

## Playcare Owner Information: Before, During & After

### *What to do at Home Prior to Drop-off:*

- All dogs should be fed their morning meal and given any medications and supplements at home.
- Pack any lunch or mid-day medications and be sure to label with dog's name and date.

### *Upon Arrival at Diamond Creek Play Care:*

- Please give your dog a quick walk for elimination prior to drop-off at our Play Care program. There are scoops and metal cans to use to pickup after your pet.
- Make sure all belongings are labeled with dog's name and family last name for easy identification.
- Complete the Daily Roster sheet located in the check-in area (see sample attached as page 15).

### *Example Sample Schedule-often times in and out may change due to weather:*

- 7:30 – 8:00 am: Arrival and greetings, indoor play
- 8:00 – 10:00 am: Outside play time
- 10:00 – 11:00 am: Indoor rest and relax time.
- 11:00 am – 12:00 pm: Outside play time
- 12:00 – 1:00 pm: Care Giver transition during rest time, lunch and any mid-day medications given.
- 1:00 – 4:00 pm: Outside play time
- 4:00 – 5:30 pm: Inside free time and pickup

### *Coming Home After a Day of Fun:*

- Your dog has been playing with friends all day.
  - o If he was at home he would have been sleeping, making rounds of the house, finding a new spot to sleep, and repeating...not too much activity.
  - o **After a day at Play Care he will be tired.**
- It is common for dogs to **not** want their normal level of activity at home the night of pickup or even the next morning.
  - o They may only play fetch for a few minutes instead of for two hours, or just want to sit and cuddle.
  - o They may not want to go for their normal walk, but instead sniff around the yard while you catch up on some yard maintenance.
- They may be sore after playing all day.
  - o They may seem stiff the following morning and take a little while to loosen up.
  - o Don't be alarmed, this is normal; they had a really good workout and used a lot of muscles more than they typically would.
  - o However, if your dog seems to be heavily favoring one limb or non-weight bearing you will want to monitor this and if it continues throughout the day without improvement, it could be a sign of something more serious and you should contact your vet. **Do not** bring the dog back to Play Care until the issue is resolved.
- Dogs may be damp or dirty from playing in the pool or snow (pending season) or from potty breaks in the rain.
- Some dogs may seem overly drooly or moist around their mouth/chest area from happy drool or water play. Others may have drool spots from playing with their friends.

Within 2 weeks of starting Play Care some dogs may get diarrhea from shared water, toys, etc. This is normal and you should not be alarmed, however please do not bring the dog back to Play Care until they are symptom free for 24 hours without medication. If symptoms last longer than 24 hours your vet should be contacted.