

Hello SWCDP Members

HoHoHo . . .

Santa Claus will visit SWCDP on **Sunday, December 7**, from **11:00am to 2:00pm**.

Please stop the Alternate Dog Park to say hello.



Bring your camera It's basically snap and go (*we may take a few SWCDP shots for newsletter, etc – but will not be responsible for sending each family an individual photo*)

We encourage photo taking, either your pooch with Santa (*you take the shot*) – or – you & pooch with Santa (*we will use your camera to take the shot for you*). **Important:** Sign the register when you arrive. One photo taking session at a time – so – it is a “first come, first serve” process. We will call your name when it is your turn. The photo area will likely be in a roped off section to provide a quieter environment for picture taking - and for Santa's safety --- just in case we have a few 4-Leggeds who might object strongly to having some weird looking person in their playground, on their turf. :)

This **fun** and **free** event is made possible by Art M & Sandi L (Sofee). Art will be Santa for the day and Sandi his caregiver and driver.

Tongues, Snow, SnowFigures



For the Winter Newsletter (Feb-Mar) – we seek photos of your pooch showing lots of tongue. We also want doggie shots playing in snow on SWCDP playground.

And . . . when we get a large snow – we hope some of our members will build snowmen or other sculptures, take photos, and send those too. If you capture a good shot – send copy to Judi, willow.nic07@yahoo.com

Paw friendly ice melt and snow shovel in entry area for members to use on the front sidewalk and pathways.

URGENT – Repeat Trespassers!

Watch for

DOG

“Pony” or “Pony Boy”

All members are asked to be on the watch for a guy who repeatedly brings in 3 small children and a dog. The dog goes by either Pony or Pony Boy, medium build, likely a Terrier/Spaniel mix, brown & white. At least 2 of 3 children are not 8 years old, and possibly the third one, too...very small kids.

Pony bit Maggie during a visit some time ago and got in another scuffle recently. When asked if they were members, the man said yes they were members. As of 12/01/14 they are still not SWCDP members but continue to use our facilities.

We are not sure if one of our members gave out the code, they sneak in with other members while gate is open, or if he simply reaches over the gate to let the group in. The dishonesty, complete disregard for our rules, entitlement attitude, and sometimes aggressive dog behavior has created a big problem. Not to mention we have a sometimes quarrelsome dog on site and we have no vaccine records or signed waiver and agreement to be financially responsible.

If you see them - please inform them of our membership requirement, point out that it clearly states such in several places in our front signage and website; escort them to the gate. Gather a few other members, if possible, if you are hesitant to do so alone.

A REMINDER ...perhaps it's time once again say the following: **1)** It is NEVER ok to give out the SWCDP code; **2)** Bring in friend/family dogs who are not registered SWCDP members; **3)** Allow non-members a “try it before you join” approach to membership; **4)** It is NEVER ok to bring children under 8 into the dog park even if the adults are members.

We also do not provide daily, weekly, monthly memberships nor do we pro-rate membership fee. It is always a one-time season fee. This keeps it simple, fair, and easy to manage. We appreciate the majority of our members who honor the rules – and ask those members who may be looking for loop-holes to not put our membership at risk.

SWCDP dogs must wear a collar when inside Dog Park and humans must carry leash with them.

We do not have SWCDP management on site round the clock – it is up to the membership at large to help enforce the SWCDP rules, keep the park clean and safe, and watch out for one another. If you must confront an intruder – find other members, when possible, and discuss as a group. Stay calm, be courteous. Most offenders leave immediately when confronted. If you run into a problem, call 911 or the Park Ranger, for immediate assistance. See Emergency Info on main message board in our entry area. And report to Joan, who manages our membership and security, secretary.swdogpark@gmail.com

Maze, Straw, Poop, Bags

The **maze** is an upgrade version of past years straw stacks – and intended to be a **dedicated play station** for the winter months. It includes multi levels, hallways, tunnels and a half of an Agility-style A-Frame. For stability & safety factors, we have tied rope around most stacks – and ask members not to move the bales or use for covering the mud. We want to keep the maze fully in tact – at least for Dec-Jan and maybe early Feb. Once most of the winter is behind us – we will begin tearing down the maze and use straw for grounds upkeep.

There are multiple **straw bales** available for dealing with muddy turf. Members are encouraged to pull from the two “supply” piles for turf maintenance usage. Just be frugal with the disbursements, spread straw thinly – the application over the muddy spots does not need to be heavy – that is a waste of straw. ***Please don't pull our maze apart until Feb-Mar.***

Poop, especially in the back of the dog park, is piling up – night visitors should bring a flash light so you can find your dog's waste. A good habit is to pick up your dog's poop plus one more. Watch for **holes** from dog digging – they are more difficult to see now that we have straw on the turf. We have loose dirt in the dirt bin – if your dog digs, fill the hole.

Please check the primary **bag** bin as you go through the entry area. When the bag supply gets low – bring more plastic bags to refresh our supply. This is an ongoing need, even in winter. And we rely on our members to keep the bag holders throughout the dog park (on fence) filled. When you see empty holders – fill them, please.

Contest Outcome

The SurveyMonkey voting is closed and we have the final votes just about completed; we need to check our po box once more this week to allow time for members without computer access time to cast manual votes.

Winners in costume and cupcake contests will receive a direct email this week – and prizes are available for pick up on Sunday, Dec 7, from 11-2, in Alternate (at Santa's station).

A special Halloween feature, with plenty of photos of the entire Fall Event, including contestants & winners, will be in the upcoming Winter Newsletter (*tentative publication date, late Feb/early Mar*). In December, we will post winning contestants on our message board. Thanks to all participants in the Costume and Cupcake contests – our partygoers enjoyed every entry. Kudos to you!

Hope everyone stays warm and safe during this very busy time of year. Happy Holidays to All.

Regards,
SWCDP Management