

Class Descriptions

Beginner Trailing (Janet Anagnos)

Beginner trailing is for the young dog learning the opening steps of trailing. Motivation, independence and desire will be discussed and demonstrated. Leash handling, reading the dog and other handler skills will be discussed. This class is aimed at the first time handler with a younger dog, or an experienced handler with a young dog just starting out.

Intermediate Trailing (Terry Camp, Terry Plumlee)

Intermediate Trailing is focused on expanding the dog and handler skills with more difficult trails, interesting scent conditions and older trails. The handlers will get a lot of feedback as they expand into these more challenging conditions.

Advanced Trailing (Roy Lopez, Mary Poer)

Advanced trailing is for the dog and handler willing to work almost anything from wilderness to urban in a variety of scenarios. Instructor feedback at the time will be more limited but debriefs will be done so that the handler can learn the pluses and minuses of their work. Dogs should have a well cemented background in trailing through many conditions and handlers should be able to read their dogs in most conditions.

Urban Trailing (Allen Russell/ Pam Nyberg)

Urban trailing is much like advanced except that the bulk of the environment for this class will be in the urban environment. Instructor feedback at the time will be more limited but debriefs will be done so that the handler can learn the pluses and minuses of their work. Dogs should have a well cemented background in trailing through many conditions and handlers should be able to read their dogs in most conditions.

Beginner Area (Melodie Ray)

Beginner area should be for the dog and handler working on learning to find and expanding their search skills a little bit. The team may be in the beginner stages of learning their trained final respond/alert/refind. This class would typically be for young dogs or new teams that have not built all of their search skills. This class will include some discussion of search strategy, topography and scent conditions.

Intermediate Area with TFR/ Alert Focus (Anan Chang)

This class is new for CSAR and is for team who have built searching and trained final response/alert/refind behaviors but don't have the reliability they might want. Teams will be challenged with some unique search scenarios, but additional focus and iterations and methods to strengthen the TFR/alert/refind will be a major focus in this class.

Intermediate Area with Team Skills Focus (Mary Margaret Eberle, Sherri Schwartz)

This class is for the intermediate team that wants to challenge themselves to new scenarios and subjects but in a more controlled environment and with more on-going feedback than the advanced class. Teams should be well rounded and have a fairly reliable TFR/alert/refind but may want assistance with reading their dog, understanding scent conditions, and pushing their capabilities.

Advanced Area (Natalie Ray and Chris Snipes)

This class is for teams wanting to be challenged with unique and fun scenarios and subjects. Teams should be well versed in search/find/TFR/alert/refind as appropriate and be willing to work independently with debriefs from the instructors. Handlers should be able to work existing scent conditions and all aspects of team's skills should be reliable.

Beginner HRD (Jenn Hirakawa)

Beginner HRD is for the dog and handler learning odor, focusing on odor, and building the Trained Final Response. This class will help all stages of beginner dogs to recognize and commit to odor and will take the handler through steps to help the dog do both. It will also be for the dog still building both quickness and duration of the Trained Final Response.

Intermediate HRD with TFR/Alert Focus (Brianna Acevedo)

This class is for those whose dogs have progressed beyond beginner but have not yet developed a reliable trained final response in a variety of environments. Searches will be conducted, but focus overall will be on methods and ways to motivate your dog towards their TFR in many conditions. Cueing too much? Dog not quite got the idea when the environment is a little different? Then this class is for you.

Intermediate HRD with Team Skills Focus (Darcy Harbaugh/Robin Houston)

This class is for the intermediate handler who is comfortable pushing their dog into new situations, has a reliable TFR but wants additional guidance and experience with reading their dog in a variety of situations, understanding scent conditions to help the dog be successful, and challenge both of you without putting too much stress on either handler or dog. A variety of sources small to large will be introduced in a more controlled environment, but searches to teach handlers to work with their dogs will also be conducted.

Advanced HRD (Lisa Higgins/Brad Dennis)

This class is for dog handlers who have a consistent dog and want to expand their skills or push themselves into more real world scenarios. Minimal at-the-moment feedback will be provided but debriefs of search situations will be done so that handlers can learn and feel confident about their work. Both dog and handlers should be comfortable with blind/blank/double blind and a variety of sources types, sizes and situations.