



PO Box 44 Homer, Alaska 99603

Dog Policy

March 2024

Kachemak Nordic Ski Club fosters a respectful and inclusive environment on our ski trails and during our events. Kachemak Nordic Ski Club welcomes all to enjoy the delights of winter skiing in a safe, fun, and positive atmosphere.

PURPOSE:

The Kachemak Nordic Ski Club maintains trails for winter, non-motorized recreation on a variety of private and public lands in the Homer area. The biggest use is for cross-country skiing. Members who wish to ski with their dogs on KNSC trails must adhere to the following rules.

POLICY:

A. Rules for Dogs on KNSC Trails:

1. Owners are responsible for their dog and any damages or injuries their dog causes.
2. Dogs must be leashed in all parking lot areas and when returning to trailheads.
3. One dog per skier on the trails.
4. Dogs should be under voice control and in sight at all times. If your dog is not under voice control or is consistently out of your sight, it must be leashed to you.
5. Dog waste (poop) must be cleaned up or removed from trails and parking areas by the owner. Bags are provided at trailheads areas where dogs are permitted (see below).
6. When meeting or passing other skiers, keep your dog on your side of the trail and close to you.
7. Leave aggressive and unruly dogs at home.
8. Dogs are not permitted at KNSC events, races, or lessons. Events and school groups have priority on the trails over skiers with dogs.
9. Respect private property, stay on the trails. Do not allow dogs to leave the trails.

B. KNSC Response to Dog Bites:

1. If a dog bite occurs, gather information on the dog including proof of rabies vaccination. Exchange contact information with the dog owner and information for any witnesses involved. Contact the State Troopers at (907) 262-4463 to report the bite. Seek medical

attention if necessary or, in an emergency, call 911. Fill out a KNSC Incident Report online to report the bite.

2. KNSC has a zero tolerance policy for dog bites, vicious attacks, or initiating a fight with other dogs causing injury.
3. One such incident will result in the offending dog being banned from KNSC trails for at least the rest of the current season.
4. Dogs exhibiting aggressive and threatening behavior or dogs that have a history of being out of control may, at the Board's discretion, be banned from KNSC trails.
5. For repeat offenses by an owner's dog(s), the dog owner may, at the Board's discretion, be banned from all KNSC trails and lose their KNSC Membership.
6. Dog owners that repeatedly fail to properly control their dog may, at the Board's discretion, be banned from KNSC trails and lose their KNSC Membership.

C. KNSC Trail System - Dog Usage and Restrictions:

1. **McNeil/Wolf Ridge:** Dogs are allowed. Parking for dog access is via the parking lot behind KESA fire station off Ashwood Ave.
2. **McNeil Canyon Elementary School:** Dogs not allowed on school property, in the parking lot, or on the trails immediately surrounding the school.
3. **Eveline State Park:** Dogs are allowed, but must be leashed (per State Park Policy).
4. **Baycrest/Rogers Loop/DOT:** Dogs allowed, except for upper portions of Far Side (on the way to Sunset Loop).
5. **Millie's/Sunset Loop:** Dogs not allowed because trails are on privately owned land (land owners may ski with dogs on their own land).
6. **Lookout Mountain:** Dogs not allowed.
7. **Marathon Connector Trail:** Dogs are allowed where trail is accessed from the Snowmads parking lot near the Watermelon Trail on Ohlson Mountain Road. Be aware that the trail usage with dogs is discontinuous because dogs are not allowed at Lookout and Sunset.

D. KNSC Enforcement:

1. The KNSC Board is responsible for enforcement actions related to dog policies. Skiers should avoid direct confrontation with dog owners if policy violations are observed.
2. Skiers should report any incidents involving a dog or dog owner by submitting an incident report to KNSC via our website ("Incident Report").
3. Incident Reports will be brought to the Board for discussion and Board meeting minutes will reflect incidents and actions taken by the Board. Names of skiers/dog owners will not be posted.

The Kachemak Nordic Ski Club Board will continue their efforts to improve signage and education for club members about skiing with dogs and other etiquette points.