

Merrimac Dog Training Club, Inc.  
Training Regulations

1. Puppies in “Puppy” and “Conformation” classes must be 12 weeks old on the first night of class. For all other classes, dogs must be at least five months old the first night of class.
2. Bitches in season are not permitted to participate in any training class. Handlers should attend class and work their bitches at home on exercises performed in classes missed. **Bitches in season may participate in sanctioned events that allow it.**
3. All dogs must have shots appropriate for their age and breed – rabies, distemper, hepatitis, kennel cough and parvo inoculations – before joining the classes. Proof of shots should be available at the first class and will be checked for “Puppy” and “Basic Obedience” classes. The instructor or training director may randomly request to examine these records at any class and may excuse any dog for which such records cannot be produced. However, the person signing the Training Class application is fully responsible for insuring that shots are up to date.
4. Except for “Conformation” classes, the required training equipment consists of an appropriately fitted collar and a six-foot leather or woven leash. Electronic training collars (e-collars), collars with exterior spikes (different than prong collar) and electronic bark collars are banned from the building during any activity officially sponsored by MDTC. For “Conformation” classes, a collar/lead appropriate to the breed in conformation competition may be used. **All dogs using prong collars MUST also wear a secondary collar. The lead MUST be attached to both collars simultaneously.**
5. Each handler must watch and control his/her dog at all times. A handler should never allow his/her dog to get into the space of another dog, including those dogs in crates. Dogs wanting to visit or “say hi” can be put into a very dangerous situation as well as their handlers.
6. **Dogs must be crated or held on a lead, no longer than 6’ at all times, in order to be considered under control. The exception is when a dog is working in an exercise that requires it to be off lead.**
7. At the discretion of the training director/assistant director, fighters and/or overly aggressive dogs may be barred from classes.
8. The instructor reserves the right to bar from classes any dog suspected of having a contagious disease.

9. The instructor reserves the right to ask a handler or handler's dog to leave if considered disruptive in the class.
10. Functional training attire that will allow kneeling should be worn. No loose fitting sandals. Soft-soled shoes (sneakers) must be worn. If you do not wear this type of shoe, you will not be allowed in the class, but you may watch.
11. You are responsible for cleaning up any accident your dog may have. Keep paper towels and plastic bags with you in case an accident occurs.
12. Non-members, including prospective members, shall train in the building only in a class in which they are enrolled.
13. No alcoholic beverages will be permitted at the training building.
14. Person or persons signing the application form are the only persons permitted at the training building.
15. As a general rule, if Thomas Nelson Community College Hampton Campus is closed due to inclement weather, MDTC will also be closed.

Last Revision: August 20, 2016