



AGGRESSIVE RELEASE WAIVER

Wags to Whiskers realized the importance of a healthy and well-groomed pet, but there are times when we simply can't complete a dog OR cat's groom due to behavioural issues. A situation like this may lead us to suggest a visit to your veterinarian for a sedative in which to calm your pet. Please know this decision is not taken lightly and all means of achieving the groom without sedatives has been attempted. The steps taken to groom a difficult dog/cat are as follows:

- The groomer remains calm-assertive when grooming a dog/cat. We feel that energy is channelled to the pet and if the groomer is tense, the pet will be as well.
- We try many techniques.
- If the dog/cat is aggressive and showing signs of growling, snarling, biting, or nipping; they will be muzzled.
- When struggling with a dog/cat I may call in an assistant to try to keep the dog/cat calm while the groom is completed.
- We give the stressed dog/cat several breaks.
- We may have to call the owners of the pet to join us to see if their presence will calm the pet. This is a last resort.

We will cease grooming immediately if the dog/cat is showing the following signs:

- Heavy breathing
- Blue tongue
- High heart rate
- Aggression where the pet and groomer are at risk
- Spinning, turning out of control (gator roll) where there is a risk of the dog injuring itself on the grooming arm etc.
- Cat/dog showing excessive signs of panting.

Should any of these conditions exist, we will make the decision to refer the client to their veterinarian for advice on a sedative. Many pets that initially take sedatives can be weaned off them after several positive grooming experiences and once they have established a rapport with their groomer. Our main goal is to keep both the pet and groomer safe!

We thank you and appreciate your understanding. We use sharp tools and due to a flinch or lunge at the wrong moment, an accident (cut) can happen in a matter of seconds. If that occurs you will be called immediately, and veterinarian care might be required. We will use our first aid training to attend to the injury until you arrive and are

able to take them to the vet for care. Also, recognize that a groomer's career is dependent on the use of their hands and arms and a severe bite can place the groomer off work for some time.

We never administer the sedatives. They must be administered prior to the grooming appointment following your vet's advice. Should you choose to try a different groomer at another location, it is important you inform them of your pet's history, so they can be prepared to groom your pet in the safest way possible.

I do not and will not hold Wags to Whiskers, the groomer and/or employees responsible for any incident or deem them liable for vet costs that may occur. I also understand that a bite fee of \$20.00 will apply if the groomer is bit during the groom.

Owner or representative Signature: _____

Date: _____