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# Decoy Seminar

The Huffman K9 Obedience Train-The-Trainer Program, is a multifaceted vocational school designed to train professional dog trainers for work in the consumer pet OR working dog industries. The HK9 Decoy Seminar is one segment of the HK9 Train-The-Trainer Program but is open to the general public. This is a course designed to improve both beginner decoy's and advanced decoy's skill sets which takes place at the Huffman K9 Facility in Canby Oregon. Perspective students and their dogs must apply through the link provided and must meet basic fitness requirements as indicated below.

**Training Dates**: April 21st - April 23, 2023

**Duration**: 3days (24hours)

**Location:** Huffman K9 Obedience / 27320 S Pelican Ct., Canby OR 97013

Max Attendance: 12 Decoy Students, Unlimited Audit

**Prerequisites**: None (Fitness Qualification is a 12 min or less mile run)

Contact: Jensen Huffman / Owner and Instructor / 503.308.8296 / Jensen@huffmank9.com

Cost: \$385 USD Decoy Spot / 150 USD Audit Spot

"We give them the toolbox, they'll decide what to use." – [grayscale]

Curriculum: This Huffman K9 decoy seminar will be a comprehensive training course focusing on developing professional decoys for work within the Protection Dog, Law Enforcement and Military working dog industries. The course will cover puppy selection, foundation and entry level bitework, bite development, bite targeting, drive capping and drive development, movement and the emotional state of the k9 prior to and during bite. Learn how to increase the K9's resilience to emotional, physical and environmental stressors.



Instructors are professional decoys, currently working within the working dog community. Students

will work with these instructors, learning how to assess each K9, identify weaknesses and develop strategies and prescribed training that will further the dog in its protection career. Students will learn to fix issues (i.e. environmental stress, handler stress and decoy confrontation issues). Students will learn to develop better targeting, a deeper "punching in" bite, increase confidence while handling greater levels of environmental, emotional, physical and mental stressors.

Students will learn to recognize the various emotional states within the K9, and learn to capitalize and build a desirable conditioned response.

Students will learn to communicate and work with handlers, teaching handlers to recognize their dog's emotional state and how to increase the dog's resilience to stressors, increase their confidence and continue to develop their dog's protection or apprehension performance. Student decoys will learn to utilize tools like dog kits (Harness, Collars, Leashes, etc) to facilitate further training and continue the K9's path to success.



Each day will start with a class discussion covering topics such as basic terminology, psychology, K9 confidence, stress resilience, bite development, stability, types of aggression, targeting and decoying for dogs at various stages and ages. The rest of the day will be dedicated to bite work and training. Professional decoy instructors will be present during all protection work.

The HK9 Decoy Seminar is open to all skill levels of decoys and all skill levels of handlers. Each decoy will have the opportunity to watch

and learn from other decoys and other dogs as well as participate in the debrief sessions for each experience.

### **Qualifications to Participate:**

The HK9 Decoy Seminar is open to all skill levels of decoys.

The HK9 Decoy Seminar is open to all Patrol Certified / Approved handlers and K9's. We welcome agency K9's to help us train your helpers. There is no charge for working your K9's at the seminar but we will need to see their patrol certification or instructor approval and vaccination records prior to their participation.

Each decoy will have the opportunity to watch and learn from other decoys and other dogs as well as participate in the debrief sessions for each experience.

Each decoy will be required to take a fitness assessment at the beginning of the seminar requiring that a one mile run be completed in under 12 minutes.

## **Equipment:**

• We have and can provide to you (you will have to share) one of 5 bite suits but can not guarantee a perfect fit. Your ability to move effectively certainly depends on a proper fit of the

bite suit and it is strongly recommended that you purchase / rent / borrow a suit that fits you appropriately.

- Workout clothes under the suit.
- Change of clothes. You will get sweaty and stinky and dirty. You may want to change.
- Towel, you will sweat.
- Shoes with excellent traction, soccer, football cleats or shoes with aggressive soles such as Salomon SpeedCross that will provide grip on varied surfaces.
- Plenty of hydration, water and gatorade will be provided.

Please let the instructors know prior to the class so that it can be issued to you.



**Lodging:** Instructors will recommend places for students to get reasonable rates with larger breed dogs accompanying them prior to class. Please request a list if necessary.

**Registration & Payment:** All courses require pre-payment at time of registration. All courses have a limited number of students and courses are filled on a first-paid, first-trained basis. Huffman K9 will refund 100% of your payment if the course is canceled by our teachers; **otherwise your payment is non-refundable.** 

#### **Class Ground Rules**

- 1) Dogs will be secured on a lead at all times, unless told otherwise by an instructor.
- 2) At no time will dogs interact and or touch one another during training hours.
- 3) When dogs are not training, they are to be stored and secured at all times. There will be enough reps for each dog, no need to exhaust them by keeping them stemmed up during other dogs sessions. This will support longevity and increase training value.
- 4) Dogs will not drink from the same water bowl, water will be provided on site but it is up to you to bring your bowl and water your dog accordingly.
- 5) Dogs will be fed a minimum of two hours before training starts and two hours after training in the evening. This helps to prevent the development of Gastric Dilatation and Volvulus Syndrome (GDV aka Bloat).
- 6) There will be a designated area to break dogs. Dogs will be broke prior to each training event. Please bring poop bags and clean up after your dog. There will be a specified trash bin for poop bags.

## **Contingency / Emergencies:**

There will be a cooler on the property; it will be packed with ice sheets in the case of a dog, handlers or students overheating. A medical coverage truck will be staged and prepared with a med-kit and a route to the nearest ER and 24-hour emergency vet clinic.

Primary driver will be Jensen

Primary medic will be determined the morning of training.

Ward Jensen Huffman

Included in your training packet will be a printed out route to the nearest 24 vet and Emergency room. If you have a preference you may print your own and use that clinic.

If you have any further questions regarding this seminar, other seminars we may offer, the company and our services please do not hesitate to contact me.

Ward Jensen Huffman jensen@huffmank9.com

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