



UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY DOG TRAINING CLUB



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August NEWSLETTER 2022

August General Meeting

Thurs. 18th at 5:30pm
Tautphaus Park (Lilac Circle)
-Come set up for the obedience trial with the
meeting to follow

Upcoming Trials

USRVDTC Obedience and Rally Trial August 18th,
19th, 20th at Tautphaus Park
USRVDTC Tracking Test September 24th & 25th
Idaho Falls
USRVDTC Agility Trial October 28th, 29th, 30th at
Wind River Arena

Club Classes

Agility and obedience classes are being held at
Sandy Downs with club practices to follow.

OBEDIENCE AND RALLY SPONSORSHIPS ARE DUE

You will pay your obligation to Suzanne Belger, our club treasurer. Please make checks payable to USRVDTTC and mail them to Suzanne at 994 Lowell Dr., Idaho Falls ID 83402

In Loving Memory

It is with a heavy heart that I share the news of Linda Newby and Bill Orr passing on. They were long time club members and will be greatly missed.



A Note from the President

We've had some great practices the past few weeks and it has been wonderful to get together to train. I've loved seeing what everyone is working on and the amazing training everyone is doing!

I would like to remind everyone that we, as members of Upper Snake River Dog Training Club, are Ambassadors to our community. We strive to promote cooperation and good sportsmanship our members and community in the training and exhibition of dogs.

There is a leash law* within the City of Idaho Falls, where we do most of our training and trialing. As a club, we have been granted permission by the City to conduct off leash dog training. This permission does not give us the right to have our dogs off leash unless we are directly engaged in training, trialing or practicing.

Please remember, when we get together to provide classes, practices, etc., dogs should be on leash and under control at all times (unless you are practicing or performing an off leash exercise). This means your dog should be on a leash from the time it exits your vehicle to the time it returns to your vehicle unless it is your turn to work.

If complaints were received and the City revoked our ability to train off leash, it would be devastating to our club. If you are at a Club sponsored event and your dog is off leash or out of control, you will be asked to correct the situation. If the problem persists, you will unfortunately be asked to leave. I certainly don't foresee this happening to anyone, but simply want to remind everyone of the implications and ask that you be aware and ready to give a friendly reminder to anyone that may forget.

I look forward to seeing everyone at upcoming events!

Nicki

City of Idaho Falls Ordinances Chapter 6 Dog Control

5-6-10 CONTROL OF DOGS

(c) Any owner or keeper of a dog whose dog is determined to be at large on or in any public street, alley, sidewalk, park or place, or upon private property without permission of the owner or occupant thereof, is guilty of a misdemeanor. (at large = off leash)

Braggs

Our club members have been working hard. Congrats to all of you and your amazing accomplishments!



During the Blackfoot Trials, Loganne Peters had her 1st experience in the show ring with Steston. She now wants to be a professional handler when she grows up. Way to go Loganne and

Fun Facts and Comics Corner



NEW

TRAINING CHALLENGE OF THE MONTH

This month's training challenge is "Speak" or "Tell Me"
"Speak!": Training Your Dog to Bark On Command

By [AKC Staff](#) Mar 26, 2020

Teaching your dog to speak on command can be a fun [trick](#) as well as a useful behavior. It's easier to teach your dog to "quiet" once you've put barking on a cue. You also can reward your dog for just one bark, as opposed to barking non-stop for several minutes. Plus, it's an entertaining trick that tends to be a hit with friends and family!



Have Your Reward Ready

The first part of training your dog to "speak" is to be ready with a [reward](#), such as a treat or a toy. The idea is that once your dog barks, you're immediately prepared to mark the behavior with a command and a reward.

Get Your Dog To Speak

This step will be easier for some dog owners than others. If you've got a vocal dog, there might be many occasions when they bark, like when you grab their leash or a favorite toy. The key is to get your dog excited enough to bark. If nothing else works, try running or jumping around with your dog to excite them enough to start barking.

Mark The Bark

As soon as your dog barks, immediately mark the behavior with a command like "speak!", and reward them with a treat, toy, or praise. If you're using [clicker training](#), make sure to

click as soon as your dog barks. Continue marking & rewarding the behavior until your dog understands how to “speak” on command.

Add A Hand Signal

Once your dog understands your verbal command for “speak,” you can add in a hand signal too. A commonly used hand signal for “speak” starts with an open hand, palm facing the dog, then repeatedly closing your 4 fingers against your thumb. When your dog has grasped that, continue to use your verbal command, hand signal, or a combination of both to reinforce the behavior and get your dog to consistently speak on command.

Tips For Training “Speak”

Unlike, say, [shaking hands](#), barking is an instinctive behavior for dogs, so it can be a bit trickier to teach. The last thing you want is to encourage [nuisance barking](#) all the time. The key for owners is consistency. When training, you should only reward barking when you’re asking your dog to bark.

