



CLASS NAME	STEADINESS
CONTACT	Sara Heesacker <surefirekennels@gmail.com>
TIMELINE	April 3-May 22 2025, 8 Week Course

CLASS OBJECTIVES

- To provide step-by-step instruction through the Steadiness progression
- To share strategies of how to work dog through frustration, slow progress and other challenging scenarios

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Desire to be hands-on with every step of the training process
- Willing to spend 10-15 minutes per day working on the tasks assigned
- Eager to learn more in depth how to read a dog and apply the appropriate correction
- Excited to continually challenge their dog with harder scenarios
- Want to have live feedback versus gathering training information from books and videos

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- All dogs must be up to date on all the following vaccinations:
- Bordetella
 - Rabies
 - DHLPP
 - Heartworm Test

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

- Dog should have been through:
- E-collar conditioning
 - Establish & hold point until handler is present

COMMON QUESTION

What if my dog has already been through a Steadiness program or is older?

If your dog's field steadiness is not as complete or effective as you would like, then working through this small group will increase your dog's understanding and build further corrections to enforce steadiness in the presence of game.

CLASS GOALS

- Whoa on the Table & on the Ground
- Overlay E-Collar to the Whoa Command
- Cultivating Whoa at a Distance
- Whoa in the Presence of Birds
- Stop to Flush
- Yard Drills to Challenge Steadiness
- Steadiness in the Field
 - Pigeons in Launchers
 - Pigeons in Launchers with Shot
 - Pigeons in Launchers with Shot & Thrown Dead Bird
 - Chukar in Launchers with Shot & Retrieve
 - Chukar Planted on the Ground with Shot & Retrieve
- Preparation for Future Drills
 - Steadiness at Water Blind Drills
 - Utilization of Place Boards
 - Acknowledging Another Dog on Point
 - Honoring Another Dog in the Field & at the Water

PROPOSED TIMELINE

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Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8
●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Introduction Whoa on the Table	Overlay E-Collar to Whoa	Whoa in the Presence of Birds / Whoa at a Distance	Stop to Flush	Steadiness - Pigeons in Launchers	Steadiness - Pigeons with Shot & Retrieve	Steadiness - Chukar in Launchers	Steadiness - Chukar on the Ground

CLASS SCHEDULE

Thursdays 5-8pm
at Surefire Kennels

COST

\$500 for entire course
(dead & live birds, ammo included)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Excel File to Track Progress & View Training Graphs
- Steadiness Drill Document to build muscle memory and confidence
- Skill Application Drill Document to Implement Hunting Scenarios after Steadiness Basics have been completed

TOOLS NEEDED

- Training table isn't required but makes corrections easier. 8-16' table with ramps on both ends would be the ideal setup but the program can be modified for all situations.
- Short clip lead about 18" with a snap on one end and a loop on the other.
- Recommend a flat collar that only has the d ring loop and not a circle in the middle. There's a chance of getting a finger caught in there. Hands are precious so it's a good safety precaution.
- Check Cord for Whoa at a Distance
- E-Collar

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Every dog is going to move through this progression a differently so it won't look as "step by step" once class gets underway. Understanding how your dog handles pressure, values praise and correctly incorporating challenges will be based on the individual as we cultivate a dog with a full understanding of the whoa concept!

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASS:

- Spending some time after the hunting season revisiting place boards and e-collar conditioning is a great way to get your dog back in a training mindset.
- Reviewing some fun games such as box game, attention, place boards etc. The main focus of this being on the "yes" marker before rewards are given so we can utilize that verbal tool through the trained retrieve process.
- Focused heel repetitions and recalls will strengthen your ground basics when we start moving with the dogs during trained retrieve.

RUNNING INTO PROBLEMS BETWEEN SESSIONS?

Upload your daily video to @sfk-steadinessgroup1684 and we can share ideas or insights of how to work through the challenges you are encountering.