

## **Matted Pet/ Shaving Pets Information and Risks**

It is possible that all or part of the coat may not be able to be saved (brushed out) without causing undue discomfort for your pet. For these pets the matted areas may require shaving. Risks involved with shaving sections of hair due to matting are associated with the same risks and maintenance needs above in addition to the risks specific to matted coats. Many Pet Parents will choose to shave their pet's coat to help with temperature control, ease of maintenance, or removal of coat in bad condition among many other reasons. While our Groom Crew will use care and precaution during this procedure, there are some risks associated with shaving a pet's coat and recently shaved coats will require maintenance to support healthy re-growth.

### **Risks Associated with Shaving Pets**

- Coat may not grow back evenly or may grow back in patches.
- The coat could look different in color when it grows back.
- Without the protection of the coat pets can get sunburned or over heated.
- Shaving pets may make them self conscious and they may behave differently than normal. For example they may be more irritable or timid.
- Shaving the pet may reveal pre-existing skin conditions that were unable to be determined prior to shaving.
- Pets with underlying medical conditions may have a harder time re-growing hair than other pets.

### **Maintenance of Recently Shaved Pets**

- Maintaining the coat as it grows back is very important as the new coat now has no weight to shed naturally and weekly brushing will help support the new growth.
- Regular bathing to help the skin and hair follicles clean is important in supporting proper hair re-growth.
- While it is best to keep these pets out of the direct sun as much as possible, application of sun screen may be necessary for pets who are in the sun.

### **IF MATS ARE FOUND:**

### **Additional Risks With Matted Pets**

- A matted coat can cause and hide skin that is red, irritated, swollen, or cracked.
- A matted coat can conceal the presence of fleas or other pests.
- A matted coat can make it impossible to determine in advance the presence of any moles, scabs, or other conditions on the pet's skin and that makes it more likely that a Groom Crew member may accidentally remove, nick, cut open or damage the mole or skin.
- The grooming process necessary to remove the mats may aggravate the pet's skin.
- Matted pets may experience reactions such as hot spots, irritated or sensitive skin or aural hematomas if mats were located on or around the pet's ears.