Style Sheet: Clubhouse Pet Socials

1. The Wikipedia entry for “Dog Park” explains that dogs are social animals and they need to spend time around other dogs. This can be accomplished inside the tennis courts at Bay Colony Club and at off-leash dog parks in the nearby South Florida area (dowsing helps me to understand that dogs need to socialize in a tennis court twice-a-week and they need an adult to provide transportation to a dog park once-a-week—with children).

2. Read the following articles (treat tennis court socials as though they are dog park socials):
   a. 15 things humans do wrong at dog parks
   b. 10 more things humans do wrong at dog parks

3. Bringfido.com is portal designed for pet owners. Search for off-leash dog parks using the search function.

Planning Pet Socials With Clubhouses in Other Canopy Areas

Older clubhouse members who know how to use shared e-mail accounts will need to use their shared e-mail account to plan weekly pet socials. Use the e-mail list at www.baycolonyclub-weebly.com to contact other canopy areas about pet socials on a tennis court.

Preparation

Cesar Millan, the Dog Whisperer, cautions that the dog park should not be used as a substitute for a daily walk. He suggests that the owners walk their dogs briskly for 35 minutes to calm them before placing them unleashed inside a dog park enclosure. Dogs that are highly socialized and exercised are healthier, happier, and less aggressive in behavior. Many dog parks welcome all pets. Dowse and ask if you should take the cats to the park (cats will need to stay on a leash).

Tailgate Folding Chairs

If you take folding chairs to the tennis court for the pet social, set them up at the edge of the court and out of the way of dog play.

Supervise Dogs at All Times

Dogs must be supervised at all times. When people converse with each other they can lose sight of their dogs, which can lead to trouble. As you begin to learn “dog language” and signs of aggression, dowse if you see anti-social behavior asking questions such as:

   a. Are both dogs ok? If you dowse a “No,” ask “Does either dog need to leave? (if “Yes,” dowse to learn which dog needs to leave).
   b. If you dowse a “Yes” response for the previous question, ask if the aggressive dog can attend future socials.
   c. If you dowse a “No” response for the previous question, you will need to research how to train your dog to be more social and continue to dowse—to ask when he/she can attend socials.

Humans must make sure their dogs are well-socialized, and watch carefully so that they can intervene if the dog acts anti-socially towards other dogs or humans.

Transporting Water

To take water to a “pet social,” you’ll need a dish that is lightweight. Dr. Hulda Clark felt that HDPE plastic is so safe, she advised cancer patients to cut the bottom off of HDPE water jugs and use the curved squares as dishes. HDPE plastic is soft and easy to cut. Use a large scissors from a sewing kit and cut all the way around to form a water dish that is approximately 3.5 inches high (cut just above the word “Spring” in the Great Value label as shown. Before you leave the clubhouse, dowse and ask whether the water in your personal water bottle is a suitable temperature, or whether you should take room temperature water in gallon you store next to the Montego Buffet (dog’s should not drink cold water). Wash the HDPE water dish with other pet dishes and store it in the open shelf in the Montego Buffet.