

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Give command one time only, and then follow through.
2. Refrain from feeding your dog a heavy meal for approximately two hours before working him in class or at home.
3. Try to get to class a few minutes early to give your dog a chance to look around, sniff and relieve himself before class.
4. To make learning enjoyable for your dog keep training sessions short. One or two five minute training sessions a day should be plenty. Work five days a week. Practice regularly.
5. Everyone working the dog should know the proper way to handle him; consistency is very important. If handlers are confused bring them to class.
6. Make training enjoyable. If you are tense or just not capable of a good training session, do not work the dog.
- 7, Keep your leash loose at all times. Do not allow the dog to drag you around on the leash.
8. Do not call the dog to you for punishment under any circumstances. Reward the dog with lots of praise every time he comes to you. Avoid calling the dog to you with a formal command if there is no way to ensure that he comes.
9. Use the commands you are teaching your dog. Have him sit for his meals, make him down before he gets a treat. If you take him for walks, a short stay before you go out the door teaches him the rewards of calm behavior.
10. Teach new commands in a distraction free environment. Add distraction as the dog makes progress.