

Skyline Agility Club Class FAQs

The sport of dog agility is all about having fun with you dog! Below are some frequently asked questions, and you are always welcome to ask questions of our registration person or if in a class, your instructor. Please like us and follow us on our Facebook page Skyline Agility Club Verified to see what else is happening within our club community

Do I need to have taken an obedience class before doing agility?

- Although you do not need to have attended a formal class, your dog should understand and respond to the basic skills: sit, down, stay and come. The dog also needs to be housebroken since you will be responsible to clean up any accidents and our facility is also used for trials, seminars and classes.

Will I get a refund or discount if I miss a class or can't attend all classes?

- Refunds are only issued if advanced notice is given before a class begins. If Skyline cancels a class due to unexpected circumstances, you will be issued either a credit for the next session of classes if you are returning or a refund if you are not. Class make-ups must be pre-approved, should be taken, if possible, within the same session as a missed class, but are not guaranteed and are dependent on class availability.

Will my dog be off leash?

- Beginner skills are taught on lead until the team is ready to work off lead.

Do I need to practice at home?

- The more you can practice what your team learns in class, the faster you will progress.

My dog is very nervous, is agility suitable for her?

- Agility can be a great way to build confidence in a dog as it introduces them to a new environment, new dogs and people, different noises and objects in a positive setting.

My dog does not like other dogs, can he do agility?

- Agility is a sport between the human and the canine so as long as your dog likes you, it should be fine. If your dog is aggressive or reactive, your instructor will determine if your dog should remain in the class or suggest the services of a qualified behavior specialist to evaluate your dog.

My dog does not like strangers touching it or coming near them, can he do agility?

- In training, the instructor may need to hold your dog to help it learn so it should be friendly to strangers. If this is an issue, you should first seek the services of a qualified behavior specialist to evaluate your dog.

How often do you offer Beginning agility classes?

- Because of the growing interest in agility, we are not able to offer beginning classes every session. For the best chance of getting into a class, please contact our registration to get your name on a waiting list.

I have two dogs may I bring both to one class?

- If you have two dogs, you may register both dogs but have another person handle the second dog such as a husband or wife. If you cannot do that, we suggest you start one dog first and start the other in another class or session if available.

May my child/spouse/friend attend class with me?

- Adult observers and older children are welcome to watch class. This could assist with the training at home. Some of the dogs in the class may not be used to having children or strangers approach them so please ask the permission of the owner before approaching their dog.

May my child work with/handle the dog in class?

- Children are wonderful handlers and are welcome to work with/handle their dog during a class. However, an adult responsible for the child must remain as an observer throughout the class session.

How old should a dog be before beginning agility classes?

- We welcome dogs of all ages, but all dogs should understand basic obedience commands and be house broken before attending classes. Note all Agility equipment is appropriate for puppies. Please contact registration for more details.

My dog does not get along with other dogs so my vet suggested an agility class is this a good idea?

- Aggressive or reactive dogs can benefit from Agility classes, but they should have basic obedience classes first. Your instructor will let you know if your dog's behavior is not suitable for the class and may suggest the services of a qualified behaviorist to work with your dog.

How long do I have to train before I can show my dog in competitions?

- Agility training is a longtime commitment and can take over a year to teach all the skills necessary to go on to competition.

I just want to play on the equipment, I never want to compete can I still get into class?

- Absolutely, while we train dogs and handlers to compete, we also welcome teams who just want to have some fun playing agility.

How long is a class session?

- Class sessions are generally 55 minutes and between 5-7 weeks long.