



TRAINING CAMP

September 22-23, 2018:

Amy Cook, Sarah Stremming, and Shade Whitesel

Camp is being hosted at FUN FUR PAWS in Mount Vernon, WA

Registration Opens on August 10th at 9AM.

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/SynergyDogSports/September2223SynergyDogSportsCamp>

Working Spots will be taken in priority of:

- Full time workers \$280
- Single-day workers \$150
- Single session working spots (if available) \$85

Auditing Spots are unlimited:

- Weekend auditing \$120
- Single day auditing \$75

Each working session is limited to 8 working teams.

When registering, you will select the working sessions that you'd like. Your application will be processed and you will be invoiced once your application and working spots have been approved. Some working spots have prerequisites, so please pay close attention to those when reviewing the topic descriptions and choose appropriate working spots for your team. Please let us know your first & second choice working spots. I will do my best to accommodate all requests, but please be flexible!

Is your dog right for a working spot? The facility will be broken into three "stations". Two working stations and one lecture station. Stations are divided by fabric partitions. Entries and exits to working stations are well spaced apart, to avoid any dog to dog contact. However, if your dog is not comfortable in a working environment with so much action, please consider an auditing spot and allow a more suitable team to work during this seminar.

Day 1			
Time	Lecture (corner/stage)	Working (Ring A)	Working (Ring B/C)
8:30 - 9:00	Welcome to Camp! Here's how the weekend works!		
9:00 - 9:15	Break - get ready for session 1!		
9:15 - 10:45	Amy "Social Play"	Sarah "Reinforcement Strategies"	Shade "Marker Cue Mechanics"
10:45 - 11:00	Break - get ready for session 2!		
11:00 - 12:30	Sarah "Consent Matters"	Shade "Ready to Work"	Amy "Reactivity Management"
12:40 - 1:40	Lunch - Panera Bread or Chipotle, get ready for session 3!		
1:40 - 3:40	Shade "Toys: Creating a Thinking Reinforcement"	Amy "Social Play Skills"	Sarah "Consent Layers"
3:40 - 3:55	Break - get ready for end of day session		
3:55 - 4:30	Open Q&A with all instructors!		
Day 2			
9:00 - 10:40	Sarah "Decompression for Sport Dogs"	Shade "Toy Play"	Amy "Sound Sensitivity"
10:40 - 11:00	Break - get ready for session 2!		
11:00 - 12:30	Shade "Reducing Reinforcement"	Amy "Social Play Skills"	Sarah "Markers for Agility"
12:40 - 1:40	Lunch - Panera Bread or Chipotle, get ready for session 3!		
1:40 - 3:40	Amy "Emotional Caretaking"	Sarah " 'The Loop' for Skill Training"	Shade "Toy Play"
3:40 - 3:55	Break - get ready for end of day session		
3:55 - 5:00	Open Q&A with all instructors		

Lecture & Working Session Descriptions:

Please pay close attention to any prerequisites and determine your schedule selections based on any requirements you may need to complete.

Amy Cook:

Saturday Lecture: Social Play - What Why and How?

You've heard about playing being good for dogs, but you aren't sure how to do that outside of tug and fetch, or what it's good for in the first place! In this lecture, come learn what makes social play distinct, what we can use this for, and learn how to do it!

Saturday AM Working: Reactivity Management

Most dogs can be reactive sometimes, and even the happiest dogs in the world have to pass by challenging dogs now and then! Come learn why management isn't the same as training, and which skills to focus on to make getting through life without big blow ups much easier to accomplish. Come practice your magnet walking, jumping hand touches, find its , and see how they fit into the dance is is active management!

Saturday PM Working: Social Play Skills in Practice

Get on the floor with your dog and make each other laugh! Social play skills will be coached and discussed with each team. Bring your sense of humor! For experienced teams, we may experiment with toy- and food-augmented social play. *Previous attendance to the lecture helpful but necessary.*

Sunday Lecture: Emotional Caretaking - Preventing stress through choice and predictability

One of the biggest desires of any animal is to make choices freely and to have control over what happens to them. Since that's not something we can give a dog at all times, what are some of the key places where giving them choice can make a big difference to them? Come learn new ways of thinking about those experiences and importantly, how to soften the blow when you can't give them the choices they want!

Sunday AM Working: Sound Sensitivity

You never know when this fear will strike! Maybe you've gotten a new puppy and they're showing signs of worry at sudden sounds, or maybe your previously stable competition dog is showing unexpected changes and you don't know what to do. Come learn the proper order of events to teach your dog about "noise parties", and how to get the most power out of you practice! All dogs should have this understanding so that we can prevent this very common fear!

