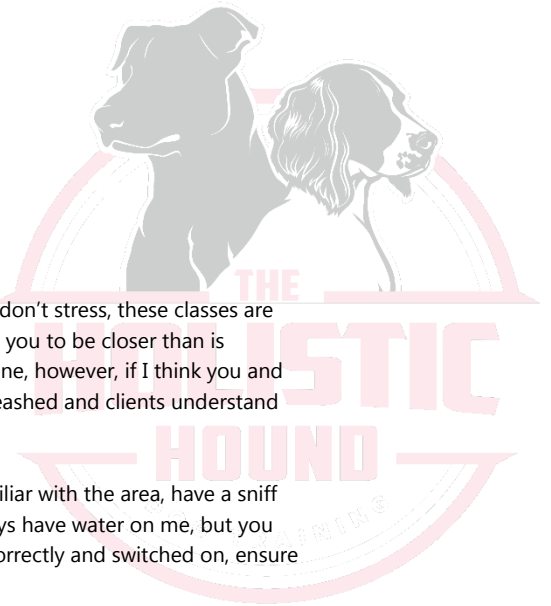


SAFETY PROTOCOLS

May 2022



GROUP CLASSES

When I refer to group classes I'm generally talking about on-leash classes. Please don't stress, these classes are designed to be workable for a range of dogs at different stages, I WILL NOT force you to be closer than is manageable for you or your dog. If working on the outside works for you, that's fine, however, if I think you and your dog could move closer or even join the class, I'll let you know. All dogs are leashed and clients understand not to allow their dogs to approach other dogs they don't know.

When you first arrive at a class, have a walk around and let your dog become familiar with the area, have a sniff and go to the toilet. Ensure you bring poo bags to clean up after your dog. I always have water on me, but you could bring that also. Bring ALL your tools, ensure e-collars are charged, put on correctly and switched on, ensure slip leashes/prong collars are on correctly/safe and bring food.

➤ **Never let your dog off-leash unless I have specifically asked you to.**

- Your leash should ALWAYS be held in a THUMB LOCK. Do not hold leashes loosely, do not have them dangling off your arm. Long lines particularly should be held in a tight thumb lock.
- Do not let go of your leash if your dog is reacting; I would literally prefer you fall over in an attempt to hold onto that leash. I do understand accidents happen though, which is totally understandable. If you feel your dog may be too strong for you on the tools we have them on, please let me know and we can remedy this. If you feel like the dog will be unmanageable at close proximity to other dogs and there's a chance you may lose them, also let me know.
- Your e-collar remote should be in your HAND, not around your neck, and you must either have a high level ready to stop any explosions should they happen, or know which way to turn the dial quickly if you need it.
- Ensure your prong collar is done up CORRECTLY. Not fastening the links securely could result in the prong coming loose and your dog getting away from you and becoming a risk.
- If your dog has EVER displayed redirection towards a human (turning around and snapping at/biting you when frustrated) – even if it's only minor, you MUST let me know prior to coming to a group class.
- Do NOT approach a dog you don't know, and do NOT allow your dog to meet other dogs at group class without my guidance. Many dogs here have issues like reactivity, aggression, over-arousal, fear... etc. and allowing them to meet could cause an incident.
- If you see someone trying to move away from you, allow them to, they're probably working their dog through some issues.
- If a dog breaks out in an episode of reactivity during group class, immediately remove yourself from the class and walk away from the reacting dog. Similarly, if your dog starts to react, create distance and move away.
- If your dog is a bite risk to humans or dogs they should be muzzled for an extra layer of safety. If you are unsure, ask me.
- If you are uncomfortable with any of the exercises in a group class, you have the right to say no! Please keep me posted with how you're feeling and don't do anything you aren't comfortable with or that you think your dog may not be able to handle. If you're unsure about realistic expectations here, just ask.

SAFETY PROTOCOLS

May 2022

SOCIALISATION/REAL WORLD SESSIONS (Dog Park, Dog Beach)

Socialisation sessions/real world sessions refer to sessions where we are particularly work through social interactions with other dogs or work at dog beaches/dog parks.

Socialisation Sessions are set up very safely with many precautions taken, and I know the dogs we are working with well, I know who will work well with others, and who won't. Often I will start with fence work to suss dogs out before even moving to socialisation. Muzzles will often be used here too.

Real World Sessions are a bit different, we cannot control other people's dogs, so **there is more risk here** (no more than when you yourself take your dog to these places, though), but I am there to intercept anything if need be. Please ensure you have read and signed the disclaimer you received with your quote and understand that this risk is present in these locations and when socialising dogs. The most important thing to me is the safety of every dog in my care at all times & I am insured..

When you first arrive, have a walk around and let your dog become familiar with the area, have a sniff and go to the toilet. Ensure you bring poo bags to clean up after your dog. I always have water on me, and many locations do too, but you could bring that also. Bring ALL your tools, ensure e-collars are charged, put on correctly and switched on, ensure slip leashes/prong collars are on correctly/safe and bring food.

- All of the group class rules apply here too so please refer to the above and **read every point.**
- If we are unsure of your dog's behaviour around other dogs and/or are unsure whether the e-collar will stop them in a high-drive situation, they must be muzzled prior to interacting with other dogs. They will not be let off-leash until they have progressed as necessary. As above, any dog who is a bite risk must be muzzled. These dogs should also be on a leash (slip leash or regular leash connected to a flat collar at the top of the neck) for back up, even if it is dragging on the ground or tucked under a collar.
- Prong Collars are NOT to be used or on a dog during a group social. Leaving this tool on could result in bad tangles. Slip leashes, Halti's or regular leash connected to a flat collar at the top of the neck should be used here.
- If your dog isn't proofed on recall, they must be on a long line. Long lines must be used correctly and ensure you as a handler are paying full attention. Failure to do so may result in your dog reaching a dog they shouldn't, getting tangled with a person or dog, giving you rope burn and ultimately causing an incident. Refer to the client Facebook group or Online Content to learn how to use a Long Line correctly and safely.
- You must watch the distance you give your dog on a long line and not allow your dog to get too close to other dogs unless I have given you guidance to do so.
- If a scuffle breaks out, recall your own dog immediately and remove them from the group as far as is needed for everyone to be safe.
- You must have a clear plan in your mind of what you will do if things don't go to plan, if you don't know what that is, or you need clarification, ensure you ask me.
- If a fight/scuffle breaks out, your first go-to is your e-collar. USE THIS FIRST (this should be mapped out to you prior). ONLY step in to help stop the fight/grab a leash if the e-collar has not worked at all. The e-collar is the safest option we have for stopping a fight. I will always be there to help and I will always jump in.
- Have a read of and understand the information given in "**Socialisation Tips**" in the '**Guides**' Section of **the client Facebook group**. If you are not on Facebook, ask me to email it to you. Ask me if you have questions.