**Beginner I**

***This class is for dogs that are at least six months old as of the starting date of the session. It is designed both for dogs that have taken a puppy class with us and for dogs that have had no previous training. If you are not sure whether this class is right for you, please contact the Training Director or Beginner/Puppy Registrar.***

**Beginner I** teaches you to teach your dog fundamental skills that any well-behaved dog should know. The class teaches good manners and includes basic obedience training. These skills will form the basis for many activities you may want to do with your dog, such as agility, rally, competitive obedience, therapy work, hunting, herding, etc. Mastery of these skills will also make your dog a better-behaved pet.

Students must be at least 12 years old to participate in the class.

We do not restrict the breed or type of dog you bring to our classes, but please note that we are unable to accept aggressive or reactive dogs. If you are concerned that your dog is aggressive or reactive to people or other dogs, please ask for your vet for a referral to a certified animal behaviorist.

Classes meet for an hour, generally on Wednesday or Thursday evening, once a week, at a location given on the [web site](https://ithacadogtrainingclub.org/). A session includes six regular classes, plus graduation in the seventh week. The class fee is **$85**, unless you are a current member of the Ithaca Dog Training Club. Active IDTC members pay $20; inactive members pay $70. The fee covers the cost of the classes and a collar or head halter. You will need to bring a 6-foot leather or fabric leash (not a chain leash) to the first night of class. If you don’t have an appropriate leash, we will have some leather leashes for sale at the first session. Other training tools will be discussed at the first class.

Enrollment is limited -- don't wait ‘till the last minute to sign up! You may expect to receive your class assignment about a week before classes start. If the class is filled when your application is received, you will be contacted about your options.

***Important note:*** All dogs at the classes must have current vaccinations records on file. If your dog receives additional vaccinations between when you apply and the first class, please send updated records to the registrar before the first class.

To register, fill out the application below and mail it with **the Pre-course Participant survey** (next two pages), **the fee** (a check payable to Ithaca Dog Training Club is preferred), and **a copy of the dog's vaccination records** to:

Marian Szebenyi, Registrar

176 Jackson Hollow Rd.

Newfield, NY 14867

Please also sign the **liability waiver** (last page) and include that (even if you have provided one previously – it may have gone to a different registrar). Taking care of this paperwork ahead of time will let us spend class time actually working with you and your dog!

**BEGINNER I CLASS APPLICATION**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Class  |  | Dog Name |  |
| Name |  | Dog Sex |  |
| Address |  | Birth Date |  |
| City/State/Zip |  | Spayed/Neutered |  |
| Phone |  | Breed |  |
| Email |  |
| Your goals or concerns |  |

**IDTC Pre-Course Participant Survey**

**HANDLER/TRAINER Information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Phone |  |
| Email |  |
| Prior training experience? |  |
| If yes, describe: |
|  |
|  |
| What are your training goals for this dog? |
|  |
|  |
|  |
| What might prevent you from training or exercising your dog regularly? |
|  |
|  |
|  |
| Any specific behavior problems to address? |
|  |
|  |
|  |

**DOG Information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: | Breed: |
| Birth Date: | Length of time owned: |
| Age when acquired: | How acquired: |
| Prior training? □ Yes □ No | Spayed/Neutered □ Yes □ No |
| If yes, describe: |
|  |
| Has your dog ever bitten someone? □ Yes □ No |
| If yes, describe circumstances: |
|  |
|  |
| My dog is (check all that apply):□ Shy □ Sensitive □ Low-energy □ Hard-headed □ High-energy □ Aggressive towards people □ Aggressive towards animals □ Other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| My dog: |
| Is exposed to young children □ Yes □ No | Behaves well with other dogs □ Yes □ No |
| Behaves well with children □ Yes □ No | Behaves well with cats □ Yes □ No |
| Behaves well with strangers □ Yes □ No |  |
| Any other reasons for enrolling in this class? |
|  |
| Spends \_\_\_\_\_% of time with me/family, \_\_\_\_\_% alone |
| When not with me/family, my dog is: □ Loose in home □ Crated/gated in home □ In cellar/garage □ Penned/fenced in yard □ Tethered outside □ Free to roam □ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  |
| My dog's exercise regimen is: |
| Exercise duration:\_\_\_\_hours per \_\_\_\_\_\_ |  Do you own a dog crate? □ Yes □ No |
| Primary caretaker is: □ Me □ Someone else | If someone else, who? |

**IDTC LIABILITY RELEASE**

To be signed by dog's trainer and owner (if different from trainer), and by parent or guardian if trainer is under 18 years of age

I understand that training a dog is not without risk to me or my dog in the form of injury; and in consideration of training my dog, I expressly assume this risk and hereby waive and release the Ithaca Dog Training Club, its employees, officers, members, and agents, and the Club's landlord, from any and all liability of any nature for injury or damage my dog may suffer as a result of training or of any action in connection therewith.

I also understand that my attendance at dog training classes is not without risk to me, members of my family or guests who may attend, or my dog, because some of the dogs to which we may be exposed may be difficult to control and may be the cause of injury even when handled with the greatest amount of care. In consideration of training my dog, I expressly assume this risk and hereby waive and release the Ithaca Dog Training Club, its employees, officers, members, and agents, and the Club's landlord, from any and all liability of any nature for injury or damage resulting from the action of any dog.

Furthermore, in consideration of training my dog, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Ithaca Dog Training Club, its employees, officers, members, and agents, and the Club's landlord, from any and all claims by me, or by any member of my family, or by any other person accompanying me to these training classes, resulting from the action of any dog, including my own.

**Trainer:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Printed name Signature Date

**Owner:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(If different from trainer) Printed name Signature Date

**Parent/Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(If trainer is under 18) Printed name Signature Date