Dog Care Merit Badge Syllabus

OC BSA Council Online MB Program

Welcome to the Dog Care Merit badge course. This course will be held online through face to face Zoom sessions as well as completed through independent homework. Please read this syllabus in its entirety as it provides vital information towards being signed off on the Requirements covered in the course. **Merit Badge Workbooks (excluding the Dog Care Log) are due on MONDAY, MAY 25th, 2020 BY 5PM.**

**Prerequisites**

* Must be registered in Scouts BSA or between ages 11- 17

**Materials needed:**

* Each Scout must have their Dog present at each Zoom Meeting
* Digital or hard copy of the Dog Care Merit Badge Requirements and Workbook:
	+ Link to Dog Care Merit Badge Requirements:
		- <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_ReqandRes/Dog_Care.pdf>
	+ Link to Dog Care Merit Badge Workbook:
		- <http://www.usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/Dog-Care.pdf>
* You are expected to take notes, fill out descriptions and explanations while instruction is going on.
* **At the end of this course you must turn in your MBWB to receive credit for the Dog Care Merit Badge:**
	+ **All written or drawn work must be included either in or with your MBWB to receive credit**
	+ You may either turn in your online document as a PDF or Document OR take clear pictures of your hard copy.
* Pen/pencil **OR** the capability to type notes online. **Handwriting must be legible to receive credit.**
* A camera or phone with the capability to take photos in order to satisfy certain requirements.
* **Recommended**: N/A

**Note for partial completement:** Requirement 8 will be discussed regarding how Scouts can successfully fulfill this requirement during this time. Regardless of Full or Partial Completion, Scouts will receive their virtual Blue Cards once the Class officially closes.

**Pre-Requirements and Research:**

* Look over the syllabus and requirements
* **Be familiar with Requirement 1 and Requirement 2 before our first Zoom meeting.**
* Make sure to do any prior research needed
* Have your MB workbook – we will be working out of this and you will turn this in at the end of the sessions

**Schedule:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Start Time** | **Description** |
| **Session 1****ZOOM** | (1.5 hours) | **SESSION 1 CONTENT**Overview/ Introduction – introduce everyone in class, the merit badge, and what made them interested in Dog Care!*Requirement 1** Briefly discuss the historical origin and domestication of the dog
* Describe some common characteristics of the dog that make up each of the seven major dog groups.
* HOMEWORK: Tell some specific characteristics of seven breeds of dogs (one from each major group) OR Give a short history of one breed.

*Requirement 2 (Guess with your Pet Game)* * Point out on a dog (or on a sketch) at least 10 parts. Give the correct name of each one.

*Requirement 3b** Explain what “responsible pet ownership” means.

*Requirement 3c** Explain what issues (including temperament) must be considered when deciding on what breed of dog to get as a family pet.

*Requirement 3a (Homework Discussion)* * Explain the importance of house-training, obedience training, and socialization training for your dog

*Requirement 4 (Requirement Discussion)* * For two months, keep and care for your dog.\* Maintain a log of your activities during this period that includes these items: feeding schedule, types of food used, amount fed, exercise periods, training schedule, a weekly body weight record, grooming and bathing schedules, veterinary care, if necessary, and costs. Also include a brief description of the type of housing/shelter arrangements you have for your dog.

*Requirement 8 (Requirement Discussion)** Visit a veterinary hospital or an animal shelter and give a report about your visit to your counselor.
	1. Virtual Tour (Provisional guidelines)
	2. Website
	3. Report on your visit and how the clinic/hospital is set up to best care for your dog and all pets.

*Homework Assignment:** **Requirement 1**c
	1. Tell some specific characteristics of seven breeds of dogs (one from each major group) OR Give a short history of one breed.
* **Requirement 3c**
	1. Requirement 3c: Explain the importance of house-training, obedience training, and socialization training for your dog
* **Requirement 4**
	+ For two months, keep and care for your dog.\* Maintain a log of your activities during this period that includes these items: feeding schedule, types of food used, amount fed, exercise periods, training schedule, a weekly body weight record, grooming and bathing schedules, veterinary care, if necessary, and costs. Also include a brief description of the type of housing/shelter arrangements you have for your dog.
* **Requirement 8**
	1. Visit a veterinary hospital or an animal shelter and give a report about your visit to your counselor.
		+ Virtual Tour (Provisional guidelines)
		+ Website
		+ Report on your visit and how the clinic/hospital is set up to best care for your dog and all pets.
 |
| **Session 1 HW** | (1-2 hours) | *Homework Assignment:** **Requirement 1**c
	1. Tell some specific characteristics of seven breeds of dogs (one from each major group) OR Give a short history of one breed.
* **Requirement 3c**
	1. Requirement 3c: Explain the importance of house-training, obedience training, and socialization training for your dog
* **Requirement 4**
	+ For two months, keep and care for your dog.\* Maintain a log of your activities during this period that includes these items: feeding schedule, types of food used, amount fed, exercise periods, training schedule, a weekly body weight record, grooming and bathing schedules, veterinary care, if necessary, and costs. Also include a brief description of the type of housing/shelter arrangements you have for your dog.
* **Requirement 8**
	1. Visit a veterinary hospital or an animal shelter and give a report about your visit to your counselor.
		+ Virtual Tour (Provisional guidelines)
		+ Website
		+ Report on your visit and how the clinic/hospital is set up to best care for your dog and all pets.
 |
| **Session 2****Zoom** | (1.5 hours) | *SESSION 2 CONTENT**Requirement 5:** Explain the correct way to obedience train a dog and what equipment you would need.
	+ Show with your dog any three of these commands (will go one by one and have Scouts show)
		- Come
		- Sit
		- Down
		- Heel
		- Stay
		- Take it
		- Get it
		- Drop it

