AUGUST 2026

K-9 TAILS

K9 Obedience Club of Jacksonville Inc.

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2026 BOARD

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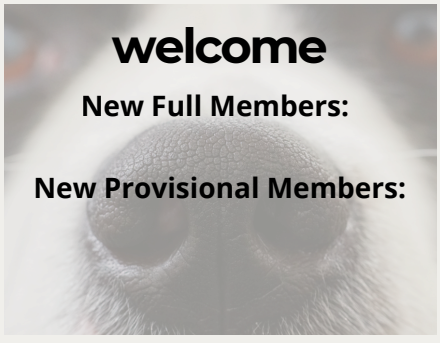


President's Letter

It has been quiet at K9 the past month. The only thing actively happening is the grass growing. We just hired a new yard service, and the grounds look so nice. The next trial in Daytona is October 3rd and 4th, only a few months away. We need lots volunteers so make plans to join us.
A Policy Committee has been formed to update our club Policies that were outdated and not adequate to address the issues of the club today. A big thank you to Stacy Payne and Christine Peterson for their sharing of their time and talent.
Registration for our new classes will begin August 15th. We will have lots of classes for people who have completed puppy or family dog classes or want to work in obedience or rally. We also have nose work classes, Fetch classes and more. So start early getting registered for the classes you want.

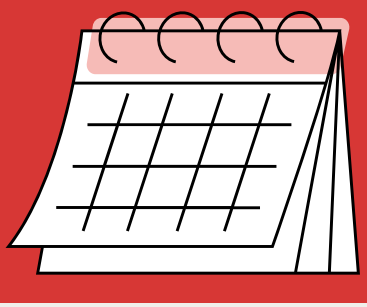
Our August Membership Meeting we have Valerie Battersby from Hearts of Gold presenting on Therapy Dog work.
September 13th is K9 Fitness and Massage 2.0, a two-and-a-half-hour seminar. Watch out for sign-ups.
November 21st we have Rachel Flatley returning to K9 to teach a seminar on "Engagement". More to come.
October 31st we will celebrate K9's 75th birthday with a super fun event. It will be a community open house with games, raffles, professional photos, costume contest for kids and dogs. Keep your eye on the news flashes so you don't miss out.
December is our Christmas Party.

DON'T FORGET

8/15 Class Registration

8/20 General Meeting 7pm

8/25 Newsletter deadline



Training Director's Report

Class enrollment opens online on August 15th by 10am, so be sure to mark your calendars! The September class schedule will be posted on the website soon (likely it is already there by the time the newsletter gets to you).

I still have a few classes that need an assistant, so if you're looking to get your yearly hours or earn a free class send me an email at whoanellietraining@gmail.com.

Going forward, you can always plan on enrollments being open on the 15th of the month before class starts (ie August 15th for September, October 15th for November, December 15th for January, February 15th for March, and April 15th for May). Classes start the 3rd week of odd months, with no classes during July. The K-9 website will be the most up to date place for class information so be sure to tell anyone you refer to read all the information on the schedule page.

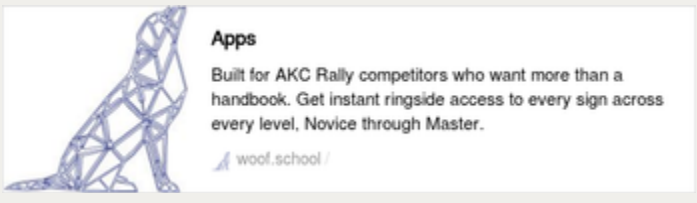
Hope you are having a great summer and gearing up for the fall!
See you at the club.

Trial Report

K-9 October 3 & 4, 2026 Rally and Obedience trials Premium is now open! Once again, the trials will be held in Daytona Beach at the Obedience Club of Daytona (OCOD) training center at 1276, 8th Street, Daytona Beach. For Obedience, Deb Neufeld will judge along with a new to K-9 judge, Anita Eisthen. For Rally, both judges are new to K-9. Saturday Rally is judged by Marcy Wilson and Sunday is judged by Shirley Baker. As always, I hope many of you are preparing to enter the trials and also plan to support K-9 in a volunteer role. Jacquelyn Newlands is the new Chief Steward and volunteers should contact her at jacquelyn.newlands@gmail.com. There are many other volunteer options and you may contact me at anelsonphs@yahoo.com for more information. AKC has a new rule allowing only 108 runs per day. That will make the trial run smoother and shorter hours, but is 12 runs fewer than previously. If you plan to enter Rally, do so early. Rally and Obedience classes begin the week of September 13. Be sure to reserve your spot in a class and get ready to show!

