

WI State 4-H Dog Project Agility Camp

When: Saturday, March 7th from 9AM – 2PM

Where: Bark Academy, 2522 Overlook Dr. Wausau, WI 54401

Who should attend:

This camp is ideal for all 4-H dog project junior handlers seeking to refine their agility skills, whether preparing for competition or simply strengthening their partnership with their dog. All experience levels are welcome—activities tailored to individual skill sets and training goals.

Agenda:

| Time | Activity descriptions |
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| 8am | Doors open! |
| 8-9am | Registration and setup |
| 9-9:30am | Instructor and attendee introductions and demonstrations |
| 9:30am-12pm | Morning Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Individual runs with skill evaluation- Handling skills *see <i>detailed description</i>*- Break-out sessions:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Properly warming up and preparing your dog: stretching and strength training exerciseso Individual course work based on each attendees' needs (contacts, weaves, forward motion, foundations, drive motivation, etc.) |
| 12-12:30pm | Lunch, Q&A, and course reset |

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| 12:30-2pm | Afternoon Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Young dog skills and demonstration - Jumping and striding skills *see detailed description* - Competitive individual run and Awards! |
| 2pm-TBD | Wrap up and clean up! |
| 2-3pm | WI State 4-H Dog Project Meeting |

NOTE: All times are subject to change based on attendance numbers and experience levels

***Detailed Descriptions:**

Handling skills:

- **Introduction to Handling Fundamentals:** Learn core concepts such as body positioning, timing, and directional cues to guide your dog through agility obstacles with clarity.
- **Lead-Outs and Sends:** Practice effective start-line routines and sending your dog ahead to specific obstacles, building trust and responsiveness.
- **Turns and Crosses:** Introduce key maneuvers, including front crosses, rear crosses, and blind crosses, to smoothly change your dog's direction during a run.
- **Sequencing Exercises:** Work through short obstacle sequences to apply handling techniques in real-time, improving teamwork and accuracy.
- **Problem-Solving Scenarios:** Receive coaching on common handling challenges such as off-courses, refusals, or missed contacts, with strategies for improvement.
- **Feedback & Adjustment:** Benefit from hands-on feedback and tailored adjustments to your handling style for optimal performance.

Jumping & Striding Skills:

- **Jumping Foundation:** Learn the fundamentals of safe and effective jumping, including approach angles, take-off points, and landing techniques.
- **Stride Adjustment Drills:** Practice exercises that help dogs lengthen or shorten their stride to smoothly navigate jump lines and complex sequences.
- **Grid Work:** Use progressive jumping grids to build rhythm, balance, and muscle memory, allowing your dog to judge distances and landings with precision.
- **Handler Involvement:** Explore how handler cues and movement affect your dog's jumping path and striding, with guidance on timing and placement to support optimal performance.

- **Problem Solving & Confidence Building:** Address common challenges such as dropped bars, rushing, or hesitation, with focused activities to build trust and consistency.
- **Personalized Feedback:** Receive individualized coaching and actionable tips tailored to your dog's current skill level and future goals.