



Expectations for Nose Work Breakfast Club Practices

January 2021

All dogs and handlers need to be able to navigate the practice environments and the surprises that will inevitably occur. Our practices are in real life, public and private, environments. We need to do our best to ensure all people and dogs remain safe in the practice environment. While the club maintains insurance, this document is intended to provide expectations to limit the risk of liability to the club.

Members are encouraged to bring guests to NWBC practices. Members practice free, guests will pay \$5. Payments shall be made the day of practice to a NWBC board member (cash or check) unless arrangements are made to pay at a later time or through PayPal on the NWBC website. Members and guests are annually required to acknowledge the receipt of and agreement with these expectations by signing the acknowledgement and waiver of liability.

Respectful behavior towards each other is expected from all attendees. This includes respecting each team's access to the set hide locations, allowing enough time for the teams to clear the area unimpeded.

Dogs should be contained in your vehicle unless actively searching or moving from one search area to another. Handlers should ensure that their dog keeps a safe distance (minimum of eight feet) from any other dog.

Handlers should wear comfortable clothing with safety in mind. Athletic footwear appropriate for navigating uneven terrain is highly recommended.

Dogs may only be attached to the following equipment: flat collars, martingale collars, limited slip, and harnesses. Leashes may be of any length and Flexi leashes are allowed, but only if the handler is able to keep their dog a safe distance (minimum of eight feet) from other dogs. No electronic or remote training devices may be used at any time. Bitches in season will run at the end of run order.

A handler may be asked, by a NWBC board member, to leave a practice for reasons that include, but are not limited to:

- Abuse towards another person or dog
- Disrespectable treatment toward another person
- Acting in a manner that could endanger another person or dog, including not having control of their dog(s).
- Dog(s) acting in a manner that could endanger another person or dog, including an aggressive act by a dog towards a person or another dog.
- Acting in a manner that could cause the loss of a practice site.
- Not following these practice expectations

Handlers should take advantage of the opportunity to observe other teams during practice. Discussions regarding the searches is encouraged, but there should be no training during practice. Training, as used in this expectations document, is defined as: "the action of teaching a person or dog a particular skill or type of behavior."

These sessions are a time for handlers to practice skills previously learned through training. They are not intended to be a time to train or socialize dogs. Following are some guidelines for dogs who have concerns about dogs, people, and the environment.

Dogs who are concerned about other dogs will be allowed to search areas without other dogs purposefully in the area. Handlers will do their best to maintain at least eight feet of distance between dogs. Handlers with dogs who are concerned with other dogs need to be able to safely navigate any surprises including dogs directly approaching your dog.

Dogs who are concerned with people should be reasonably comfortable in the proximity (within eight feet) of people of varying ages, genders, and sizes who may move in unpredictable ways. Handlers will show respect and not interact with these dogs without permission and will give you a little bit of extra space if requested.

Dogs who have environmental sensitivities will be afforded time to help your dog recover from an unusual or scary event during an active search. Acclimation to the environment should be done away from the search area(s) and prior to entering an active search area.

Acknowledgement and Waiver of Liability

I have read and agree to the expectations set forth above. (_____)
initials

I understand that the behavior of dogs cannot be guaranteed, is sometimes unpredictable, and some domestic animals are capable of inflicting serious personal injury or death and extensive property damage. Knowing the risks, I agree to assume ALL those risks including, but not limited to: assuming the financial responsibility of any possible litigation arising from any incident in which I may be involved, I release, indemnify, and hold harmless Nose Work Breakfast Club, any practice location owner or agent, and their employees, officers, directors, agents, or contractors from any and all damages or personal injury. Any incident involving myself, the location, or those pets or action of other participants will be my sole responsibility and I assume all financial liability and will assume all and any financial costs associated with my actions. (_____)
initials

I understand that participating in practices holds some risk. My dog(s) and I may be exposed to challenging or unstable footing and accept all possible risks associated with participating or observing. I agree to hold harmless Nose Work Breakfast Club and any practice location owner or agent, and their employees, officers, directors, agents, or contractors and to accept responsibility for all litigation and financial obligations arising from any unforeseen event in which I may be involved. (_____)
Initials

I have read, understand, and agree to the above:

Signature

Date

Print Name