

## **BOWBRIDGE VETERINARY GROUP TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **BACKGROUND:**

These Terms and Conditions are the standard terms which apply:

- A. to provision to a customer and a patient of any Services (as **“Services”** is defined in Clause 1 below) by Bowbridge Stroud Ltd (trading as Bowbridge Veterinary Group) a company registered in England under number 09572325 whose registered office is the Bowbridge Surgery, Butterow Hill, Stroud, GL5 2LA; and
- B. where the customer of the Surgery is a **“Consumer”** as defined by the Consumer Rights Act 2015

### **1. Definitions and Interpretation**

1.1 In these Terms and Conditions, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the following meanings:

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>“Animal”</b>            | means the patient (which is the animal belonging to the Owner) that is to be the subject of consultation and/or treatment by the Surgery.  |
| <b>“Business”</b>          | means any business, trade, craft, or profession carried on by You or any other person/organisation.  |
| <b>“Consumer”</b>          | means a <b>“Consumer”</b> as defined by the Consumer Rights Act 2015; an individual who receives Services for their personal use for their Animal and wholly or mainly outside the purposes of any Business.   |
| <b>“Regulations”</b>       | means The Consumer Contracts (Information, Cancellation and Additional Charges) Regulations 2013.  |
| <b>“Services”</b>          | means any veterinary services including supply of any other services, treatments, medicines, drugs, consumable and other materials, and other items provided or used in the course of Our normal business.   |
| <b>“Surgery/Us/We/Our”</b> | means Bowbridge Veterinary Group whose place of business are Bowbridge Surgery, Butterow Hill, GL5 2LA and Stonehouse Branch at 17 Gloucester Road, Stonehouse, GL10 2NZ. Reference to the Surgery shall include reference to any and all staff including veterinary surgeons. |
| <b>“You/Your/Owner”</b>    | means an individual who is a customer of the Surgery and is the owner of an Animal.  |

1.2 Unless the context otherwise requires, each reference in these Terms and Conditions to:

1.2.1 **“These Terms and Conditions”** is a reference to these Terms and Conditions as amended or supplemented at the relevant time; and

1.2.2 A Clause or sub-Clause is a reference to a Clause of these Terms and Conditions;

1.3 The headings used in these Terms and Conditions are for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation of these Terms and Conditions;

1.4 Words signifying the singular number shall include the plural and vice versa; and

1.5 References to any gender shall include the other gender.

## 2. Consultations and Appointments

- 2.1 In non-emergency cases, consultations and treatment shall be by appointment only during the Surgery's business hours of 8.30am-6.30pm Monday to Friday and 8.30am-12.30pm Saturdays (not including bank holidays).
- 2.2 In emergency cases, You may bring Your Animal to the Surgery without an appointment and We will use all reasonable endeavours to treat the Animal as quickly as possible. In such cases, We ask You to give as much notice to Us as is reasonably possible;
- 2.3 If You know You are going to be late for an appointment, You should contact Us to tell Us. If You arrive later than 10 minutes after an appointment time, We will try to provide the Services You have booked but if We decide that We cannot, We may decide that the appointment should be treated as cancelled without notice by You and, if We then decide to make a charge for that appointment cancelled without notice, sub-Clause 2.5 below will apply;
- 2.4 You may cancel an appointment without charge if You give Us at least 60 minutes prior notice of the cancellation and if You do so We will refund to You any sum (including, but not limited to any deposit) You paid in advance for that appointment;
- 2.5 If You do not give Us at least 60 minutes prior notice of cancellation of an appointment, We will be entitled to charge You for any net financial loss that We suffer due to Your cancellation but not more than 100% of the full price of the appointment. We will be entitled to deduct that charge from any sum (including, but not limited to any deposit) You paid in advance, and We shall refund the balance to You;
- 2.6 If, due to exceptional circumstances, such as circumstances beyond the owner's control, You can cancel an appointment without giving Us at least 60 minutes prior notice, We will consider the circumstances and in our discretion decide whether to waive any charge for late cancellation that We are entitled to make under sub-Clauses 2.3 and 2.5;
- 2.7 We can offer a call-out appointment if You require a veterinary surgeon to visit Your Animal at home. You should book such appointments in the same way as conventional appointments. If the attending veterinary surgeon deems it necessary to treat the Animal at the Surgery, he/she may require You to transport the Animal or they may transport it him/herself. You shall bear any transportation costs so incurred;
- 2.8 We have arranged Out of hours emergency care to be provided by The Emergency Veterinary Service at Wood Veterinary Hospital, 125 Bristol Road, Quedgeley. GL2 4NB. They can be contacted via our normal phone lines on 01453 762350 or directly on 01452 543990.
- 2.9 We may cancel an appointment booked by You at any time before the time and date of that appointment in the following circumstances:
  - 2.9.1 The required personnel and/or required materials necessary for the provision of the Services are not available; or
  - 2.9.2 We find that you are not a "Consumer" (as defined in Clause 1 above).If We cancel an appointment in such circumstances We will refund to You in full any deposit or other advance payment that You have made to Us for that appointment;
- 2.10 Where the contract We make with You is not made on Our premises, the Regulations give You the rights set out in this sub-Clause 2.11, and they will be in addition to the rights given to You by the above provisions of this Clause 2. You may for any reason

