

The Indian River Dog Training Club (IRDTC) is a non-profit organization formed in 1975.

IRDTC is sanctioned by the State of Florida and licensed by the American Kennel Club. We are also members of the Florida Association of Kennel Clubs.

IRDTC holds Obedience, Rally and Agility Trials locally throughout the year. All competitions are open to all dogs whether purebred or mixed. The same applies to our classes.

Our members have varied interests from their love of dogs to competitive dog sports. Many classes are offered and will change from time to time. Please check our website for class calendar and costs or contact our Training Director at (321) 722-1222.

**Are you interested in training your dog?** Please feel free to observe any of our classes (without your dog) and speak to any of our Instructors for information at the site.

#### Directions to our Training Facility:

From exit 176 on I-95, or from Babcock Street in Palm Bay, head east on Palm Bay Road and turn right onto Clearmont Street. Turn left at the first break in the median into the parking lot of Transmasters. IRDTC is in the right side of the building.

From US 1, turn west onto Palm Bay Road, pass Harris Corp., and turn left onto Clearmont Street. Turn left at the first break in the median into the parking lot of Transmasters. IRDTC is in the right side of the building.

## MEMBERSHIP

Eligibility: Completion of a Basic Obedience course or titled a dog.



Interested in joining this active Club?

1. Submit a membership application along with your application fee\* at a General Membership meeting.
2. Participate in a Club sponsored event with an assigned mentor.
3. Complete your assignment and attend a second meeting for approval of your membership. Dues payment will be required at this time.

\*Application fee entitles you to a voucher for one free class.



## INDIAN RIVER DOG TRAINING CLUB, INC.

[www.IRDTC.org](http://www.IRDTC.org)  
1465 Clearmont St. NE Unit B  
Palm Bay, FL 32906  
(321) 722-1222

Offering various levels of Obedience and Rally classes, Conformation, and Teacup Agility Classes. Check our website for class schedules, dates and times.

We also have AKC Obedience and Agility Trials.



## **Puppy Class**

This class is recommended for puppies 10-18 weeks old. The aim of this class is to provide socialization and to help develop good canine manners through positive reward training. We will help with solutions for problems such as barking, chewing, and house soiling. You will have the option to have your puppy tested through the AKC STAR Puppy program at the end of this class. This class gets your puppy ready for Beginning Obedience (older puppies should start with Beginning Obedience).

## **Beginning Obedience**

This class is geared toward the dog that has little or no prior obedience training, with owners who are interested in turning their dog into a well-behaved pet. This also is the next step after Puppy Class. This eight-week class is aimed at teaching the basics, such as Sit, Down, Stand, Walking on a Loose Leash, Down-Stay, Sit-Stay, and Come (the "Recall"). All work will be done in heel position, which is on the left side of the handler. We supply the training collar and leash for this class. This class may be repeated at a reduced cost as needed until the dog is ready for Intermediate Obedience or Novice Rally Obedience.



## **Intermediate Obedience**

This class is the next step after Beginning Obedience, and the object of these next eight weeks is to continue honing the basic skills learned in Beginning Obedience (Sit, Down, Stand, Walking on a Loose Leash, Down-Stay, Sit-Stay, and Come/Recall). By the end of the class, your dog should be able to complete a 1-minute sit-stay, and 3-minute down-stay, work somewhat off-lead, and do a competition-style beginner novice or novice run-through.

## **Canine Good Citizen (CGC)**

Canine Good Citizen is a program created by the American Kennel Club that encourages "responsible pet ownership for owners and basic good manners for dogs" (AKC.org). There are 10 behaviors that your dog must complete successfully in order to pass the CGC test. You can read more about the program under the "Owners" tab at AKC.org. IRDTC offers CGC testing as well as a class you may choose to take to help you prepare for the test.

## **Rally Obedience (Novice, Advanced, Excellent, Masters)**

After completing Beginning Obedience or passing the CGC test, you may be interested in learning Rally Obedience. In this sport, the dog and handler work as a team to complete a course set up in the ring that consists of signs that instruct the handler on what to do next. The team moves continuously at a brisk pace with the dog under control on the left side of the handler. The handler can encourage and talk to the dog throughout the entire course. This is a fun way to continue training and building a relationship with your dog.

## **Preparing for Obedience Competition**

Once you have successfully completed both Beginning and Intermediate Obedience, you may be interested in competing with your dog at an Obedience Trial. We have several classes geared toward preparing you for this step, and the first one you will want to take is Beginner Novice/Novice Competition. Once you have competed at the Novice Level and completed the "Companion Dog" (CD) title, you may choose to go even further, competing in Open or Utility, and we have classes that will help you prepare for those also.

## **Conformation**

This class is geared for those who are planning on taking their dogs into the Conformation ring. In this class, you will learn the basic format of a Conformation show, what kinds of special equipment you may need, and what you are expected to do with your dog in the ring. Class exercises will include time in the ring to practice moving with your dog, both alone and along with other dogs and their handlers, and you will receive lots of helpful hints to enable you to show off your dog to his or her best advantage.

## **Teacup Agility**

The purpose of Teacup Agility is to provide a competitive venue for dogs of small stature and to encourage course challenges that are comparable to the challenges which face larger dogs in other popular venues. Participation is limited to small dogs measuring no more than 17" at the shoulder. Dogs should have completed both Beginning and Intermediate Obedience and be able to work well off leash in order to join this class.