Rally App

The maker of K9rally has a new rally app out https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=school.woof.ringsiderallyforakc



Coming in November - FETCH!

An exciting new class is coming to K-9 in November and with it, opportunity to earn an AKC title! AKC "FETCH" is a fun program in which dogs can earn 4 levels of AKC titles by demonstrating retrieving skills of a ball, bumper, or similar toy from distances between 30 – 80 feet. The K-9 class will teach you how to prepare your dog to compete in the AKC FETCH test and K-9 will offer the test at the completion of the 7 week class with 2 judges so titles may be earned. The FETCH instructor is Susan Poole and the class runs Tuesdays November 3 to December 15, 2026 from 7:15 pm to 8:15 pm. Many desirable behaviors are taught and practiced such as: reinforce proper hold and retreive, encourage reliable recall, train steadiness and delivery to hand, and develop dog's marking and memory skills. All of this happens in an exciting and fun atmosphere for the dogs--where all breeds or mixes are welcome. For more information or questions about FETCH, contact Susan Poole 904-608-8563, susyqmeetup14@gmail.com

Barks & Brags

Josie Q'd in all 6 of her events, came in 1st in one event and 3rd in another. Her best run was under Dr Noreen Noonan, (my favorite judge). Dr Noonan is tough but fair with everyone. Josie earned a 100!! under Dr Noonan. She does not pass out 100's very often. So I told her I needed a picture with her because I know she earned her 100. When we were setting up for the picture I called Josie to heal and she sat crooked. Noreen looked down and with a straight face said Ut oh crooked sit 2 points. We both started laughing. I said let me get out of this ring before you change her score sheet

Play as a Learning Enhancer

The function of play is largely unclear, but is particularly pronounced in domesticated dogs. Generally, play seems to function for developing motor and social skills. Social animals deprived of play show disrupted neuronal development affecting executive function and learning. However, unlike many animals who outgrow play, dogs maintain an unusual level likely as a product of artificial selection. Although there are genetic differences in play interest between breeds and in genetic lines within breeds, play extending into adulthood seems to promote a dogs' ability to bond and learn from people. So the question is, how does play affect a dog's learning and memory and is there a formula on how to use play to improve training performance?

Studies on the role of play with dogs are scarce, but the findings we do have are quite interesting. In human literature, studies suggest that any arousing intervention before and during learning can influence attention, coding, and consolidation. Therefore scientists theorize that arousal associated with positive emotions like in play, may enhance memory because of adrenaline release and amygdala activation. One study observed this phenomena with a group of Labradors who did an object discrimination training session. After the session, one group played with people while the other group remained awake but resting. 24 hours after the initial learning, the dogs who played needed fewer trials than the group who rested thereby suggesting that post-training activity may influence dog training performance. The study followed up 1 year later and retrained the same dogs. All of the dogs successfully relearned the task, but the dogs from the dog-human play group needed significantly fewer trials and made less errors compared to the group that rested. Unfortunately this was a low sample size, and there are still many unanswered questions about the role of play. It seems that self-directed play may not serve the same function in memory consolidation compared to human-dog play. This might be a reflection of play strengthening the bond between trainer and dog thereby indirectly improving learning through increased motivation and attention during sessions. It's also difficult to distinguish if improvements are a reflection of play or exercise since studies have shown the exercise can also promote learning and memory. At the moment studies believe the most promising dog training interventions are sleep and arousing positive emotional situations post-learning a newly acquired skill.

