

Intermediate Training

Target practice

Important - this step does not always need to be done, please do not try it before you have been shown it by a member of the team.

- Once your dog is targeting consistently to the target in your hand we will move onto the next step.
- This step involves putting your target onto a wall. (Before doing this you need to know which way your dog prefers to turn – *see basic training*)
- Your dog then needs to learn to hit off the wall, the target needs to be high enough for the dog to stretch but not too much - still do not put a command on it.
- You will need to reward your dog, but this needs to be done away from the target on the wall.

Once your dog completes this part of the training consistently we will then move them onto the next step - **the target board**

Target board

It is important that this step is only completed at training.

- We will use either one of our two specially made target boards or alternatively a large piece of wood (covered). We will also need to use a jump board.
- The target that you have been practicing with will be placed onto our target board on the side your dog prefers to turn.
- The idea at this stage is that your dog will get all four feet onto the box and do a kind of swimmers turn. (At this point the dog should be working for a tuggy reward only.)
- It is at this stage that you can start to add a command to what the dog is doing e.g "box"

Once your dog completes this part of the training consistently we will then move your dog onto the next step – **box work**

Intermediate Training

Box work

It is important that this step is only completed at training.

- Using the flyball box and a jump board we will now start teaching your dog to do his/her turn on the flyball box.
- We will allow your dog to only use two feet once or twice but then we expect all four.
- If your dog struggles to grasp this concept we may move the jump board away from the flyball box slightly to encourage them to lift their back legs up.
- At this point we are just teaching the turn, so we will not put a ball into the flyball box - this is part of the advanced training!

Jumps

- At this stage we will start to teach your dog to go over the flyball jumps.
- Ideally your dog needs to be coming to you for his or her tuggy (*see basic training tuggy*).
- Another member of the team will hold your dog in front of one jump.
- You will run down the right hand side of the jump with your tuggy in your left hand and call and encourage your dog to jump over the jump.

Once your dog completes one jump successfully without running around the outside of it (which is often very tempting for dogs!) we will move onto two jumps. The same process will occur again:

- Another member of the team will hold your dog in front of two jumps.
- You will run down the right hand side of the jump with your tuggy in your left hand and call and encourage your dog to jump over both of the jumps.

Once your dog completes two jumps successfully and consistently we will move onto three and then four jumps. Sometimes we will have to go back a step if your dog doesn't grasp moving from one jump, to two jumps etc. Please do not be put off by this as we would prefer the dogs to have a more consistent approach before we move on to the next step.