Additionally, try to capture and mark only a single bark. You don’t want your dog to think “speak” means “start a barking frenzy.”

Lastly, be mindful of your neighbors when teaching this trick. If you live in an apartment or in close proximity to neighbors, know that others might not find your dog’s barking as cute as you do, so practice in short sessions.

Utilizing The “Speak” Command

“Speak” is often used as a simple, fun, trick to show off to friends and family, but it can have more purposeful uses, as well. For instance, you can train your dog to speak to let you know they need to go outside to do their business. Furthermore, by teaching “speak” and rewarding with a command, you can modify the technique to teach your dog to “whisper” (i.e. bark at a lower volume).

Perhaps most useful when teaching “speak,” you can also train your dog to be quiet on command using the same system of marking and rewarding once your dog ceases barking.

The 3D Model for Dog Training: Duration, Distance, Distraction

August 20th, 2020 Susan Garrett

When you are training your dog, understanding three key elements is going to help you create brilliant behaviours. The strategic application of duration, distance and distraction will give you the confidence that your dog can perform any behaviour with total understanding anywhere you ask.

The Three D's for Dog Training



1. **Duration**; the length of time your dog is expected to maintain the response.
2. **Distance**; the distance your dog is away from you or the high value reward or distraction.
3. **Distraction**; your dog's distractions are what is distracting for your dog.

Today we're looking at how to use the 3D's, and it's related to the most recent episode of my podcast. If

you've not checked that out yet, go to Shaped By Dog [Episode 21](#) and make sure you get your 5C download. And if you are familiar with the 5C Pyramid, you'll still want to check it out as there are some new tweaks.

When we are training anything, we start close. Let's look at this in relation to something like "sit". We create clarity in our dog for what we want him to do, and when he can stop doing it. Initially, the duration to ask for is very short, and you let your dog know he can leave position with a release cue.

The release cue might be "search" initially if the use of release cues is new for you. That's a cue we use that gives our dog permission to look for a cookie we have tossed on the ground. The word comes before the cookie throw. You can see me use it with Encore in a video on my post "[Positive Dog Training and the Difference in Shaping](#)".

Duration

When you are starting to train something, you start close to your dog, keep the duration very short and make sure that there are minimal distractions.

When you start with short duration, think seconds, maybe 3 to 10! Then you could grow it to a minute. Then ping pong the duration, sometimes shorter, sometimes longer. So, one minute, back to 20 seconds, up to a minute and a half, down to a minute, back up to two minutes, ping ponging your way up as you grow that duration. When your dog is successful with you close, and you've got some duration, add distance.

Distance

By increasing the distance you are away from your dog, you are adding a distraction. Take a step away but decrease the duration of the behaviour for your dog. The first time when you step away, keep the duration to 3-10 seconds as you did when you first started. Then, with you at that distance away, grow the duration again out to around a minute. When you get further away, decrease the duration again. Ping pong distance. Ping pong duration. When your dog can hold a sit for around a minute with you a distance away, you can add a different distraction.

Distraction

The first distraction you could add might be something like you sitting on the floor. When you purposefully add a distraction like you sitting on the floor, reduce the duration and the distance. With success, you can grow duration, and then grow distance. Eventually, you can add higher distractions, and one day take the behaviour to a bunny farm, but not until you have the layers in place. If the distraction is something like the dog's favourite toy or person, be a good distance away from that distraction at first.

Changing locations can increase the distraction. The behaviour might be easy in your small bathroom with no other distractions, but moving to the living room with kids running around might be a big jump in complexity for your dog. If that's the case, lower the duration and distance. Moving to the back yard where there might be squirrels is a big distraction, so again, lower the duration and distance, and then progress to building them back up.

If you are going to ask your dog to do something like "sit" when there are other people and dogs around, how close will you be and what duration will you want? If other people and dogs is a new challenge, start well away from the distraction with a short duration and be close to your dog. Set your dog up for success.

Duration Distance Distraction



Duration; the length of time your dog is expected to maintain the response.



Distance; the distance your dog is away from you or the high value reward or distraction.



Distraction; your dog's distractions are what is distracting for your dog.

Only work on one of these elements at a time to set your dog up for success. Protect your dog's confidence.



Save the graphic as a training reminder for yourself.

When to Progress

You're always either going to work on the challenge of distance or the challenge of duration or the challenge of distraction. We don't combine them all at once.

What will drive your decision to move on and increase any of the 3D is your dog's confidence. Do a [T.E.M.P. check](#) to make sure your dog is happy and engaged with you and what you are asking of him.

The 3D's are going to build the brilliance in your dog. In my training foundations, we introduce the 3D model in [Crate Games](#), where we can protect our dog's confidence. Any distractions you're going to use, the distance away, the duration; you could do all of that in the framework of [Crate Games](#) which has already established a model of trust and joy in your relationship with your dog.

