# CNIB Guide Dogs - Puppy Raiser Agreement

# Introduction

On behalf of CNIB Guide Dogs, we thank you for your dedication and commitment to raising a puppy which will potentially become a guide dog for a person who is blind or partially sighted. The volunteer work you do is an essential part of the guide dog’s early life and helps us to ensure that the puppy in your care will have the best possible opportunity for success as a future guide dog. This document is an agreement between CNIB Guide Dogs and you, the Puppy Raiser, and it outlines the responsibilities of both parties regarding the puppy raising scheme.

# Puppy Raiser’s Information:

SAMPLE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | ENTER HERE |
| Street Address | ENTER HERE |
| City | ENTER HERE |
| Province | SELECT FROM LIST |
| Postal Code | ENTER HERE |
| Home Phone # | ENTER HERE |
| Cell Phone # | ENTER HERE |
| Work Phone #  | ENTER HERE | ExtensionENTER HERE  |
| Email | ENTER HERE |

# Puppy's Information:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | ENTER HERE |
| D.O.B. | ENTER HERE |
| Puppy # | ENTER HERE |
| Breed | SELECT FROM LIST |
| Sex | SELECT FROM LIST |
| Colour | SELECT FROM LIST |

# The Puppy Raiser understands and agrees to the following:

1. The Puppy Raiser is a volunteer whose role is to foster a potential CNIB Guide Dogs puppy from approximately 8 weeks old to between 12 and 15 months old. At the end of the puppy raising stage, the Puppy Raiser will return the puppy to CNIB Guide Dogs where it will continue with its formal guide dog training.
2. CNIB Guide Dogs retains the ownership of the puppy throughout its puppy raising stage, and therefore has the sole authority with regards to its health, welfare, accommodation and training including veterinary care, feeding, socialization, behavioural training and other preliminary guide dog training.
3. If, for any reason, it is decided either by CNIB Guide Dogs or the Puppy Raiser that it is in the best interests of CNIB Guide Dogs, the Puppy Raiser or the guide dog puppy, that the puppy should be withdrawn from the Puppy Raiser, CNIB Guide Dogs has the authority to do so.

SAMPLE

1. The Puppy Raiser understands and accepts that puppies and dogs are likely to cause some damage to property e.g. urinating and defecating on carpet, chewing slippers, scratching doors, etc. CNIB Guide Dogs will, prior to delivering the puppy to the Puppy Raiser’s home, endeavor to ensure that the Puppy Raiser has been given sufficient advice on how to prevent or limit the likelihood of such damage occurring. CNIB Guide Dogs will not be held liable for any damages or injury that may be caused by the puppy.
2. If the puppy does not successfully complete the guide dog training, the Puppy Raiser understands that the puppy will be considered for other roles either within or outside CNIB Guide Dogs and may not be available for the Puppy Raiser to adopt. If the puppy does become available for adoption, the Puppy Raiser may be eligible to adopt the puppy at the discretion of CNIB Guide Dogs, provided they are deemed a suitable home.
3. CNIB Guide Dogs will cover the costs for feeding the puppy, veterinary care including routine check-ups, neutering, vaccinations, parasite control, and some equipment necessary for raising a guide dog puppy including but not limited to a puppy vest, lead, collar and grooming equipment.
4. Prior to seeking veterinary care or advice for the puppy, the Puppy Raiser will request approval from CNIB Guide Dogs unless the need for veterinary care is an emergency in which case CNIB Guide Dogs should be notified as soon as the event happens or while you are at the veterinary clinic.
5. The Puppy Raiser will be required to attend with the puppy, regular training sessions and appointments which will necessitate the use of a vehicle suitable for carrying the puppy.
6. The Puppy Raiser consents to the use of their image in CNIB Guide Dogs communications and promotional material e.g. direct mail fundraising, email campaigns, social media etc.
7. There will be mutual respect, consideration and courtesy between CNIB Guide Dogs staff, Puppy Raisers, donors, other volunteers and clients. Discrimination or mistreatment in any form will not be accepted.
8. The Puppy Raiser agrees to care for the puppy in a humane and kind manner and to provide the puppy with clean and safe accommodation. This includes maintaining a healthy weight for the dog by feeding only what is advised by CNIB and refraining from giving inappropriate treats, keeping the puppy safely away from the dangers of traffic by keeping them on a lead or in a secured fenced area, and grooming the dog on a daily basis. They will teach the puppy appropriate behaviour for a future guide using only humane, ethical handling, mostly based on positive reinforcement training methods. If any use of inappropriate methods or handling are used, the Puppy Raiser risks losing the opportunity to continue raising the puppy and future puppies for CNIB Guide Dogs.

SAMPLE

1. The Puppy Raiser agrees to train the puppy following the guidelines provided by CNIB Guide Dogs staff.

[ ]  I have read and understand the above agreement and agree to all the terms and conditions.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Puppy Raiser’s Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Witness’s Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CNIB Guide Dogs Representative’s Signature Date