

HEEL AND SIT



GREAT SALT LAKE DOG TRAINING CLUB

NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2026

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

What's Happening	1-2
Upcoming Classes	2-3
List of Officers	3
Helpful Tips from AKC	4
2025 Awards Banquet	5-8
Website Information	9



What's happening

What: Tracking Dog (TD) Test
Date: Sunday, March 15, 2026
Location: Saratoga Springs
Contact: Kristie Rasmussen, kristie801@aol.com
[TD Premium Here](#)

Contact Kristie to volunteer—a great way to learn more about TD Tests

What: **GSLDTC General Meeting**
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Room 101, Columbus Community Center
 495 South West Temple, South Salt Lake
 84106

Check out 2026 events on our [website](#) and in upcoming newsletters.

February Classes

February			
Tuesday classes which begin in February		Wednesday classes which begin in February	
<i>Sign up for these classes on February 3 @ 7:00 PM</i>		<i>Sign up for these classes on February 4 @ 7:00 PM</i>	
Beginning Scent	7:00 PM	Puppy Obedience	7:45 PM
Advanced Scent	7:00 PM	Beginning Obedience	7:45 PM
Competition Rally Obedience	7:00 PM	Intermediate Obedience/CGC Prep	7:45 PM
Beginning Rally	8:00 PM		
Competition Scent	8:00 PM		

March Classes

March			
Tuesday Classes which begin in March		Wednesday Classes which begin in March	
<i>Sign up for these classes on March 3 @ 7:00 PM</i>		<i>Sign up for these classes on March 4 @ 7:00 PM</i>	
Beginning Scent	7:00 PM	Puppy 101 (human only 4 weeks)	7:00 PM
Competition Rally Obedience	7:00 PM	Puppy Obedience	7:00 PM
Advanced Scent	7:00 PM	Beginning Obedience	7:00 PM
Beginning Rally	8:00 PM	Intermediate Obedience/CGC Prep	7:00 PM
Tricks	7:00 PM	Advanced Obedience/CGCA Prep	7:00 PM
Competition Scent	8:00 PM		

Click on this link to see class descriptions:

<http://gsldtc.com/training/>

Class Sign Up Information:

- **Where:** West Jordan Utah National Guard Armory,
7602 So. Airport Road, West Jordan, UT [*Click for Directions*](#).
- **How to Enter the building:** Entry for signups and all classes is on the South side of the building



2026 Officers & Committee Chairs	
President:	Tom McLelland
Vice President:	Michelle Larsen
Secretary:	Amanda VanAusdal (Acting)
Treasurer:	Judy Campbell
Show:	Betsy Coleman
Equipment:	Jeff McCleery
Hospitality:	Kelley Pippins (Acting) Michelle Larsen (Interim)
Training:	Austin Kalfaolu Cindy Whitehair
Trophy Chair:	Tiva DiFrancesco (Acting)



Helpful Tips from AKC



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB



Key Training Principles

- **Positive Reinforcement:** Use high-value treats, praise, and toys to reward desired behaviors.
- **Shaping:** Break complex tricks into tiny steps and reward each successful approximation.
- **Fading Cues:** Gradually reduce prompts until the dog responds only to the verbal or hand signal.
- **Keep Sessions Short & Fun:** 5-10 minute sessions daily prevent overwhelm.
- **Use a Clicker:** Mark the exact moment your dog does the right thing for precise training.

Sample AKC Tricks & How to Teach Them

- **[Spin/Circle](#):** Lure your dog in a circle with a treat, say the cue ("Spin"), and reward.
- **[Play Dead](#):** Start with a down, lure them onto their side with a treat, mark the behavior (click/yes), and reward.
- **[Under the Bridge](#):** Sit with knees up, lure your dog with a treat to crawl under your legs, rewarding as they pass through.
- **[High-Five/Shake](#):** Reward your dog for lifting a paw, then shape it to a hand target, adding a cue.
- **[Fetch It & Give](#):** Teach them to pick up and bring an object to you.
- **[Jump Through Arms](#):** Form a circle with your arms and lure the dog to jump through, starting low and gradually increasing height.



SHARE YOUR SUCCESS

Photos from our 2026 Awards Banquet

A great time was had by all as we celebrated our dogs' accomplishments in 2025! From earning AKC, UKC, and ASCA titles to applauding everyone who stepped up as instructors throughout the year, there was plenty to cheer about. We also proudly presented our annual Sportsmanship Award, making it a night full of recognition and gratitude for the sports we enjoy with our dogs!

If I missed posting your photo, reach out to me, Maria Sweeten @ msweeten22@gmail.com



Photos-cont'd



Photos-cont'd



Photos-cont'd



Share your brags—send us a pic of you and your dog at one of our classes, trainings or while you are volunteering for our club.

Send info and photos to: Maria Sweeten, msweeten22@gmail.com



GREAT SALT LAKE DOG TRAINING CLUB

Questions?

glldogtrainingclub@gmail.com | www.gslldtc.com

*This newsletter drops six times a year—February, April, July, September, and November.
If you're looking for additional information, visit our website at:*