

Y2K9s Dog Sports Club

Aggression Policy

Purpose: To protect students, Instructors and the dogs. To establish guidelines and to clarify what is acceptable behavior, the following policy will be enforced.

Definitions of Aggressive Behavior: Acts of aggression that is potentially harmful or dangerous to humans or dogs. Some examples might be, but are not limited to, the following:

- Unprovoked growling or snapping at other dogs or humans.
- Displaying behaviors that are intimidating to another dog or humans.
- Demonstrating unnecessary aggression toward the handler, other dogs, or other people. It is understood that some dogs may have space requirements and that due consideration shall be given to the dog's needs.
- Charging or running down another dog.
- Attacking another dog or owner/handler.
- Biting another dog, owner/handler or Instructor.

Policy: Owners/Handlers are responsible for their dog's behavior at all times while participating in any Y2K9's function, including formal and/or casual training, rental time, events, and in the general public. Owners/Handlers are responsible for assuring that their dog does not trespass into another dog's space.

Procedure:

1. Any act of aggression must be reported to an Instructor or Board Member. Any and all witnesses will be contacted for information. The Instructor will then present the situation to the Training Director. If needed, the Board of Directors will be consulted. The owner/handler will be notified of the incident being reviewed.
2. Depending on the severity of the incident, the Instructor retains the right to ask the owner/handler to remove the dog from class immediately. The owners/handlers of all dogs involved will be asked for a written statement documenting the circumstances surrounding the incident.
3. The Training Director will review all reports, discuss the incident with all involved parties, and will make a recommendation to the Instructor and/or Board of Directors concerning the dog's continuation in the class and in future club activities.
4. Each incident will be looked at on a case by case basis, as it is understood that there may be extenuating circumstances. All involved parties, including the owner/handler, may present to the Training Director, or to the Board of Directors, any information that they deem to be important in the discussion of the incident.

We are committed to working with dogs that have behavior problems and giving them the opportunity to improve their behavior. Y2K9's prides itself in attempting and succeeding to help many problem dogs. There is, however, the possibility that a dog may be aggressive to the extent that it poses a threat to other dogs or people, and that it is in the best interest to discontinue participation in classes and/or club activities.

Possible outcomes:

Dogs may be banned from group classes. Refunds can be given for unused classes.

The recommendation for private lessons may be given until the dog can be re-evaluated to return to group classes.
