 <p style="text-align: center;">Policies and Procedures</p>	Number: 13
	Name: COKC Training Philosophy
	Developed by: Membership Committee Chaired by Diana Dafoe
	Approved by: General Membership
	Approval Date: October 2007
Amendment Date(s):	

How we train:

COKC uses a motivational training method based on operant conditioning. We begin with positive reinforcement, but will use all four quadrants of operant conditioning, as needed, to make our desires clear to the animal. See figure 1.

Humane and ethical trainers use and advocate methods that rely on:

- drawing out and reinforcing desired behaviours
- modifying the method and/or environment to ensure success
- inhibiting unwanted behaviours by not reinforcing them or allow them to be reinforced by the environment
- implementing a plan promptly to inhibit and discourage potentially dangerous behaviours
- minimizing the aversives while doing any of the above.

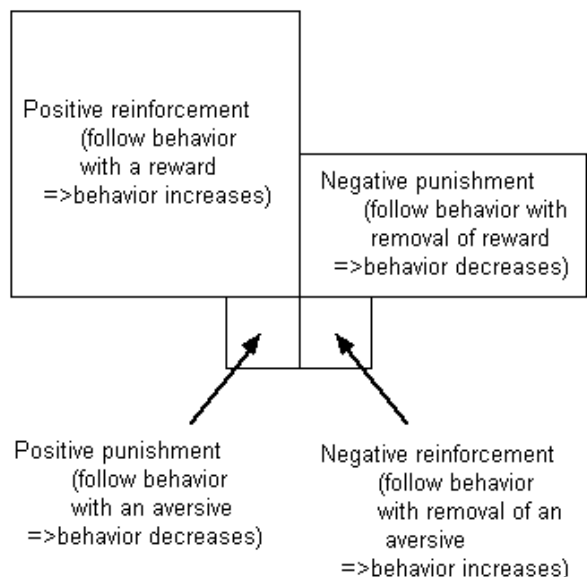
Training in the above manner creates clear, concrete, consistent and reliable communication with the dog, which in our opinion is the most humane and ethical training method.

Why we train this way:

Training using this method creates a dog-human relationship based on:

- trust
- building confidence
- fun
- mutual respect
- clear and consistent communication

Figure 1. Operant Conditioning with Emphasis on Motivational Based Training (Delta Society)



Why use an aversive? “Positive is not Permissive”

Think of verbal aversives as feedback or “no reward markers” or “stop that”

Figure 2. Deciding Whether and When to Use Aversives in a Training Program (Delta Society)

