

## **COVID-19, STUDENT PROTOCOLS and EXPECTATIONS – PLEASE READ ASAP** (NOV 10, 20)

Our goal is to have the most COVID SAFE situation for everyone while still gaining all the critical benefits of class exposure for owners and dogs. We do require that all of the protocols are followed. Our trainers will be as well as additional measures as appropriate within their role. Our training hall is set up to ensure social distancing well beyond 6 feet (approx. 12 feet) for everyone. We are going above and beyond to be the most COVID safe dog training school for both students and staff. Do not hesitate at any time if you have questions/concerns, e-mail at: [mcwoof@xplornet.com](mailto:mcwoof@xplornet.com)

- MASKS ARE MANDATORY TO ENTER SCHOLARS. If you forget yours, we have some. You must have your mask on to enter and do not remove in class. NOTE: FACE SHIELDS ALONE and VENTED MASKS are not acceptable as masking at Scholars. If you cannot mask, in person classes are unfortunately not an option due to the risk to the others in the room. However, we do have our online program and remote coaching is an option for you in this case. We are sorry for the inconvenience this may cause for some people.
- **IF POSSIBLE, TAKE YOUR TEMPERATURE BEFORE COMING TO CLASS AND DO NOT COME EVEN IF YOU OR ANY FAMILY MEMBERS MIGHT BE SICK IN ANY WAY at ALL, NOT JUST WITH RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS.**
- **We have the benefit of all lessons online to “take” the lesson at home with trainer support remotely so you will never miss the actual lesson. Remember, the lessons are presented to the people, not your dogs.**
- Watch the online lesson in detail and ideally try the lesson at home a couple of days before the in class lesson to reduce in close coaching. This protocol is actually one we have always recommended as you intake the presentation in more detail than in person under distraction. It also means class time is spent less on presentations and more on coaching and training time.
- USUAL STRUCTURE FOR PEOPLE PER DOG (SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME) Max 2 people per dog. An adult and the 2<sup>nd</sup> person must to be able to fully follow Covid-19 restrictions and protocols. At this time it is recommended only older children and adults attend class. **NOTE: PEOPLE PER DOG MAY REDUCE AT ANY TIME TO 1 PERSON PER DOG IF BYLAWS OR BEST COVID PRACTICES DICTATE THAT CHANGE.**
- Plan ahead and leave proper prep time before leaving your home for class.
- It is ideal to Pee/Poo your dogs at home to increase the likelihood they will go and not have an accident or be distracted and desperate during class. Yes, they can go on our lawn, but often when distracted they do not go as readily so fuss in class, have trouble focusing and do not “GO” even when taken out. Again, this also reduces entry and exit and touch points as well. If your dog does have an accident inside, you will mark it with a little cone and we deal with it after class as not to pass off our clean up kit.
- Students should try to use their Washroom at home ahead to reduce sharing the washroom at the hall. If you need to use it, no problem, we will wipe down after use, we are just trying to reduce risks as much as possible.
- Be VERY well equipped. Including treats (3 – 4 flavors with something new/novel each week as well) and proper recommended and bones (prep at home) to reduce us having to give/loan stuff at class. If we need to give you hand you anything, it will be with clean hands and given in a socially distanced way. The key is to bring lots of variety and options for your dog. Include your tug if your dog tugs as once again, it is not ideal to be loaning out equipment at this time, but if we do, please note, everything is washed between uses.
- Prep your training equipment/food/bone the night before works really well.
- Arrive and wait outside 5- 10 minutes prior to your class time. SOCIAL DISTANCE 15 feet. Do not wait right at the door. We will come out and invite you in one by one. Please do not arrive any sooner than 10 mins prior to your class start time to alleviate running into the exiting class. We have added extra time between our classes to also help ensure no cross traffic and for thorough cleaning of each station between students. We also clean the door between every time a person enters or exits and anytime any touch point is handled. It is also fine to wait in the car if it is cold or your dog is sensitive to traffic noise (we are right next to hwy 6)
- We will have hand sanitizer at each station and at all entry and exit points, please use when you arrive at your station and as often as you would like.
- No in person equipment sales in class. You can pre-order then pick up through curbside or in class pick up.
- Make your own class a high priority as class swaps will not be offered at this time to keep contact numbers low.
- Questions before or after class will not be done in class if possible, but referred to Diane and handled remotely.

**Our goal is to utilize as many non/low-contact options and easily maintain social distancing as possible.**

**Thanks so much for your support and understanding.**

**Diane and the staff at Scholars in Collars Dog Training.**