



All-Star Canine Class

Hi! Welcome to All-Star Canine Class. We are committed to helping you create a positive and lasting relationship between you and your dog.

- Classes meet once a week for 6 weeks.
- **First class is orientation; please do not bring your dog.**
- Course fee is \$125 (a \$30 discount is given if you adopted from the MD SPCA). Low income vouchers are available.
- Classes are for dogs who are 4 months of age and older.

Many behavior problems can be prevented or solved with positive, consistent training and socialization. All-Star Canine Class teaches you how to train your dog to watch you, sit, go to his bed, leash manners, and more. We will also have a problem solving “parent class.”

- The classes are held on the grounds of the Maryland SPCA in front of the Headquarters House or in the Behavior and Training Room in the shelter.
- Bring treats that your dog loves to every class.
- All dogs should be wearing a buckle collar attached to a 4’-6’ foot leash. **Retractable leashes, chains, ropes, prong collars, and choke collars are not allowed.**
- Special collars and harnesses will be available for sale at class.
- Any dog who is ill or presents a potential danger to people or other dogs, or whose owner is abusive in class, may be asked at the instructor’s discretion not to participate.
- No refunds will be made after the start of class. If there is an unforeseen emergency, please contact the instructor.

How to register with All-Star Canine:

- Call Nichole Miller at 410-235-8826, ext. 150 or email nmiller@mdspca.org to receive the current class schedule.
- Complete the registration forms and mail them or bring them by the Maryland SPCA offices.
- You will receive a confirmation call or email once registration is complete.
- **Your place will be reserved in the class only after payment is received.**



Guidelines for Class

Please clean up after your own dog. We have Doggie Depot's with pick up bags in them if you forget yours. Just put your hand inside the baggy, pick up the feces and turn the bag inside out, tie it, and put it in the trash can.

Observe the three foot rule. Not all dogs work well with others and even normally friendly dogs may behave differently in a new environment. You are responsible for keeping your dog at least three feet from other dogs for the first couple weeks of class. After the first couple weeks once everyone is comfortable, we can begin to socialize.

If your dog is ill, do not come to class. If your dog becomes ill for any reason, leave him at home until he is feeling better. We still want you there for the session. You can listen, watch, and keep current with the class. Some illnesses, even if they are not serious, can be contagious so please don't expose the other dogs in class. Please speak with the trainer if your dog will miss multiple classes so you can transfer to another time.

Bring your dog's motivator. Training should be fun and enjoyable for you and your dog. Most dogs are highly motivated by food and some with a toy, but for others praise will do. You will find it is much easier to teach your dog new things if you can reward him with something he really likes! Treats are helpful in the beginning and with some behavior problems. Make sure they are small and easily consumed. Call the instructor at 410-235-8826, ext. 150 for ideas if you are unsure.

There will be no yelling, hitting, or abusive language. Strong and physical methods are not part of the Maryland SPCA's training philosophy. If you find your dog is difficult, ask for assistance from the trainer.

Attendance is important. Each class's lessons build onto the next week. We encourage you to attend all classes. If you miss a class for an unexpected reason, please get in touch with the instructor at 410-235-8826, ext. 150 or nmiller@mdspca.org to get your homework for the week.

Family Attendance: The Maryland SPCA encourages families to attend our training class. Being able to observe how each skill is taught will help everyone to stay consistent. Only one family member can handle the dog at each lesson, which will help the instructors give more individual attention to that handler. Children 8 years and older may handle their own dog at the instructor's discretion. A parent must still be present during the entire class.

***A special note about children. Children under 8 years of age must be supervised by an adult who is not handling the dog.**

Lateness: Due to our strict schedule we must ask that you arrive on time and prepared to start class.

Practice makes perfect! For 5-15 minutes a day, review the week's skills with your dog. If you are short on time, incorporate it into the dog's life. (For example, ask your dog to sit before being fed, going outside, or getting attention). It is much more effective to practice a few times during the day than to try and cram it into one long session. If your dog is having difficulties try teaching him in a quiet and calm area first and then moving onto harder areas.

Refunds: A minimum of 48 hours notice is required to receive a refund. No refunds will be given after class has begun. If you are unable to attend a class due to unexpected reasons, please get in touch with the instructor so arrangements can be made for a future class.

Thank you for signing up with All-Star Canine! We look forward to making this an enjoyable bonding experience for you and your dog.

2011 All-Star Canine Registration

All information must be completed in order to process your registration.

Date _____ Start date of class: _____ Time of class: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone (h) _____ (w) _____

Cell phone _____

E-mail _____ Do you prefer email or phone? _____

In case of emergency call:

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Number of adults in your household? _____ Number of children? _____

Dog's Name: _____ Breed: _____

Age: _____ Sex: M ___ F ___ Approximate Weight: _____

Adopted from MDSPCA? Yes ___ No ___ Spayed/Neutered Yes ___ No ___

How did you hear about us? _____

Are you applying for a low income voucher? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, can we mail the form to your address above? Yes ___ No ___

Please make checks payable to the Maryland SPCA or call in your credit card information.

Waiver and Release

I understand that participating in the Maryland SPCA's Dog Training Classes involves risks to me and my dog, and I assume all risks associated with participating in this training class. I agree to comply with the instructions, rules, and decisions of the Dog Training Class instructor as it relates to me or my dog's ability to safely complete this course.

My dog is current on all vaccinations that are appropriate for the age of my dog, including rabies shots.

I hereby agree and covenant for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, and anyone else who may claim on my behalf, not to sue, and I hereby waive, release, and discharge to the Maryland SPCA and its Directors, Officers, volunteers, employees, and agents from any and all claims, causes of action, and demands of any nature, whether known or unknown, against the Maryland SPCA arising out of or in connection with or in any way related to this Dog Training Class, even though the liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the individuals or entities released in this Waiver and Release.

I have read and understand the All-Star Dog Training Class Guidelines.

Signature **Date:** _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian (if under 18 years of age) **Date:** _____

Printed Name

Dog's Name



All-Star Canine Class

We want this to be a fulfilling and fun adventure for both you and your dog! Please answer the following questions:

All about _____ and _____
(Dog's name) (Owner's first and last name)

Where did you get your dog? _____

How long have you had your dog? _____

What would you like to learn from this class?

Are there any particular behaviors you would like to work on?

Circle the temperament that best describes your dog:

calm and relaxed	average activity	constant energy
sensitive and gentle	needs some manners	insensitive and rough
attentive to you	listens sometimes	distracted
confident with people	likes some people	fearful of people
confident with dogs	likes some dogs	fearful of dogs

Circle any behaviors that your dog displays:

- | | | |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------|
| House soils | Digs | Guards Food |
| Chews | Demanding | Guards Toys |
| Jumps Up | Fights with other dogs | Shy |
| Unruly | Runs Away | Anxious |
| Doesn't Obey | Fearful | |
| Mouthy | Bites | |
| Barks | Escapes | |

Do you or your dog have any special needs?

Describe your dog's idea of a perfect day:

List 5 things that motivate your dog (this can be food, toys, other animals):
If you are unsure, go have some fun and find out!

Is there anything else we should know about you or your dog?
