

## Parade Rules - GSDC 2012

Ratified: 10/19/2010

- 1) There will be one dog per handler at all parades. If you wish to bring more than one dog you must arrange in advance for a second member handler to accompany that dog.
  
- 2) Exceptions will be made for rigs, sleds and carts participating in parades under the following circumstances:
  - An **active (upfront) handler** will be defined as a handler who is walking or riding with their dog at their side. A **riding handler** will be defined as a handler who is riding a rig, cart or sled BEHIND the dog/s.
  - 1 active (upfront) handler to lead the team of up to two dogs
  - 1 additional active (upfront) handler for each additional two dogs
  - In the event the rig itself requires a (riding) handler, the rider of the rig, cart or sled, will not count as an active handler (i.e. – a four dog team would require two active handlers and one riding handler for three total handlers, six dogs=four handlers, etc.)
  - Exceptions for rig, sled and cart handlers will be determined individually on the basis of the experience and temperament of the dogs and handler as demonstrated at previous parades and practices
    - i. All rigs, carts and sleds, which are being ridden without the assist of an active handler, **MUST** have operational brakes.
    - ii. No child under the age of 13 may act as riding handler unless the unit also has an active handler leading the team with one handler per two dogs, or an additional adult riding handler.
  
- 3) Parades should contain at least 6 GSDC members for it to count as a club event. We will not attend, as a club, if there are not at least 6 members.
  
- 4) Only the parade committee chair can set-up a parade, but that member must be open to any and all suggestions that a member or members of the club make.

- 5) Once an application has been submitted with formation, rig count and handler placement, substantial changes cannot be made. Substantial changes include adding or removing additional rigs, carts or sleds, or consequential deviation of number of participants. In the event that circumstances require substantial deviation from the approved application, the parade organizers must be notified and ratify this change no later than five days in advance or as dictated in the official parade rules for that event.
- 6) All parades require a dedicated participant for cleanup in the event that cleanup is necessary.
- 7) In the event not all parade information can be adequately discussed at meetings, a meeting should be set for parade participants at a time agreeable to the majority of participants and at a location agreeable to the majority of participants to do so. All participants should take an active part in acquiring all necessary information if they are unable to attend said meeting.
- 8) Parade organizers will dictate how far in advance participants should plan on arriving for setup. In the event of large parades, this time is likely to be three to four hours in advance, but participants should allow at least one hour before start time for setup at any parade. Participants should make themselves aware of parking arrangements in advance and plan accordingly as these things are beyond the scope of the parade committee.
- 9) All dogs participating in the parade should be clean and brushed.
- 10) All participants should wear club attire or attire with club colors and likeness. Theme oriented parades may require costume other than club colors. The parade committee will provide minimum guidelines for participants regarding dress when club attire is not used.

- 11) In the event that the club chooses to use a float or substantially deviate from the usual all dogs on the ground procedures, the chair may call for mandatory practice/s for all participants as deemed necessary. Participants who do not participate in practices may be excluded from participation.
- 12) Only full members and associate members in good standing may participate as handlers in parades. Non-members, dressed in appropriate attire, may walk, carry banners, assist with other duties, in the parade, but club members must maintain control of participating member dogs.
- 13) Handlers may not, while participating in any parade, allow their dog to visit or engage with bystanders and or spectator dogs along the way. Club dogs must be kept under the control of their club member handler. Given the unique circumstances dogs may demonstrate excitement while in en route, however dogs who growl, bark or show aggression towards onlookers, spectator dogs (or other animals), other parade participants or their handlers may be excluded from future participation in club parades. Club member handlers who purposefully allow this behavior may be barred from future participation in any club parades, regardless of the dog they wish to handle.
- 14) Dogs who have demonstrated a history of dangerous and habitual aggression or extreme agitation towards club members or other club member dogs at club events and outings must be approved for participation on a case-by-case basis, as per the bi-laws Article 3, sections 3 and 4.

NOTHING FURTHER.