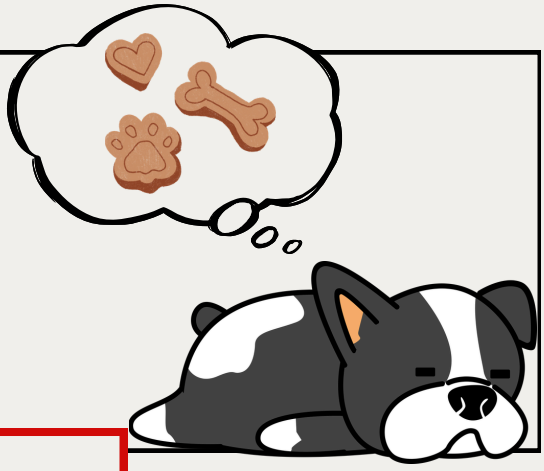
From a practical training standpoint, assuming positive early experience and appropriate communicative play, adding play during and after a training session can enhance the experience on both ends of the leash. As much as play can be a mental reset for the dog to consolidate information, it also serves as a reset for us to step back, reduce pressure, get into our diffuse learning and troubleshoot so that we can be better handlers in the next rep or session to enhance learning.

References:
Affenzeller, N. (2020). Dog–human play, but not resting post-learning improve re-training performance up to one year after initial task acquisition in Labrador retriever dogs: A follow-on study. Animals, 10(7), 1235. https://doi.org/10.3390/ani10071235
Affenzeller, N., Palme, R., & Zulch, H. (2017). Playful activity post-learning improves training performance in Labrador Retriever dogs (Canis lupus familiaris). Physiology & Behavior, 168, 62–73. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physbeh.2016.10.014
Salomons, H., Ramsaran, L. N., Turner, J., & Hare, B. (2025). Does Play After Training Improve a Canine Good Citizenship Skill in Pet Dogs? Animals, 15(10), 1378. https://doi.org/10.3390/ani15101378
Sommerville, R., O'Connor, E. A., & Asher, L. (2017). Why do dogs play? Function and welfare implications of play in the domestic dog. Applied Animal Behaviour Science, 197, 1–8. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applanim.2017.09.007

K9 Class Calendar

Monday

Friday



Tuesday

September class schedule is posted on K9's website!

Wednesday

7:15-8:15pm Conformation Drop-in

Sunday

Thursday

Click to check the K9 web calendar for last minute updates

Upcoming Florida Trials

August 2026

Date	Event	Club	City	Closing	Judges
8/1-8/2	RLY	Dog Training Club of Tampa	Tampa	7/15	J Rogers, L Mills
8/7-8/9	RLY, O	Mid-Florida Golden Retriever Club	Orlando	7/22	C Boyles, L Pinnell, L Seeley
8/7-8/9	SCWK	Indian River Dog Training Club	Palm Bay	7/24	L Bara-Weaver, K Prichard
8/15-8/16	RLY	Mid-Florida Dalmatian Club	Ocala	7/29	N Noonan
8/15-8/16	O	Sarasota Obedience Training Club	Myakka City	7/31	L Seeley
8/22-8/23	RLY	Dog Training Club of St. Petersburg	St Petersburg	8/14	B Selton, N Withers
8/22	SCWK	Marion Alachua Dog Training Association	Ocala	8/5	E Jernigan, J Leitzsch
8/22-8/23	RLY	Treasure Coast Kennel Club of Florida	Lake Park	8/5	M Becker, N Noonan
8/22-8/23	O	Dog Training Club of St. Petersburg	St Petersburg	8/14	B Selton, N Withers
8/29-8/30	RLY	Indian River Dog Training Club	Palm Bay	8/12	B Roland, C Klein

Upcoming Florida Trials

September 2026

Date	Event	Club	City	Closing	Judges
9/5-9/6	RLY, O	Dog Training Club of St. Petersburg	St Petersburg	7/15	B Selton, C Mielziner, O Jr.
9/5-9/6	SCWK	NorAust K9 Agility Club of Mid Florida	Lady Lake	8/26	E Jernigan
9/7	RLY, O	Tampa Bay Area Shetland Sheepdog Club	St Petersburg	8/28	N Noonan, C Mielziner
9/11-9/13	SCWK	Obedience Club of Daytona	Daytona Beach	8/21	L Bara-Weaver, W Hudson
9/12-9/13	RLY	Imperial Polk Obedience Club of Lakeland, Florida	Lakeland	8/26	J Kern, N Watson
9/18-9/20	RLY	Marion Alachua Dog Training Association	Ocala	9/2	K Hazelet
9/19-9/20	O	Orlando Dog Training Club	Orlando	9/2	KA Walker, AP Kincaid, NJ Watson
9/19-9/20	O	Miami Obedience Club	Miami	9/2	L Seeley
9/26-9/27	RLY	Orlando Dog Training Club	Orlando	9/9	K Hazelet, J Kern

