



Santa Cruz SPCA Group Dog Training Classes

Policies & Rules

Class Enrollment & Cancellation

Full payment is required at the time of enrollment to guarantee your place in class. Please make sure you're able to attend all classes as we do not offer make up classes.

Our training classes must meet minimum enrollment in order to proceed. If that number is not met 72-hours before the class begins, the class may be cancelled or the start date adjusted by a week. If your class is cancelled, we will contact you by phone and/or e-mail and you will be offered a full refund of your fees or a credit to another class.

Refund & Transfer Policy

We will refund your class fee or transfer you to a different class if you cancel 5-days in advance of the class starting. If you cancel your registration within 5-days of the class starting or after class has begun, we are unable to offer a refund or transfer.

Families at Training Class

Dog training is most successful when the whole family is able to participate and maintain consistent rules and expectations for the dog. We therefore encourage family members to come to class with the dog and its primary handler. If children attend class, they must be non-disruptive and under parental control at all times. Please do not allow your child to interact with non-family dogs because not all dogs are friendly toward children. Kids 13+ may be the dog's primary handler. Parents must attend class with their children (under 18 years old) even if they are not the primary handler.

Health and Vaccinations

Dogs must be fully up to date on their vaccinations, including having at least 2 DHPP vaccinations and a current rabies vaccination. You will need to show proof of vaccination at your first class (you may send it to us in advance). We recommend but do not require Bordatella and the Canine Influenza Virus Vaccination. Only healthy dogs should attend class; if your dog is showing signs of illness, please do not attend class and let your instructor know. We encourage dogs to be spayed or neutered; dogs in heat are not allowed to come to training class.

Make Up Classes

We do not offer make up classes. If you are unable to attend class, please do let your instructor know.

Appropriateness of Animal Behavior

Not all dogs are appropriate for all dog training classes. If your dog is overly fearful, reactive on leash (e.g. barks growls and lunges at people or other dogs while on leash), or does not get along with other dogs then s/he may not be appropriate for our beginning level training classes. If you're not sure if your dog is behaviorally appropriate for class, please contact us in advance to discuss. If your dog is too disruptive or not appropriate, your instructor may recommend alternative training for your companion.



Training Methods and Equipment

We practice a force-free, reward based dog training philosophy as we believe all dogs learn best through modern methods that are based in the science of animal behavior. We do not allow the use of pinch collars or choke chains in class. Dogs should be on a flat collar or martingale type collar and a six-foot leash. Please, no retractable flexi leashes in class.

Liability Waiver & Photography Release

Santa Cruz SPCA will endeavor to create as safe an environment as possible for the training of my dog(s) and will endeavor to offer only sound, safe, and responsible training and training instructions. However, I recognize that Santa Cruz SPCA is not responsible for any unintentional errors, omissions, or incorrect assertions. I understand that the recommendation of any other product or service is not a guarantee of my satisfaction with that product or service. Further, I am and will remain responsible for the actions of my dog(s) at all times. I hereby agree to abide by the rules and policies of Santa Cruz SPCA training classes as set forth in this contract. I understand that attendance of dog training classes is not without risk to myself, members of my family, guests who may attend, or to my dog(s). In consideration of, and as inducement to the acceptance of my application for training membership in this training class, I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless Santa Cruz SPCA, its officers, directors, instructors, agents, employees and/or representatives, including volunteers, of any and all claims, or claims by any member of my family, or accompanying guests of mine of injury, expense, costs or damages to myself, my dog(s) or any handler sponsored by me both in class and out of class. In addition, I agree that I will defend and indemnify Santa Cruz SPCA for any injury, expense, costs or damages to any dog handlers or dogs, whether sponsored by me or not, or to third parties arising out of my own actions or the actions of my dog(s). I have read the above-stated provisions and agree to accept those responsibilities.

Occasionally, the Santa Cruz SPCA will photograph and/or film our training classes for promotional purposes. I grant the Santa Cruz SPCA the right to photograph my dog, myself and any family members present during training class, and to use the photographs in publications and/or for publicity purposes. I release and discharge the Santa Cruz SPCA of any liability for such use.

Please sign below to acknowledge your agreement and acceptance of the Santa Cruz SPCA's Group Dog Training Class Policies, Rules, Liability Waiver and Photography Release.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____