

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM BRUNO'S PLAYCARE



Here are a few things you should keep in mind regarding what to expect when socializing your dog with other dogs in a daycare environment.

BENEFITS OF PLAYCARE:

- Playcare is a great way to socialize your dog, especially if you have a puppy or a shy dog. Puppies are very impressionable and the more they are socialized the more likely they will grow up to be well-adjusted dogs. If you have a shy dog, playcare can be a great tool to help your dog build his or her confidence and adjust to other dogs and people.
- Playcare is an excellent way to exercise your dog!
- Playcare can help with dogs that suffer from separation anxiety. It gives your dogs a place to go during the day when you cannot be with them and provides both mental and physical stimulation which will make them tired and more receptive to the training you do at home to overcome their anxiety.

INHERENT RISKS OF PLAYCARE:

- Playcare is really no different than sending a child to school. Every child catches a cold or the flu at some point and some children have better immune systems than others. The biggest difference between your dog and a child is that your dog cannot tell you a day or two before they are showing signs of being sick that their throat feels a little scratchy and often it is the days before they "act or look sick" that they are the most contagious. As soon as we know of something going around we will post a notice in our lobby and try to verbally notify all parents of dogs that we think might have been exposed. We also ask for help from the parents, as you are more likely to notice the subtle changes in your dog that indicate they might be feeling a little off and **if you notice these signs we ask that you refrain from bringing your dog to playcare.** However, even with all of us being very diligent in trying to prevent the spread of a virus or bacteria that makes our dogs sick it still cannot be completely prevented.
- Playcare is similar to a contact sport for humans, except these participants are playing the game with their teeth and claws. The more active of a player your dog is the more likely they will get scratches and other marks on them. **There is a playgroup supervisor with the dogs at ALL times** and we monitor each group to keep play levels as safe as possible, but sometimes injuries do happen. If we notice anything, we will point it out to you, but remember, they are covered in hair and we will not see everything. If you do find a mark you feel may be concerning, please let us know.
- Some dogs experience tender paws (pads) and sore muscles until they adapt to all the activity and our outdoor play areas and equipment. Often times they do not let us know that they are sore because they are too busy playing and having a good time and only start limping once they get home. Let us know if your dog is showing signs of soreness and we can restrict the amount of time your dog plays outside.

OTHER THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PLAYCARE:

- After a day of playcare your dog will most likely go home hungry, thirsty, and tired. This is normal. During play, dogs might not take the time to stop and drink as much as they should. **We always have fresh water available** but many dogs are too distracted with playing. Do not be surprised if your dog goes home eats and passes out. This too is normal and is probably one of the primary reasons you bring your dog to playcare.