



**Lee Livingood's Clever Companions**

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## **Greyhounds Only Beginning Manners**

### **My Approach**

My teaching/training style relies heavily on proven positive methods rather than physical corrections or punishments. There are many styles of training and it's important that you choose a style and an instructor suited to your philosophies and needs. I believe that reliable behavior is a function of a well-founded relationship with our dogs. I do not use choke, shock, or prong collars or other harsh physical punishments. I do use rewards including food. If you are not comfortable with this approach, please ask your veterinarian or other animal professional to refer you to a different instructor whose philosophies are more in line with your own. If you have questions about my classes or my techniques, you may observe any Beginning Manners sessions that includes dogs. Please call to schedule.

***I want your learning experience to be a positive one, so please read these class descriptions and the accompanying guidelines before you complete and sign your application.***

My classes are small and personal. Maximum class size is six dogs. This allows me to better personalize my classes to the mix of dogs or puppies in the class.

***Greyhounds Only*** is a Beginning Manners class specifically designed to suit the needs of retired racing Greyhounds. It is adapted to help your retired racer feel more at ease in the learning environment. In addition to the foundation behaviors, this class will focus on the special socialization and confidence building needs of retired racers or other adopted adult sighthounds with similar special needs.

The structure of this class differs from the all-breed Beginning Manners class. There are only four sessions. Those sessions focus on the behaviors in which Greyhound people have expressed the most interest. The fee for this class is \$65.

An optional private lesson is available to cover any special needs that are not addressed in the class. See the description below.

Note: *Greyhounds Only* is usually restricted to *adult* retired racing Greyhounds and *adult* Galgos or other sighthounds who were adopted as adults and have social or environmental backgrounds similar to those in a kennel or farm environment. If your Greyhound or Galgo is under one year or has never been in a racing kennel, Greyhound farm, or hunting Galgo environment, the regular Beginning Manners class may be a better choice. If you have questions about which class to take, contact me.

The class sessions are:

First session will be attention and "manners."

The second session will be down and come (and sit for those who are interested)

The third sessions will be stay.

The fourth class will be on heeling and polite walking and other issues determined by the mix of dogs in the class.

**Private Sessions** are one-hour in your home. The fee is \$75. My usual private session fee is \$90/hour plus travel time. If you live MORE than 15 miles from the class site, there will be a travel time charge of \$1.00 per mile for each mile over 15 miles each way. Your private session may be scheduled at any

time after you have registered in a qualifying class and must be used within four months of the end of the class.

### ***Additional Learning Opportunities***

**Family Dog.** Family Dog is a continuation of the Beginning Manners program. The focus of the Family Dog program is on increasing reliability, furthering the human-canine bond, and on improving self control, and frustration tolerance.

If you did not complete a Beginning Manners Class or private lessons with me, you will need to have your dog evaluated and you will need to take a private session prior to the first class date.

The format for Family Dog is non-traditional. There is a membership fee good for one year and a fee per dog for each session you attend. Please contact me for additional information or download it from my web site. Dogs should be at least six months of age to participate in Family Dog

**Canine Good Citizen/TDI Study Group.** I offer practice sessions specifically designed to prepare dogs for the AKC CGC test and the Therapy Dogs International membership/certification. You may attend as many sessions as you like until you feel you and your dog are ready to test. These practice sessions are open to any dog who has completed a course with me, appears ready to complete this higher level of training, and who is behaviorally sound. The tests will be offered at least once a year. Contact me for more information.

**Club Canine.** I believe strongly in continuing education for myself and for my students and their dogs. Therefore, I offer weekly training sessions for dogs who have mastered the required for completion of my *Family Dog* program (you do not have to participate in Family Dog if your dog can meet the requirements), or have completed appropriate private sessions with me. These (more or less) weekly sessions include an opportunity to practice with other dogs and people, learn tricks, have fun, or just keep your training skills sharpened and your dog active. Contact me for an application. There is a yearly fee. You pay an additional fee per dog for each class you attend. You may attend any and all classes that interest you. Contact me for additional information.