

EKC Rally Introductory-Novice Class-Erie Kennel Club

Friday evenings from 7-8 PM (Please arrive 10-15 minutes early.)

Classes will run for 6 weeks.

Rally (also known as Rally-O or Rally Obedience) is a fun, low-pressure companion dog sport for you and your dog to enjoy. It is a great way to ease into the world of competitive dog obedience or just simply create a stronger bond between you and your canine companion. At the judge's command of "forward", the dog/handler team **heels** throughout a course of "stations", each with a different challenge, many of which are relatable to real-life heeling experiences. Unlimited communication from handler to dog is encouraged and not penalized. AKC offers three levels of Rally competition: Novice, Advanced and Excellent, and 4 levels of titling: RN, RA, RE and RAE. This foundation class is designed for those who have not competed in AKC Rally and wish to begin; although more advanced signs may be discussed, focus will primarily fall to the AKC Rally Novice station signs (#1-31).

This class is limited to 8 participants and is by pre-registration only. (Please see registration form for details.) This limitation is to allow each dog/handler team adequate working space when on the floor as an entire class and minimal down-time when entire courses are being run during class.

You will learn:

- What the Novice Rally signs are and how to perform them
- How to walk a Rally course
- How to read a Rally Map and how to set a Rally Course
- How you are scored, what deductions are taken, causes for an NQ score
- where to get information on finding and entering AKC Rally events
- What titles you may obtain and how to obtain them
- how to enter a trial
- what to wear at a trial

Prerequisite:

- you and your dog must be able to heel on a loose lead and understand sit and down commands
- ideally, your dog can also perform a 6' recall (on-lead), as well as have at least one finish
- this course does NOT teach you the obedience exercises. You must work on your own to teach your dog whatever exercise you need
- you must be able to help the class to set up the equipment, and participate in putting the equipment away at the end of class
- dogs crated in the building must NOT be allowed to bark excessively either while crated or while working.

Please bring with you:

- your registration form and payment if not yet submitted (space is limited, therefore, those who choose to bring registration and payment to the first night of class cannot be guaranteed a spot; participants will receive confirmation of their spot in class once these items have been received by the instructor)
- a tired, hungry dog (a tired dog is easier for you to work with and learns more quickly; a hungry dog sees more value in the treats you offer them)
- a crate (for use while setting up and tearing down)
- small, high-value treats (small bits of chicken or steak, cut-up pieces of Pup-Peroni or any of the "small dog" treats made by Bil-Jac, such as Little-Jacs, Breakfast Jacs or Little Gooberlicious); treats should be cut down to the size of an eraser head
- 4' or 6' lead (leather is preferable, **chain or metal leads are NOT allowed**), an additional short lead, such as a traffic lead is acceptable (no tab leads, please)
- training collar (this can be a standard "street" collar, traditional training collar, martingale or martingale hybrid collar; it is preferable for your dog not to work on a headcollar, as these are not allowed in competition. The use of a body harness or prong collar will NOT be allowed; if this is your only collar brought to class, you will be asked to observe class that week but not participate.)
- a water dish and fresh water
- your Rally three ring binder (provided the first week of class)

Contact Cindy Stubenhofer funpupcls@juno.com 814-774-8633 for registration form.