

RONNIE SMITH KENNELS

A TRADITION OF FINE BIRD DOGS

EST. 1956

We are looking forward to having your pup here with us for training! Included here is a 2018-19 Reservation and Training Agreement form for you to fill out. Once we've received the completed form and deposit we will be able to hold your dog a spot in our training class.

Our training format is structured in a way that works with the canine learning process. We work very hard to constantly read a dog's mental state throughout the training format by watching his or her body language to determine how they are responding to their environment and to our training. We believe a dog is like a book, all you have to do is read it to get your instructions.

Prior to Basic Formal Training we recommend that your dog gain experience and increase prey drive through bird exposure. For that purpose, we offer Development Classes. This is a great opportunity for dogs of any age that have not had much experience in the field. We will immerse your dog in multiple bird contacts every day, introduce him to the field, and properly introduce him to sound of the gun. During this class we do not teach any rules, just give the dogs the opportunity to develop their inherent prey drive and passion for bird hunting. If your dog has not had much opportunity to locate and work birds, this class will be very valuable in bringing out his natural talents and preparing him for training.

The Basic Formal Training Class is 3 months long. This is the fastest we feel dogs can successfully learn the necessary basics of a good bird dog. Graduates of the Basic Formal Class are considered "green broke." Additional experience will build their proficiency and solidify their best behavior.

The first month of Basic Formal Training concentrates on continuing to build each dog's natural prey drive and developing a point of contact for "whoa." We divide the class's workouts in to a morning and an afternoon session. The morning sessions consist of workouts on multiple birds. We will checkcord your dog out in to the field, when he or she goes on point we carefully kneel down beside the dog and hold him through the flush. This allows us to show the dog the desired behavior (for example, not going in and grabbing the bird or chasing it off) and allows us to pre-condition a point of contact on the flank. The checkcord work also develops a point of contact on the neck for heeling, coming to you and quartering in the field. We will work on the natural retrieve every day during this stage. The afternoon workouts are on the whoa post, which is the hub of our training format. During the whoa post sessions dogs learn that a cue on the flank means to stand still. This cue will transition to the e-collar later on so that we can stop the dog in the field.

The second month of Basic Formal Training consists of transitioning from the mechanical cues of the checkcord and whoa post to the remote cue of the e-collar. Once we complete the whoa post work we have the ability to place an e-collar around a dog's flank and cue him to stop using a low level continuous cue of the e-collar. This ability to stop the dog with the e-collar allows us to stop a dog for bird work or handling at any time, with no negative connotation in the dog's state of mind. The cue on the flank simply means stop. We can now turn the dog loose in the field and begin to handle the dog and begin shaping their behavior on birds. We will work with an artificial backing dog to teach our dogs to honor another's point. Now also, with a simple push of the button, we can gently "stop the chase." Stopping the chase is the first step in getting a dog to point. Once that is learned behavior we begin to stop the dog

The third month begins the more advanced work of handling through cues on the neck. Repetitions are crucial at this point to work toward the point of learned behavior. When dog's go home at the end of the basic format they will be just at the cusp of learned behavior and we consider this a "green broke dog" meaning they have all of the necessary education. What the need next is consistent real world experience to solidify their behavior and skill set.

We love to have owners work with us as much as possible, as it gives them a sense of familiarity with the training process. Our training has given the dog and the owner the tools to be a successful team in the field, however, in order for the dog to become the best that he or she can become it is up to the owner to maintain a level of performance during the actual hunts. The first season in a hunting dog's career is crucial in developing manners and setting behaviors. The set of tools we have developed in the Basic Training will give you the ability to handle your dog so that he is a mannerly dog that is a pleasure to be with in the field and at home.

After the Basic Formal Training Class is completed, your dog will be eligible for our Tune Up Classes and Wild Bird Excursions. This experience will take your freshly trained dog and give him the consistent real world experience he needs to instill consistent behavior and build proficiency in locating wild game. This may be done at various times throughout the year. Check with us to see what opportunities may fit your needs.

We are proud of our training format and the success we continually see with it. We take a great deal of pride in working with the dogs to become confident and enthusiastic hunting dogs. We strive to produce eager bird hunters that are a pleasure to be around, both in the field and in the home. The mental and physical well being of our training dogs is very important to us and we do our best to meet each dog's particular needs.

We will need to schedule your dog to arrive no later than the first week of the training class. Please let us know in advance when your dog will be arriving and whether your dog will be delivered to the Kennels at Big Cabin or flown into the Tulsa International Airport.

We welcome you to visit your dog during it's training with us. If you would like to schedule a visit, just let us know. We strongly prefer all visits to be after the dog's completion of the first month of training. This allows the dog ample time to settle into their new environment and routine before the disruption of a visit. We will schedule Client Clinics where owners can come work their dog with us during the class, so be sure to ask us about those dates!

Should you have any further questions, please feel free to email or call us at anytime. Also, our website (www.ronniesmithkennels.com) is a good resource for information on the training format.

We are excited about the training season and look forward to working with you and your dog!

