

## Communicable Disease Liability Release Form

Canine Cough is a common and highly contagious upper respiratory illness that is spread by several types of infectious agents – parainfluenza, adenovirus or Bordetella to name a few. The illness can be passed on through the air or by dogs coming in close contact with one another. Since the virus can incubate between three (3) and ten (10) days, dogs that appear perfectly healthy may be carrying one of the viruses that can spread the infection.

Runny noses, watery eyes, and a classic “hacking cough” are the hallmarks of canine cough. The cough can sometimes cause the dog to wrretch up foam phlegm. It has also been described as “something stuck in my dog’s throat” or “like a cat trying to hack up a hairball.” It is comparable to a chest cold in a person. Canine cough will usually clear up on its own in one to three weeks, similar to symptoms of a human cold. Spring and summer are the peak seasons for canine cough infections.

Most of the infectious agents that cause canine cough do not have a vaccine for them (ex. mycoplasma). Even though a dog was vaccinated against some of the agents that cause canine cough, he or she may still acquire it. No vaccine is 100% effective. We require all dogs be vaccinated for Bordetella and Distemper (both can cause canine cough). We refuse to admit any sick dogs, we follow strict cleaning protocols, we immediately isolate any dogs showing symptoms, and we make sure that any dogs requiring medical attention receive it promptly.

### Important Points to Remember:

- Canine cough has an incubation period of between three (3) and ten (10) days. This means that even a healthy looking dog today could come down with canine cough in a week.
- Dogs can get canine cough even if they have been vaccinated against some of the agents.
- Canine cough can be contracted from dog parks, passing another dog on the street, or anywhere dogs are in close proximity to one another.
- Canine cough is usually self-limiting but can occasionally be severe enough to warrant medications.

Always consult your veterinarian for medical advice.

I am aware that my dog may come into contact with bacteria and/or viruses that could cause canine cough while in close proximity with other dogs at Golden Paws Pet Resort & Spa. I am also aware that, even though my dog has been vaccinated, there is no guarantee he or she will not contract canine cough. As such, I release Golden Paws Pet Resort & Spa from any liability for any veterinarian medical care arising from any suspected canine cough infections.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dog Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner Name (Signature)