

Betsy Scapicchio & Linda Brennan

Teaching and Training The UTILITY Exercises



***A Three-Day Workshop on the
UTILITY Level of Competition Obedience:
Friday, Saturday & Sunday
September 18-20, 2026
Top Dog Obedience School, Flanders, NJ***

This Workshop will build on the fundamentals and take your training to the next level. Learn how to teach, motivate and proof the Utility Exercises for a solid understanding and confident performance. Teaching the exercises right from the start is essential. Avoid having to fix problems later by following the step-by-step Top Dog approach to every exercise in Utility. Betsy and Linda's method for teaching the exercises has been proven over time by our students' success in the ring, as well as our own.

We'll cover:

- ✓ Teaching signals, articles, gloves, moving stand, and directed jumping.
- ✓ Working on distance attention and signal heeling.
- ✓ Preparing to show in the obedience ring.

Who should attend:

- ✓ Working participants' dogs should be heeling and working with attention.
- ✓ Dogs should know all of the Novice and Open exercises and be starting or currently training in Utility.
- ✓ Perfect for those who have completed our Open Intermediate Workshop!

Details:

- ✓ Dogs will be worked!!!
- ✓ Workshop will run from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.
- ✓ Registration fee is \$475 for working participants (limited) and \$235 for auditors. Payment is due with registration. No refunds will be issued for any reason. You may sell your spot.
- ✓ Fee includes continental breakfast and hot lunch each day, as well as drinks and snacks.
- ✓ Directions, hotel information, and other material will be sent with your confirmation.
- ✓ For more information: topdogobedienceschool@gmail.com. Not sure which Workshop is right for you? Email us.



**Additional *Train the Top Dog Way* 2026 Workshops:
Foundation 5/29-31, Open 8/21-23 and Advanced 10/23-25**

TRAIN THE TOP DOG WAY

with Betsy Scapicchio and Linda Brennan

Because Experience Matters!

When considering attending a workshop, ask yourself these questions:

- Does the presenter have many, many years of experience successfully training and showing dogs?
- Have they trained a large variety of breeds? Every breed brings its own unique traits, drives and challenges to the table.
- Have they successfully competed in a variety of different venues? Each venue will reveal a different way that dogs learn.
- Are their students successful? It's one thing to achieve your own success, but quite another to be able to communicate those skills to others.



Betsy and Linda check all the boxes and that makes them uniquely qualified to present highly successful Workshops. They specialize in Workshops where the participants get a chance to get out on the floor and WORK their dogs. Past workshop participants always comment on the amount of floor time they get with their dogs compared to other workshops; there's no replacement for one-on-one, in-person time with qualified teachers and coaches. Their auditors report that they were presented with such detailed instructions and demonstrations that their notebooks were full! When you complete a workshop with Betsy and Linda, in addition to acquiring a wealth of information, you will leave there energized and excited to put your new-found knowledge into place. Because Betsy and Linda continually compete, as well as work with a large variety of different breeds of dogs with their competitive students, their training is constantly evolving. Each new dog encourages them to learn more and incorporate new ideas into their already proven training method.

Betsy Scapicchio, Owner of Top Dog Obedience School has over 45 years of dog training experience and has successfully competed in Obedience, Agility, Rally, Conformation, Herding and Field with different breeds of dogs. From Agility with her Chihuahua, Desi, to Field titles with her Goldens Casino and Banks, Betsy has enjoyed all of her different breeds of dogs, and all of the different venues. Top Dog was started in 1991 from Betsy's talent and love of dog training and sharing her knowledge with others. In addition to all of her students' successes, Betsy and her Border Collie, Zen, were the 2021 Obedience Dog of the Year. To date, she has put Obedience Trial Champion titles on 10 of her own dogs, with 62 OTCH titles between them. She has also won and placed at national competitions including Regional and Classic tournaments and the National Obedience Championships, with top 10 finishes at five recent NOCs. Betsy's UD Chihuahua, Deacon, placed second in Novice at Rally Nationals and her Golden, Dealer, placed second in Advanced. In Obedience, Betsy and her dogs have earned 56 perfect 200 scores, over 250 High in Trials and over 6200 OTCH points to date! She has also earned multiple Agility titles and most recently her Goldens, Casino and Banks, earned their Junior Hunter titles; and Banks was just 17 months old.

Linda Brennan was Betsy's very first Utility student and it wasn't long before she went from student to instructor at Top Dog! Linda's talent and versatility also shine! In Obedience, some of Linda's notable wins include back-to-back first places in the Master's class at the AKC Obedience Classic, and she won Westminster's Master Obedience Championships five times in a row, retiring the Championship Trophy with her Labrador Retriever, Heart! Linda's Border Collie, Spy, retired with over 1000 OTCH points, and she and Heart earned over 1900 OTCH points. Linda is also passionate about working with different breeds of dogs, including her own two MACH Welsh Springer Spaniels, Maddie and Reese, and her UD Norfolk Terrier, Oz. Linda's Border Collie, Spell, was the face of the Wellness Dog Food Brand and appeared in many TV commercials and print ads. Linda also specializes in multipurpose dogs. In addition to obedience, Linda successfully trains and competes in Agility, Rally, Field, Herding, Conformation, Scent Work, Dock Diving, and other dog events where she has earned many championship titles including OTCH, MACH, RACH and breed Champion. She has recently put Senior Hunter titles on her Labrador Retrievers, Lita and Parker, and is working on their Master Hunter titles.

Betsy and Linda are active and current competitors that you are likely to see placing at all the big tournaments, as well as local trials. They continually show a variety of breeds to Obedience Trial Champions, and they have never been out of the ring in over 40 years. What sets them apart from other trainers is not their own tremendous success in the obedience ring, it is their ability to communicate to their students how they too can achieve that level of success. Top Dog students earn multiple High in Trial and High Combined awards, OTCHs and 200 scores year after year.

TOP DOG UTILITY WORKSHOP 2026

Send with check payable to: Top Dog Obedience School, 124 Flanders-Netcong Road, Flanders, NJ 07836.

Please PRINT CLEARLY or we will not be able to reach you! No refunds will be issued for any reason.

Working Participant (\$475)

Auditor (\$235)

Name _____

Phone _____ E-mail* _____

Dog Name(s) and Breed(s) _____