

## **Extended Stay Training Program, 2023**

### **Norbertine Canonesses' Dog Breeding Program**

The Extended Stay Training program is an optional training program for our puppies after they complete their first eight weeks of life with us. The program spans anywhere from two weeks to two or three months or more (beyond the first eight weeks of life of the puppy) depending on the preferences of the owner. Enrolled puppies generally begin the program the Monday after the weekend of the normally scheduled pick-up for the litter (at approximately eight weeks of age).

**Curriculum:** This program includes a minimum of six obedience training sessions per week and thirty minutes to four hours of crate training six times a week. (Depending on various factors, such as our assessment of the current maturity and capacity of the puppy, we may or may not have the puppy also stay in a crate overnight.) The curriculum includes lessons in the basic commands based on the CGC (Canine Good Citizen) AKC program (including heel, sit, down, stay, wait, meeting strangers politely), good manners such as not jumping and nipping, and other basic skills (such as learning to interact with other dogs, be groomed, begin house-breaking and use of a doggy-door). We also continue socialization (with strangers and children, other dogs, cats, unusual sounds and experiences, etc.) throughout the puppy's stay with us, recognizing that, after the first eight weeks of life, the next period of life is the most important window for continued work on adaptability, good manners, and the fostering of an even, easy-going, friendly temperament. The puppy enjoys the rhythm of a well-ordered day with time to play and exercise with other dogs and people in our spacious fenced yards, opportunities to learn, and time for rest. Additional rounds of puppy vaccinations are included if the puppy remains with us long enough to be ready for these further vaccinations.

***The cost for the Extended Stay Training program is \$70 per day/\$460 per week.***

Puppies that “graduate” even from the Extended Stay Program are still puppies—the Extended Stay Program provides a strong initial foundation and can make training easier and go more smoothly, but the puppy will still require daily, consistent formation to reinforce what the puppy has already learned, to grow in the habit of obedience, and to gradually mature into his or her full potential as a loving and well-adapted companion.

**Signing Up:** Because we can only accept a limited number of “students” (three or four) for any given time period, we encourage owners to request enrollment of their puppies as soon as possible to ensure that they have a place in the program. We ask that those owners who wish to have their puppies participate in the program please complete payment for their puppy by the regularly scheduled pick-up date at eight weeks of age. Payment can be completed during a visit (at which time we can provide the puppies' AKC paperwork if an AKC breed) or by mailing a check. (Checks are payable to: Norbertine Sisters.) Payment for the Extended Stay Program itself can be given when the puppy is picked-up (or when payment for the puppy is given if the owner prefers.)

**Agreement:** We ask that the owners who wish for their puppies to be enrolled please agree beforehand to cover the cost of any unforeseen veterinary visits for illnesses (except those covered by our health guarantee) or accidents while the puppies are with us for the Extended Stay. While we try to keep all the puppies as safe as possible and we are always supervising when the puppies are with the adult dogs or in new locations, we do try also to give the puppies an enriching "summer camp" type experience here with different activities and time to play outside, which always carries with it a risk of a fall or scrape or putting something in their mouth that they should not, etc. For AKC breeds, if the puppy is registered with AKC before the program begins, the owner will receive 30 days free pet insurance from AKC, which would cover any such possible expenses during all or much of the time that the puppy is with us for the Extended Stay Program.

**Puppy Boarding:** For those owners who, due to previous commitments, cannot pick-up their puppy at the scheduled pick-up time, we also offer the option of puppy boarding. Puppy boarding includes basic care—including supervised group playtime and indoor or outdoor exercise several times a day—ongoing socialization, continued house-breaking skills through use of a dog door, and the basic commands of “sit” and “wait.” If the puppy remains with us for three to four weeks of boarding, we will provide an additional round of puppy vaccination, and a further round if the puppy stays for another three to four weeks. As with the Extended Stay program, we ask that owners of puppies that are remaining for boarding please complete payment for the cost of their puppy by the usual pick-up time, and agree to cover any unforeseen veterinary visits as described above.

***Puppy Boarding is \$40 per day/\$280 per week.***