



DOTC Fee Structure - Effective January 2017

Annual Individual Membership dues are \$15 and apply to the fiscal year July 1 - June 30. A family membership is available for \$20 per year. During the month of May, the Treasurer shall send to each member, a statement of his dues and training fees (if applicable) for the ensuing year. Dues are payable on or before the 1st day of July of each year. A membership will be considered lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 90 days after the first day of the fiscal year (unpaid by the 1st day of October). No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. A new roster of those members who have paid their dues will be emailed to all members in the fall of each year.

Training Fees

Annual Training Fees for club members will be set annually by the Board of Directors (includes 3 obedience training sessions at the appropriate advanced level). The current Training Fee is \$130 per year. A sliding scale was approved by the Board of Directors which allows a member to receive a training fee credit to be applied to the \$130 Training Fee for the coming year, based on hours worked at DOTC events during the current year (at a rate of \$2.50 credit for every hour worked). Maximum work credit allowed toward Training Fee is 40 hours @ \$2.50 per hour = \$100. Such a member with a maximum of 40 work hours would pay a \$30 minimum Training Fee.

For those **new** club members who are beginning their advanced training with us, the annual training fee is prorated according to the number of sessions left in the fiscal year.

Joining during the fall session (Sept-Nov)	\$130
Joining during the winter session (Jan-Mar)	\$90
Joining during the spring session (Mar-May)	\$45

The annual training fee is waived for active volunteer instructors who teach at least three classes for the club during the fiscal year.

Training fees for non-members of the club in advanced training classes (above Level 1) are \$65 per training session.

Level 1 - Class Fees

The Level 1 Class fee will be \$100, which will include collar and lead, and homework booklet. The fee is reduced to \$80 for dogs from a rescue organization.

A dog may **repeat Level 1 at a reduced cost of \$45**. If the dog is to **repeat Level 1 with a different handler**, full fee of \$100 should be charged. Collars may be exchanged for a larger size during the class IF the collar has been washed and is in good condition. A **training member of DOTC** may take dogs through Level 1 at a reduced fee of \$45. **Active instructors** may take one dog per year through Level 1 at no charge.

Procedure Used to Apply for Membership

Handlers who are not current DOTC training members and who are interested in our advanced

training classes will pay the non-member rate of \$65 per session. They will be given a membership card, an application for participation in advanced training and an information sheet on fees and procedures. The fee structure will be explained. Those who wish to apply for club membership should return the completed forms and additional fees. A signed application for advanced training should be on file with the Training Director for each dog currently in advanced training. Dogs must be current on their required vaccinations – DHPP and Rabies.

If the handler wants to apply for **membership in DOTC**, the new applicant for membership should complete at least one 8-week training session, and then complete the membership card, obtaining two signatures from DOTC members who know them and will vouch for them. If they do not know any of the club members, they will meet many members during the course of the class and their instructor or fellow classmates may sign their card once they feel that they know them.

The completed card should be turned in to the Secretary with an additional check, payable to DOTC. The applicant has already paid the non-member rate of \$65 per class. This new check should include the annual membership dues of \$15 per individual or \$20 per family plus an adjustment that will equal the prorated members' training fee for the rest of the year.

Joining in...	Already paid this fee for class	Dues* + prorated training fee	Pay this additional amt to join DOTC
Fall	\$65	\$15*+\$130 = \$145	\$80
Winter	\$65	\$15 + \$90 = \$105	\$40
Spring	\$65	\$15 + \$45 = \$60	\$0

“*” Family dues is \$5 more for the entire family in one residence

At the same time that these items are received from the applicant, the applicant should receive a copy of the current **constitution and by-laws** and a **roster** of club members.

This additional check will be held by the Secretary until the application is fully processed. The applicant must attend one of the next two Open meetings at which time he/she will be introduced to the membership and his/her name will be read by the secretary. If an applicant is not able to attend one of the meetings due to a longstanding conflict with another commitment, the applicant may explain the conflict to the Secretary and, upon approval, receive a special form which will be used to collect signatures from ten (10) DOTC members in good standing who will vouch for the applicant. The completed form should be returned to the Secretary, and the applicant's name will be read at the next Open meeting even though he/she is absent.

