**Guidelines for Blood Donor Dogs**

1. **Always** keep us informed of any health issues your dog is having. Please let us know if your pet is due for vaccinations. A blood donation should not be made within 1 week pre or post vaccination. Also, let us know if your dog has had, or is scheduled for any surgical procedure. We need to be told of any research projects they are involved in, especially if medications are involved. We do not want to take blood if it could compromise your animal’s health or recovery from the procedure.

2. Refrain from any strenuous activity for 24-48 hours after a donation. This means lots of pampering and no long runs. Make sure your dog takes it easy in extreme hot or cold weather.

3. Please watch for signs of stress after donation. Signs can include vomiting, diarrhea, or lethargy. If any of these persist please call.

4. Please do not feed your dog the morning of donation. You should take away their food around 10pm the night before. Water should be available at all times.

5. When taking your dog home after donation do not use a collar. We recommend putting the leash under the let of the venipuncture sight and over the shoulder on the other side of the body as to not disturb the clot on the jugular vein used for blood donation.

6. Please know that your pet needs to be available for donation at all times. They will be used primarily for whole blood donations and could be needed in emergency situations. If there are more than 2 instances where your pet is not available to us they may be removed from the blood donor program with all benefits forfeited.

Please contact us with any questions or concerns.