

## It Takes Team Work to Make the Dream Work, by Sue Wilde

I read this slogan awhile ago and was so impressed by the concept that I used it on the flash page of my webpage. The old adage that two heads together are better than one is proven correct over and over. I am sure we have all said in frustration, “Why didn’t I think of that?” I think even dictators have some kind of network of, albeit timid, advisors.

Our world is made up of committees where joint decisions, created from a variety of thoughts, opinions and group efforts, move a group forward towards progress for all. On the bulletin board of a classroom I taught in, was posted:

### The Ten Commandments of an Enthusiastic Team

1. Help each other be right – not wrong.
2. Look for ways to make new ideas work – not for reasons that they won’t. So often we hear people say, “Oh, we tried something like that several years ago.” So now it’s several years later and maybe the time is right or we can make it right.
3. If in doubt, check it out! Don’t assume it can’t be done. “That sounds good, but it will never work because....” Find out! If it sounds good make it happen.
4. Help each other succeed and take pride in each other’s success. When team members look good so do you!
5. Speak positively about each other. You may be frustrated with some of the dynamics of the team but present a united front.
6. Maintain a positive attitude – regardless of circumstances. It is easy just to concentrate on the negative but that’s not the fast track to a goal.

7. Act with initiative and courage as if it all depends on you. Be a team member that the team can't function without and if each one has this attitude this team will be invaluable!
8. Do everything with enthusiasm, it makes even the mundane and unpleasant tasks more enjoyable and it is contagious!
9. Never give up. Find the solution, make it better, get the results you are working for.
10. Have fun! The focus of some teamwork can be very serious but if there is an element of fun and camaraderie between team members there will also be support, forgiveness and spirit.

In the llama communities there are so many teams and team building opportunities. Serve on the executive of your local club, regional club. Run for the board of something! Be on a committee that will make things better and be the one to make the difference, the one that helps the team “take it up a notch”. Our dream of a strong enduring llama industry has always been based on team work. Let's get that dream workin' for us!