

South Keswick Owners' Association Policy on Incessant Barking

It is the right of every member of our community to live in a quiet environment. The incessant barking of dogs negatively affects the quality of one's life. If an SK resident has a dog, it is that resident's responsibility to make sure the dog is well cared for and does not disturb the neighbors. **Barking for 10 minutes or longer 3 times in 2 weeks or 20 minutes or longer once or 5 minutes or longer between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. shall be considered incessant.** A dog that is barking incessantly should be brought indoors. If a resident neighbor complains about incessant barking, that neighbor and the owner of the dog should make every effort to resolve the problem by themselves.

1. Residents involved should meet to discuss the problem amicably and find a solution.
2. If the problem continues, the complainant should document the barking by recording it and note the time, the duration and the place at which it occurred.
3. Once the disturbance has been documented, the SKOA, Board of Directors will present a demand to the relevant owner to abate the problem, giving a reasonable amount of time for a response.
4. If no action is taken by the dog owner and the problem continues, enforcement will be by injunction in circuit court.

Maintaining good relations with our neighbors can not be overestimated, therefore every reasonable step should be taken to avoid a lawsuit.