cancel an appointment for any Services during the 14 day period after We accept the booking for those Services but if the appointment is on a date which is before the end of that period and if You have expressly requested Us to provide Services at that appointment and We do so, You may not cancel that appointment and You must pay for it in accordance with Clause 3. If You request that Your appointment be cancelled, You must confirm this in any way convenient to You. If You cancel as allowed by this Sub-clause 2.11, and You have already made any payment(s) to Us for the appointment, We will refund the payment(s) to You within 14 days of receiving Your cancellation.

### **3. Fees and Payment**

- 3.1 You must pay for all Services upon completion of provision of those Services;
- 3.2 We may in Our discretion reduce charges for repeat consultations or treatments associated with long-term or ongoing conditions and in accordance with sub- Clause 5.3;
- 3.3 We shall invoice You for all sums due at the following times (as appropriate):
  - 3.3.1 the end of a consultation; or
  - 3.3.2 the discharge of an Animal following surgery or other prolonged stay at the Surgery; or
  - 3.3.3 the dispensing or collection of drugs and/or other products;
- 3.4 Payment should generally be made immediately subject to other terms agreed between You and Us from time to time;
- 3.5 You may pay Us for Services (and for any deposit or other advance payment on account of that payment) using any of the following methods:
  - 3.5.1 cash;
  - 3.5.2 debit card; and
  - 3.5.3 credit card.
- 3.6 In cases where treatment is being covered by an animal health insurance policy, You may choose to either pay all sums due to Us and to reclaim such sums from the insurance provider, or if We agree to do so, You may also choose for Us to reclaim the sums directly from Your insurance provider (direct claim) and We will then reclaim from You of any remaining sums due to Us.
- 3.7 It shall be Your responsibility to pay all sums due to Us and to reclaim such sums from the insurance provider. We may provide assistance with such matters as specified under Clause 7;
- 3.8 All prices of Services are inclusive of VAT. All fees due shall be invoiced including VAT; and
- 3.9 We may alter Our prices without prior notice but if the price of any Services increases between the time when You book an appointment and the date of the appointment, the price increase will not apply to Your appointment for those Services on that date.

### **4. Estimates**

- 4.1 If treatment or surgery is required, We shall provide You with an estimate of sums due prior to such treatment or surgery. Estimates do not constitute quotations and You may not take them as an accurate indication of the final sum due as the final sum due may vary according to unforeseen circumstances; and

- 4.2 All estimates will be valid for 30 days and You must accept them before We will commence treatment or surgery.

## **5. Treatment**

- 5.1 You confirm that, in connection with any appointment or receipt of any Services from Us or Your request for the same, You are and will be a "Consumer" as defined in Clause 1 above;
- 5.2 We will provide all treatment in accordance with all relevant laws, rules and regulations including, but not limited to the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966, the Animal Welfare Act 2006, the Docking of Working Dogs' Tails (England) Regulations 2007, the Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2013 and the Supply of Relevant Veterinary Medicinal Products Order 2005;
- 5.3 We will not undertake any procedure that is in conflict with any law in force, any voluntary or mandatory code of practice, or any similar rules, regulations or codes; and
- 5.4 In certain cases, We may be legally required to keep Animals receiving prescription medication under Our care by way of regular and routine examination.

## **6. Documents and Records**

- 6.1 We will keep records and case documents relating to each Animal that is registered with Us;
- 6.2 If You move your Animal to a different veterinary surgery, You should inform Us and request Us to send all records and documents pertaining to the Animal to the new surgery.
- 6.3 Documents including, but not limited to, ultrasound scans and radiographs remain Our property notwithstanding any associated payment which You may make to Us;
- 6.4 You have the right to request a copy of any documents which We may hold in relation to Your Animal

## **7. Pet Insurance**

- 7.1 We recommend that You take out a suitable animal or pet health insurance policy to cover Your Animal;
- 7.2 We are unable to provide recommendations with regard to animal or pet health insurance policies and We are not affiliated with any animal or pet health insurance provider;
- 7.3 We are not a party to any contract between You and an insurance provider;
- 7.4 If You make an insurance claim, We may fill out the requisite claim forms on your behalf. Any such assistance shall be provided at Our sole discretion and We may charge for this; and
- 7.5 If You make an insurance claim, We may provide additional assistance in liaising with the insurance provider. Any such assistance shall be provided at Our sole discretion and We may charge for this.
- 7.6 You will be responsible for any outstanding payments following an insurance claim. This may include but is not limited to your fixed excess, any co-payments and any treatment not covered under your insurance policy.

