

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE
SAR DOG ATTENDANCE POLICY
(Adopted May 2000)



As SAR K-9 Handlers we should take the lead when it comes to making a professional appearance in public. Doing so will greatly enhance the public's view of SAR Dogs and improve the overall quality of the conference.

The following policy applies to SAR K-9s that will be present at ANY conference presentation, social event, exhibit area and field activities. All efforts should be made to follow these policies and similar etiquette for field activities during the NASAR annual conference, LAST conferences or any other NASAR-sponsored function.

All perceived infractions of these policies shall be immediately reported to the NASAR SAR Dog Section Chair or his/her designee for review. The reviewer's determination as to whether an infraction occurred shall be final. All reviews shall be documented in writing by the reviewer. All records shall be on file at NASAR headquarters for future reference.

Penalties for determined infractions shall be as follows:

- Minor Infraction– K-9 will be expelled from the official activities of the conference or event and their registration tag will be confiscated.
 - Major Infraction– Handler will be expelled from the conference or event and placed on a list that will forbid them to register a K-9 for a NASAR conference for the next 3 years.
1. The SAR K-9 must be formally registered as an attendee at the NASAR Conference (or other event) and the K-9 Handler must ensure the following requirements are met:
 - Display the registration tag at all times when attending official activities at the event;
 - Provide statement of current vaccinations and Health Certificate not more than 2 weeks in advance. Vaccinations shall include a minimum of: Rabies, DHLPP, Parvo, Corona, Bordatella;
 - Provide documentation from team training director that the K-9 is either an operational SAR K-9 or an ADVANCED trainee with a SAR Team or from a Law Enforcement canine officer with whom the handler works. Documentation shall be on letterhead with contact numbers included.
 - Provide certification of completion for AKC Canine Good Citizen training course.
 2. NO DOG UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE WILL BE ALLOWED REGISTRATION OR IS TO BE ON CONFERENCE FACILITIES DURING THE CONFERENCE.
 3. The SAR K-9 shall be in uniform at all times during conference except when in private quarters of handler.
 4. Any presenter may ask a SAR K-9 to leave the presentation at any time. Failure to comply will be considered a minor infraction.
 5. Any NASAR Official may ask that a SAR K-9 to leave an official function. Failure to comply will be considered a minor infraction.

6. Any SAR K-9 that nips or bites a person or another dog will be guilty of a minor infraction.
7. Any SAR K-9 urinating or defecating within the conference facilities outside of designated areas will be guilty of a minor infraction. Multiple incidents (2 or more) will be considered a major infraction.
8. All handlers are expected to use designated relief areas only at conference site. Those not cleaning up immediately after their dog will be guilty of a minor infraction, and more than one occurrence will be considered a major infraction.
9. Any SAR K-9 observed disrupting any presentation will be guilty of a minor infraction. Handlers are expected to remove K-9 without being asked.
10. K-9s are not allowed at any time on escalators. Failure to adhere will constitute a minor infraction.
11. K-9s are not allowed at any time in pool areas or hot tub areas. Failure to adhere will constitute a minor infraction. The only exception to this is when the K-9 is participating in a NASAR-sponsored canine water rescue training or demonstration activity and the facility has pre-approved the presence of K-9s in the pool area.
12. No bathing and/or grooming of dogs in rooms. All dog hair shall be properly disposed of. Failure to comply will constitute a minor infraction. Maintenance repairs due to non-compliance will be the responsibility of the handler.
13. Dogs shall be on leash AT ALL TIMES on conference premises unless working a search problem in a NASAR offered course. Failure to comply will constitute a major infraction.
14. Dogs shall be confined and quiet when left unattended in rooms. Reports by facility managers to NASAR officials or observances by NASAR management will constitute a major infraction.
15. Dogs left in vehicles parked on facility property shall be confined and quiet when left alone. Reports to conference management or observances of non-compliance will constitute a major infraction.
16. Care shall be taken that environment is suitable for animal to be in vehicle. Failure to comply can seriously compromise the health of the dog and shall constitute a major infraction.
17. When not at conference facilities, proper etiquette and adherence to local animal control ordinances is expected. Handler should provide name and contact information upon demand. Failure to comply will constitute a major infraction.
18. All attendees with registered canine will be required to keep a sign posted on their door indicating that a dog is in the room. Failure to adhere will be considered a minor infraction.
19. Canines are not to be brought into food service areas where it has been posted by conference staff or facility management that no dogs are allowed. Failure to adhere will constitute a major infraction.

20. Common Courtesy: All SAR dog handlers are responsible for the safety and well being of their K-9 partners. They should be constantly aware of other SAR K-9s and handlers as they approach.

- a. Call to a handler from a distance prior to approaching him/her and the SAR K-9. Maintain at least 2-leash lengths distance between your SAR K-9 and any other unknown dog.
- b. Do NOT place your SAR K-9 down next to an unfamiliar SAR K-9 during a presentation. Try to maintain at least 5 seats between your SAR K-9 and any other SAR K-9s.
- c. Do not give your dog chew toys or raw hides during presentations. Do not play with toys/balls, etc. with your K-9 in conference areas or relief areas. All play must be on leash when on conference facilities site.
- d. Take your dog outside between presentations to let them relieve themselves.
- e. Be polite to other hotel guests (there are some people who are very afraid of dogs).
- f. Do not crowd your dog into tight areas such as elevators, full meeting rooms, etc.
- g. Tape jingling tags during presentations to avoid distraction of tags with dog's movement.
- h. Carry flat sheets to cover beds in private quarters to eliminate dog hair on bedspreads, etc. and to cover facility meeting room floors during classroom sessions, etc.

I have reviewed the above policies and agree to abide by these policies at all NASAR functions.

Printed Name of Handler

Printed Name of K-9

Signature of Handler

Date Signed

Mailing Address of Handler

Daytime Phone Number of Handler