

ROCKVALE CANINE COUNTRY CLUB

GERIATRIC / HIGH-RISK DOG GROOMING RELEASE

Owner: _____ Dog: _____ Age: _____

Phone: _____ Breed: _____

WHY THIS RELEASE IS NEEDED

Older dogs can have less stamina, reduced mobility, thinner skin, poor balance, arthritis, heart or breathing problems, neurological conditions, growths, or other health issues. Grooming may be more physically and emotionally stressful for them than it was when they were younger.

INCREASED MEDICAL RISK

I understand that normal grooming procedures - including bathing, drying, clipping, brushing, nail care, handling, restraint, and standing - may aggravate an existing or age-related condition. In rare cases, grooming stress may contribute to a serious medical event such as collapse, seizure, stroke, heart attack, respiratory distress, injury, or death.

COMFORT AND SAFETY BEFORE APPEARANCE

I understand that Rockvale Canine Country Club's priority is **my dog's comfort, cleanliness, and safely getting the dog through the grooming process - not achieving a perfect haircut.**

The groomer may modify, shorten, skip, or stop any part of the groom if my dog becomes excessively tired, stressed, weak, unsteady, painful, or otherwise unable to safely continue. This may include being unable to safely perform services such as **expressing the anal glands.**

I accept that the finished groom may be uneven, incomplete, shorter than requested, or cosmetically different from the dog's usual groom.

INCREASED RISK OF INJURY

Age-related changes such as thin or loose skin, reduced muscle tone, arthritis, limited mobility, poor balance, lumps, warts, skin tags, and difficulty standing can increase the possibility of accidental nicks, cuts, bruising, soreness, falls, or other injury even when reasonable care and appropriate grooming procedures are used.

ADDITIONAL TIME AND CHARGES

Geriatric or high-risk dogs may require **additional time, advanced grooming skills, rest periods, special handling, modified techniques, or an additional person to assist.** Additional grooming or handling charges may apply. If grooming must be stopped before completion, I understand that I am responsible for the services and time provided up to that point.

WHEN GROOMING CANNOT BE SAFELY COMPLETED

Rockvale Canine Country Club may stop grooming at any time if continuing would place my dog at unreasonable risk. As my dog ages or its health declines, we may determine that we can no longer safely provide some or all grooming services. In that event, I may be referred to a veterinarian or veterinary hospital where grooming can be performed with medical supervision or assistance.

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EMERGENCY VETERINARY CARE

If my dog experiences a medical emergency while in our care, Rockvale Canine Country Club will make reasonable efforts to contact me. Because geriatric and high-risk dogs can sometimes decline quickly, **we may suggest that I stay nearby and remain readily available while my dog is being groomed.**

When reasonably necessary, I authorize Rockvale Canine Country Club to seek emergency veterinary treatment for my dog. I understand that I am financially responsible for veterinary expenses resulting from emergency care, except to the extent otherwise required by applicable law.

OWNER DISCLOSURE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISK

I certify that I have disclosed all known medical conditions, medications, previous grooming difficulties, seizures, heart or breathing problems, mobility limitations, bite history, and other health or behavioral concerns that could affect grooming.

I understand and voluntarily accept the inherent and increased risks associated with grooming an elderly or medically compromised dog. I authorize Rockvale Canine Country Club to use its professional judgment regarding my dog's safety and comfort, including modifying or stopping the groom when appropriate.

RELEASE

To the extent permitted by Tennessee law, I release and hold harmless Rockvale Canine Country Club and its owners, employees, and groomers from claims arising from the inherent risks of grooming and from my dog's pre-existing, age-related, or undisclosed medical or behavioral conditions. This release is not intended to waive liability that cannot lawfully be waived.

Owner / Authorized Agent Signature:

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Dog's Name: _____

Rockvale Canine Country Club Representative: _____

This form documents informed consent and acknowledgment of the special risks associated with geriatric/high-risk grooming. It is not a substitute for veterinary advice.