## **8. Limitation of Liability**

- 8.1 We will be responsible for any foreseeable loss or damage that You may suffer as a result of Our breach of these Terms and Conditions or as a result of Our negligence. Loss or damage is foreseeable if it is an obvious consequence of Our breach or

negligence or if it is contemplated by You and Us when Our contract with You is created. We will not be responsible for any loss or damage that is not foreseeable;

- 8.2 We provide or sell all Services only for Your personal and private use/purposes. We make no warranty or representation that products, or other goods or materials that We provide or sell are fit for commercial, business, industrial, trade, craft or professional purposes of any kind (including resale). We will not be liable to You for any loss of profit, loss of business, interruption to business or for any loss of business opportunity;
- 8.3 Nothing in these Terms and Conditions is intended to or will exclude or limit Our liability for death or personal injury caused by Our negligence (including that of Our employees, agents or sub-contractors); or for fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation; and
- 8.4 Furthermore, if you are a “consumer” as defined by the Consumer Rights Act 2015, or a consumer for the purposes of any other consumer protection legislation, nothing in these Terms and Conditions is intended to or will exclude, limit, prejudice, or otherwise affect any of Our duties or obligations to You, or Your rights or remedies, or Our liability to You, under:
- 8.4.1 the Consumer Rights Act 2015;
  - 8.4.2 the Regulations;
  - 8.4.3 the Consumer Protection Act 1987;
  - 8.4.4 any other consumer protection legislation; or
- as that legislation is amended from time to time.

For more details of Your legal rights, please refer to Your local Citizens’ Advice Bureau or Trading Standard Office.

## **9. How We Use Your Personal Information (Data Protection)**

Please see our separate Privacy Notice for further information.

## **10. Regulations**

We are required by the Regulations to ensure that certain information is given or made available to You as a Consumer before We make Our contract with You (i.e. before We accept Your request to make a booking) except where that information is already apparent from the context of the transaction. We have included the information itself either in these Terms and Conditions for You to see now, or We will make it available to You before We accept Your request to make a booking. All of that information will, as required by the Regulations, be part of the terms of Our contract with You as a Consumer.

## **11. Information**

As required by the Regulations points 11.1 and 11.2 will be part of the terms of Our contract with You as a Consumer:

- 11.1 all of the information described in Clause 10; and
- 11.2 any other information which We give to You about any Services or the Surgery which You take into account when deciding to make a booking or when making any other decision about the Services;

## **12. Complaints and Standards**

The Surgery always welcomes feedback from its customers and, whilst We shall use all reasonable endeavours to provide a high standard of service, care and treatment to all Animals and their Owners, We nevertheless want to hear from You if You have any cause for

complaint. If You have any complaint about Our Services or any other complaint about the Surgery, please raise the matter with the Veterinary Surgeon responsible or in writing by post or email to [info@bowbridgevets.co.uk](mailto:info@bowbridgevets.co.uk).

### **13. Changes to Terms and Conditions**

We may from time to time change these Terms and Conditions without giving You notice, but We will use Our reasonable endeavours to inform You as soon as is reasonably possible of any such change.

### **14. No Waiver**

No failure or delay by Us or You in exercising any rights under these Terms and Conditions means that We or You have waived that right, and no waiver by Us or You of a breach of any provision of these Terms and Conditions means that We or You will waive any subsequent breach of the same or any other provision.

### **15. Severance**

If any provision of these Terms and Conditions is held by any competent authority to be invalid or unenforceable in whole or in part the validity of the other provisions of these Terms and Conditions and the remainder of the provision in question shall not be affected.

### **16. Law and Jurisdiction**

- 16.1 These Terms and Conditions, the Contract, and the relationship between you and Us (whether contractual or otherwise) shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with the law of England & Wales.
- 16.2 As a consumer, you will benefit from any mandatory provisions of the law in your country of residence. Nothing in Sub-Clause 16.1 above takes away or reduces your rights as a consumer to rely on those provisions.
- 16.3 Any dispute, controversy, proceedings or claim between you and Us relating to these Terms and Conditions, the Contract, or the relationship between you and Us (whether contractual or otherwise) shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of England, Wales, Scotland, or Northern Ireland, as determined by your residency.