

## Shaker Field Dog Park Safety Procedures

April 2018

When an incident occurs at the Dog Park, dog owners should follow the posted protocols (see below). Anyone wishing to file a formal report or make the Mascoma Valley Dog Park Supporters (MVDPS) Board aware of an ongoing situation must complete an Incident Report form in order to document occurrences & allow the MVDPS Board to properly investigate and resolve the matter.

Incident Report Forms can be obtained online at [www.mascomavalleydogpark.com](http://www.mascomavalleydogpark.com) or in hard copy at the kiosks inside both the Large and Small dog park areas.

Incident report forms can be submitted as follows: Complete online form; E-mail to [mascomavalleydogpark@gmail.com](mailto:mascomavalleydogpark@gmail.com); Mail to MVDPS at the address below; Drop off in one of the Donation Boxes inside the dog park.

Violations that should be reported and will be automatically reviewed by the Board according to the Incident Protocol:

- Person bit by a dog
- Dog requiring medical treatment

Violations that can be reported and will be documented:

- Dog bitten with no medical treatment necessary
- Children under the age limit (12yrs) in the dog park
- Unneutered/unspayed dogs older than one year within the Small or Large Dog Parks
- Failure to alert other users of Ingrid's Park to the unaltered state of a handler's dog(s).
- Failure to abide by Dog Park rules
- Disruptive/abusive behavior to persons and/or dogs

Repeated offenses of the above listed violations will be reviewed by Board according to the Incident Protocol.

### Incident Protocol

1. When a formal complaint is received and is eligible for review, the report will be distributed and reviewed by the Mascoma Valley Dog Park Supporters Board.
2. If a Board member is involved in the incident, she/he will be excluded from the review process, except for providing a written statement of what happened.
3. If the incident resulted in serious harm to a person(s) or dog(s), a Board Designated Member (the President, or if he/she not available, then another Board member) will take initial but temporary action, such as restricting a handler and his/her dog from the Park for period of up to 10 days.
4. A member of the Board may be designated to collect statements from parties named in the incident and statements from witnesses named in the incident.

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5. The Board will review provided information and may consult with canine behavior and/or training specialists in order to determine a recommended course of action, if any, to take. Actions may include but are not limited to: restricted use of the park, temporary or permanent bans on using the park, dog training, or testing requirements (e.g., Canine Good Citizen test).
6. The Board will provide a report outlining the facts to the Town Manager, along with the Board's recommendations.
7. The Town Manager will make a final decision and inform all involved parties.
8. The Town Manager's decisions may be appealed to the Enfield Selectboard within 30 days and the Selectboard will hold a hearing to modify, affirm or reverse the Town Manager's decision.

### Incident Categories

#### **Human Bite or Dog Fatality**

Call 911 or Enfield Police Dispatch at 603- 643-2222. Report immediately to Enfield Animal Control Officer (currently Enfield Police) at 603-632-7501. Exchange information to complete an incident report. Exchange information with other involved parties. All those involved should file an incident report form. All parties (handlers and their dogs) should leave the premises and not return to the Park until notified by a Board member.

**Aggressive Dogs** (Dogs showing signs of repeated aggression towards other dogs or people, or any dog that bites another dog which requires medical treatment.)

Separate and leash all involved dogs and take them out of the Park. Exchange information with other involved parties. All those involved should file an incident report form. All parties (handlers and their dogs) should leave the premises and not return to the Park until notified by a Board member.

**Safety Issues** (e.g., children under 12 years in the park, unneutered/unsprayed dogs older than one year within the Small or Large Dog Parks, not alerting other users of Ingrid's Park to the unaltered state of a handler's dog(s), dogs without collars/tags.) Complete and incident report form and submit to MVDPS. The Board will attempt to identify the parties involved and educate as needed. Continued infractions will be addressed by the Safety Protocol.