At the next Open meeting, the application will be voted upon and affirmative vote of 3/4 of the members present and voting at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant. If accepted into the membership of the club, the secretary will notify the applicant that he/she was accepted, the check will be cashed, and the new member will be eligible for all club member benefits such as reduced rates and access to the library and video tapes, etc. If the applicant does not attend one of the next two Open meetings, the check will be returned and the application for membership will be destroyed. The applicant will be welcomed to begin the process again at another training session.

Reduced Training Fees for Supporting Training Members

DOTC members are invited to participate in our many club activities:

January	AKC Agility in Lexington VA
February	AKC Obedience and Rally Trials
April	AKC Agility Trials
June	AKC Agility Trials
September	AKC Obedience Trial

A record of those who support DOTC by working at such events will be maintained by the club. There will be a DOTC Worker's Notebook available at all DOTC events. Volunteer workers will maintain a record of their hours worked by recording their job assignments and hours participating for each event. The notebook will be kept by the Training Director who will maintain a record of each person's participation during the year from July 1 to June 30. DOTC training members who assist in at least two events during the year will pay a reduced "Supporting Training Member Fee" for the next year. They may receive up to \$100 credit toward the full training fee of \$130 for the next year, depending on hours worked at events during the current year.

SUMMARY OF FEES

Dues \$15 individual membership
\$20 family membership (includes husband, wife and interested children, age 17 & under)

Each applicant in the family must fill out a separate membership card and will be voted on separately. Each active training member in a family must pay a training fee (see list below).

OPEN MEETINGS are held on the second Wednesday during the months of February, April, June, and October. The Open meeting in August is our annual picnic. The Open meeting in December is our annual Christmas party. Regular meetings are held at 7:00 P.M. with the location announced in the recent copy of the newsletter, "The Lead". The location is usually the Forest Public Library on Rt 221.

BOARD MEETINGS are held on the second Wednesday of the remaining months.

Advantages of Club Membership

1. Members may train at very inexpensive rates in an indoor facility on mats during the months of September through May. These conditions are very similar to those encountered during indoor obedience competitions, and training under similar conditions can give your dog an advantage.
2. A training member may take dogs through Level 1 class at the reduced fee of \$45.
3. As a voting member of the club, you will have a voice in decisions made in the open meetings and in the election of officers of the club.
4. You will have access to the club's equipment such as library books, video tapes, portable jumps, agility obstacles, etc. You will receive discounts on your purchases of collars and leashes.
5. You will receive a copy of the club's newsletter, The Lead, keeping you informed of any changes within the club or within A.K.C. obedience competition. Upcoming events of interest and the accomplishments of club members in matches, trials and shows may be listed.
6. Many members form close friendships with other people they have met during training classes. You will find that other club members are people who love and respect their dogs and who understand the problems and the joys you are having with the training of your own dog. You will have a "support group" as you train and as you go out to compete at American Kennel Club obedience trials, United Kennel Club trials or fun matches.
7. Many people feel that it is extremely valuable to socialize their dog weekly by bringing them to a different location with different people and many other dogs. The dogs love it!
8. Club members have the opportunity for public service through their dogs. You may volunteer your time and energy when the club sponsors its trials or seminars. You may want to join the affiliated chapter of Therapy Dogs International and go with other club members and their dogs to visit nursing homes, hospitals, schools, etc. You may want to become a volunteer instructor yourself by serving for one session as an Apprentice and then two sessions as Assistant Instructor.
9. In December, club members are awarded personalized crate tags indicating the titles completed by their dog(s).

Benefits to Volunteer Instructors

(An active instructor is one who is teaching at least three classes for the club during the fiscal year.)

1. Training fee is waived. An instructor pays only \$15 dues.
2. Free DOTC short-sleeved t-shirt is provided.
3. May train one dog per year in Level 1 Class at no charge.
4. May select a dog-related magazine subscription or book each year (not to exceed \$50).
5. Receives financial assistance for registration at seminars (currently \$100 per year).