



Ann Arbor Dog Training Club

Barb Davis Agility Seminars

July 18-20, 2025



Barb Davis first began competing in Obedience with her with Wire Fox Terriers which she earned CD and CDX titles with before her first Sheltie came to "own" her in 1975 - and the Shelties have run her house ever since! Barb bred and showed several AKC Champion Shelties under the kennel name Strathspey. She had the 7th Sheltie in breed history to earn both a breed Championship (CH) and an Obedience Championship (OTCH). However, once they discovered Agility, Barb and her dogs were quickly addicted to the thrill and fun of it and never looked back!

Between the years 1999 – 2019 Barb won 9 National Agility Championships in three different venues with Shimmer, P.J., Zesty, and Rock-It. She was a member of 10 Agility World Teams and multiple European Open Teams with five Shelties and two Border Collies including Shimmer, Aspen, Rocket-It and Sketcher. All combined, her dogs have earned 7 ADCH titles and 50 MACHs.

Friday

Setting Lines for Success

Skill-Building Coursework

In 2023, Barb underwent two surgeries with recoveries that necessitated training her two young dogs, Brewsky, a Border Collie, and Cappuccino, a Border-Whippet, from a Scooter before she was even back to standing and walking. During this time, Barb developed various moves that help her to continue training and competing while also preserving her body. Easing back into competition after recovery, Barb enjoyed competing in Rally with both of these young dogs earning several High in Trial and High Combined awards.

Saturday

Building Rear Cross Skills

Leg-Saving Agility Moves

Then, in 2024, young Brewsky made Finals at both Cynosport and the AKC Nationals. They competed in the Premier Cup placing 6th overall. Cappuccino was the 2024 winner of the Weave Competition at the Eastern Regional Purina Incredible Dog Challenge, and they went on to win the Finals there in September.

Sunday

Layering and Distance Work

Advanced Moves Plus Coursework

Always a teacher at heart, Barb's previous career was teaching Mathematics at a Community College. As a full time Agility instructor and coach, Barb travels around the country giving seminars and teaches from her home in south Florida. She has published DVDs on Agility training including "Adding Blind Crosses to Your Handling System" and "Training Running Contacts with Stride Regulators". Barb believes in adapting what she is teaching to fit each individual team and loves helping each team grow in their knowledge and understanding, so they have the best possible agility journey!

Priority Registration Opens Thursday, May 8 at noon EST
for Ann Arbor Dog Training Club Members

General Registration Opens Monday, May 12 at noon EST

An Announcement will be made when Registration Links Open.





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Setting Lines for Success • Friday AM

Setting lines in agility means that you are cuing the dog about what path to run on. This helps the dog to know quite early where they are going, where they are landing jumps, and how to exit contacts and tunnels. This helps the dog run smoothly and with assurance that they are going the right way. Early line setting is one of the main tools used to build distance. We will also work with acceleration / deceleration and collection cues combined with setting lines to build skills tight turns and deceleration before weaves. This will also help with discriminations, cuing backsides and smoothing out the handlers crosses. Level: Novice through Master.

Skill-Building Coursework • Friday PM

Seize this chance to enhance your problem-solving abilities and achieve personal growth! Teams will navigate courses featuring diverse handling options, including backside jumps. You'll be encouraged to experiment with different approaches to discover what works best for you and your dog. This workshop is ideal for handlers looking to sharpen existing skills or develop new ones. Barb has experience both as a hard running World Team member, and adapting her techniques while recovering from surgery, working at a walk and from a scooter. She will use this experience to guide participants in mastering and refining their handling. Level: Intermediate through Master.



Building Rear Cross Skills • Saturday AM

Today's agility courses have more space between obstacles and now even some very good runners find they need to use rear crosses more often. Learn and work on the training your dog needs to go ahead of you, and where you should signal them to go ahead so you can set up a rear cross. Learn handling techniques that help your dog feel more secure as you cross behind them, discover what makes a dog knock a bar or land the wrong direction

during rear crosses, find out how the angle of the path you make determines where the dog will go, discover the differences in technique when cuing a soft rear cross or a tight rear cross. Level: Novice through Master.

Leg Saving Agility Moves • Saturday PM

Learn some techniques Barb used during her recovery from two surgeries to work and train her dogs in agility while on a scooter, standing still, and walking. Some are uncommon moves, and some are new applications of combinations of moves. Some of them can be used in place of front crosses which can really save your legs! Level: Intermediate and beyond. Participating dogs should be able to go around the handler's back both directions on command. Handlers may request a short video from Barb if they need help preparing this skill.

Layering and Distance Work • Sunday AM

Barb will discuss how she uses the combined techniques of Line Setting and Aligning Your Cues to work her dogs at a distance. These handling techniques help you make use of the distance skills you have and is also useful to further build distance skills. Teams will work on sequences that will help them understand these skills and how they apply to course work. Level: Master and beyond.

Advanced Moves Plus Coursework • Sunday PM

This workshop begins with hands-on training in advanced backside techniques, focusing on less-common positions and movements like "The Flick." Teams will receive step-by-step guidance and personalized help while working on one or two jumps to build precision and fluency. For experienced teams, the emphasis will shift to refining cues to enhance the dog's ability to read and respond with accuracy. The session concludes with coursework designed to apply these advanced skills in practical scenarios, incorporating varied handling challenges for a comprehensive learning experience. Coursework will be similar to UKI and ISC courses. Level: Master and beyond. Participating dogs should have skills at sending to a backside. Handlers may request a short video from Barb to help build this skill before the workshop.



All Seminar Workshop Sessions are Half Day & Limited to 6 Working Spots.
Half-Day Working Spot \$225 Member or \$250 Non-Member / Audit \$25 Per Half Day, Member or Non-Member

Workshop or registration questions, contact Kim Carey: 734-330-7355 / LostArtDals@mac.com