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# Intro to Tracking 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 Intro to Tracking Seminar is one segment of the HK9 Train-The-Trainer Program but is open to the general public. This is a beginners tracking course which begins with a classroom session at the Huffman K9 facility in Canby Oregon and proceeds to move into local wilderness and urban environments for training purposes.. Prospective students and their dogs must apply through the link provided, there are no prerequisites for the course - anyone who is interested in tracking are welcome to attend.

**Training Dates**: Saturday June 24th and Saturday July 8th, 2023.

**Duration**: 2 Days (16 hrs training Credit)

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

Max Attendance: 10 dog/handler teams and 10 Audit Spots

Prerequisites: None

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

Cost: \$285 per human/dog team (10 total), \$150 per audit spot (10 total)

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



**Curriculum:** The Huffman K9 Intro into Man Tracking seminar will be an introductory training course focusing on teaching the "blueprint" for man tracking in both Wilderness and Urban environments. The course will take place over two full Sundays, spaced two weeks apart. This allows us to teach and demonstrate techniques that can be practiced by students over the following 13 days.

Day one will consist of a two hour classroom session followed by 4-6 hours of wilderness tracking practice. Day two will Immediately jump into urban tracking, meeting in downtown Portland or similar urban environment..

Handlers will learn to develop tracking K9 capabilities in different ages of K9's, develop tracking effectiveness and maintain capability,

unique considerations for tracking in both an urban and rural/wilderness landscape, translate the fundamentals of science behind scent signatures into tracking performance, learn how tracking teams can be beaten, learn basic leash handling skills to increase tracking performance and how to read changes of behavior in your K9 and adjust search strategy. Each day will be dedicated to working directly with each handler and each dog present in the course. Each member of the course will have an opportunity to observe each of the other handlers and dogs - and be presented with an opportunity to learn from each other's successes and issues.

### Class Schedule / Outline:

Saturday, June 23rd, 2023

- 0800: Classroom HK9 Facility 27320 S Pelican Ct, Canby OR 97013
  - Intro into man tracking
    - Equipment (Quick dissection of instructors Gear)
    - Establishing the Mantra: (sit, 6ft shouldered, 30ft throw, attach 30ft to flat, "click-click", "Seek!"
    - Tracking / Trailing / Airscent, Hunting
    - Vocabulary
  - Communication
  - Speed
  - Listening posts
  - Leash control
  - Wind
  - Urban Considerations
  - Intersections
  - Barriers (Roads, fences, rivers, etc)
  - Scent article / Scent discrimination / Pulling scent (sources)
  - Indications
- 10:30 Wilderness Location TBD
  - Handler Recovery into runaways
  - Setup / design tracks appropriate for dogs in class
- 12:30: Lunch
  - 1400: Extending Runaways, introducing time and distance and complexity
- 1800: Close Day 1

Saturday July 8th, 2025

- 0900: Intro to Urban Location TBD
  - Runaways starting short / into longer distances with turns
  - Introduction into scent article / Scent discrimination
- 1400: Extending Runaways, introducing time and distance, aged tracks
- 1800: Close Day 2

#### **Equipment:**

- Train with what you use on a real deployment your standard Kit maintained for operational readiness.
- You will need a 6-foot leash leather or nylon. (Double end clasps are highly recommended)

- 30 ft Leash
- Pinch or Fur Saver / choke collar and a flat buckle 1 ½ inches or wider.
- Ecollar (if used as your standard equipment)
- Dog harnesses are optional but highly recommended.
- Footwear will need to have good traction (i.e. hiking boots, military footwear etc.).
  Slick shoes or sandals are prohibited due to safety issues.
- A stainless steel or a collapsible dog bowl.
- Non-electronic note taking materials (phones are not permitted)
- Kong / Tug / Reward Toy (if used as standard equipment)
- Crate / Kennel / Auto Dog storage when not working



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) 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.
- 4) 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).
- 5) 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; if we have a warm day it will be packed with ice sheets in case of a dog or handlers 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 the company and our services please do not hesitate to contact me.

Ward Jensen Huffman jensen@huffmank9.com

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