

# PUPPY VACCINATION POLICY

## What IS required

- DHPP (Distemper/Parvo combo)
  - At least 1-2 rounds completed
    - First dose typically given at 6-8 weeks by breeder/shelter.
- Up-to-date age-appropriate vaccines
  - Rabies is not required for first round puppy classes because it's given later (around 12-16 weeks)
- No symptoms of illness (coughing, diarrhea, lethargy, etc.) - *If Puppy is feeling ill please keep them home! You are welcome to attend class without puppy to get the information, or we can email you the missed handouts.*



## How Puppy Classes Stay Safe:

### Good puppy programs reduce risk by:

- Cleaning and disinfecting floors and equipment
- Requiring proof of vaccination
- Limiting class size
- Keeping puppies on clean indoor surfaces
- Separating by age and size when needed

### Why Puppy Classes Matter - Puppy Classes

#### help with:

- Bite inhibition
- Confidence building
- Proper dog-to-dog communication
- Handling & grooming tolerance
- Focus around distractions
- Preventing fear, reactivity, and anxiety later in life
- The critical socialization period closes around 14-16 weeks, *which is why waiting until all vaccines are finished can actually be harmful behaviorally.*

