



## **REHOMING A DOG FROM THE ISPCA**

### ***Our Criteria for Successful Rehoming***

Thank you for expressing an interest in rehoming a dog from the ISPCA. We make every effort to ensure that all our dogs get good homes in an environment which brings happiness to both the new owner and the dog. It should be borne in mind that many dogs available for rehoming from the ISPCA come from neglected and abused backgrounds and as such, some will have behavioural problems. Our Care Assistants will be pleased to discuss the particular needs of individual dogs with you.

### ***Our Standards - Conditions and Accommodation***

- A home visit is required before a dog is homed; we may also endeavour to carry out a follow up check within six weeks of a placement in order to ensure that both dog and owner are happy.
- The dog is will be homed with you for life. Under no circumstances can the dog be passed on to a third party. If your circumstances change and you can no longer care for him you must contact The National Animal Centre to make arrangements to return him to the property.
- New owners are expected to socialise the dog and engage in training if necessary.
- It is preferred that a dog is homed as a house-pet; however if homed as an outside dog it must have access to a kennel during the day and either a garage or shed at night. Puppies will not be homed to sleep outdoors.
- If owner/s are out at work all day the Society will only give a dog to people who have another dog or who are willing to rehome two for company.
- Gardens must be securely fenced / dog proofed. If the dog is left in the garden when owners are out or if living on a busy road, the back area must be fenced off from the front garden. The use of a radio fence is not acceptable.
- Dog runs will only be accepted if of a suitable size to the breed of dog, include a good kennel of adequate dimensions and the dog has access to the garden when owners are at home. If you are in doubt about what constitutes a suitable size please consult with a member of our Care Assistant staff.

- Under no circumstances should dogs be tied or chained.
- We regret that large or very active dogs cannot be homed to dwellings with small gardens.
- It is with regret that the Society has concerns about homing a dog to people living in rented accommodation. This is primarily due to problems that certain Landlords have with regards to pets.
- Every effort should be made to walk dogs on a daily basis and engage in training if adopting a puppy or untrained adult.
- All adult dogs will be neutered, micro-chipped, wormed and treated for fleas before leaving the Centre. They must receive booster vaccinations annually and worm / flea treatments must be carried out at quarterly intervals. Puppies must be neutered between six and eight months of age.
- The dog must be treated by a veterinary surgeon if unwell.
- If the dog's suffering cannot be alleviated, whether as a result of serious illness or old age, we recommend that the dog be euthanised after consultation with a veterinary surgeon.
- All prospective rehomingers should be aware that dogs will take time to adjust to their new environment, time and patience is needed to help in this adjustment.
- If you have a dog already, it is advisable to bring it for a visit to the Centre and walk it with the dog you hope to rehome. This will enable you to make a judgement as to compatibility and it will be an opportunity to familiarise them. The Society does not recommend getting a very lively or active puppy if you have an older dog as it is felt that this would be unfair to your older pet.
- All owners must have an identity disc for their new dog before leaving the Centre. This disc must have the owner's telephone number. For added convenience identity discs can be ordered at the Centre prior to the collection date.
- So that we comply with current regulations all prospective owners are required to present a Dog Licence when collecting their dog.

## *Your Knowledge – For Successful Rehoming*

- All new owners need a good sound knowledge of how to care for their dog and be responsible for its health, welfare and training. (Care of nails, coat, teeth and eyes - long coated dogs need a lot of grooming).
- Due to the nature of animal welfare and rescue, certain dogs at the Animal Centre need specialist homes and, therefore, can only be released to very experienced owners. For safety reasons some dogs will not be homed to dwellings with young children present.
- Care must always be taken when one takes a dog out in public to ensure that it is always under control, on a lead and not a problem to members of the public.
- New owners should bear in mind the financial implications of owning a dog, vaccinations, flea and worm treatment as well as veterinary expenses such as nail cutting and teeth-cleaning soon mount up. The cost of boarding kennels whilst you are away on holidays should also be considered.
- The joys of dog ownership and the loyalty of man's (and woman's!) best friend makes dog ownership a wonderful experience. If you feel you can offer a home to one of our dogs please complete an application form – available from our Reception.

Tel: 043 25035 (8 lines), please choose line 0 for reception.  
E-mail: [info@ispca.ie](mailto:info@ispca.ie)