HUNTING GAMES – GROWING TOGETHER

🎾 Game 40 – 6-Point Drill

Grow your dog's field of depth for a clean retrieve!

🎾 Why This Game Matters

Growing the Marked Retrieve helps our dogs to watch the dummy fall in different environments, at different distances and angles. This skill will further foster the purposeful going out, picking up, bringing back chain we have taught.

🎾 What You'll Need

- High-value treats
- 6 Dummies on toggle or 6 similar toys you can throw with distance
- A happy helper
- Phone on tripod

🎾 Step-by-Step-Guide

1. Set Up

Start playing this game in a low distracting environment.

Your helper will be your dummy thrower. Position everyone as shown below, your helper will have all 6 dummies.

Read through the Troubleshooting section to brief your helper on their job.

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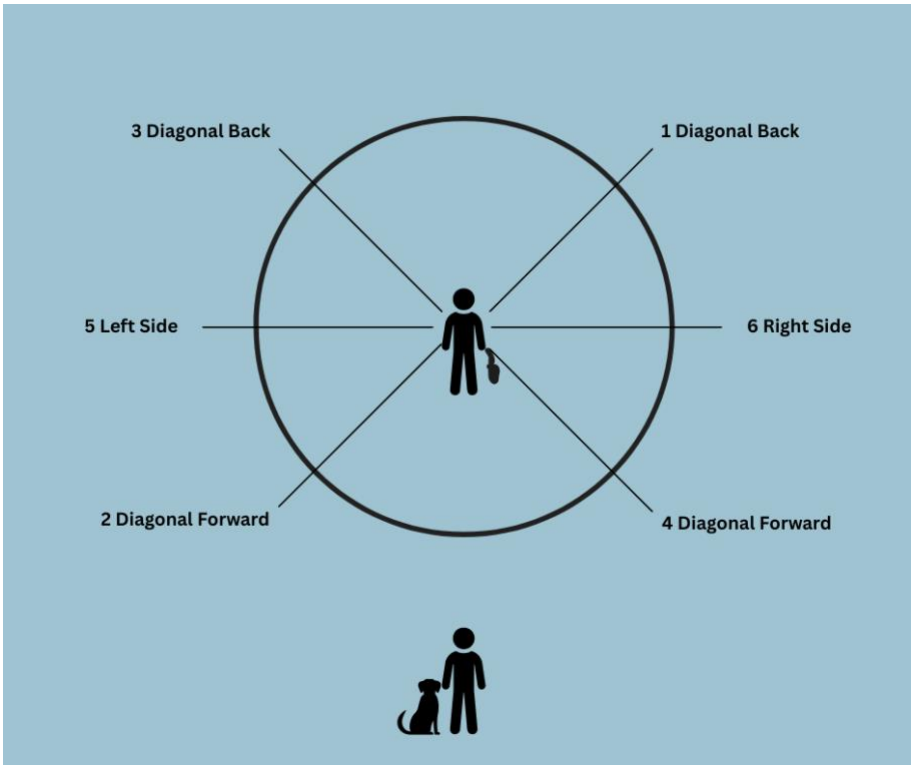

2. Build the Behaviour

- Let your helper throw one dummy at a time
- Use the sequence as shown above
- Watch your dog to lock on to the dummy
- Send them for the retrieve
- Reward
    - if your dog loves the retrieve, mix the reward by sending them off for the next retrieve (verbally praise them for a good job) OR a treat.
- Work through the whole sequence

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🎾 Troubleshooting

My dog is not watching the dummy thrower.

Ask your helper to make a small noise or movement to get your dog's attention. Watch for IYC moments!

My dog is starting to hunt (sniff) for the dummy.

- Ask your helper to go and pick up the dummy. Go over to your dog, grab their collar and gently guide them back to the start position. Try again with a little less distance.
- Make sure you're only sending your dog when they have locked onto the dummy
- Review "Simple Marked Retrieve" and build up from there.

My dog is moving off after 3 retrieves.

This is another IYC moment. Gently guide your dog back and ask them to retrieve one simple retrieve. Finish the session.

Then ask yourself the following questions before your next session:

- Was the environment too distracting?
- How much value does my dog have for retrieving?
    - go back to your foundations and bring more joy into the game

🎾 Daily use

This game can be physically and mentally quite taxing. Do not push it. Less is more with this game. Review your dog's love for retrieving before asking them for more.

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🎾 Checklist:

1. Did you review your session?
2. Did your dog lock on to the dummy?
3. Was the go out purposeful?
4. Were there any distractions?

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