Sunday PM Working: Social Play Skills in Practice

Get on the floor with your dog and make each other laugh! Social play skills will be coached and discussed with each team. Bring your sense of humor! For experienced teams, we may

experiment with toy- and food-augmented social play. *Previous attendance to the lecture helpful but necessary.*

Sarah Stremming:

Saturday Lecture: Consent Matters

What would happen if we asked our dogs whether they were ready or willing to play our games? What happens if we give them the power to say “no”? Learn the hows, the whys, and what-ifs of consent in sport training. *This lecture is required for Saturday PMs working spot: Consent Layers*

Saturday AM Working: Reinforcement Strategies

Cookies, toys, food robots, hidden toys, and more! When should we drop the toy on the line vs throw it? When should we train cues around reinforcement? What reinforcer skills do we really need? Practice Sarah’s favorite reinforcement strategies so that you have more than just “hand the dog a treat” in your toolbox!

Saturday PM Working: Consent Layers

Working consent into your every single aspect of your training is the fastest way to a willing and eager partner. Learn how in this working session. ****Saturday Lecture: Consent Matters is required for this working lab****

Sunday Lecture: Decompression for Sport Dogs

Dogs sports are good for our dogs, but they are stressful too. What can we do to normalize their stress hormones? What can we do to help them be more well-rounded and more able to cope with the stressors of competing and training? Learn all of this and hear about some cases in which decompression activities solved problems for Sarah’s clients.

Sunday AM Working: Markers for Agility

Ok, you’ve learned about multiple marker cues, but when should you use them in agility? Agility-specific marker cue usage can up your training game!

Sunday PM Working: “The Loop” for Skill Training

Producing a loop of reinforcement for our skill training can reduce errors and streamline the learning process. Training should never feel hard! This is how to make it easy.

Shade Whitesel:

Saturday Lecture: Toys: Creating a Thinking Reinforcement

Want to create more arousal in your behavior skills by using highly motivating toys? Join me as I explain how to create and teach rules to the chase and tug game so that you have a dog that loves to chase and tug, but also brings the toy back! We’ll also talk about how to add the behavior skills into your game and how to listen to what your partner dog is telling you about the

training session. *This lecture is required for the toy play sessions - this requirement can also be met if you have worked with Shade online or in person.*

Saturday AM Working: Marker Cue Mechanics

'Yes' versus 'Get it', 'Strike' versus 'Chase'; now you are allowed to pounce on the toy on the ground, now you need to take food instead! Having verbal cues that tell your dog when, where, and what reinforcement that are getting can be mind blowing the the handler, but so clear for the dog. No guessing on the dog's part, no staring at your bait pouch or pockets or hands for movement and signals. The dog can devote their entire attention to what the handler is teaching, which makes it more enjoyable and efficient for both parties. Join me as I explain how and why! Handler dog teams will practice mechanics with humans only for the first couple times out, and they get to practice with their dogs.

Saturday PM Working: Ready to Work

You've trained the behaviors in your basement, in your front yard and at training class. Now you want to take them on the road to unfamiliar places and possibly to competition. How do you know you and your dog are ready to listen, learn, and perform? Join me as I teach you a protocol that gives you and your dog partner a predictable routine, and allows your dog to give you valid information, as well as what to do when your dog says, "no! I need a moment."

Sunday Lecture: Reducing Reinforcement

- or more aptly, How to teach and gather information from your partner dog so that you aren't reducing reinforcement! I'll go over some key bullet points about how I think about reducing reinforcement and getting a trial ready performance. This subject/concept that is very dear to me, since I compete in one sport (IPO) that has an obedience routine that lasts 20 minutes without reinforcement, and the other sport (AKC obedience) that has a long maintenance phase. *Strongly recommended to have attended the "Ready to Work" working lab or be familiar with Sarah Stremming's worked up protocol.*

Sunday AM and PM Working: Toys!

Students will get a chance to work on whichever part of the game skills (tug/chase/adding behavior) that they need to. We'll rotate through as many working spots as possible! *Toy lecture or previous experience working with Shade is required.*

Saturday & Sunday Afternoon: Open Q & A with Amy, Sarah, & Shade!

We will take time at the end of each day to discuss common questions with this trio of instructors. Students (workers and auditors) will be able to submit questions ahead of time & instructors will answer & discuss with you as many as time permits!

- Questions about registration? E-mail Megan: megan@synergydogsports.com -
The registration form is [HERE](#) - it will become live on August 10 @ 9AM PST