

Other tips:

**- Always keep a grip and some weight on the scooter when your riding or stopped with a new dog- the dog may move and see the scooter "follow" him and get spooked and take off with the scooter!**

- get your dog tired with exercise before an orientation session. this may reduce hyperactivity and induce calmness.
- try taking the outrigger bar off the scooter, hook your dog into it, get him used to it without the scooter.
- bring the scooter inside your house and try hooking your dog up and going in circles- sometimes they feel more secure inside their home.
- your dog will pull to the side in the beginning but will soon straighten out with confidence
- try having your dog pull the scooter from a leash/harness connecting to the inside rubber strap (start with a full length leash) then shorten the leash with time until the dog is in the correct position under the bar.
- in the multiple dog unit put the more driven/pulling dog in the front and the more passive follower dog in the rear (the dog in the rear has more power/leverage to effect the scooter handling)
- when using the multiple dog system place the more alpha/dog aggressive dog up at the front position- the dogs in the back have more leverage to effect the handling of the scooter so they should be the "good dogs".

### SAFETY IN USE

- The outrigger has been placed on the right side of the scooter so that the dog can be away from oncoming traffic whether it be other dogs, people, bicycles, etc. And on bicycle lanes the dog, the hardest to see by auto drivers because he is lower to the ground, will be away from the traffic. And on sidewalks the dog can be on the softer grass/dirt while the scooter wheels can be on pavement (for easy rolling). For intensive use (more than 5 miles a day) Booties (I haven't found a good fitting brand- a poor fit can risk a trip and or sprained ankle) may help reduce joint shock and reduce pad wear. Often examine your dogs pads.
- Don't ask the dog to pull too much. A rule of thumb for sizing the rider is to add 100 lbs. to the dogs weight for the maximum rider weight. (an exception would be made when using this device as training for competitive weight pulling dogs & trainers) This way the dog will be able to do most of the flat work- and the rider will get the thrill of mushing and stay interested in the sport. Of course the rider needs to help by kicking up the hills. You will on occasion have to kick and tug on the harness in order to get your dog motivated to go- but generally let the dog set the pace. Watch for stiffness or pain in your dogs joints and reduce usage accordingly.
- Release your dog of the system every 1/2 hr. or so to free play, swim, etc. The dog can sit and even lay down while in the system. Carry a leash so that when