

## **Springbank Park For All Seasons (SPFAS) No Pets – Service Animals Only At SPFAS Policy Presented to SPFAS Board of Directors on March 22, 2020**

**Effective as of April 1, 2021**

### **Background**

SPFAS, incorporated under the *Agricultural Societies Act*, is a community-based, not-for-profit Society organized to promote and encourage educational, cultural, athletic, recreational and community endeavours at its two facilities, the Springbank Park For All Seasons and the Springbank Lions Soccer Park. SPFAS strives on an ongoing basis to monitor, review and enhance the implementation of safety measures that have been put in place to protect everyone who comes to SPFAS, as well as to protect SPFAS facilities and all other assets. This Policy outlines the principles and related practices SPFAS implements to restrict animals being present on the Springbank Park For All Seasons Main Site and in the Springbank Lions Soccer Park to only those designated as service animals. This Policy also outlines SPFAS efforts to avoid: (i) conflicts between human visitors and animals; (ii) conflicts between animals; (iii) animals causing damages to SPFAS facilities and venues; (iv) animal waste contaminations of SPFAS facilities and venues; (v) animal waste being left at SPFAS facilities and venues; (vi) animals being at risk due to them being left in vehicles parked at SPFAS facilities and venues; and (vii) legal and other risks that may arise due to any of the above noted items occurring.

### **Principles**

Safety is always the first priority at the Springbank Park For All Seasons. SPFAS continually strives to ensure that all individuals who come to the Society's indoor facilities and outdoor venues are in a safe environment. SPFAS also strives to retain and maintain facilities and venues in a manner that provides for their safe occupancy. SPFAS mitigates operational risks of safety being compromised by, on an ongoing basis, implementing a wide and diversified array of safety monitoring practices, procedures, protocols and standards that are focused on protecting those who come to SPFAS, as well as on protecting SPFAS facilities and all other capital assets, infrastructure and equipment.

In conjunction with SPFAS taking actions on an ongoing basis to implement the above noted principles and practices, SPFAS also implements the following principles and practices to restrict the presence of animals within all indoor and outdoor facilities to only those that are:

- Service animals that individuals use because of their disabilities (with these individuals being the only people who are permitted to bring services animals to SPFAS);
- Service animals that are formally designated as being Certified Assistive Animals;
- Service animals for whom their owners have in their possession while at SPFAS their animals' respective valid Service Dog ID Cards which have been issued by the Province of Alberta;
- Service animals who are confirmed to be designated as such in writing by regulated health care professionals;
- Animals that are participating in designated pet therapy programs.

Service animals are not permitted to be in any specific parts of venues or other areas at SPFAS where food items and beverages are produced, processed and/or prepared to be served. Service animals can accompany SPFAS visitors who are consuming food items and/or beverages in areas generally accessible to the public, including the Concession and the Lounge public service areas. Service animals are not permitted within the Concession, or within the areas of the Lounge (or elsewhere at SPFAS such as a temporary pancake breakfast service location) where food items and/or beverages are prepared to be served, and/or are stored for future use.

### **Practical Application of SPFAS Safety Policy**

SPFAS will:

- Post this Policy on the SPFAS website ([www.springbankpark.com](http://www.springbankpark.com));
- Commencing as of April 1, 2021:
  1. Distribute this Policy to the primary SPFAS User Groups and other primary users of SPFAS facilities and venues;
  2. Place “No Pets Allowed On Site” and/or “Designated Service Animals Only Permitted” signs (or other similar signs) on site throughout SPFAS indoor and outdoor facilities;
  3. Inform individuals who may bring their pets (those not designated as service animals) to SPFAS of the opportunity to utilize Rocky View County’s Dog Park located north of SPFAS;
  4. Implement a “general observation and/or responding to a concern or complaint” approach whereby SPFAS Staff Members will only address animal on site instances that they observe while performing their regular duties, or that are brought to their attention;

SPFAS Staff Members are not responsible for actively monitoring or patrolling SPFAS facilities and venues on an ongoing basis to watch for animals being on site; Should SPFAS Staff Members observe animals being on site, they will seek confirmation from their owners as to whether these animals are designated to be service animals, or animals in service training; SPFAS Staff Members will ask the owners of those animals that are not designated service animals, or are not participating in a designated pet therapy program, to remove their animals from any SPFAS locations effective immediately; SPFAS Staff Members will also ask the owners of any animals to remove them from any areas where food and beverage are being served or stored; Should animal owners fail to comply with the directives of SPFAS Staff Members, then Incident Reports will be prepared for review and follow-up by SPFAS Management.

The SPFAS Board of Directors recognizes the importance of implementing this “No Pets – Service Animals Only At SPFAS” Policy and fully supports the implementation of all of the principles and related practical actions included in it. The Board retains safety as a top operational, service delivery and capital priority. The Board is committed to continually supporting, monitoring and enhancing SPFAS safety measures by reviewing their implementation, by approving related policies and by funding specific enhancement initiatives. The Board’s support for SPFAS safety measures also includes ensuring that SPFAS continues on an ongoing basis to develop and implement related procedures pertaining to how SPFAS addresses instances and situations when visitors to SPFAS bring along with them their service animals and/or their pets.