

Kent County SAR K-9 Unit Training Guidelines

The items listed in these guidelines are intended to help provide safe and organized training sessions. All personnel who train with the Kent County SAR K-9 Unit must read and follow these guidelines. Anyone who fails to follow them will be asked to leave the training session. The number one priority is the safety of all personnel and canines at training. Since team trainings are normally one night a week our time is limited so we need to work in an organized manner to make these trainings efficient and beneficial.

1. All personnel must sign in and out when attending the training sessions.
2. All dogs must be properly socialized. No dogs will be accepted into the unit that shows aggression towards humans or other dogs.
3. Dogs will be crated at all times when they are not being worked. Dogs are not to be tied out to vehicles or other objects during training sessions.
4. All dogs will be up to date on vaccines. This includes
 - a. Rabies,
 - b. DHLPP,
 - c. Bordetella.

The following are highly recommended:

1. Lyme vaccine,
2. Heartworm testing and preventative,
3. Flea preventative.

A yearly negative fecal is required.

5. Handlers will need to clean up after your dog if it defecates in a public area.
6. All dogs should be on a leash unless it is being worked.
7. Do not allow dogs to get into other dogs personal space.
8. Dogs who work off lead must be able to work around other dogs and humans without showing aggression to those working in areas of close proximity. They should be able to continue to work their area without becoming too distracted by others.
9. Handlers and support personnel must be properly dressed for training. No shorts, cammo BDU's, or sandals will be worn to trainings. You should dress for training like you would if you were on a search. Jeans, Khaki BDU's and Black BDU's are the only acceptable pants to be worn. No shirts, coats or hats with another

organization's logos are to be worn at trainings. The only exceptions are for members of K9 One or law enforcement agencies who may wear their respective uniforms and logos.

10. Hand held radios are highly recommended but not required. Extra radios will usually be available if you cannot afford to get one.
11. Handlers must have extra water for both themselves and their K-9 partner.
12. Please bring treats if your dog works for them.
13. All handlers should have their vehicle properly equipped at all times to respond to a search. This includes having a proper uniform and items needed for yourself and your K-9.
14. Be prepared to train. During "down" time offer support to other teams going out on an exercise. Please do not stand around the vehicles talking unless it is training related. We're here to work our dogs and further our training.
15. All handlers must learn to support teams of other disciplines. Trailers must be able to assist air scent and HRD teams. Air scent must be able to assist trailing and HRD teams. HRD must be able to assist trailing and air scent teams. When supporting another team member, please ask the handler what they want from you.
16. All K-9 handlers should know some basic first aid procedures for dogs. They should also know how to properly restrain a dog if it becomes injured or frightened.
17. All dogs must be able to be taken to their vehicle and crated by other personnel without the handler's assistance. They also should be able to be removed from their vehicle or crate by other personnel without the handler's assistance.
18. Handlers must inform other personnel if their dog has any vehicle/crate aggression before they allow others to let their dogs in or out of their crate. Handlers should also let others know if their dog has any special needs when they are getting them in or out of the crate. As an example: if a dog cannot jump into the back of the truck and needs to be lifted after he puts his front legs up on the tailgate.
19. Handlers and support personnel must act in a professional manner at all functions including trainings, meetings, and searches. If you feel you are going to lose control of your emotions, then get them under control or leave the scene/training. Remember, emotions go right down the lead to your dog and will make for unsuccessful trainings or searches as well as make your credibility look bad to the public, other team mates and law enforcement.

20. If you are unable to attend a scheduled training, please call or email ahead and let the training coordinator know. This gives time for any needed changes to be made in the training plans for the day.

I have read, understand and agree to these guidelines.

Signature_____

Date_____