

Junior Handler Policy

Purpose

To provide instructors with guidelines for the level to which children between the ages of 12-16 years may participate in classes:

Children below the age of 12 years may not actively participate in class exercises.

Objective

To document the conditions, circumstances and observed behaviour that instructors can use to determine if it is appropriate for a child to actively participate in class.

Policy

Children between the ages of 12-16 years may be active participants in training exercises when approved by the class instructor.

Procedure

For this approval to be given, the following conditions must be met:

- The adult attending must remain in control of the dog, by keeping control of the leash.
- The child's behaviour suggests they are interested in participating.
- The exercise must be suitable.
 - Recall, go to mat, settle in place are examples of exercises that would be suitable.
 - Those exercises that require the dog to leave or willingly exchange food or toy items are examples of those that may be considered unsuitable.
- The child must follow the directions of the instructor.
- The dog's behaviour should suggest they will attend to the child.
- Other students in the group will not be disadvantaged

At all times the attending adult will be responsible for the child and their actions and must attend to the child and the dog.

Policy Approval

Approved by CBS Members	2 November 2022
Authorised by	CBS President
Authorisation date	2 November 2022
Review date	November 2024

Definitions

Head instructor (HI)

A position within CBS responsible for ensuring the smooth operation and high-quality delivery of the CBS program.

Assistant head instructor (AHI)

A position within CBS responsible for supporting the Head Instructor with the smooth operation and high-quality delivery of the CBS program.

Student

A person who has enrolled to attend training sessions with their dog. More than one person may accompany a dog to lessons.

Child

A person under the age of 16.

Attending Adult

The adult accompanying the child who is seeking to undertake training.