

AS OF 4/9/2019



## K9 EVALUATION (GENERAL)

### PRESSURE PERCEIVED

- **Drives**

- Social Drive
  - Stimulation as result of social interaction
- Pack Drive
  - Natural focus on pack/handler (“inward focus”)
  - May be handler dependent
- Prey Drive
- Defense Drive
- Fight Drive (?)
- Hunt Drive
- Track Drive

Consider how these balance

- **Sociability**

- Unsociable (will not interact)
- Neutral (will allow but is reserved; often associated with handler dependency)
- Sociable (dog “gets in your space”)

- **Dominance**

- Lay dog down
- How much resistance, if any
- Be careful to differentiate between dominance and nerves
  - Possibly weak-nerved dog will resist “down”
    - Perceives “man pressure” mindset and unable to adapt quickly
  - Consider totality of circumstances/behaviors

- **Pain Tolerance**

- Physical “toughness”
- Physical feeling of pain/pressure

- **Environmental Sensitivity**

- Broad category
- Sensitivity to change of/in environment
  - Could be object, setting etc.



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## **PRESSURE IN PROGRESS**

- **Nerves**
  - Release dog
  - How quickly does dog adapt
  - How does dog *process* pressure
  - Weak to strong
  - Halted (accelerated anxiety) → Incomplete → Cautious → Studied → Fluid
  - Confidence
  
- **Hardness**
  - Take dog on-leash and practice minor leash corrections (consider resiliency)
  - How does dog *tolerate* pressure
  - At what point/how does dog respond
  - Mental aspect → softer dog will perceive pressure as more serious
  
- **Threshold for Stress (Avoidance/Defense)**
  - Both types of stress
  - Which is more prominent

**\*\*Consider all in light of dog's background and owner's experiences in the home\*\***



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## USING POSITIVE MARKERS IN OBEDIENCE

- **Intermediate Marker**
  - “Good”
  - Dog’s perception: I am on the right track ... reward will come soon
  - Variability will give broader definition to concept of “soon”
  
- **Terminal Marker**
  - “Good boy/girl” + stroke on head + food
  - Final response
  - Treat as release, too? Y/N?
    - Release – example with “sit”
      - “Sit” + “good boy” + food and release
      - Multiple reps ...
      - “Sit” + “good” + “heel” + “sit” + “good boy” + food and release
    - No release – example with “sit”
      - “Sit” + “good boy” + food ... dog stands up ...
      - “Sit” + “good boy” w/o food + “heel” + “sit” + good boy” + food

Seems more like successive approximation