



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE SAR DOG ATTENDANCE POLICY

As SAR canine 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 pre-conference and conference.

The following policy applies to SAR canine's that will be attending **ANY** pre-conference and/or conference presentations, social events, vendor area and field activities. All efforts should be made to follow these policies and similar etiquette for field activities during any NASAR sponsored function.

All perceived infractions of these policies shall be immediately reported to the NASAR SAR Dog Committee Chair, NASAR Conference Manager, and/or their designee for their review. After reviewing the incident, the reviewer will make a determination as to whether an infraction has occurred. All decisions shall be final. The reviewer handling the investigation shall document all reviews. All records shall be on file at NASAR headquarters for future reference.

Penalties for determined infractions shall be as follows:

Minor Infraction– Canine will be expelled from all remaining conference events and their registration tag will be confiscated.

Major Infraction– Handler will be expelled from the current conference and placed on a list that will forbid them to register a canine for a NASAR conference for the next 3 years.

1. **The SAR canine must be registered as attending the NASAR Pre-Conference and/or Conference, and display the registration tag at all times when attending official conference events.**
2. To be registered, the canine handler must provide the following information:
 - i. Current Veterinarian Health Certificate not more than 2 weeks old. Current vaccinations shall include at a minimum of: Rabies, Bordatella, and DAP (Distemper, Parvovirus and Adenovirus Type 2).
 - ii. Documentation from a SAR Team Training Director that the canine is either an Operational SAR canine or an Apprentice trainee.
Or documentation from a Law Enforcement Canine Officer with whom the handler works. Documentation shall be on Official Team Letterhead with contact numbers included.
 - iii. Provide certification of completion of AKC Canine Good Citizen test or equal.
 - iv. **NO DOG LESS THAN ONE YEAR OF AGE WILL BE ALLOWED REGISTRATION OR IS TO BE ON CONFERENCE FACILITIES DURING THE CONFERENCE.**
3. The SAR canine shall be in uniform at all times during conference except when in private quarters of handler.
4. Any presenter may ask a SAR canine to leave their presentation at any time. Failure to comply will be considered a Minor Infraction.
5. Any NASAR Official may ask that a SAR canine leave an official function. Failure to comply will be considered a Minor Infraction.
6. Any registered SAR canine that nips or bites a person or another dog will be guilty of a Major Infraction.
7. Any SAR canine 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. Canine's are not allowed at any time in restaurants, pool areas, hot tub areas, or on escalators. Failure to adhere will constitute a Minor Infraction.
10. No bathing and/or grooming of canines in rooms. All canine 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.
11. Canines shall be on leash AT ALL TIMES on conference premises. Failure to comply will constitute a Minor Infraction.
12. Canines shall be confined and quiet when left unattended in rooms. Reports by facilities owners to hotel management, conference management, or observances by NASAR management will constitute a Minor Infraction.
13. Canines left in vehicles parked on facility property shall be confined and quiet when left alone. Reports to hotel management, conference management or observances of non-compliance will constitute a Minor Infraction.
14. Care shall be taken that environment is suitable for animal to be in vehicle. Failure to comply can seriously compromise the health of the canine and shall constitute a Major Infraction.
15. 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.
16. 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.

Common Courtesy:

All SAR dog handlers are responsible for the safety and well being of their canine partners. They should constantly be aware of the general public and other SAR canines and their handlers. Be considerate and professional, at all times.

1. Call to a handler from a distance prior to approaching him/her and their SAR canine.
2. Maintain at least 2-leash lengths distance between your SAR canine and any other unknown canine.
3. Do NOT place your SAR canine down next to an unfamiliar SAR canine during a presentation. Try to maintain at least 5 seats between your SAR canine and any other SAR canines.
4. Do not give your canine chew toys or raw hides during presentations. All play must be on leash when on conference facilities site.
5. Take your canine outside between presentations to let them relieve themselves.
6. Be polite to other hotel guests (there are some people who are very afraid of canines).
7. Do not crowd your canine into tight areas such as elevators, etc. Wait for the next elevator. If a meeting room is full, be considerate of others and your partner, don't go in.
8. Tape jingling tags during presentations to avoid distraction of tags with canine's movement.
9. Carry flat sheets to cover beds in private quarters to eliminate canine 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.

Dated this _____ day of _____, _____.

(Signature of handler)

(Mailing Address)

(Printed Name)

(Phone Number Contacts)

Team Affiliation