



## CANINE MASSAGE

Professional and Olympic athletes have long been utilizing sports massage therapy to enhance their performance and prevent and alleviate muscle injury. The therapy is being increasingly utilized to enhance the performance of equine athletes, with great success. Progressive dog owners are also realizing the potential of therapeutic massage for canine athletes involved in sports such as dog agility and Flyball, plus dogs involved in the challenging work of search & rescue, police K-9 units, and guide dogs. Companion dogs and weekend “warriors” benefit too. Regular massage therapy can also prevent compensatory tension from developing during post-operative convalescence.

### Benefits of Massage Therapy

- Relaxes muscle spasms
- Increases circulation
- Enhances muscle tone
- Relieves tension
- Increases range of motion
- Removes toxins and metabolic waste
- Reduces pain caused by arthritis and hip dysplasia
- Fosters faster healing
- Prevents the development of post operative compensatory tension
- Enhances the strength and nourishment of the skin
- Strengthens the immune system

### Canine Massage

#### *Older Dogs*

Dogs in their golden years benefit tremendously from massage therapy. Massage is a natural way of reducing pain associated with hip dysplasia and arthritis, without the use of potentially dangerous drugs. Massage is helpful in increasing muscle tone, circulation, and flexibility in dogs with a reduced activity level.

#### *Performance*

With the ever increasing popularity of canine sports, the competition is fierce. You provide the best for your dog... proper nutrition, quality veterinary care, correct training methods – Canine massage therapy is a valuable addition to your program, assisting your dog to reach their full potential, reducing the risk of injury, and keeping them active longer.

#### *Injury & Post Operative Support*

Regular massage therapy can benefit your dog during recovery from injury or surgery. Consult with your veterinarian prior to beginning a massage therapy program to ensure its appropriateness for your dog. Massage therapy will prevent muscle tension from developing in other parts of the body due to compensation and will relax and provide comfort for your dog. It also speeds the healing process.