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TRAINING RESERVATION

OWNER'S NAME:

CONTACT INFORMATION

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

DOG'S NAME:

DOB:

SEX:

INTACT: Y/N

BREED & COLOR:

ATTENDING (PLEASE CIRCLE)

DEVELOPMENT:

MARCH 2019, OR JUNE 2019

BASIC FORMAL TRAINING:

APRIL - JUNE 2019, OR JULY - SEPT. 2019

YEARLY TUNE UP*:

SEPT. 2018

WILD BIRD EXCURSION 2019*:

OCT., NOV.

TRAINED TO RETRIEVE:

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2019

**only dogs previously trained at RSK are eligible for Excursions & Tune Up Classes*

GENERAL COMMENTS ON DOG'S BEHAVIORS, EXPERIENCES, OR MEDICAL CONDITIONS
(ANYTHING THAT MAY AFFECT YOUR DOG'S TRAINING AND/OR PERFORMANCE):

HOW DID YOU HEAR OF US?

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TRAINING AGREEMENT & RELEASE OF LIABILITY

In delivering my dog(s) to Ronnie Smith Kennels LLC (the "Kennels"), I agree that the Kennels is to undertake training, board, and care for that animal(s). A deposit of \$350 per dog is required in order to reserve a place in the training class. This deposit will be applied to the cost of the first month of training. Training costs are :

- \$650 per month for Development,
- \$950 per month for Basic Formal Training (a three month program)
- \$1,050 per month for Wild Bird Excursion and
- \$1,900 flat rate for Trained to Retrieve Program (minimum of 2 months).

A charge of \$20 a day will be incurred for dogs boarded with Ronnie Smith Kennels LLC while not in training. Monthly payments for training and other incidental services are due at the beginning of each month. High quality feed (Purina ProPlan Performance), birds, and training supplies will be provided by the Kennels. Any other expense incurred, such as veterinarian bills, will be paid by the owner of the dog(s).

The owner warrants the dog is in good health, is free of communicable diseases, and has neither internal nor external parasites. Owner is responsible for paying any health related expense while their dog is at the facility.

Dogs in training at the Kennels are required to participate in the Kennel's healthcare program, including worming and immunization. Proof of current vaccinations (We recommend: Bordetella, parvovirus, distemper, adenovirus hepatitis, leptospirosis.) must be provided at the time the dogs are delivered to the Kennels. The Kennels administer heartworm preventative, flea and tick preventative, and wormers on the first of each month. All medications should be brought with dog when dropped off.

In order to allow dogs to perform to their fullest ability, the Kennels recommends long haired dogs be sheared during the summer months. This may be done by the owner or the owner's groomer prior to the dog's delivery. If a dog is in need of shearing, the Kennels will provide that service at a charge of \$35. The Kennels reserves the right to shear any dog to help it in the heat.

In case of an emergency the Kennels is authorized to obtain a veterinarian's services, should the Kennels deem necessary. The Kennels may assume the owner desires surgical care if recommended by the veterinarian in an emergency or in the case of a life threatening illness, unless previously specified otherwise by the owner.

Owner understands that dogs sometimes exhibit behavior that cannot reasonably be anticipated by any individual, even one who is very familiar with dogs and dog behavior. Owner understands there are inherent risks associated with training bird dogs. Owner agrees to hold harmless, release, and discharge Ronnie Smith

Kennels, its owners, agents, employees, officer's, representatives, assigns, and others acting on the Kennel's behalf from all claims, demands, causes of action, and legal liability for any economic or non-economic loss due to bodily injury, death, property damage, or any other incident resulting from the care, travel, and training of the animal, except in the event of willful and wanton negligence on the part of the Kennels.

Owner holds Ronnie Smith Kennels, its owners, agents, employees, officer's, representatives, assigns, and others acting on the Kennel's behalf harmless in the event owner's dog generate harm or injury to 1) any other dog custody of Ronnie Smith Kennels and/or 2) any individual who comes in contact with owner's dog while the dog in custody of Ronnie Smith Kennels.

Owner also agrees to hold harmless, releases, and discharges any landowners who have allowed the use of their land and facilities for the benefit of training Owner's dog.

Owner agrees to pay any and all legal fees incurred by Owner, Owner's heirs, their assigns and Ronnie Smith Kennels, its owner(s), officers, employees, agents or assigns resulting from any attempt to circumvent the term of this Liability Waiver to the detriment of Ronnie Smith Kennels, its owner(s), officers, employees, agents or assigns.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM & DEPOSIT TO:

RONNIE SMITH KENNELS

33777 SOUTH 4370 ROAD
BIG CABIN, OKLAHOMA 74332

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Reservation Checklist:

- Mail in completed:
 - Training Reservation
 - \$350 training deposit
- Contact RSK to confirm reservation
- Contact RSK few weeks prior to class to set drop off date and time

Drop Off Check List

- Bring current vaccination records (need proof of DHLPP, Bordetella, Lepto, and Rabies)
- Bring flea & tick preventative
- Bring general wormer
- Bring any other medications that your dog will need during his stay
- Pay remainder of first month of training (deposit will be applied to the first month's training fee)
- Be certain to bring appropriate field clothes and shoes at drop off as we will likely be in the field for a little while!

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RONNIE SMITH KENNELS

33777 SOUTH 437⁰ ROAD
BIG CABIN, OKLAHOMA 74332