

What you need to know before the event



1. Know Your Dog's Behaviour:

- a. Is your dog comfortable around large crowds? If not, consider whether this event is the right fit.
- b. Be aware of your dog's reactivity—does your dog get anxious or aggressive around other dogs or people?
- c. Make sure your dog is well-socialised and can handle being in a busy environment.

2. Health and Safety Check:

- a. Ensure your dog's vaccinations are up-to-date.
- b. Consider your dog's overall health—if your dog is elderly, young, or has any health concerns, check with your vet before attending.

3. Identification and Comfort:

- a. Ensure your dog has a collar with an ID tag, and that the information is current.
- b. If your dog is microchipped, double-check the details to make sure it is accurate.

4. Packing Essentials:

- a. Water and a collapsible bowl to keep your dog hydrated.
- b. Treats for positive reinforcement and calming.
- c. Poop bags—always clean up after your dog.

During the Event:

1. Dogs must always be kept on a lead

2. Monitor the Heat:

- a. Keep an eye on the temperature, especially in warmer weather. Ensure your dog has access to water and shade at all times.
- b. Avoid long periods in the sun, as heatstroke can develop quickly in dogs. If the temperature is high, consider using the chill out tent regularly

3. Do not leave your dog in your car: do not leave your dog in the car for any period during the event. Please note that this applies to cars that circulate air whilst you are away.

4. **Be mindful of what your dog is up to:** some dogs might want to mark their territory while around other dogs. Please do not let them mark on anyone else's property as this might cause anxiety for the owner's dog.
5. **Watch for Stress or Anxiety:**
 - a. Pay attention to your dog's body language. Signs of stress can include panting, drooling, whining, or trying to escape.
 - b. If your dog is overwhelmed, take them to a quieter spot to calm down and give them a break from the noise and crowds.
6. **Be Mindful of Other Dogs and People:**
 - a. Not all dogs enjoy close encounters with other dogs or strangers, so be aware of how your dog is reacting to others around them.
 - b. Keep your dog away from areas where there may be large groups or overly excited dogs that could stress them out.
 - c. Respect others—ask before allowing your dog to approach other dogs or people.
7. **Create a Safe Space for Your Dog:**
 - a. Bring a mat or blanket for your dog to lie on, giving them a familiar and comfortable spot to relax.
 - b. Keep your dog's area clear of crowds to help them feel more secure.
8. **Hydration and Rest:**
 - a. Offer water regularly and allow your dog time to rest in the shade or a quieter area.
 - b. If the event goes for several hours, schedule breaks to avoid overstimulation.

After the Event:

1. **Cool Down and Relax:** After the event, give your dog time to cool off and rest. Provide them with fresh water and a comfortable place to relax.
Check for Injury or Illness:
 - a. After a busy day, check your dog for any signs of discomfort, such as limping, licking or chewing their paws, or excessive fatigue.
2. **Follow Up with Regular Care:**
 - a. Once home, allow your dog to settle into their usual routine. If they seem anxious or overstimulated, help them unwind with a calm activity like a walk or some quiet time.

By being mindful of your dog's needs, their comfort, and safety, you can ensure both you and your dog have a positive experience at the event.