

## Turn in Day: What to expect & how to make a difficult day a tiny bit easier



### Things to bring:

- ❑ Your pup (anything else you are missing can be dealt with later!)
- ❑ Turn in paperwork (if you forgot to mail it in ahead of time)
- ❑ CCI numbered dog tag, remove from collar
- ❑ CCI puppy cape
- ❑ CCI gentle leader
- ❑ An afternoon meal for your pup
- ❑ Camera
- ❑ Kleenex



### Where do I go first?

Arrive at the CCI administrative building a few minutes prior to your photo appointment time. This building is immediately to your right as you enter the campus. There will be a table outside of the building where you can check in with the CCI staff.

- ❑ The yellow "Assistance Puppy In Training" cape will be exchanged for a gorgeous cobalt blue matriculation cape with gold tassels to be used for the ceremony
- ❑ Your pup's CCI tag should be returned here
- ❑ Your pup will be outfitted with a blue nylon collar and a short blue nylon lead. You may choose to use either the flat collar or a gentle leader during the ceremony.
- ❑ You will be handed a number on a 3x5 card that will be used by the photographers to identify you. Keep this to give to the photographer during your photo shoot. Make sure you are near the check in table ~15 mins prior to your appointment. Your pup's name will be called (not the number).
- ❑ While you are waiting you may want to wander around the Schulz campus (don't miss your appt!). Note that there will be tours of the kennels available after the ceremony.
- ❑ Prior to the ceremony the staff at the campus is VERY busy processing graduate teams as well as matriculating dogs. This is a stressful day for everyone. Patience is a plus!

### Photos

Matriculation photos are taken by a professional photographer. You will be sent (2) 5x7 photos free of charge. You have the choice of 2 out of the following 4 sittings:

1. the pup by itself
2. litter mates
3. pup and puppy raiser(s)
4. pup and puppy raiser family



Schulz campus is also a beautiful setting for photos. Take advantage of the nice landscaping for a background. Also, the CCI campus sign located adjacent to the road serves as a nice backdrop. (Don't smash the plants).

## Now what?

Know when and where the graduation ceremony is. (For 2003, Sonoma Country Day School, starting at 1pm). Time permitting, you may want to go eat or exercise your dog. You should plan to arrive at the ceremony 20-30 minutes early to park, find seats, find littermates, visit with friends and take pictures.

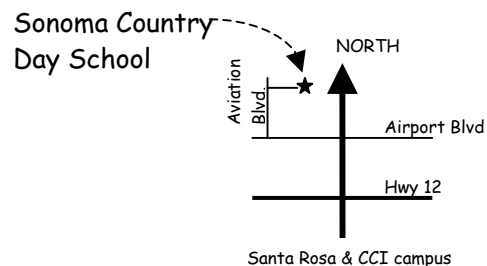
## Places to exercise your pup- A tired pup is a happy pup!

Please make sure that you clean up after your pups and toilet them out of view of restaurants and businesses.

- ❑ If you can run or have a fast chair - the cement path around the outside of the CCI campus is a great place for an on-leash run.
- ❑ The play yards at CCI might be accessible for off leash play. If the yards are open please keep the number of dogs in the play yard down to a handful. The play yard is around to the right, behind the administrative building and adjacent to the parking lot.
- ❑ Finley Community Park (at Stony Point and West College Ave.) From campus, head south and turn right at the stop sign. Go about 1/2 mile and you'll see a school on your right. From the school, turn right and continue down to the light. Turn right on Stony Point Road and keep going. Once you go over the freeway (Hwy 12) start looking to your right. Great parking and good on-leash areas are all over this park.



**Sonoma Country Day School**  
**4400 Day School Place**  
**Santa Rosa, CA**



## The Typical Ceremony

- ❑ If you or your pup are anxious or unsettled, go outside and do a short obedience tune up. This will help your pup focus on YOU instead of the other matriculating pups.
- ❑ Generally the new breeder dogs are presented first, then the matriculating pups and then the graduate teams.
- ❑ Find a seat that allows you to easy access to the stage.
- ❑ When the puppy program manager is introduced wake up! Puppy raisers will be directed to line up and come up on stage.
- ❑ The puppy program manager will be at the podium and will introduce each dog and puppy raiser. When you are introduced, step forward and then exit from the stage. Don't forget to smile! (and keep a loose leash).
- ❑ If you choose to use treats to maintain your pup's attention, please pick up any crumbs you may have dropped so other pups are not drooling in their moment of glory
- ❑ After the ceremony there are refreshments in the lobby. The CCI gift shop will also be set up for business in the lobby.



## **Sending your pup off to college (3:30-5:30 pm)**

- ❑ How you proceed from here is a matter of personal preference. Some people will linger after the ceremony, others choose to head over to CCI immediately following the ceremony. Remember that the whole matriculating class is being turned in (40 to 50 dogs) so turning your pup in will take some time.
- ❑ After the ceremony and before Turn-in is a good time to give your pup a meal. The first time the dogs are fed by the CCI staff is Sunday morning.
- ❑ The Turn-in location is the training rooms at CCI. Go straight back, across the grassy courtyard from where you checked in this morning. CCI staff will be there to assist you.
- ❑ In the training room there are refreshments. Tours of the kennels are also given at this time.
- ❑ Return the matriculation cape, leash and collar to the CCI staff.
- ❑ When you are ready, tell one of the CCI trainers and they will take your pup into the kennels.
- ❑ Turn your pup in with a positive attitude and a cheery good-bye! Once they are safely away with the trainer you can fall apart and not leave the poor pup wondering why you are suddenly so sad.
- ❑ **Remember why we do this and pat yourself on the back for raising a miracle!**
- ❑ Just like college, the dogs have a roommate in the "dorms." Kennel staff spend time with the new pups checking their tattoos, petting them, giving them a few treats, making sure they get along with the roommates, and generally helping them to settle in.



## **When will I hear about my pup?**

- ❑ In 2-3 weeks you will receive a letter which includes your dog's trainer and kennel mate.
- ❑ In the first 4-6 weeks the dogs go through extensive medical checks including hips, eyes, elbows and heart. Temperament testing is done as well as working the dogs on the same basic commands you have taught them.
- ❑ Advanced Training reports are sent via email (second choice US mail or phone) monthly by the puppy program manager. The first report is sent two months after turn in. (Aug turn in dogs will receive their first report early in Oct). Questions or comments should go to the puppy program manager (not directly to your dog's trainer). There is no longer a "call in" schedule.
- ❑ Breeders are generally selected in the first 2-4 months although selection at any time is possible. Puppy raisers can be breeder-caretakers for their pup if they live close enough to Santa Rosa (~100 miles).
- ❑ Dogs can be released at any time from the program if they are not suitable for work as an assistance dog. This can occur the day before a dog is anticipated to graduate, or even after graduation with its partner. Graduation seems like the "end" for a puppy raiser while it is just the "beginning" for the graduate team. IF your dog is released from the program you will be contacted by the puppy program manager. Additional information is available from the Northwest Program Manager (Ken Kirsch) who is responsible for all the trainers and dogs and will have more details on your dog's behavior.