

Off-Leash Play

Safety Pledge



The owners and trainers at Dog Friendship Inc. pledge that our program has been designed for the safety of puppies. We strive to ensure the physical safety of every puppy during playtime and our goal is for every puppy to go home from playtime both behaviourally and emotionally better than when they arrived. We value our clients and want to be key partners in caring for their puppies (and when they grow up into great dogs, too). In operating our safe and fun puppy playtime, we pledge specifically that:

- Our staff are educated on safe play styles and pursue a program of continuing education to keep current on the latest research in dog play.
- We provide a climate-controlled, accessible play-space that is regularly cleaned and disinfected to promote a safe environment.
- We have established dog health procedures that focus on physical and emotional safety for every puppy – and their people.
- We recognize that puppies are happiest playing in dyads (groups or sub-groups of two).
- Trained staff members are required to be physically present with the puppies 100% of the time when they are playing off-leash together.
- We meet or exceed industry baseline staffing ratios in all dog playgroups.
- We require benevolent, humane handling of puppies when maintaining appropriate group play behaviours.
- We assign dogs to playgroups carefully, watching for matches in size and play skill level.
- We do not force dogs to play if they are timid, and check regularly to ensure that dogs are enjoying their play experience.

We will review this pledge each year and ensure we are following-through on what we pledge.

If you have any concerns about how we are meeting this pledge, we would be eager to hear from you so that we can make sure we meet our commitments to you and your puppy.

Sincerely,

Dog Friendship Inc.