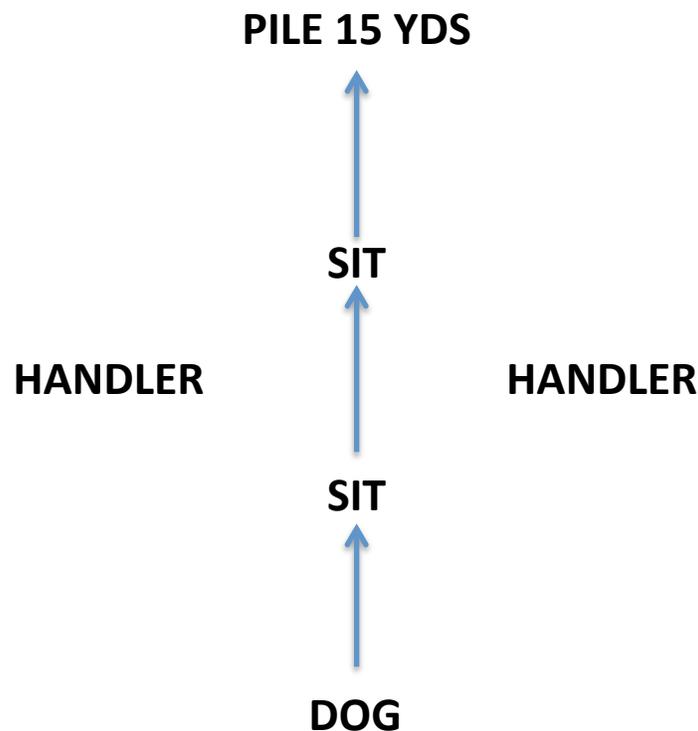


Improving A Sloppy Sit To The Pile



1. Before starting sit to a pile, review the voice and whistle command “Sit”, as you would have during basic obedience and collar conditioning in the yard.
2. Sit to a pile is generally done where you last did force to a pile. Make sure the pile of bumpers is marked with a white stake.
3. Sit the dog 15 yards from the pile then identify the pile by flipping a bumper out. Send the dog to retrieve it.
4. Receive the dog and the bumper in the same the location.
5. Leave the dog and walk about halfway and slightly offline to the pile.
6. Cast the dog to the pile using the fetch command. After it takes a few steps, tell it to sit using a verbal command.
7. Address anything less than a snappy, crisp sit with an e-collar correction.
8. Cast the dog through to the pile then receive it back at its starting position. Take the bumper and return to the handler’s position. Repeat several times and be sure to alternate your position on either side of the line to the pile.
9. Increase the level of difficulty by stopping the dog ½ way to the pile several times.
10. When step 9 looks good graduate to stopping the dog twice in route to the pile, once at the start and once near the pile.
11. Be sure to send the dog without stopping intermittently.
12. Always straighten the dog’s sits by bowing and if necessary say here with a nick on the collar.
13. Always reinforce going with the e-collar when it pops, no-goes or freezes on the cast.
14. Always address other fundamental issues that come up – basic obedience, bumper handling etc.
15. Repeat the process with the sit whistle.
16. When the dog is proficient at the drill, as I’ve described it, start sending from your side and stopping the dog in route to the pile.
17. Follow up with the scattered bumper drill or other handling and control drill.
18. Always have the e-collar ready to make corrections when necessary.