

# Welcome to Key City Kennel Club Dog Training!



**Please keep this sheet for reference!**

I registered for \_\_\_\_\_ Class which begins on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m. The KCKC Training Center is located on Hwy 169, approximately ¼ mile west/south of the Hwy 169/Hwy 68 intersection right next to Gag's Campers in the back of the Praxair building (formerly Mankato Oil).

**The class you are about to start requires a serious commitment on your part. In exchange for this commitment you should see a real change in your dog's behavior and more importantly the development of a working bond between you and your dog. Come with a positive attitude and you won't believe what's going to happen!**

- ❖ KCKC must have a copy of your dog's rabies certificate (for dogs over 16 weeks of age) to register you for your class.

## **You will need training equipment on your first night of class:**

- ❖ A six foot leash; leather or cotton is easier on hands than nylon (maximum width is ¾" for large breeds).
- ❖ Tasty food treats for your dog. **Small, soft treats broken into pea-sized pieces work best.**
- ❖ For the Puppy Socialization class your puppy should wear a buckle collar that fits so that you can put two fingers between the collar and the puppy's neck. Any larger and it may come off over the puppy's head, smaller and it will be uncomfortable.
- ❖ Basic Training students may have a buckle collar that fits so only two fingers can slip between the collar and the dog's neck or a slip training collar (either chain or nylon). This training collar **should fit snugly over the dog's head and have only 1 or 2 inches of slip beyond the ring.** See the directions printed on another sheet in this packet for the proper way to put this collar on your dog.
- ❖ Please make sure your dog is used to wearing both a collar and leash prior to coming to class.

### **Leash training a puppy:**

Put your dog in a comfortable buckle collar following the above instructions to insure that the collar fits correctly. Under your immediate supervision allow the puppy to drag the leash around until it ignores it. Do not allow the puppy to chew on the leash at any time. When the puppy is no longer bothered by the leash dragging behind it, pick up the leash and follow your puppy where it wants to go. Finally encourage the puppy to follow you around. This process may take anywhere from a few minutes to days depending on your puppy's personality. Be patient and positive, as this is the first step in your puppy learning to accept your control and introduces training.

## **Class Rules:**

- ❖ This is a community environment, please make sure your dog is healthy, vaccinated, and flea-free.
- ❖ The dog must be trained in class and at home by the same person.
- ❖ Wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Sneakers, jeans and a casual shirt are an excellent choice. Clogs, high heeled boots, and sloppy sandals are out. Remove loose items from shirt pockets.
- ❖ Withhold all food from your dog for 4-6 hours before class. Please keep the water intake to a minimum for a couple hours before class. After class, remember to offer your dog water and food.
- ❖ A specific "dog potty" area has been designated on the east side of the parking lot. Please stay as close to the parking lot as possible and do not wander the entire grassy area adjacent to the parking

lot. You are responsible for cleaning up after your own dog and disposing of the waste in the designated container.

- ❖ If your dog has an accident in class, **DO NOT TRY TO RUN TO THE DOOR!** It is easier to clean up one puddle than to clean up a stream all the way to the door. We have clean-up supplies available and will instruct the class in proper use of these items to minimize the spread of germs, etc.
- ❖ Take the time to exercise your dog **BEFORE YOU COME TO CLASS.** Your dog will be able to focus better on the training if they have been allowed to get rid of pent up energy and to relieve themselves prior to coming to class. On the other hand, exhausted puppies/dogs cannot learn so be careful not to totally tire your companion prior to class.
- ❖ Watch your dog. Respect other dogs' and their handler's personal space. Direct eye contact by your dog to some dogs is a challenge that may result in a fight that can be avoided if you do not allow your dog to make eye contact with another dog.
- ❖ **NO ABUSE OF DOGS WILL BE TOLERATED!** Hitting, kicking or verbal abuse of your dog will result in you being asked to leave the class without refund.
- ❖ **Females in season (heat) must stay at home.** The female heat cycle usually last about 3 weeks. Please plan to attend class without your dog during this time period.
- ❖ **DO NOT CONSUME ALCHOLIC BEVERAGES BEFORE COMING TO CLASS OR BEFORE YOU TRAIN YOUR DOG AT HOME.**
- ❖ Family members are welcome to come to class to watch. Young children must have someone to supervise them as your total attention will be required for the class. Children are not allowed to run around the training building; they must remain seated quietly during class.
- ❖ Our thermostats are set at 65 degrees in the winter and we have no air conditioning so dress appropriately.
- ❖ Do not attempt to train your dog off leash until your instructor introduces off leash work in your class.
- ❖ KCKC instructors have the right to request an evaluation of any dog that behaves aggressively towards other dogs or people. This is for safety reasons to avoid injury to other students or their dogs. Handlers of an aggressive dog may be asked to leave class until an evaluation of their dog has been made.

**Never be afraid to ask a question.... You came to learn,  
so help us teach you by asking questions!**

Training may be hard work for both you and your dog. While it is possible to feel stressed or frustrated in beginning classes, if you start to feel angry please take a break to allow yourself a chance to unwind, and then begin your training again. Remember to end all training sessions on a positive note. Training needs to be fun for both you and your dog.

### **Weather Conditions**

\*\*\*Training classes are usually held regardless of the weather conditions. All class cancellations will be posted on our website [www.keycitykennelclub.org](http://www.keycitykennelclub.org) at least 2 hours prior to the start of that class. Please check the website before calling to find out if a class is going to run. We do urge you to use your own judgment about whether to stay home because of the weather or slippery roads

**If you have questions or need to miss a class, please let us know:**

**[keycitykennelclub@hotmail.com](mailto:keycitykennelclub@hotmail.com)**

**507-344-1159**