

Agility and Rally for Fun (ARF) Training & Refund Policies 2023

ARF uses reward-based, positive reinforcement training methods. Our goal is to provide a safe and fun training environment and quality instruction for handlers and dogs, to enable all class participants to meet their personal training goals. Positive training with PAWSitive results!

THE FOLLOWING GENERAL TRAINING RULES MUST BE FOLLOWED IN ALL CLASSES:

- Dogs must be **on leash** or in a crate unless running a course or sequence or performing an exercise.
- Only flat buckle collars or quick release collars, with no tags attached, are allowed. Choke chains, prong, or shock collars are not permitted. A gentle leader or harness may be permitted with consent of the lead instructor.
- Dogs are not permitted to “play” with other dogs in the training center, either before, during, or after class.
- Harsh corrections, jerking and pulling and/or intimidating training methods will not be tolerated. ARF classes are reward-based and focus on dog-friendly training methods.
- **DISRUPTIVE DOGS IN CLASS** - Dogs must be under control at all times. Handlers are responsible for monitoring their dogs. Dogs should not: invade the space of other dogs inside or outside of the training ring; charge other dogs or people; or run around the ring excessively. Disruptive dogs may be asked to leave the training ring and take a time out if the handler is unable to control the dog in a reasonable length of time. Dogs that are repeatedly out of control may be excused for the sequence being run or for the night. If the dog’s behavior is unsafe, either for other dogs or people, the dog will be excused for the remainder of the class session. Refunds will not be given for dogs that are excused for disruptive or unsafe behavior.
- **DOGS EXCUSED FOR UNSAFE BEHAVIOR** will be expected to fulfill requirements deemed appropriate by the ARF Board of Directors at that time in order to return to classes at ARF. Examples of required actions include but are not limited to behavioral evaluations by qualified professionals, reactive dog training classes, private lessons focused on behavioral issues, etc.
- Some barking in class is to be expected. However, handlers should make every attempt to keep dogs as quiet as possible.
- **BITCHES IN SEASON** are not allowed in class. Handlers will be issued a refund for up to three weeks of class, minus PayPal fees. Requests for partial refunds must be in writing to Barb Marshall, ARFclasses@outlook.com and must be received no later than one week after the first missed class. Handlers must follow up and inform Barb Marshall when dogs return to class. Refunds will be issued prior to the start of the next class session.
- **AGGRESSIVE DOGS** are not allowed in class.
- **SICK DOGS:** Dogs that have been diagnosed with or are showing signs of illness are not permitted in the building to avoid passing the infection to other animals. This includes but is not limited to illnesses such as bacterial or viral conjunctivitis, bordetella, giardia, ringworm, influenza, pneumonia, etc.

DOG WASTE: Handlers are responsible for cleaning up after their dogs, inside or out. Bags and cleaning supplies are provided. A \$5.00 fine is required for potty accidents on the turf.

DOG ATTENDING CLASS: Handlers must participate in each class only with the dog(s) registered for that class. Alternate dogs may be brought to participate in the class only with **advance** instructor permission and only if the dog meets the class prerequisites.

SAFETY - Handlers will be taught how to safely and properly use equipment. It is always the responsibility of the handler to keep an eye on their dog.

AGE – Dogs must be aged 4-12 months for puppy agility classes. Dogs must be 6 months of age or older for regular agility classes.

HANDLER - One handler must handle the dog for the entire session in Puppy Agility and Beginner 1 & 2 Agility.

MULTIPLE DOGS IN ONE CLASS - In the intermediate and advanced agility classes (beyond Beginner 2), and in rally and conformation classes, handlers may split their time with 2 or more dogs. However, the handler will only get one turn on each set, unless more than one spot has been paid for (not one turn with each dog on each set). *If a handler wants to work multiple dogs in the full class (all sets), a separate class registration form and payment for each dog is required.*

COLLARS, LEASHES AND TREATS - For almost all classes a leather or nylon buckle or quick release collar with no tags and a leash are required. Flexi leashes are not allowed. A gentle leader or harness may be permitted with consent of the lead instructor. Handlers should bring soft treats or a toy for rewards.

CLASS LENGTH is usually 55 minutes a week for 7 weeks. In the final 5 minutes of each class the instructors will review the class activity with everyone in the class, suggest exercises to practice at home, make announcements, etc. Classes that are not full may be shorter if the full lesson plan is completed in less than 55 minutes.

MISSED CLASSES - There is not enough free time in the training schedule for handlers to make up classes that are missed. Handlers may not switch to another night if they miss one of their regular classes. Instructors will review missed exercises when the handler returns to class.

SEVERE WEATHER – Classes may be called off for severe weather. A make-up night may be offered if the schedule permits.

CLASS PROGRESSION – Handlers should consult their instructor to see if they are ready to move on.

CLASS REGISTRATION is on a first-come first-serve basis. Class registration must be accompanied by payment of the class fee.

A full **REFUND** of class registration fees, minus PayPal fees, will be given only if a written request for a refund is received before the Sunday at the start of week 1 of the ARF class session. Requests for refunds of class registration fees received after the Sunday of week 1 of the ARF class session and prior to the Sunday at the start of week 2 of the ARF class session will be adjusted as follows: the refund will be for registration fees minus one week of class and minus PayPal fees. Requests for refunds received after the Sunday of week 2 of the ARF class session and prior to the Sunday at the start of week 3 of the ARF class session will be adjusted as follows: the refund will be for registration fees minus two weeks of class and minus PayPal fees. No refunds for class fees will be given after week 2 of the class session except as follows: In case of injury to either the dog or handler after the first week, or if there are other extreme extenuating circumstances, a refund might be given and will be decided on a per case basis as determined by the ARF owners.

All requests must include the reason for asking for a refund. Requests must be sent to Barb Marshall, ARFclasses@outlook.com within the specified time frame. ALL refunds will be adjusted by subtracting any PayPal fees if the requester made the initial payment through PayPal.

Last Updated July 3, 2023