

## LOVE IS IN THE AIR!

February, the month of love, wedding bells begin to chime. Clients often ask about their dogs being included in their wedding. As romantic as this might sound, our suggestion is to *“think”* like your dog. If your dog is not going to understand the context of the event and the “cute” part he plays in it, if there’s no ball throwing, belly rubbing, and healthy treat-dispensing, chances are he’s not going to enjoy the day.

Dogs don’t understand that we’re including them in something very special, two people declaring their love and commitment for a lifetime. Dogs only know that they’re confused, their routine has been thrown off, they are among strangers who are staring at them, laughing as they walk down the aisle, and the strange clothes they are dressed in is rubbing against their fur and constricting their movements. That’s not a fun day for the dog!

Dogs love being in the owners company, but if it’s a matter of being with a strange, unusual crowd, making them kind of a prop/decoration, it is best to find alternative ways to include them. At the reception, include photos of your pet on your table number cards, or make your wedding favors in tribute to your beloved pooch. If you insist the dog be at the wedding physically, hire a pet sitter to be responsible for bringing them to the reception for a very short amount of time, then taking them to their familiar surroundings.

Most dogs would rather be at their familiar doggy camp/resort where play, meal and outdoor time is consistent and reliable. At Ms C’s we’ve assisted brides in assuring their four legged kids were appropriately recognized in the most important day of their lives. Give us a call to discuss various options.