

Sidekick Service Dogs Training Program

Animal Welfare Policy Acknowledgement

This acknowledgement confirms that all program participants understand and agree to uphold the welfare, safety, humane treatment, and long-term wellbeing standards required within the CanineSidekicks Service Dogs Inc. program.

Handler/Participant Name: _____

Dog Name: _____

Date: _____

Welfare & Humane Handling Standards

- ☐ I understand that canine welfare takes priority over training advancement, Public Access participation, or performance goals.
- ☐ I agree to handle and train the dog using humane, welfare-conscious practices consistent with program standards.
- ☐ I understand that dogs displaying significant stress, illness, injury, or emotional instability may require reduced workload, reassessment, or temporary removal from training activities.
- ☐ I agree to maintain safe and appropriate living conditions for the dog.
- ☐ I understand that physical punishment, intimidation, unsafe restraint, or abusive handling practices are not permitted within the program.

Veterinary & Physical Care Responsibilities

- ☐ I agree to maintain appropriate veterinary care, preventative care, and medical treatment for the dog.
- ☐ I understand that dogs participating in the program must remain physically fit and medically appropriate for training and work participation.
- ☐ I agree to maintain appropriate grooming, hygiene, nail care, coat maintenance, and husbandry practices.

☐ I understand that untreated medical concerns, unmanaged pain, or declining physical condition may affect training participation or program eligibility.

Emotional Stability & Stress Monitoring

☐ I agree to monitor the dog for signs of stress, fatigue, overwhelm, shutdown, avoidance, or behavioural deterioration.

☐ I understand the importance of allowing decompression, rest, recovery, and appropriate workload management.

☐ I agree to remove the dog from environments or activities when continued participation may compromise welfare or safety.

☐ I understand that long-term emotional suitability is considered an essential component of Service Dog welfare.

Handler Capacity & Program Responsibilities

☐ I understand that participation in the program requires the ability to safely and consistently support the dog's welfare, training, handling, and daily care needs.

☐ I agree to maintain the environmental, physical, emotional, and financial capacity necessary to appropriately care for the dog.

☐ I understand that significant changes affecting the ability to safely manage or care for the dog must be communicated to the program where relevant to welfare or training participation.

☐ I understand that additional support, reassessment, temporary training modification, or alternate placement recommendations may be made when welfare concerns arise.

Program Authority & Welfare Protection

☐ I understand that the Training Director may temporarily restrict, suspend, modify, or discontinue training participation where welfare, safety, behavioural stability, or humane treatment concerns are identified.

☐ I understand that welfare-based decisions are made in consideration of canine wellbeing, Handler safety, and public safety.

☐ I understand that participation in the program requires ongoing compliance with established welfare and humane handling standards.

Participant Acknowledgement

I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and agree to comply with the CanineSidekicks Service Dogs Inc. Animal Welfare Policy expectations and understand that participation in the program may be modified, suspended, or discontinued where welfare, safety, or humane treatment concerns arise.

Participant Signature:

Date:

Training Director Signature:

Date:
