



The Fox Valley Therapy Dog Club Yorkville, Illinois

PROCEDURES FOR EVALUATION AND REGISTRATION Of FVTDC DOG/HANDLER TEAMS

This information is also available in the "*Steps to Registration*" pamphlet (www.fvtherapydogs.org at Membership link) This includes:

- 1. Attend a Saturday practice or meeting without your dog.** Attend one Saturday practice or meeting without your dog so you can have a chance to observe what we do and talk to members.

Provide the following to the Membership Coordinator in preparation to attend practice:

- 2. Submit our Annual Health Record form** (www.fvtherapydogs.org at Membership link) to the Membership Coordinator which includes evidence of:
 - a. Physical examination by a veterinarian within the last 12 months;**
 - b. Negative fecal test within the last 12 months; and**
 - c. Current rabies vaccination.**
- 3. Submit proof of successful completion of any one of the following to the Membership Coordinator:**
 - a. AKC Canine Good Citizen Test (CGC);**
 - b. Therapy Dogs International (TDI) or TDI, Inc.;**
 - c. Delta Society; or**
 - d. Canine Performance Titles awarded by AKC or similar organizations.**
 - e. NOTE:** If the dog is under 1 year of age, this requirement is waived until such time as the dog reaches its first birthday. At that time, it will be necessary to complete this requirement in order for the dog to continue attending practices.
- 4. Apply for Membership in the FVTDC –** Fill out the *Membership Application* to join the club and pay the \$20.00 annual dues fee.
- 5. Meet your Mentor**

The Prospect Coordinator will match you up with an experienced club member who will be your Mentor. He/she will introduce you to other club members and provide guidance and support on your journey to becoming a registered therapy team.
- 6. Attend at least 2 Saturday practice sessions with your dog.** (*NOTE: the information from #2, #3 and #4 above must be received by the Membership Coordinator prior to attending a practice with your dog*)
 - a.** Attending practice will allow you to see how your dog works around other dogs. You will get valuable tips from the experienced handlers in our club. Our practices are often focused on teaching our dogs new skills or polishing existing ones. You will also get information on how to work on skills in preparation for the Evaluation test. Prior to the Evaluation test, one Saturday practice session is devoted to discussing the skills and tasks on the test. You will be able to ask questions and practice some of the test items.

