

## Join MDSA!

MDSA opened membership in summer 2005 and has over 120 members as of December 2008. We welcome all who want to be an active part of this diverse, rapidly growing international Canine Freestyle organization.



# Musical Dog Sport Association, Inc.



## Membership Benefits

- SPOTLIGHT Newsletter (quarterly)
- Discount on Festivals and other MDSA events
- Circle of Friends
- Online Instructor's Classes
- Rookie and Fledgling Classes for exhibitions/competitions
- Opportunities to volunteer on MDSA Task Forces
- Help support the development of MDSA performance guidelines and programs

Membership is just \$25 / year (US). Applications are available on the MDSA website.

## Musical Dog Sport Executive Board

**President:** Carolyn Scott  
**Vice President:** Pam Martin  
**Secretary:** Jo Monfort  
**Treasurer:** Emily Pyle  
**Board Members:** Candace Crouch, MP Jackson, Nancy Tanner, Katie Tracanna,

## MDSA Advisors & Coordinators

**Executive Board Advisors:**  
Jo Gaebel, Susanna Pathak, Ann Priddy,  
**Membership & SOS Program Coordinator:** Katie Tracanna  
**Spotlight Editor & Products Manager:** Emily Pyle  
**Publications Coordinator & Librarian:** Susanna Pathak  
**Circle of Friends Coordinator:**  
Pam Martin  
**Web Content Manager:**  
Lance Johnson

MDSA

515 S. Fry Road - PMB #301  
Katy, Texas 77450-9100

## MDSA Definition and Vision of Canine Freestyle



The Musical Dog Sport Association defines Canine Freestyle as a dog sport in which training, teamwork, music and movement combine to create an artistic, choreographed performance highlighting the canine partner in a manner that celebrates the unique qualities of

each individual dog. It is built upon the foundation of a positive working relationship of a dog and handler team.

**MDSA** promotes Canine Freestyle as a respected and distinctive venue within the sport of dogs. It is set apart by a combination of training, teamwork, and artistry that is unique to Canine Freestyle as a performance sport.

**MDSA** emphasizes the dog as the focus of freestyle performances. This is portrayed in a choreographed routine through the creative use of movement, music and training. It can be accomplished with beauty, elegance, athleticism and /or humor and it is always done in a way that is respectful of the dog, the audience and the sport itself.

## Our Goals...

- To maintain an association of people interested in furthering the advancement of the sport of Canine Freestyle as defined and envisioned by the Musical Dog Sport Association
- To promote the sport of Canine Freestyle and to share the joys of the canine/human bond achieved through positive training, enhanced by the artistry of music and choreography.
- To encourage interest in the sport of Canine Freestyle through educational programs, demonstrations, and competitions.
- To promote cooperation and good sportsmanship among its members in the training and exhibition of dogs.



## Learn With MDSA

### MDSA Online

#### Workshops:

The goal of these online classes/workshops is to promote the MDSA definition of Canine Freestyle through education, positive training approaches and the celebration of the unique qualities of each individual dog and handler team.

#### To sign up, visit:

[MDSAonlineworkshops@yahoo.com](mailto:MDSAonlineworkshops@yahoo.com)



### Canine Freestyle

#### Instructors Forum

As part of MDSA's commitment to raising the standard of training in Canine Freestyle, this group is for MDSA members in good standing who teach Canine Freestyle classes or who are interested in learning how to do so. It will cover a wide range of subjects including: curricula, class structure, lesson plans, skill progressions and "how to's."



### MDSA Discussion List

This public list is where those interested in MDSA freestyle will meet online to talk Canine Freestyle and MDSA. Please visit our list's home page at:

[MDSAdiscussionlist@yahoo.com](mailto:MDSAdiscussionlist@yahoo.com)



### Serve With MDSA

#### Spirit of Sharing Program (S.O.S)

This program was established to recognize and encourage those who use freestyle as part of any outreach visit sharing the bond we have with our dogs and the joy we have in freestyle. Through visits to hospitals, nursing homes, schools, animal shelter functions, etc., members earn points in our MDSA S.O.S. Program.