

Thank you for your interest in joining our club.

As one of the most active kennel clubs in the state, the Tennessee Valley Kennel Club provides a wide range of activities for owners and their dogs. Our most popular activities include conformation shows and trials and matches for agility, rally, and obedience. Many of our members are also involved in herding, tracking, lure coursing, and therapy. All activities welcome purebred dogs and MANY activities now are open to mixed breeds registered with the **AKC Canine Partners Program**.

TVKC Membership Benefits

Reduced rate training classes

Annual awards dinner to recognize your dog's achievements

Shows, Trials, and Fun matches

Monthly meeting presentations by professionals in their field

Legislative representation at the local, state and national levels

Our club requires prospective members to be:

- (a) **sponsored** by two club members and
- (b) **approved** by a majority of club members.

To join our club, your first step is to come to a meeting, attend an event, or register for one of our **training classes**. This way, you can get to know us, and we can get to know you. If you are still interested in joining, here is how the process works:

1. Review our **Constitution** and **By-Laws** so you can learn more about our club's objectives and how we operate. It is important that you understand and agree with these principles. Find these at tvkc.org.

2. Ask two club members to be your sponsors. If you are a new acquaintance, or new to the dog world, don't be surprised if they ask some questions to get to know you better. They may even ask to visit you at your home. We want to be sure that you agree with our values and are willing to be an ACTIVE member in our club.
3. Fill out the Membership Application Form found on our website. Bring your completed form to a club meeting and turn it in to a club officer. You should also bring a check for membership dues of \$25 per year. (Your check will be held pending completion of the membership approval process.) We will add your email to our club communications so you can stay in touch.
4. Your application will be reviewed by the club membership during the NEXT CLUB MEETINGS YOU ATTEND.
5. After the second review, our members will take a formal vote for acceptance.

Meetings held every third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM

Visit tvkc.org for meeting location and program information.

The Tennessee Valley Kennel Club was founded in 1934 to promote all breeds of purebred dogs by conducting competitive shows, events and public education under the rules of the American Kennel Club. We encourage good sportsmanship at every event and are advocates for canine health, canine good citizenship, responsible dog ownership, and ethical breeding practices. All our activities are designed to provide purebred dogs and their owners with engaging, lasting, and fun ways to celebrate the canine-human connection.



TRAINING CLASSES

Beginner Obedience

Learn basic obedience skills (Sit, Down, Stay, Heel, Leave It and Come). Positive motivational approach with emphasis on language of leadership

Intermediate Obedience

Continue to refine your dog's basic obedience skills with a special emphasis on a reliable recall.

Beginner Agility

Learn how to teach your dog to be successful with agility obstacles. Improve your handling skills. Non-stressful approach to running agility with your dog.

Advanced Beginner Agility

This class will focus on: obstacle familiarization, full-height contacts and jumps, weave poles, Handler skills.

Intro to Rally

Learn the basic side-steps, pivots, and finishes, weaving through cones, back stepping, and getting familiar with the different signs.

Conformation

Includes: how to put on the lead, how to present your dog on the table and floor, ring etiquette, how to dress for success, and how points are won.

Puppy Kindergarten

Open to all puppies up to six months of age. Includes: house training, basic grooming, and coming when called.

S.T.A.R. Puppy Program

Learn about house training, coming when called, walking on lead. Take the Puppy test at the end of the course.

See www.tvkc.org for our current training schedule.



Showing dogs is a great sport where the thrill of competition is combined with the joy of seeing beautiful dogs. These events, which draw over three million entries annually, include dog shows and tests of instinct and trainability, such as obedience trials, Canine Good Citizen tests, field trials, agility trials, lure coursing, rally, hunting tests, herding trials, tracking tests, coonhound and earthdog events. Some of the most popular dog sports include:

🐾 AGILITY

It is one of the fastest growing dog sports in the USA! Agility is a sport that appeals to all dog lovers - from young people to senior citizens. It has great spectator appeal. Agility is designed to demonstrate a dog's willingness to work with its handler in a variety of situations. It is an athletic event that requires conditioning, concentration, training and teamwork. Dog and handlers negotiate an obstacle course racing against the clock.

🐾 CONFORMATION

Conformation events are intended to evaluate breeding stock. The size of these events ranges from large all-breed shows, with over 3,000 dogs, to small local specialty club shows. The dog's conformation (overall appearance and structure), an indication of the dog's ability to produce quality puppies, is judged. There are three types of conformation dog shows:

1. All-breed shows offer competitions for over 150 breeds and varieties of dogs recognized by the AKC. All-breed shows are the type often shown on television.

2. Specialty shows are restricted to dogs of a specific breed. For example, the Bulldog Club of America.
3. Group shows are limited to dogs belonging to one of the seven groups. For example, the Potomac Hound Group show features only breeds belonging to the Hound group.

🐾 OBEDIENCE

Demonstrating the usefulness of a dog as a companion to humankind, AKC Obedience is a sport with rules, regulations, judges, conditioning, training, placements and prizes. Dog and handler teams are judged on how closely they match the judge's mental picture of a theoretically perfect performance as they execute a series of specified exercises. Accuracy and precision are essential, but the natural movement of the handler and the willingness and enjoyment of the dog are very important. Each level of obedience competition - novice, open, and utility - requires mastering a specific skill set, which increase in difficulty, before advancing to the next level.



Training your dog ...

Dogs come into the world filled with love and curiosity, but not manners. They need to be taught how to get along in the family and with each other.

There are also a wide variety of canine activities and sports that can challenge and entertain you and your dog. The Tennessee Valley Kennel Club can provide assistance in training your dog.

You can find details and class schedules at:

www.tvkc.org

Welcome to the



TENNESSEE VALLEY KENNEL CLUB

ESTABLISHED IN 1934 MEMBER AKC

***Celebrating the
canine-human connection.***



**TVKC, PO Box 2051
Knoxville, TN 37901**