses are designed to emphasize the specific skills of balancing, flexing, jumping and tunneling. The combination of a fast pace, athletic challenge, strategy and teamwork are the hallmarks of agility. Training for agility is not only fun, but it also produces an enthusiasm and bond between dog and handler that is transferred to other competitive training such as obedience and conformation.

Agility can be enjoyed by all breeds of dogs. Both the very large and very small breeds can participate and compete. The only requirement is a physically sound dog with a handler who is willing to have a good time while training.

Class Schedule for 2009

< *First Session*

Registration Open from: 3/9 - 3/21

Monday: 4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27, 5/4, 5/11, 5/18

Tuesday: 4/7, 4/14, 4/21, 4/28, 5/5, 5/12, 5/19

Wednesday: 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20

< *Second Session*

Registration Open from: 5/11 - 5/23

Monday: 6/8, 6/15, 6/22, 6/29, 7/6, 7/13, 7/20

Tuesday: 6/9, 6/16, 6/23, 6/30, 7/7, 7/14, 7/21

Wednesday: 6/10, 6/17, 6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15
7/22

< *Third Session*

Registration Open from: 8/3 - 8/15

Monday: 8/31, 9/7, 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5,
10/12 (Dates may change)

Tuesday: 9/1, 9/8, 9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/6,
10/13

Wednesday: 9/2, 9/9, 9/16, 9/23, 9/30, 10/7,
10/14

NEW! Summer Workshop

Registration Open from: 7/6 - 7/18

Wednesday: 7/29, 8/5, 8/12

Time and topics to be announced.

Class Times and Content

Monday

7:00-7:40 p.m. Puppy Class

Tuesday

7:00-7:40 p.m. Focus Class – see below

8:00-8:50 p.m. Competition

Wednesday

7:00-7:50 p.m. Beginner

7:00-7:50 p.m. Advanced

8:10-9:00 p.m. Intermediate I

8:10-9:00 p.m. Intermediate II

Focus Class Subjects

Open to dogs who have completed the Beginner class or by permission of the instructor.

Session 1 – Contacts and Weaves

Session 2 – Advanced Groundwork for Agility

Session 3 – Jumping Skills

The
Mattaponi Agility Dogs



of the

Mattaponi Kennel Club

www.MattaponiKennelClub.com

Present our

2009 AGILITY CLASSES

Location of Classes

Prince William County Fairgrounds
10624 Dumfries Road
(Business Route 234)
Manassas, VA

For Additional Class Information

Alyssia Greiner, Registrar
AgilityClass@MattaponiKennelClub.com
(email contact preferred)
703-361-4573

Description of Classes Offered

Beginner

An introduction to obstacles, on-lead control, handling techniques, and jumping concepts.

Intermediate I and II

Familiarization with all obstacles used in Novice and Agility I competition and handling techniques designed to enable students to participate in trials. Intermediate I is designed for those fresh out of Beginner. Intermediate II is more challenging.

Advanced

Introduction to all obstacles used in Open and Agility II competition, distance handling techniques, and competition strategy.

Competition

Advanced course layouts and an emphasis on handler strategy for higher levels of competition. Participants in this class must have received a qualifying score in an agility trial or obtained instructor permission.

Puppy Socialization

For puppies from 4 to 12 months of age. Emphasis is on socialization and relationship between dog and handler. Any obstacle work will take into account the age of the puppies.

Focus Classes

To further develop specific skills needed for success in agility competition. Subject of focus class changes from one session to the next.

Mattaponi Class Requirements

Mattaponi Agility Dogs strives to offer a variety of classes for anyone wishing to participate in the sport of Agility. Both experienced trainers and the non-competitive dog owners are welcome to join us for the fun and challenge of agility training.

We require that dogs enrolled in our classes be easily controlled by their handler and not demonstrate aggressive behavior towards people or other dogs. Formal obedience training is not required, but dog control on and off lead is a necessity.

The only training equipment that must be supplied by the dog's owner/handler is a flat buckle collar (no choke collars and no tags, please), a six foot lead, a small hand tab for the collar, and plenty of small motivational treats or toys for the dog. Mattaponi requires that all dogs have a current Rabies vaccination and proof of such MUST be submitted with the registration form.

If you are interested in enrolling in a class, please see our web site at MattaponiKennelClub.com or contact Alyssia Greiner by email (preferred) at AgilityClass@MattaponiKennelClub.com or by calling 703-361-4573 for a registration form and waiver. You will be considered registered for class and will be sent confirmation, via email, when signed class registration form, rabies certificate and check are received before closing date.

All dogs and handlers who have not previously taken classes with Mattaponi and who would like to enroll in a class other than Beginner or Puppy Socialization must attend an Evaluation session prior to enrollment. Contact the Registrar for days and times.

Classes may be repeated as needed to provide the dog and handler an adequate foundation for subsequent classes and for agility competition.

Jr. Handlers (under 16 years of age) must also meet with the Evaluation Committee prior to class enrollment. The committee will look at the Jr.'s ability to control and train their dog, accept instruction, and assess and accept responsibility for the dog's well being in class.

About Mattaponi Kennel Club

Mattaponi Kennel Club meets 10 times each year & sponsors many events. We are always open to the public and encourage you to participate. Check our web site for more information on meetings and other events, such as: Educational Seminars, an AKC All-Breed Conformation Show with Obedience and Rally Trial, AKC Agility and Tracking Trials, Canine Good Citizen Tests and Therapy Dog Certifications, UKC Agility Trials, and Eye, Health and Tattoo Clinics.