

READER'S CORNER: Out-of-control dogs pose dangers

<http://thechronicleherald.ca/opinion/1329325-reader%E2%80%99s-corner-out-of-control-dogs-pose-dangers>



Published December 28, 2015 -
1:00am
Last Updated December 28, 2015 -
1:05am

A reader says his wife was recently knocked down by a dog running off leash in Point Pleasant Park. (File)

On one recent afternoon, I drove my wife to Point Pleasant Park at 1:15 for her regular walk, weather permitting, while I went for my two-hour workout at the Tower gym.

I picked her up at about 3:30 at the park entrance at Tower Road. She seemed to be upset about something and told me she had been knocked down by a dog on Birch Road.

The dog was not on a leash and was accompanied by two ladies. My wife landed on her chest, the left side of her face hit the ground and her sunglasses were knocked off.

Her ear piece was knocked off. Her knees were sore from hitting the ground but had no marks on them. She seemed to be badly shaken up. This is the second time my wife was jumped by a dog on Birch Road. I was with my wife the first time and went after the dog. (I have no fear of dogs.)

Birch Road is an off-leash area but how can one have control of a dog that is not leashed? My wife meets up most days with a lady with eight to 10 dogs, none of which are leashed. How can one person control that many dogs?

My wife took her glasses to Sears Optical the next day and spent \$149.49 to have them repaired.

Sailors Memorial Road in the park has a sign at each end of the road stating, “No Dogs after 10 a.m.” — what a joke. There are dogs on that road every now and then.

About five or six years ago in February, my wife was knocked down by a dog. She landed in a puddle of water that was covering a patch of ice. Her right knee was hurt very badly and to this day it still bothers her.

Her clothing was soaking wet but she had to walk to the Tower gym to get me to take her home with her wet clothing on her, cold and soaking wet.

Does the park have a committee to deal with these matters? My wife spoke to someone by phone after the last incident and all they said was that dog owners must have control of their dogs at all times. What a joke. I asked the question, how does one control a dog that is unleashed and going anywhere it wants? I would like the opportunity to be on the park committee and have a say.

In parks out West, dogs are not allowed in parks where people and families do a lot of walking and families walk with small children.

Al Zinck, Halifax