

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Policies and Procedures</b></p>	<b>Number:</b> 13
	<b>Name:</b> COKC Training Philosophy
	<b>Developed by:</b> Membership Committee Chaired by Diana Dafoe
	<b>Approved by:</b> General Membership
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How we train:

COKC uses a motivational training method based on operant conditioning. We begin with positive reinforcement, but will use all four quadrants of operant conditioning, as needed, to make our desires clear to the animal. See figure 1.

- Humane and ethical trainers use and advocate methods that rely on drawing out and reinforcing desired behaviours
- modifying the method and/or environment to ensure success
- inhibiting unwanted behaviours by not reinforcing them or allow them to be reinforced by the environment
- implementing a plan promptly to inhibit and discourage potentially dangerous behaviours
- minimizing the aversives while doing any of the above.

Training in the above manner creates clear, concrete, consistent and reliable communication with the dog, which in our opinion is the most humane and ethical training method.

Why we train this way:

Training using this method creates a dog-human relationship based on:

- trust
- fun
- mutual respect
- clear and consistent communication
- building confidence

Figure 1. Operant Conditioning with Emphasis on Motivational Based Training (Delta Society)

<b>1. Positive reinforcement</b> (follow behaviour with a reward = behaviour increases)	<b>2. Negative punishment</b> (follow behaviour with removal of reward = behaviour decreases)
<b>3. Positive punishment</b> (follow behaviour with an aversive = behaviour decreases)	<b>3. Negative reinforcement</b> (follow behaviour with removal of an aversive = behaviour increases)

Positive reinforcement is preferred (most successful), followed by negative punishment (next most successful), and then by positive punishment and negative reinforcement (about equally successful, but much less than positive reinforcement and less than negative punishment).

Why use an aversive? “Positive is not Permissive”

Think of verbal aversives as feedback or “no reward markers” or “stop that”

Figure 2. Deciding Whether and When to Use Aversives in a Training Program (Delta Society)

