

In-House Behavior Modification Protocol

Tethered Play Sessions

This procedure is used to reduce hyper arousal and mouthy behavior during human-dog interactions.

Supplies needed: long line (10-15 feet) and tether hook in the wall.

Procedure:

Bring the dog to the room and hook the long line to the collar and then attach the long line to the tether hook in the wall.

Engage the dog in a play session using a toy. Any time the dog puts his mouth on your skin or clothes – immediately say “too bad” and leave the room.

Stay gone for about 30 seconds and then go back in.

Repeat any time needed during a 5-10 minute session.

Do at least 2 sessions each day (different people should participate).

The goal is that the dog learns that putting his/her mouth on a human chases the human playmate out of the room but mouth on the toy allows the play to continue.