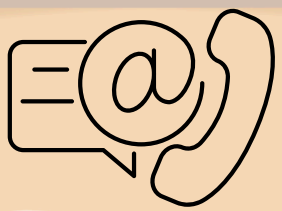
RLY (rally), O (obedience), PO (preferred obedience), NA (not yet approved), TBA (to be announced), ENA (event not approved), P (pended), PJA (pending judge approval), PPP (pending panel processing)

Upcoming Florida Trials

October 2026

Date	Event	Club	City	Closing	Judges
10/2-10/4	SCWK	Sarasota Obedience Training Club	Myakka City	9/18	N Duberow, J Leitzsch
10/3-10/4	O, RLY	K-9 Obedience Club of Jacksonville	Daytona Beach	9/16	A Eisthen, D Neufeld, M Wilson, S Baker
10/3-10/4	RLY, O	Five Flags Dog Training Club of Pensacola, FL	Pensacola	9/18	A Kincaid, K Walker
10/5-10/6	SCWK	Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.	Ocala	9/16	N Duberow, L Walsh
10/7-10/8	O, RLY	Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.	Ocala	9/16	J Kern, N Grimm
10/9-10/11	SCWK	Doberman Pinscher Club of Florida, Inc.	Punta Gorda	9/25	W Hudson
10/9-10/11	SCWK	Dog-On-It Agility Club of Greater Orlando	Lady Lake		T Johnson, C Dostal
10/10-10/11	RLY	Dog Obedience Club of Lee County Florida	N Fort Myers	9/30	N Heidt, W O'Brien
10/10-10/11	RLY	Miami Obedience Club	Miami	9/25	J Rogers
10/16-10/17	RLY	Sarasota Obedience Training Club	Myakka City	9/30	J Rogers
10/17-10/18	O	Imperial Polk Obedience Club of Lakeland, Florida	Lakeland	9/30	TBA
10/17-10/18	O	Jupiter-Tequesta Dog Club, Inc.	Jupiter	9/30	T McCall
10/17	RLY	Obedience Club of Daytona	Daytona Beach	9/30	S Baker, C Boyles
10/23-10/25	SCWK	Dog Obedience Club of Lee County Florida	North Fort Myers	10/14	W Hudson
10/24-10/25	SCWK	Greater Panama City Dog Fanciers Association	Panama City	10/14	C Dostal, E Jernigan
10/24-10/25	O	Dog Training Club of Tampa	Tampa	10/7	ENA
10/24-10/25	RLY	Brevard County Dog Training Club	Orlando	10/7	M Becker, A Kincaid
10/27-10/28	SCWK	Sonlight Agility Club of Brooksville	Brooksville		W Hudson, T Johnson
10/30-10/31	O	Marion Alachua Dog Training Association	Ocala	10/14	N Withers
10/30-10/31	SCWK	Scent Work Club of Brevard County	Titusville	10/9	N Duberow, C Happel
10/31	RLY	Australian Shepherd Club of Central Florida	Lakeland		ENA

Contact Us



K9 Webpage

For questions or comments related to the K9 web pages, please contact **Alison Nelson** at **anelsonphs@yahoo.com**

Membership

Any membership questions can be sent to **Stacy Payne** **k9spayne@gmail.com**

Sunshine

Robin Wallen oversees the "Sunshine Committee." If you know of a member in need of cheering up or well wishes from the club, email **Wallenrobin@yahoo.com**

Building & Grounds

If you see something that needs cleaning or repairing, please email **TBD**

Facebook

Juli Wilkison administrates the Facebook page. For issues or additions related to Facebook, email **Juli** at **dakoiah@gmail.com**

K9 Web Calendar

Megan Hoeppner updates the calendar on the K9 website. For issues or additions related to the calendar, please email **hoeppner.megan@gmail.com**

Wishlist

Program Committee

If you have suggestions for speakers, contact **Deb Hardman** at **debhardman1@comcast.net** **Jacquelyn Newlands** at **jacquelyn.newlands@gmail.com**

Newsletter

Email material to include in the newsletter to **amee763@hotmail.com** with the subject *"Newsletter"* by the *25th* of this month. If not received by the 25th, it'll be included in the next issue.