



Enjoying BMDCGTC Events With Your Dog

The Bernese Mountain Dog Club Of The Greater Twin Cities (BMDCGTC) is pleased to be able to offer a variety of events where both you and your dog can participate! These events are a great opportunity to socialize or learn more about the breed and the club. They also afford an opportunity to learn more about training and other important dog-related skills. It is our on-going goal to keep these activities enjoyable and safe for all human and dog attendees --- members and non-members alike. We ask that all attendees make safety and appropriate dog etiquette their top priority when at these functions.

We try to be clear about when dogs are invited to attend and if these functions are on-leash or off-leash events but a general guideline is that Dog Shows, Events at Training Locations and Club Meetings (if dogs are invited) will normally be on-leash. Our monthly Berner Play Pals events are normally at locations that will allow well-behaved dogs to be off-leash. If a Play Pals function happens to be an on-leash event this will be stated in the description and location information.

If you have any questions about which events dogs are welcome to attend or whether it is on-leash or off event, please feel free to use the contact information included on the event or the Contact Us button on the website to get clarification.

Health Expectations:

- ❖ All dogs that attend should be healthy and free from transmittable diseases' and parasites.
- ❖ We also ask that you check with your veterinarian before bringing puppies that have not had the recommended inoculations to an event.

Dog & Owner Related Conduct:

- ❖ We ask that all owners be proactive in monitoring the behavior of their dogs for the safety of all the dogs and people in attendance.
- ❖ You have permission and are encouraged to respectfully approach other owners if their dog is misbehaving and the owner is unaware of it, or has missed seeing it.
- ❖ Please do not bring a female that is in heat. NOTE: Bringing intact males can also be challenging in a group setting. Use your own judgment about whether your dog can safely interact with other dogs, especially at off-leash events.
- ❖ Do not leave your dog "unattended" while you are talking with other individuals. You will be held accountable for their actions and behavior in all cases so please keep an eye on them while you converse.
 - Always clean up after your dog.
 - If your dog becomes unruly or plays roughly, please deal with it promptly. Leash the dog, and if needed, remove them from the situation until they calm down.
 - If your dogs' manner of playing is making another owner uncomfortable please respect the owners' wishes to ratchet back the intensity of the play. Be aware of the body language of the other owners not just their words.
 - Do not allow your dog to mount other dogs, exhibit dominance behaviors, or jump on people.

- ❖ **Aggressive behavior will not be tolerated.** All dogs may have a “moment” but all aggressive behavior, even a “moment” needs to be handled quickly and appropriately. If needed, leash or remove your dog from the situation/area until they have calmed down. If the behavior continues you will be politely asked to leave.

Event & Site Related:

- ❖ Always observe all of the rules posted at the location of the event. Each dog park or event site has its own set of regulations: please follow them.
- ❖ If there are gates or doors, please make sure that they are closed securely when entering and exiting.
- ❖ If the event also includes the testing of other dogs (Obedience, Drafting, Rally, CGC, Therapy Dog Test, etc.) we ask that you and your dog not be a distraction during the testing. If you are not sure what may cause a distraction or are wondering if where you are standing may pose a distraction please feel free to ask someone for their input.

We thank you for taking the time to read our guidelines “Enjoying BMDCGTC Events With Your Dog” that is designed to ensure that you and your dog can safely and fully enjoy our club functions.

Through our events, we hope that you will make some new friends, connect with people that you already know, find topics that interest you, and learn more about the wonderful Bernese Mountain Dog!

