



Canine Hoopers UK
Accredited Instructors Course – Level 1



Scope of training: To provide instructors with the skills and knowledge to teach Canine Hoopers within the remit of Canine Hoopers UK to Starters and Beginner level students.

Duration: There are 2 variants of the Level 1 course -1 day and 2 day. In both cases we usually run 9am until 6pm Delegates will not ordinarily leave before the course finish time unless by prior arrangement

Format: Workshop format containing theory, practical and discussion sessions with final assessment

Training Style: Problem solving and discussion based with demonstrations and practice sessions. Following the theory and practice sessions there will be an individual assessment where you will lead a group training session and the other course attendees will stooge for you with their dogs. You will return the favour by being a stooge in other assessments. There is not a written test but you will be asked some questions as well as being asked to demonstrate your teaching skills. We only use positive, reward based, modern training methods.

Pre-requisite: Delegates should have experience of training in a group/1-2-1 environment and experience of working with dogs. This is an instructors course, aimed at training people (to teach Canine Hoopers to others), it is not a dog training workshop.

What to expect: The course is quite intense, we aim to provide you with all of the training techniques and methodology to teach Canine Hoopers within the ethos of CHUK, to a wide range of people and dogs from absolute beginners to Starters and Beginners competition levels. We do not expect you to be able to complete a Beginners level course by the end of the day, but we do expect you to demonstrate the ability to teach the foundation behaviours to progress a training group to this level. There are several key exercises that we will focus on from the very foundations and progress them to a more advanced level.

Is it really 9 hours of training? Yes! There will be opportunities for comfort breaks as required during the day but with having so much to cover in one day we utilise all available time, the day moves quickly and is split between sit down theory and discussion and practical sessions both with and without dogs.

What is the difference between the 1 day and 2 day course? The course content and assessment process is identical in both the 1 and 2 day courses. However, the 2 day course is much less intense as the exercises are spread across the two days. This also gives us opportunity to look at teaching techniques, class structure etc. It is a great option for people who would prefer a less intensive learning style and also for those who are transferring their skills into dog training, or, who are not currently teaching dog sports. Simply put, in the 1 day course we will give you the tools and insight of WHAT to teach, during the 2 day course we can also look at HOW to teach it.

What can I do to prepare? You should download and read the latest CHUK rulebook, you aren't expected to memorise it but you do need to be very familiar with the different class types, equipment, progression structure, measuring, age based rules and very importantly our code of ethics and how we want to progress as an organisation and how you will represent us as an Accredited Instructor.

Do I need a dog? Yes, you should bring a dog with you so you can learn first hand what you will be teaching to others. Your dog doesn't need to have seen hoops before but they should be able to work off lead in a group environment. They should also be fit, healthy and appropriately insured. You may bring more than one dog if you wish to swap dogs in and out. You will be responsible for the welfare of all of your animals.

What else should I bring? You will receive an email at least 24 hours before the course to give you more information specific to the venue, whether indoors or outdoors etc so you can dress appropriately, you will need to bring a packed lunch for yourself and PLENTY of kibble/treats for your dog as well as a couple of toys, we recommend only feeding a very light breakfast beforehand due to the reward based training we will be practicing. We recommend bringing a copy of the current rules and most people like to make notes throughout the day too, especially during the theory sessions and as we discuss course plans and ideas. A sense of humour will also come in very useful!

Does everyone pass? As an organisation we pride ourselves on having a high standard of trainer carrying our Accredited status. If anyone isn't to the standard we require then unfortunately they will not be awarded accreditation on the day, though we are skilled trainers and assessors and are looking for you to demonstrate the ability to train the exercises that we have worked through during the day and your knowledge of the methodology and foundation behaviours. We don't expect you to deliver dynamic, polished performances straight off the bat, we do appreciate your head will be awash with new information, we just need to see that you'll do things appropriately going forwards and that your training style and our ethos are a good fit for each other.

What happens after I pass? You will become an Accredited Canine Hoopers UK Instructor and will receive a certificate to confirm this. You will be invited to advertise (for free) via our website under 'Find an Instructor' and also through our social media platforms by listing yourself as an Accredited Canine Hoopers UK Instructor (or ACHUKI), you will also be able to use our Accredited Instructor logo on your own promotional materials, business stationary, website or social media.

You will be able to offer the Good Hoopers Awards through your training classes and will be able to judge Starters level courses at Canine Hoopers UK shows. After you have built up your clients you might also want to become an Advanced Instructor by attending and completing the Level 2 training, this is only open to Accredited Instructors who have passed the Level 1 course and have a proven working use of their Accredited Instructor status.

There is no affiliation fee, ongoing trainer fees or any other mandatory charges once you have passed, all we ask is that you abide by the Canine Hoopers UK rulebook, as well as our Code of Ethics and that you always promote Canine Hoopers UK as a fun, safe, free flowing sport. We also require that you promote and offer the Good Hooper Award scheme to all of your students. We encourage our instructors to be mindful of anything which may compromise their ability to adhere to the above as we are unable to continue to recognise, support and promote the accredited status of any instructor who cannot meet these criteria.

How will being an Accredited Canine Hoopers UK Instructor help me?

Canine Hoopers UK is the biggest and longest standing hoopers organisation in the UK, we are the 'go to guys' for anyone looking to take up hoopers, learn more about the sport or to compete. We have a network of qualified instructors across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales and receive many requests on a daily basis for trainer recommendations. It could be your name that we are giving them! You will also offer your students the reassurance that you have completed a professionally accredited training course and are committed to your own personal learning and providing them with the best possible introduction to the sport.