

CHSAA Guidelines Related to Service, Therapy, and Instructional Animals at State Championship Events

Definitions:

○ Service Animal – Any **dog** that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. (Service animals are specifically defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and its Amendments.)

○ Therapy Animal – Also known as a companion or emotional support animal and is not the same as a service animal.

○ Instructional Animal – Any animal used as part of the instructional process and as approved by the school administrator.

Animals Allowed at CHSAA State Championships Events

Only Service Animals (service animals are specifically defined under the ADA). Therapy and Instructional Animals are not allowed entrance at our state championships event, unless the facility is pet-friendly.

General Guidelines:

- Owner/handler must remain with animal at all times while on site.
- Animal must be free of external parasites (fleas, ticks, and mites), and free of skin lesions.
- Owner/handler is responsible to clean up after animal.
- Animals must be monitored to ensure that they do not demonstrate any aggression towards humans, or other animals, or otherwise create a nuisance situation. An animal's aggressive, unprovoked or threatening behavior, and/or creation of a nuisance situation may necessitate its immediate removal from championships site property.
- Any request for animal to be on the competitive surface with the coach/athlete must be formally made with the CHSAA Administrator in charge of that sport/activity at least 48 hours prior to the competition start date. The animal cannot distract/interfere with competition in any way, or they will be relocated onsite to a less intrusive location.