

ORDINANCE 2025-16

AN ORDINANCE OF COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 79, "ANIMALS", ARTICLE I, "DOGS", SUBSECTION 79-4 NUISANCES ON PUBLIC PROPERTY OF THE CODE OF COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, it is important to provide safe and sanitary conditions for all users of public athletic fields, including players, officials, and spectators; and

WHEREAS, the presence of dogs on the active playing areas of athletic fields poses potential health and safety risks, including the potential for injuries, interference with play, and unsanitary conditions due to animal waste; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee is committed to maintaining the quality of public athletic fields and to protecting the health and safety of participants engaged in athletic activities; and

WHEREAS, the Township also recognizes that many residents and visitors enjoy attending athletic events with their dogs, provided that animals remain under control and outside of the areas designated for active play; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has determined it is in the best interest of the general public to adopt reasonable accommodations governing the presence of domestic animals in designated spectator areas adjacent to athletic fields, while prohibiting domestic animals on the active playing areas to preserve field conditions and ensure the safety of players and other field users;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Colts Neck, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey as follows: (additions to text indicated by underline; deletions to text indicated by ~~strikeout~~).

SECTION I That Chapter 79, "Animals", Article I "Dogs", subsection 4 nuisances on Public Property is hereby amended and supplemented in the following parts only.

§79-4. Nuisances on public property.

- A.** No person owning or having the care, custody or control of any dog shall permit such dog to do any injury or damage to or to commit any nuisance upon any sidewalk, street or thorough fare, in or upon any public property or in or upon the property of persons other than the owner or person having the care, custody or control of such dog.
- B.** No person owning or having the care, custody or control of any dog shall permit such dog to be present on the active playing surface on any athletic field within Township Parks and Recreation Facilities at any time. Active playing surface means the designated area of play within an athletic field including but not limited to soccer, football, baseball, softball or tennis/pickleball courts where competitive sports activity occurs, typically delineated by boundary lines or markers. Dogs under control may accompany individuals in designated spectator areas or other areas adjacent to the athletic field that are not designated as active playing surfaces.

SECTION II Severability.

If any section, paragraph subsection, clause or provision of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of this ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.


SECTION III Repealer.


The remainder of all other sections and subsections of the aforementioned ordinance not specifically amended by this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

All ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed as to such inconsistency.

SECTION V This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage, publication and filing according to law.

I hereby certify the Ordinance foregoing to be a true copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Township Committee of Colts Neck Township on the 10th day of September, 2025.


Tara Torchia Buss, Mayor


Michael Viola, Deputy Mayor


Trina Lindsey, Municipal Clerk

RECORD OF VOTE											
		First Reading					Second Reading				
		August 13, 2025					September 10, 2025				
		M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Torchia Buss			X								X
Deputy Mayor Viola			X					X			
Buzzetta			X				S	X			
Fitzpatrick		S	X				M	X			
Rizzuto		M	X					X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent											