

Obedience requirements for dogs to join group classes at WAG.



For WAG agility group classes, dogs **must have** very good basic obedience skills. Sit, stay, come, are among the most solid skills that should have already been trained before starting classes. These skills need to be well understood by your dog, not just at home, but in other environments as well. Every dog should have a reliable sit, down, and stay, as well as walking on a leash without excessive pulling.

The dogs should have good manners around other people and dogs. These skills should be worked on continually and they should be practiced in different environments, around familiar people, strangers and other dogs. Dogs with a lot of reactivity towards other dogs/people will not be well suited for our group classes and need to be trained to work through these issues before considering an agility class at WAG.

For people interested in doing agility with their dog at WAG, we need everyone to understand that the sport of agility can be a very stimulating and/or even a worrisome environment for some dogs, and they may not be as obedient as they are at home or in other familiar places.

In the agility class environment, dogs can be very excited and/or distracted, which can disrupt other dogs in the class. Most often dogs with good fundamental training will settle down after a couple of classes and your ability to keep them under control by using your basic obedience skills will help facilitate their comfort level.

Agility teams in pre-agility will be evaluated throughout the classes for not only the start of agility skills, but the ability of the team to maintain proper obedience skills in order to continue to move up in our agility class levels. Students whose dogs that are not able to follow basic obedience skills, are often distracted or overly excited or reactive with other dogs/people will be dismissed. They will be requested to get more obedience and overall dog behavioral training before being able to request to attend future classes.

If you need obedience / behavioral work – please check out this facility - <http://www.allbehaviors.com/trainingontheho.html>

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