



## OBEDIENCE CLUB OF DAYTONA, INC.

### BASIC MANNERS WEEK 4

#### **REVIEW**

RELAX / SETTLE	NAME GAME	COLLAR TOUCHES
LOOSE LEASH WALKING	POSITION CHANGES	TOY / OBJECT RELEASE
LEAVE IT	COME	CHASE RECALL
CHANGE OF PACE— Fast, Normal, Slow		TELLINGTON TOUCH

#### **WEAVING**

Weave through cones, chairs, even trees. Teaches dog to watch and stay on left side in heel position.

#### **STAND**

Use food to lure. Having dog on mat and on your left side at the sit position, let dog see lure (treat) and slowly move forward until dog is standing. Once standing give treat. Repeat from sit. Mix up the order of sit, stand, down i.e.: down, sit, stand etc).

If dog is not standing firm, press on the withers (shoulder) only, and dog will use the opposite reflex and lock legs. Praise quietly saying "STAND"

If interested in the competition stand, an instructor can demonstrate it for you.

#### **SIT TO ACCEPT PRAISE**

Have dog remain on sit stay while family and strangers approach from the front or side and pet. Do not allow petting on the head from the front—it is considered by the dog as aggressive. Correct dog if he moves. Start over. Build to 1—1-1/2 minutes.

#### **DOWN STAY**

With the dog in the down position, give the hand signal and verbal command "STAY". Stand up straight. Be ready to correct the dog if he breaks and reposition him to the exact spot from which he broke. Increase your time while standing at heel. Increase the time only if he has mastered the previous time. Feed on the floor between the legs!! Do not praise until the command "EXERCISE FINISHED" is given to you by the instructor. IMPORTANT: The down-stay exercise takes even more time and patience to attain than the sit-stay. Do not rush this exercise. The dog needs complete trust you will protect him. Go at your dog's own pace. Build 1– 3 minutes.

# NO

## THE WORD NO

When you see the universal “prohibited” symbol, a red circle crossed by a diagonal bar, you know it means “NO something.” If the symbol is superimposed on a picture of a lit cigarette, you know the sign means “no smoking.” If the symbol encircles a large letter “P” you know it means “no parking”.

What if you came into a new area and everywhere you saw signs that said just “NO” without any other message-what would you think? What does the big red circle with the slash through it mean if there is no indication to tell you what is the prohibited “NO WHAT?” You have been presented with a very confusing message.

And yet, many dog owners confuse their dogs exactly this way every day. People shout “NO!” without giving a dog any idea what he could be doing wrong or what he could do right to correct himself.

**I BELIEVE THAT THE WORD “NO” SHOULD NOT BE USED AS A COMMAND IN DOG TRAINING BECAUSE IT DOES NOT COMMUNICATE ANY INFORMATION AND CAN’T BE POSITIVELY REINFORCED.**

Obedience class students tend to use the word “no” as a general catchall word for interrupting bad behavior. But the message is vague. “Stop what?” If you use the word “NO” as a command, then how do you praise for correct performance of whatever “no” means? Would you say, “Good No?” That makes no sense.

“NO” by itself does not convey any information. It is an empty message.

If we just go up to a student and shout “NO”, was it “no wearing shoes? Or “no

daydreaming”? The student is at a loss as to interpret the meaning of the directive. “NO”, when issued by itself it is just not fair.

So, you treat your dog unfairly by shouting “NO” at them and not giving what they are doing wrong.

Dogs are amoral, so they have no idea that they are doing anything wrong. In training we should impart as much information as possible to the dog. Do your best to eliminate the word no and substitute a more clearly obeyable word in its place.

It is better to use a word or phrase which would convey to the dog what you want him to do instead of what you want him to stop doing. For instance, you could say, “NO barking” which would convey more information than just saying “no”. But why not make it really clear to the dog that what you want is for him to be quiet. Then, when he complies, you can reward the dog with, “Good Quiet.”

### Some Positive Commands

NO (jumping on people or furniture)	Off
NO (barking, whining, howling)	Quiet
NO (cat chasing, food stealing)	Leave it
NO (eliminating in the house)	HEY! Outside
NO (barging thru the doorway)	Wait
NO (mouthing, licking, biting)	Out
NO (digging, destructiveness)	HEY! Come
NO (taboo objects in mouth)	Out / Give