SPCA of the Carolinas

Terms of Use

Effective Date: September 1, 2026
Last Updated: September 1, 2026

Welcome to the website of SPCA of the Carolinas ("SPCA of the Carolinas," "we," "us," or "our"), a nonprofit, all-volunteer dog rescue. These Terms of Use ("Terms") govern your access to and use of our website at spcaofthecarolinas.org (the "Site") and your participation in our adoption, foster, volunteer, and donation activities. Please read them carefully.

By accessing or using the Site, or by submitting an application or donation to us, you agree to these Terms and to our Privacy Policy, which is incorporated by reference. If you do not agree, please do not use the Site.

1. About Us

SPCA of the Carolinas is run entirely by volunteers and relies on foster homes to care for the dogs in our program. We do not operate a physical shelter facility. Our mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome dogs, and to find the right home for each individual dog based on that dog's needs and the needs of the adopter.

2. Use of the Site

You may use the Site only for lawful purposes and in accordance with these Terms. You agree not to:

- Use the Site in any way that violates any applicable law or regulation;
- Submit false, misleading, or fraudulent information in any application or form;
- Attempt to gain unauthorized access to the Site, its servers, or any connected systems;
- Interfere with or disrupt the Site or introduce any harmful code; or
- Use any automated means to scrape, harvest, or collect information from the Site, including the personal information of applicants, adopters, or volunteers.

3. Adoption, Foster, and Volunteer Applications

Submitting an adoption, foster, or volunteer application does not create any obligation on our part and does not guarantee that an adoption, foster placement, or volunteer role will be offered or approved. As a rescue committed to finding the right home for each dog, we review every application individually and make placement decisions at our sole discretion.

You must be at least 18 years old to submit an application. You agree to provide accurate, current, and complete information, and you understand that we may verify the information you provide, including by contacting references, landlords, and veterinarians. Providing false or incomplete information may result in denial of an application or reversal of a placement.

Information we provide about a dog, including age, breed, weight, medical history, and temperament, is based on the best information available to us and is often limited or estimated for rescued animals. **We cannot and do not guarantee any dog's health, breed, behavior, or temperament.** Adoption and foster

arrangements are governed by the separate adoption or foster agreement you sign with us, which controls if it conflicts with these Terms.

4. Interactions With Animals; Assumption of Risk

Dogs are animals and can behave unpredictably, even when well cared for. If you meet, handle, foster, or adopt a dog through us, you do so voluntarily and you assume all risks associated with that interaction, including the risk of bites, scratches, other injuries, property damage, or the transmission of illness. You are responsible for supervising your own interactions and those of children and other animals in your care. Any specific liability terms in a signed adoption or foster agreement apply in addition to this section.

5. Donations

Donations made through the Site are voluntary and are processed by a third-party payment processor. We do not store full payment card information. Donations are generally non-refundable. If you believe a donation was made in error, please contact us and we will try to help. SPCA of the Carolinas is a nonprofit organization; please retain your receipt and consult your own tax advisor regarding the deductibility of any contribution.

6. Intellectual Property

The content on the Site, including text, photographs of our dogs, graphics, logos, and our name and tagline, is owned by or licensed to SPCA of the Carolinas and is protected by intellectual property laws. You may share our public posts and photos to help our dogs find homes and to support our mission. You may not otherwise copy, modify, sell, or use our content for commercial purposes, or in a way that suggests our endorsement, without our permission.

7. Content You Submit

If you send us photos, videos, stories, reviews, or other content, for example an update about an adopted dog, you grant SPCA of the Carolinas a non-exclusive, royalty-free permission to use, display, and share that content in our communications and on our social media and Site to promote our mission. You represent that you have the right to share what you send and that it does not infringe anyone else's rights. Please do not submit anything confidential or anything you do not want us to use.

8. Third-Party Links and Services

The Site may link to or rely on third-party websites and services, such as social media platforms and our payment processor. We do not control and are not responsible for those third parties or their content, and your use of them is subject to their own terms and policies.

9. Disclaimers

The Site and all information on it are provided on an “as is” and “as available” basis without warranties of any kind, whether express or implied. We do our best to keep information about our dogs and programs accurate and current, but we do not warrant that the Site will be error-free, uninterrupted, or free of harmful components, or that any information on it is complete or accurate.

10. Limitation of Liability

To the fullest extent permitted by law, SPCA of the Carolinas and its volunteers, officers, directors, and agents will not be liable for any indirect, incidental, special, consequential, or punitive damages, or for any loss or injury, arising out of or relating to your use of the Site, your interactions with our dogs, or your participation in our programs. Nothing in these Terms limits any liability that cannot be limited under applicable law.

11. Indemnification

You agree to indemnify and hold harmless SPCA of the Carolinas and its volunteers from any claims, losses, or expenses arising out of your violation of these Terms, your misuse of the Site, or your submission of false or misleading information.

12. Privacy

Your use of the Site is also governed by our Privacy Policy, which explains how we collect, use, and share information, including our use of email communications and AI-assisted tools to help review applications. Please review it to understand our practices.

13. Changes to These Terms

We may update these Terms from time to time. When we do, we will revise the "Last Updated" date above and post the updated Terms on this page. Your continued use of the Site after changes are posted means you accept the updated Terms.

14. Governing Law

These Terms are governed by the laws of the State of North Carolina, where SPCA of the Carolinas is based, without regard to its conflict-of-laws rules, and regardless of where an applicant, adopter, or donor is located.

15. Contact Us

If you have questions about these Terms, please contact us at:

SPCA of the Carolinas

Email: hello@spcaofthecarolinas.org

Website: spcaofthecarolinas.org

These Terms of Use reflect the current practices of SPCA of the Carolinas as of the effective date above. They should be reviewed and updated whenever those practices change, and read together with the organization's Privacy Policy and any signed adoption or foster agreement.