

## Community Dog Advocates – Recommended ADDITIONAL Conversations for PFA Vetting Follow Ups

*These are conversation starters for proper vetting of Potential Fosters and Adopters. This should be used AFTER PFA has submitted an application for review.*

- 1) Type of Home – Additional Questions
  - a. Describe the outdoor space available for the dog? Is it a fenced in area?
  - b. Will the dog be left outside unattended for any period of time?
- 2) Is everyone in your household/family on board for Fostering/Adopting? It is important that each and every person approves of you bringing a dog into the home.
- 3) What type of work do you do? Do you feel that you have the time and energy to invest in a rescue dog?
- 4) If applicant is a renter and has landlord permission, confirm that there are no limitations to length of stay, plans to move, etc. Will you take the dog with you when/if you move?
- 5) The following is a acknowledgement statement that you agreed with in the app. I just want to make sure that all children in the home are aware how to properly be with a dog. Can we review it again?
  - a. *I acknowledge that canine behavior, such as jumping in excitement, displaying mouthing tendencies, and exhibiting protective instincts over resources, is inherent. **When introducing children to new dogs, it is advisable to proceed with caution, gradually acquainting them while establishing clear guidelines for appropriate interactions. This approach is crucial to safeguard both the child and the dog. It is imperative that dogs are not touched or handled in a manner that may elicit a natural canine response***
- 6) You mentioned you have dogs (refer to answer), tell me a little bit about their temperament. Do you feel comfortable with making slow, careful introductions? If you have never done it before, we can advise you on proper ways to do this.
- 7) Please remember that finding a home for a foster dog can take time, and there are no guarantees on length of stay. At minimum we would prefer at least 3 months. Do you feel like you can commit time to helping this dog to his best outcome? Sometimes, people expect a foster dog to be adopted right away, but sometimes it takes a bit longer. How do you feel about this? Are you going away at some point and cannot care for the dog?
- 8) The app talks about the many different behaviors that can result from a change in environment. I noticed you DID/DIDN'T Check certain boxes. Tell me about your concerns.
- 9) We mention the 3-3-3 rule as a guide for transitioning a rescue dog into its new home:

- a. *The 3-3-3 rule is a guideline for transitioning a rescue dog into its new home and helping it to settle in. It suggests that the first three days should be used for adjusting to its new surroundings, the next three weeks for training and bonding, and the first three months for continued socialization and training.*
  - b. Do you feel comfortable with this? Can I answer any questions for you? It is important that our Fosters and Adopters give these dogs time to decompress.
- 10) Are there any other questions I can answer for you? What other expectations do you have of us? Is there anything in particular you need to help start you off on the right path with your new dog?
- 11) We note in the app for you to acknowledge the following statement:
- a. *I agree that if I'm unable to foster the dog(s) anymore, OR change mind on adopting, I will return the dog(s) to the RESCUE/Advocacy Team and provide a 2-week period to try and find another suitable foster for the dog(s) or I will pay for boarding for 2 weeks for the dog(s).*
  - b. Are you comfortable with this situation? Since we're run by volunteers, we take the placement of dogs with foster families and adopters very seriously. It's important to understand and be accountable for the potential risks that come with bringing a rescue dog into your home. Most rescues cannot afford to pay for continuous boarding.
- 12) **For Fosters Only:** It is important that Foster/Foster to Adopt parents help market the dog(s) by sharing photos and valuable information on the dog (temperament, etc.). If fostering, do you agree to provide regular updates and personal availability for meet and greets for a successful adoption outcome? Are you willing to assist with this?