

Dog Park Vaccination Policy & Guidelines

Facility: CBHS Outreach & Education Center / 3225 Airport Blvd

Effective Date: May 2026

Reviewed By: Programs & Outreach Coordinator

Purpose

This policy establishes health, vaccination, and behavioral guidelines to reduce the risk of communicable disease, promote safe and responsible use of the dog park, and ensure a safe, enjoyable environment for all dogs, children, and guests.

Required Vaccinations

For the safety of all dogs in our care, all dogs entering the facility for communal or private play must be up to date on the following vaccinations:

- **Rabies** (as required by law)
- **Distemper (DHPP)***
- **Bordetella***

**Dogs under one year of age* may not have completed the full three-dose Distemper (DHPP) and two-dose Bordetella series. Pet parents are strongly encouraged to wait until both series are complete before scheduling a visit.

Proof of vaccination from a licensed veterinarian is required prior to entry.

Parasite Prevention

All dogs must be on an active flea and tick preventative.

Health Requirements

Dogs must:

- Be free from signs of illness (e.g., coughing, vomiting, diarrhea)
- Have no open wounds or contagious skin conditions
- Be physically able to safely participate in off-leash play

Sick or injured dogs are not permitted on the premises. Management reserves the right to refuse service, interrupt play, or remove any dog that exhibits symptoms of illness or injury. At management's discretion, written clearance from a licensed veterinarian may be required before the dog is permitted to return to the facility.

Illness Exposure & Response

If a dog becomes ill while on-site or a contagious illness is reported after a visit:

- The affected areas will be cleaned and disinfected per the Cleaning & Sanitation SOP
- Exposed dogs may be notified when appropriate
- Temporary closure of affected areas may occur as needed

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Age & Alteration Requirements

- Puppies under 4 months of age are not permitted
- All dogs 6 months of age and older must be spayed or neutered to participate in communal play
- Unaltered dogs may only attend if a private play area is reserved; exceptions may apply
 - *Female dogs actively in heat are not permitted under any circumstances*

Size & Compatibility

Size-based playgroup restrictions may be enforced to ensure the safety of all dogs, regardless of temperament or play style.

General Rules

- All park users are responsible for themselves and their dogs. The dog park is unsupervised by on-site staff, and entry is at your own risk.
- A liability waiver is required prior to entry, whether or not accompanied by a dog.
 - Individuals 18 years or older must sign their own waiver.
 - Individuals under 18 years of age must have a waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian.

Age Requirements (Children)

- Children under 8 years of age are strictly prohibited from entering communal or shared dog park areas.
- Children under 8 years of age may only be present in privately rented dog park areas, subject to the following conditions:
 - The area must be reserved exclusively for the child's household. Exceptions may be made for approved private events; parent/guardian and owner(s) assume all responsibility.
 - Only dogs belonging to the same household as the child(ren) are permitted during the rental period.
 - Dogs from other households may not be present or intermixed.
- All children must remain under active supervision at all times and should avoid running or approaching unfamiliar dogs.
- Children under 16 years of age must be accompanied and directly supervised by a parent or legal guardian at all times while on the premises.

Number of Dogs

- Each adult may supervise a maximum of three (3) dogs in communal dog park areas.
- The supervising adult must be the legal owner, and all dogs must belong to the same household.
- Owners with more than three dogs may bring additional dogs only if a private dog park area is reserved for exclusive use. All dogs present must belong to the same household.

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Supervision

- Dogs must be actively supervised by their owners at all times.
- Owners must remain within view of their dog(s) and ensure dogs respond promptly to verbal cues.

Collars, Tags, & Leashes

- All dogs must wear a properly fitted collar or harness with visible identification while in any off-leash area.
- Choke, prong, spike, electronic (e-collar), or other tools are prohibited in communal off-leash areas but may be permitted in private play areas with prior staff approval.
- Dogs must remain leashed when entering and exiting the facility and may only be unleashed once fully inside the double-gated entry of a designated off-leash area.

Behavior

- Dogs with a known history of aggression towards people or other dogs are strictly prohibited from the facility, including private play areas. All dogs must be able to be safely approached and handled by staff.
- Dogs that are vocal or uncomfortable around other dogs may reserve a designated private play area, provided they can be safely managed on leash around other dogs and have no history of aggression.
- Dogs exhibiting aggression toward people or other dogs while on the premises must be immediately leashed and removed from the facility.
- Dogs exhibiting destructive behavior toward equipment or property may be required to leave the facility at staff discretion. Owners assume responsibility for and may be held liable for any damage caused by their dog.
- Excessive barking must be managed to avoid disturbing neighbors and stressing other dogs. Management reserves the right to ask owners to remove their dog if barking cannot be reasonably controlled.

No Food, Treats, or Toys

- No food or treats (for dogs or humans) are allowed inside the park.
- Glass containers, smoking, and vaping are prohibited inside play areas.
- Toys are not permitted in communal play areas due to the risk of resource guarding or altercations.
- Toys may only be used in private play areas. Exceptions may be made for approved private events; owners assume all responsibility.

Park Etiquette & Cleanliness

- All guests must check in before entering park areas.
- Owners must clean up after their dog(s).
- Waste bags are provided, and waste must be disposed of in designated bins.

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Respect for Property

- Guests are expected to respect park property and amenities and use them as intended.
- On-site play equipment is designated for dog use only.
- If assistance is needed with cleanup, please inform staff.

Owner Liability & Enforcement

- Owners are legally and financially responsible for the actions and behavior of their dog(s) at all times.
- Any injury, altercation, or damage involving dogs while on the premises is the sole responsibility of the dog owners involved, and is not the responsibility of the facility, its staff, or management.
- Resolution of any incident, including veterinary care, medical costs, or damages, is the sole responsibility of the owners involved and must be handled independently between those parties.
- Failure to follow park guidelines or health requirements may result in denial of entry, removal from the facility, or temporary or permanent expulsion without refund.