

What baggage are YOU taking into the Obedience Ring?



You love your dog. You love the sport. You train hard. Yet things **NEVER SEEM TO FEEL RIGHT** when you finally enter a "formal" obedience ring under judgement. You are often disappointed with your results. You are sometimes discouraged.

If this is a familiar picture then this seminar might shed some light on why this is happening and how you can improve your formal ring performance by applying some of the many researched and established principles of sport psychology to competitive obedience.

A Different Approach

In training we are often reminded to "read your dog". What most of us fail to realize is that the most intense reading in the ring is being done by our dogs, who desperately try to read **US**. This seminar is about what we're giving them to read, and how we can convey the kind of messages that will help them perform well under competitive conditions. A participant in our pilot workshop expressed it like this *"We always have been taught what to do with our dogs, but rarely with ourselves"*.

The Seminar Emphasis

In this full-day workshop, our emphasis is on the demeanour of the handler and covers:

- Understanding the performance effects of tension and worry
- Learning to discard mental/emotional baggage that impedes performance
- Diagnosing and remedying body language issues to develop a handling style that will make you more relaxed and confident, and make your dog more responsive
- Developing effective messaging techniques (clues and cues), particularly in heeling exercises

These ideas don't conflict with or replace whatever technical methods you and your coaches utilize. Instead, they should be seen as important add-ins and enhancements.

The Facilitation Team



Ellie Beals and David Skinner are a husband-wife team of obedience competitors. For 2014, Ellie and her GMOTCH partner Fracas (97 HITs, winner of the 2012 HIT of HITS, and 5 placements in the Obedience Top Ten in the last six years) were the top-ranked obedience team in Canada, and David and his GMOTCh partner Gyro were just points behind them in second place.

David (a former sports executive with a sports psychology background) and Ellie (a consultant with an education background) live and train together, and coach a small group of students. Professionally, both design and deliver training programs that reflect their belief that fun furthers learning. So they bring to this seminar not only their skills as dog trainers, but also an ability to translate those skills into an exciting, interactive learning experience, consistent with the principles of sport psychology and effective adult learning.

Join Ellie and David for a workshop where both participants and observers should have fun.

- **Participants:** Will be limited to 12 dog/handler teams
- **Observers:** Will be limited to 20. While observers won't be "on the floor", their full participation in discussions is encouraged.

When: Saturday, September 26, 2015. (Small lunch to be supplied on-site.)

Where: Holy Trinity Anglican Church Hall – 440 Stanley St. Hawkesbury, ON. K6A 1S2
(Howard Johnson in Rigaud QC is a pet-friendly hotel. 877-411-3436)

Cost: \$125 for working teams -dogs to be crated. \$75 for observers. (No dogs–limited space)

Make cheques payable to: Gary Thomas/Paw-ty Time

Send to: 1385 Rte des Outaouais, Brownsburg-Chatham QC. J8G 1T2 (613-677-4007)

Registration: Please provide this information, along with your cheque:

Participant:

Observer:

- **Name:** _____ **Name on Check** _____
- **Email address:** _____ **Phone number:** _____
- **Mailing Address:** _____
- **Your dog's name:** _____ **Breed:** _____
- **Title(s) your dog has:** _____ **Working towards** _____

I understand that my attendance at a dog training seminar is not without risk to myself, my dog, any attending guest, family members, and my personal property.

I hereby waive and release Ellie Beal & David Skinner, Holy Trinity Anglican Church, and sponsors of this seminar from any and all liability of any nature, for injury or damage which I or my dog may suffer, including any injury as a result of any action by any dog or persons. I shall personally assume all responsibilities and liabilities for any loss or injury which may be alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly to any person or thing by the act of my dog or myself.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____