

Andy Winther Seminars

At Follow the Leda May 23-24, 2025



Meet Andy! He and Zoom-Zoom are the 2025 AKC National Champions!

Andy Winther's journey from a dairy farm in Denmark to becoming a successful dog trainer in the United States is marked by a deep-seated passion for animal training and a diverse range of experiences:

- 1. Early Career in Equestrian Training:**
 - Andy started gaining experience in animal training at a young age, focusing on equestrian handling and horse training skills.
 - By the age of 20, Andy was hired as a rider at Blue Hors Dressage, Denmark's largest Dressage facility, where he worked with prestigious horses, riders, and trainers across Europe.
 - 2. Move to the United States and Transition to Dog Training:**
 - Andy moved to the US to further his career in training, initially in New Hampshire and later in West Palm Beach, Florida.
 - Unfortunately, a riding accident cut short Andy's equestrian career, prompting a shift in focus towards new horizons.
 - 3. Education and Development in Dog Training:**
 - Andy pursued higher education, obtaining three degrees while continuing to nurture his passion for animal training.
 - In 2010, Andy adopted a Whippet, sparking an interest in adapting his equestrian training techniques to dogs.
 - 4. Career Focus on Dog Training:**
 - Andy's dedication to understanding K9 motivation and teaching dogs to think led to his specialization in dog agility sports and continuous improvement in training methods.
 - In 2012, Andy acquired a border collie to further enhance his skills and sensitivity in dog training.
 - 5. Achievements in Dog Agility:**
 - Andy has achieved notable success in dog agility competitions, including being an alternate on two world teams: the World Agility Open and the FCI Agility World Championship. Andy is a 2025 World Agility Open Team member
 - He also secured significant placements in prestigious competitions like the AKC National Final and the Premier Cup.
 - 6. Philosophy in Training:**
 - Andy emphasizes that the foundation of any impressive animal behavior lies in simple and enjoyable beginnings for the animals themselves.
 - His background as a dressage rider has provided him with invaluable insights into effective and humane training practices for both horses and dogs.
- Andy Winther's journey exemplifies resilience, passion, and a commitment to excellence in animal training, transcending from horses to dogs while continually pushing the boundaries of his skills and knowledge.

SEMINARS WILL OPEN VIA THIS LINK

ON FRIDAY, April 4 @ NOON

1st preference for working spots will go to currently registered Follow the Leda students.



4 SUPER SEMINAR TOPICS!

Friday, May 23

“Get Ahead & Stay Ahead!”

Designed for challenge-hungry teams preparing to compete in international-level events. Participating teams must have a reliable lead-out and Forward Focus. Contacts and weaves may be used.

Run Time: 9AM-12:30PM/ Working Spot \$170 / Audit Spot \$40

Join Andy for a morning jam-packed with “Internationally-Flavored” skills and drills! Andy will present shorter sequences with a concentration on TRICKY LEAD-OUTS! Andy will coach participants on how to best get ahead off the startline to give your canine teammie as much information as possible, *and you* the best advantage of staying ahead! We will be chatting about the importance of verbals and Forward Focus in our modern agility world.

Friday, May 23

“Connection, Please!”

Designed for novice-levels teams eager to level-up! Just jumps and tunnels!

Run Time: 1:30—5PM/ Working Spot \$170 / Audit Spot \$40

Have an inexperienced canine teammie? Heck, maybe you are an inexperienced handler, too? Doubtless, you’ve heard other handlers and your trainer talking about “connection” on course. Connection is vital for success! Not only do we need to show our dogs how to —literally— connect one obstacle to the next; but we have to keep their focus and engagement ON US as we navigate 12-20+ obstacles!

It only takes a momentary lapse in our connection for Fido to careen off-course! And, often, disconnect leads to unwanted behaviors such as sniffing, zooming, jumping on ring crew — you name it! Almost any unwanted behavior stems from a lack of connection on course.

Let Andy be your Canine Connection Coach!

Saturday, May 24

“Mastering AKC Masters!”

Designed for teams who wanna go MACH Hunting!

Jumps, weaves, tunnels, and possibly contacts, will be used.

Run Time: 9AM-12:30PM/ Working Spot \$170 / Audit Spot \$40

So, you want to advance your AKC titling goals? Are you aiming to polish off those Excellent titles? Or, perhaps dreaming of one day earning a MACH/ PACH? Hoping to attend AKC Nationals? Well— who better to help you advance your AKC goals than the current AKC National Agility Champion?! I daresay . . . **NO ONE!**

So what are you waiting for? Sign up for this seminar!

Andy will present currently trending Master-level coursework, replicating all those common (and uncommon!) “Q-thieves” that judges just love challenging us with!

Saturday, May 24

“No Passport Required!”

Designed for the most challenge-greedy amongst us! Bwahaha! Full international coursework. Andy may use any and every obstacle he wants to bring on the challenges!

Run Time: 1:30-5PM/ Working Spot \$170 / Audit Spot \$40

International Coursework with ANDY WINTHER. ‘Nuff said. But let’s say some more, anyway . . .

Longer sequences designed to test EVERY skill in your toolbox— putting your handling AND dog training chops to the ultimate test. You and your dog are gonna work hard, and run harder.

Andy will nerdy chat about verbals, timing, connection, dog training, and coach-coach-coach working teams to attack the courses with everything they’ve got!

