

In addition to Dog Sports for fun & exercise **Dog Talk, LLC** offers a range of services for your dog's educational, physical and emotional well-being in:

- ♦ Basic Training and Manners (group & private)
- ♦ Private Behavioral Counseling
- ♦ Pet Assisted Therapy Training
- ♦ Team Evaluations (Pet Partners®)

VISION

Awareness, Balance, Relationship, Education, Well-Being

Our vision is to bring people and pets together to enhance well-being and education. We believe that education provides a gateway to expanding choices in every phase of life including dog training. These choices offer alternatives to positively shape our dog's natural behaviors.

In the process we learn valuable life management skills that open our minds to new possibilities. We embrace training from the dog's perspective and culture as a different species.

Being mindful that everything we learn while training enriches our lives through experience, we should teach our dogs with the same compassion, patience and understanding that we expect and enjoy while learning something new.

ABOUT THE FOUNDERS

Maureen Ross, MA, NCC, CPDT-KA is the author of *Train Your Dog, Change Your Life, Awareness Centered Training—ACT* and numerous publications on balance, relationship, education and well-being between dogs and humans.

Gary and Maureen are Licensed Team Evaluators for Pet Partners (New England Pet Partners, Inc.) This is a lifelong learning journey!

AS A TEAM

- ♦ Licensed Team Evaluators for Pet Partner's® Program
- ♦ Charter Members—Association of Pet Dog Trainers (#11).
- ♦ Active Registered Pet Partner Teams

AS INDIVIDUALS

Gary

- ♦ Masters in Engineering, Engineering Fellow Raytheon
- ♦ Licensed Team Evaluator
- ♦ Registered Pet Partner

Maureen

- ♦ MA in Counseling Psychology
- ♦ Board Certified Counselor, NBCC
- ♦ BS in Organizational Management
- ♦ Certified Professional Dog Trainer
- ♦ Registered Yoga Teacher



Non-Competitive Agility Dog Sports for Fun, Exercise & Mental Stimulation!

A virtual playground of higher learning for dogs!

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CHANNEL ENERGY WITH SPORTS & GAMES

WHAT IS NON-COMPETITIVE AGILITY AND/OR DOG SPORTS?

Non-competitive agility / dog sports is a contagious, fun sport you can share with your dog. It is a virtual playground of higher learning, kind of like visiting a dog amusement park! It is comprised of a maze of obstacles and sequences that dogs maneuver (with handlers guidance). The dog's learn to traverse a dog walk, negotiate a see-saw, climb an A-frame, zigzag through closely spaced weave poles, slinky through tunnels and soar over a variety of challenging hurdles.

Dog Sports of any kind (including Flyball) and your own creative games are pure and simple joy! It's mentally and physically stimulating for dog and handler. It is a great way to get rid of excess energy and blow off steam in a constructive, controlled and safe manner. Although agility can be a competition sport, it is as equally challenging and enjoyable for those who simply want to enjoy an enthusiastic game with their dogs!

Dog Sports begins basics and socialization classes. Safely, we can integrate games, as rewards into training. Then, we slowly introduce the dogs to appropriate obstacles, teaching your dog to get use to cross-overs, dog walk, tire jump, climb the A-frame, weave poles, tunnels.

The teams will become familiar with commonly used jumps and hurdles. As with any training, games are integrated gradually, with positive reinforcement. Dogs are on lead, until they are reliable.

DS is designed to be fun, not stressful, judgmental or competitive. However, it's okay to realistically challenge yourself and your dog!

More challenging Dog Sports is comprised of target training, obstacle discrimination and simple sequence set-ups for successful maneuvers. Dogs will learn to serpentine weave poles and use the pause table with teams working at their own level of progress! Off-lead sequences will be introduced!

