

Hello and Welcome to Roaring Brook Farm and Hilltown Hounds Agility Club!

We hope to offer you and your dog(s) a safe space to have fun, learn, laugh and discover the world of agility. Our club is made up of a small, dedicated group who have come to agility from all different avenues. We all love our dogs and thoroughly enjoy interacting with them in the fun and challenging sport of agility. As a club, we are relatively young, constantly finding our way, and developing new policies. We plan as best we can and attempt to foresee the future in all its permutations. Most times, things run smoothly. When they don't, please accept our apologies, suggest ways that we can improve, and help us with the implementation of changes. Anyone who is interested in joining the Hilltown Hounds Agility Club as a member is encouraged to ask an instructor, an assistant or a member for information.

There is a bulletin board on the back of the equipment bay. Look there for club announcements, event flyers, a suggestion box, etc. Feel free to use it as our agility community information center. Also on the board is our payment drop-slot for our treasurer. Please do not give payment to your instructor, the assistant or the class coordinator. Also, don't forget to check the website for club information at www.hilltownhounds.com.

Guests are very welcome here. We love showing off our sport! Guests should remain in the viewing room unless you obtain the instructor's permission to bring them into the arena as new people can be distracting to the dogs in training. In regards to perspective Hilltown Hounds students, please speak with the class coordinator before bringing your dog to Roaring Brook Farm.

While at the farm for class, please be as mindful as possible of your dog's behaviors; one might call this "dog etiquette". While we all want agility class to be a positive social environment for handlers and dogs, agility is, first and foremost, a team sport between dog and handler. Class time is an opportunity to focus on that teamwork. It is important to preserve and respect the working relationship that each team is engaged in during class. In doing so, we all must be aware of the comfort level of, not only your dog, but other dogs in various situations. One important way to do this is to keep your dog to yourself. Please don't allow your dog to approach, greet, play, sniff, or pursue another dog without the express permission of the other handler. If you are new to dog sports and you have questions about appropriate "dog etiquette" please don't hesitate to approach your instructor, an assistant or any club member.

Roaring Brook Farm Rules

We need your help in following the rules of the barn as we are very fortunate to be able to use this space.

For safety, there is **no smoking anywhere on the property**.

Please be aware that there may be dogs at Roaring Brook Farm who are under the supervision of someone associated with the barn; those dogs are not necessarily held to the same rules as those with Hilltown Hounds. Hilltown Hounds dogs always need to follow the barn rules outlined here.

In general, dogs not enrolled in classes should only be at Roaring Brook Farm with permission from the class coordinator.

Please clean up after your dog(s). Take the poop with you, off the property. If you find yourself without a poop bag, please ask someone for one. Trash cans are for trash only, not poop.

Please do not let your dog(s) pee on the building.

Do not let your dog(s) pee or poop in the arena. Walk them before class. In case of an accident, you are responsible for cleaning up after your dog. We have a neutralizing solution which can be sprayed on the equipment to eliminate the odor and make things easier for the next dog and handler who comes to that piece of equipment. If your instructor or assistant does not see the accident, please do not be ashamed to tell someone.

In the driveway, the speed limit is 5 mph. The speed limit on Roaring Brook Road is 20 mph. Be aware that there are horses, riders, dogs and automobiles sharing this road; this is particularly true on class night when riders cannot use the arena and might be riding outside, around the barn. Go slowly and be mindful of others.

Roaring Brook Farm is kind to let us use the **warming/viewing room**. If you bring food or drink into the room, please **clean up** after yourself.

There are **indoor bathrooms** just past the warming room at the top of the ramp leading to the arena. The **doors need to remain closed** in order to prevent frozen pipes and preserve heat.

Please do not come in through the stall area. Enter the with your dog through the small outside door to the right of the door leading into the warming room, or through the far gate which leads directly outside (as you are driving in, it would be immediately on your left). **Please keep your dog(s) away from the horses** at all times in order to protect all of you. Roaring Brook Farm requests that, with or without a dog, **people refrain from wandering through the stalls to talk to, pet, or feed the horses.**