Keeping the 3D in mind is going to get you great behaviours and give you a point of reference when you are adding challenges for your dog. It's not just for a "sit" or "down", it's for your recall, retrieve, agility skills, anything at all. It always comes back to the 3D.

And what ties it all together is the connection with your dog that I covered in [Episode 21](#) of Shaped By Dog. Remember that our dogs are always doing the best they can with the education we have given them in the environment we are asking them to perform in.

IMPORTANT MEETING SCHEDULE CHANGES

As approved by the board, here is the schedule for meetings moving forward.

Board Meetings	General Board Meetings
January	February
March	April
May	June
July	August
September	October
November	November

USRVDTC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date 7/19/22

The regular monthly board meeting of the Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club was called to

order by President, Nicki Bowden, on Tuesday, July 19th, 2022 at 6:56pm at Sheri's Restaurant.

Previous Board Minutes Read/Dispensed: Motion to accept board minutes as they were printed in the May newsletter.

Motion by: Suzanne Belger

Seconded by: Cheryl Loomis

Board Members Present:

Lacey Moon Nicki Bowden Suzanne Belger Cheryl Loomis Richard Brizzee Marilynne Manguba

Visitors/Members Present:

Phil Moon Alicia Thompson Loganne Peters Heike Vitacolonna

Report of President: None

Report of Vice President: Everything good for Picnic. We're going to do pulled pork and brisket and potluck. Richard is planning on about 24 people. Christmas Party is booked for 12/10.

Report of Secretary: AKC has printed new obedience rules books. Each club is allowed 5 free books.

Lacey will apply to receive these.

Report of Treasurer: Suzanne reported: \$ 118,380.82 Total Equity. \$6,295.87 Year-to-Date Net Income.

Treasurer reports filed with the secretary box.

Report of Committees:

Scent work- Nicki Bowden- Next trial is December. Facility rented for 12/9-11 but we have to

change because our Christmas party is that weekend. Nicki will move the trial to 12/2-4. Nicki is trying to get Judy Guthrie to judge because she did such a great job the last time she judged for us. Ribbons still need to be ordered and Nicki will work on that. On a different, yet similar note, she would like to schedule a trial so exterior can be done. There aren't any trials that do exterior within a reasonable traveling distance. Maybe move the December trial (after this year) to a different time so we can offer exterior.

Obedience/Rally – August Trial – Desirae Chase- Everything is set with this trial in Tautphaus Park. The flights & hotels are booked for judges, everything is in place with the city and extra porta potties have been ordered. However, the city said we may not have a water spigot because the water is not potable. Suzanne was going to call the city and see what can be done.

Tracking – Nichole Crossley- Trial is Sept 25 th . Judges are secure. The location is the same as last year and has been reserved. Premium is ready to go out. Track layer volunteers are still needed.

Agility – LaDawn Moad–The judges, transportation and site are booked for next 2 trials. We have plenty of ribbons.

Seminar – Suzanne Belger - The Scent Work Seminar is scheduled for 11/18-20. \$150 for active

members all 3 days. Active members who are auditing \$75. Suzanne is still working on a cost for non-members to attend the seminar.

CGC – The next test will be in about 10 weeks. We are increasing the rate for non-class

members from \$5 to \$10 and payment needs to be received before the dog tests.

Unfinished Business:

Storage units – Nicki--We are going to continue to rent 2 units until probably late September

and then we can get a bunch of people together to clean out one of the units. It's so hot outside right

now that it will be too hard to get things cleaned and appropriately dealt with. We are still looking for

storage solutions but now we have a couple more months to look.

Training – Nicki -- Agility is supposed to start next week but we don't have enough instructors to

have full classes. Right now we have 5 people registered. Do we want to still offer this class to just these

participants or do we want to bump classes back? According to AKC insurance, instructors need to be

minimally qualified which limits our members who can teach. Alicia is worried about losing potential

members if we don't offer minimum classes. She and Richard are going to talk it over and decide if the

two of them can still teach this class.

Nicki-- We need to offer an instructor course /classroom management skills course so

people are prepared to deal with the things that come up in classes. All instructors and helpers

will take this class before instructing/assisting in classes. We need to have a format that

everyone is required to follow in the classes and a protocol that needs to be followed so we

adhere to AKC insurance requirements. If we lose this insurance, there isn't another. In order to

claim helping/instructing on your self-certification, you must attend the training. Nicki and

Suzanne will work to put this training together so instructors can begin taking the course.

New Business:

Suzanne printed out all the class information we have posted on the website and had everyone go

through them to check to see what needs updated. She will get the edited forms to Brian to update on

the website.

Motion for Adjournment: Suzanne Belger

Seconded by: Nicki Bowden

Time Adjourned: 8:43