

Club Rules

Club members and everyone attending club events/training shall

- commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, respect, courtesy, and competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
- respect the bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the dog sports and activities offered by the club.
- understand that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to keep a friendly atmosphere and appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of fellow competitors.
- welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the club and those new to dog sports/activities.
- actively support the education and mentorship of newcomers and fellow members, helping them learn the rules, values, and traditions of the sport in a respectful way.
- appreciate, encourage and support all who associate with and participate in the club and the dog sports/activities offered by fostering an environment where respect, fairness, inclusion, and courtesy are foundational.
- treat fellow exhibitors, judges, officials, volunteers, spectators, and staff with dignity and respect, regardless of experience, background, or differences in opinion.
- contribute to a positive atmosphere at meetings, events and other gatherings by avoiding negative gossip, disparagement, or unsportsmanlike behavior.
- always consider as paramount the physical and emotional welfare of their dog.
- avoid handling and/or corrections and/or improper use of training equipment that appears harsh or excessive or abusive.
- avoid use of electronic “shock” collars during club training or events.
- promote and use positive reinforcement methods of dog training during club training and events.
- keep their dog under their physical and/or verbal control to prevent their dog from interfering with or posing a danger to other dogs or people.
- always clean up after their dog and properly dispose of dog waste and trash.
- Not allow their dog to soil any objects that need to be handled by humans such as trash cans, temporary fence posts, signs, equipment, etc.

Complaints/violations of the above may be handled in the following ways:

- Verbal reminder by a Board of Directors member or event committee member to follow the above rules and noting such actions in the event report or next board meeting.
- Club Secretary, at the direction of the Board, sending/emailing an educational letter to the parties involved, affirming the Club Rules and possible actions if rules continue to be disregarded.
- If the number or seriousness of the actions or complaint(s) against a person rises to the level requiring formal discipline, the board will consider further actions which can include, but are not limited to, written reprimand, suspension, expulsion or being banned which can apply to membership and/or future events/classes.