*Requirement 6:*1. Discuss the proper vaccination schedule for a dog in your area from puppyhood through adulthood.
2. Discuss the control preventing fleas, ticks, heartworms, and intestinal parasites (worms) for a dog in your area from puppyhood through adulthood.
3. Explain the importance of dental care and tooth brushing to your pet’s health
4. Discuss the benefits of grooming your dog’s coat and nails on a regular basis
5. Discuss with your counselors any seasonal conditions (like hot summers, cold winters, or extreme humidity) where you live that need to be considered for your dog
6. Discuss with your counselors the considerations and advantages of spaying and neutering your dog

*Requirement 7f (Homework Discussion):** Be ready to list of things needed in every dog owner’s first aid kit for Zoom Session 3
* Prep a First Aid Kit for Dog Care for Zoom Session 3

*Requirement 7h (Homework Discussion)** Be ready to briefly discuss the cause and method of spread, the signs and symptoms and the methods of prevention of rabies, parvovirus, distemper, and heartworms in dogs for Zoom Session 3

*Homework Assignment:** **Requirement 7f**
	+ Be ready to list of things needed in every dog owner’s first aid kit for Zoom Session 3
	+ Prep a First Aid Kit for Dog Care for Zoom Session 3
* **Requirement 7h**
	+ Be ready to briefly discuss the cause and method of spread, the signs and symptoms and the methods of prevention of rabies, parvovirus, distemper, and heartworms in dogs for Zoom Session 3
 |
| **Session 2 HW** | (1.5-2 hours) | *Homework Assignment:** **Requirement 6**c
	1. Explain the importance of dental care and tooth brushing to your pet’s health
* **Requirement 7f**
	1. Be ready to list of things needed in every dog owner’s first aid kit for Zoom Session 3
	2. Prep a First Aid Kit for Dog Care for Zoom Session 3
* **Requirement 7h**
	1. Be ready to briefly discuss the cause and method of spread, the signs and symptoms and the methods of prevention of rabies, parvovirus, distemper, and heartworms in dogs for Zoom Session 3
 |
| **Session 3 ZOOM** | (1.5 hours) | *SESSION 3 CONTENT**Requirement 7-Do the Following:** Explain precautions to take in handling a hurt dog
* List of things needed in every dog owner’s first aid kit
* Show how to put on an emergency muzzle
* Explain how to treat wounds

Explain first aid for a dog bite* Show how to put on a simple dressing and bandage to the:
	1. Foot
	2. Body
	3. OR head of your dog
* Briefly discuss the cause and method of spread, the signs and symptoms and the methods of prevention of rabies, parvovirus, distemper, and heartworms in dogs.

*Requirement 7e (Homework Discussion):** Explain what to do if a dog is hit by a car

*Requirement 7g (Homework Discussion):** Tell the dangers of home treatment of a serious ailment.

*Requirement 4 (REMINDER):** For two months, keep and care for your dog.\* Maintain a log of your activities during this period that includes these items: feeding schedule, types of food used, amount fed, exercise periods, training schedule, a weekly body weight record, grooming and bathing schedules, veterinary care, if necessary, and costs. Also include a brief description of the type of housing/shelter arrangements you have for your dog.

*Homework Assignment:** **Requirement 7e**
1. Explain what to do if a dog is hit by a car
* **Requirement 7g**
1. Tell the dangers of home treatment of a serious ailment.
* **Requirement 4:**
	+ For two months, keep and care for your dog.\* Maintain a log of your activities during this period that includes these items: feeding schedule, types of food used, amount fed, exercise periods, training schedule, a weekly body weight record, grooming and bathing schedules, veterinary care, if necessary, and costs. Also include a brief description of the type of housing/shelter arrangements you have for your dog.

*Zoom Session Reviews/Question session (if there is time)** Answer any questions Scouts may have about the requirements and homework assignments.
* Email homework assignments to ALL of the following emails:
	1. **Julie Anderson:** **Julie.Anderson@scouting.org** **or** **juliea@ocbsa.org**
	2. **Stephie Daquioag:** **stephanied@iroec.org** **or** **stephanie.daquioag@scouting.org**
	3. **General Merit Badge Email: info@iroec.org**
 |
| **Session 3 HW** | (TBD hours) | **COMPLETE AND SUBMITTED WORKBOOK BY MONDAY, MAY 25TH, 2020 BY 5PM***Email Homework Assignments to Julie Anderson, Stephie Daquioag, and* *info@iroec.org* |