

# Utility Course

## For dogs that can reliably work off-lead and have a reliable retrieve.

**Objective:** To prepare the dog for competition in the AKC, CKC or UKC Utility class in the respective clubs Obedience trial.

### Training consists of:

- Signal exercise
- Scent discrimination
- Directed retrieve.
- Directed jump.
- Group stand for examination.
- The dog and handler will work as a team while heeling and respond to nonverbal signals for heeling, stand stay, down from a stand, sit from a down, come and finish.
- The dog will be able to (on command) select the handlers article from among other articles by scent alone.
- The dog will be able to go from the center of a ring and retrieve a specific article from a group of three white gloves set at the far end of a ring (one glove will be at each corner and one in the center) when given a directional signal from the handler. The dog will then bring the glove directly to the front of the handler.
- The dog will heel at the handlers side until the handler commands the dog (may use both verbal and non-verbal command). The dog will remain in a stand position while another person puts his/hers hands on the dogs back, sides and legs.
- Upon command, (may be both verbal and non-verbal) the dog will come directly to heel position.
- The dog, upon command, will go away from the handler to the opposite end of the ring and sit facing the handler when told to sit.
- The dog will then go from the center of the ring, jump one of the jumps set up, either a bar or a solid high jump. The handler will designate which jump to take by either or both verbal and non-verbal commands. The dog will then come to the front of the handler.
- While the dog is in the air, the handler will turn and face the direction the dog will be coming from and remain there until the dog arrives.
- The dog will then go out again and take the other jump that the handler will command.
- The dog will finish as taught in Novice and Open.
- The handler will demonstrate knowledge of the AKC regulations for the Utility obedience class.