

Small Dog Playgroup Guidelines



Disclaimers: Everyone is responsible for their and their dog(s) safety, same as at a public dog park. All dogs must be vaccinated and altered to attend. (Alteration exceptions may be made for puppies and/or medical considerations.) Sorry, no refunds for any reasons.

- Text or call Lola at 503.896.2165
- Website: www.DogTrainingByLola.com
- On Instagram, handles [@ServiceDogG](https://www.instagram.com/ServiceDogG) and [@DogTrainingByLola](https://www.instagram.com/DogTrainingByLola)
- On Facebook under [Dog Training By Lola](https://www.facebook.com/DogTrainingByLola)

Arrival: Recommended arrival - at least 15 minutes early. PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE YARD EARLY. Set your dog up for success by arriving early to walk around the neighborhood. Dogs must stay at least 6 feet apart at all times and be kept on a short leash. No nose to nose greetings with other dogs.

Location: Canine Canyon Park, 2834 Monarch Street, San Diego, CA 92123. Street parking is available. It's a residential neighborhood.

We're being hosted by Canine Canyon Park, a private dog park at a family's home. I've been going here for years, and I'm very excited the owners are welcoming us. We'll leave the park clean and tidy, picking up disposing of any waste and putting toys away.

Entry: DO NOT enter the park before 10:00 am. The entrance is on the left side of the home. You'll see a SniffSpot sign. **Make sure to close and latch all gates behind you.** There are some fairly steep stairs to navigate in order to reach the play yard. Please wear good, safe shoes. ***Please note, unfortunately this particular location is not ADA accessible.***

PLEASE HAVE FUN!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR DOG & DOG TRAINING BY LOLA! 🐾

Lola will help manage the following human guidelines:

- Please bring calm energy, use calm voices, & avoid overstimulating the dogs by being excited and/or nervous. Praise dogs in soft, low tones.
- We'll start with some structured on-leash training; be sure to bring high value treats.
- Affirm desired behaviors with marker words like "Yes" and "Good".
- Ignore unwanted behavior as is possible and appropriate. Choose your battles in this setting, which is likely to be somewhat chaotic.
- Focus on the positives and the wins, no matter how small. Playgroups can be stressful for everyone, but that doesn't mean you're not making progress. Your dog is usually absorbing more than you realize, which will make your next playgroup better.

Dog Rules:

- No humping - It's rude and actually dangerous because it can cause fights.
- No biting. Soft mouthing is okay.
- No grabbing, meaning biting as a dog is running.
- No holding, meaning biting and not letting go.
- No bullying. (Generally being a jerk.)
- No ganging up. For example, 2 dogs "against" 1. It's usually innocent but still rude.
- No demand barking, which is barking to get what's wanted.
- Please give the dogs an opportunity to correct one another for unwanted behaviors before intervening. Note, we don't want to reprimand a dog who is appropriately correcting another dog. That's good socialization and desired behavior.
- Dogs are permitted to communicate play and boundaries vocally. Some growling and barking is generally okay and healthy communication expressions in the context of play.
- If dogs are engaging in undesirable behavior: 1) Give the dogs a chance to work it out; 2) Then attempt to redirect; 3) Put the offending dog in air jail (Pick them up.); or 4) Have the dog(s) take a break in separate areas for a passive time out & opportunity to self-regulate.