

## **Assistance Dogs Policy**

Boomtown recognises that guide dogs and assistance dogs offer vital support for people with sensory impairments, mobility issues, psychiatric illness or social disorders. We believe that accredited assistance dogs are, by definition, highly trained and that their owners have had specialised training in the safe and effective use of their dog. We also believe that supporting the welfare of dogs is vital to protect them and ensure they are safe around members of the public.

We recognise 'Accredited guide dogs and assistance dogs' as dogs that have received training by an <u>AD(UK)</u> member charity or organisation which are accredited by <u>Assistance Dogs International</u> (ADI) or the <u>International Guide Dog Federation</u> (IGDF).

We request that guide dogs and assistance dogs attending the festival provide a copy of an AD(UK) ID booklet confirming their training and training organisation. This must be submitted in advance to the email address below.

However, we also recognise that assistance dogs can be trained by non-ADI/IGDF organisations, in these cases we will consider applications on receipt of the following evidence:

- Details of the trainer or organisation.
- Written evidence from them of the dogs current level of training and ability to cope in a festival environment.
- Evidence of regular and recent re-assessment (within 1 year)

Boomtown reserves the right to deny entry to unaccredited dogs if we deem them not to have sufficient training. Before doing so we will seek advice from <u>Attitude is Everything</u> and/or AD(UK) - we will notify you before taking this step. This is to protect the welfare of the dog and the safety of other festival goers.

Before applying to bring an un-accredited or newly trained dog to the festival, we ask that you fully consider the environment into which you are taking them. It is likely the dog will experience densely crowded areas and main thoroughfares, high levels of noise from stages and public, pyrotechnics and strobe lighting, and at times (regretfully) antisocial behaviour from other festival goers. Please think carefully about the welfare of your dog and whether they can handle these conditions.

Evidence must be sent to the access team in advance by emailing <a href="mailto:access@boomtownfair.co.uk">access@boomtownfair.co.uk</a>. Once approved, you will be provided with written confirmation from us to authorise entry with your dog.

If you are authorised to bring a service dog to Boomtown festival, you will be responsible for managing the health and hygiene of your animal whilst onsite, including clearing up all waste. If you would like any advice or assistance from Boomtown regarding suitable camping locations, dog spending areas, and waste disposal, please contact us at <a href="mailto:access@boomtownfair.co.uk">access@boomtownfair.co.uk</a>