



## Volunteer Information and Agreement

Upon completion, mail to:

Marla McCormick, MARS Volunteer Coordinator  
PO Box 372, Kents Hill, ME 04349

**Thank you.....** for your interest in joining us as a MARS Volunteer. As you may know, everyone at MARS is a MARS Volunteer – we have no paid positions – and every MARS Volunteer has a part to play in saving the Miniature Australian Shepherd from abuse and neglect. The list of volunteer opportunities is a long one - please take a look and let us know where you think you could do the most good for our Mini Aussies.

### Personal Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Kennel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Nearest Large Cities: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the best way for us to contact you?  Phone  Email

Do you currently own a pet or pets? If so, list type of animals, breed, names, ages and sex and a brief description of their personality.

Dog/Cat/Other	Breed	Name	Age	M/F-N?
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

### Rescue Experience

Do you have experience with another rescue organization? If so, list the organization, the dates you participated and what you did for the group.

Rescue Organization	M/Yr to M/Yr	Task(s) Performed
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

### Related Experience

Do you have experience and skills that would be helpful to MARS in our rescue and support efforts, even if you have never used them in rescue work

## Volunteering with MARS

Please tell us tasks for which you are willing to volunteer.

### **Dog Rescue Tasks (some require specialized training which MARS may provide)**

- Working with Shelters / Animal Control Officers to identify Miniature Australian Shepherds
- Working with potential adopters to find a compatible dog. (Have you had training or experience with Meet Your Match Canine-ality Program?  Yes  No)
- Scheduling home visits, foster home visits, adoption visits
- Making home visits to potential foster homes and adopters.
- Fostering a Mini Aussie in your home
- Transporting rescued Mini Aussies
- Arranging transport of rescued Mini Aussies
- Performing Behavior/Aggression Evaluations (Are you trained in the SAFER method of evaluation?  Yes  No Trained in another method? \_\_\_\_\_)
- Training dogs with poor manners or behavior issues (List your training experience in this area.  
Are you a certified trainer?  Yes  No)
- Providing grooming services for rescued dogs
- Photographing Mini Aussies for the Website and other publicity purposes
- Providing telephone counseling for new adopters or other owners about their dogs

### **Administrative and Organizational Tasks**

- Coordinating State and Local Volunteer Efforts
- Updating the MARS website
- Writing and editing articles for the Newsletter
- Maintaining and updating the mailing list and e-mailing list
- Writing requests for grants and donations
- Entering data and/or managing the information databases
- Helping to organize MARS educational or fundraising events
- Staffing booths at rescue events, dog shows, educational affairs
- Checking references via phone for foster homes and potential adopters
- Making, answering and returning phone calls about MARS and Mini Aussies
- Mailing Adopter Info Packets to potential adopters
- Researching State and Local Rescue Regulations

Please let us know any other ways you can help MARS:

## **MARS Volunteer Code of Ethics**

As a MARS Volunteer, I pledge the following:

To perform MARS rescue and support activities on a voluntary basis, receiving no compensation for myself or any other organization for tasks performed.

To assure that any Mini Aussie in my care is treated humanely, receiving any and all care authorized by MARS.

To conduct myself in a professional manner when representing MARS, to accurately represent MARS policies in communications with others, and to refrain from representing MARS when expressing personal opinions.

To maintain records of all activities and financial transactions performed as a MARS Volunteer and to make them readily available to MARS Members and Officers when asked.

To make myself familiar with, and share information about, Miniature Australian Shepherds including the breed standard, typical and instinctual behavior, common diseases and genetic defects, negative drug interactions, and appropriate standard of care.

To assure that no MARS dog will leave my care without being spayed or neutered or, in the case of young puppies or dogs with a medical condition that prevents surgery, without a signed binding agreement that the dog be spayed or neutered as soon as is medically recommended.

To fully disclose all known information regarding medical condition and temperament about any MARS dog in my care, or that I am familiar with, to other MARS volunteers, rescue groups, and potential adopters.

To provide, or identify another MARS Volunteer to provide, follow up advice and assistance to adopters and owners of Miniature Australian Shepherds and to assure that they receive help with training issues and behavior questions.

To require every adopter to return the adopted Mini Aussie to me or to another MARS Volunteer if they can no longer keep the adopted dog for any reason. I will always accept the return of a dog that has been adopted from MARS and immediately contact a MARS Rescue Coordinator to make arrangements for the dog.

To never use the MARS name to sell any puppy or dog.

To never give or sell, or knowingly allow another MARS Volunteer to give or sell, any MARS dog to a research facility, breeding operation, pet store, dog broker or any other individual or corporation who might cause the dog physical or emotional harm.

To share my concerns with a MARS rescue coordinator if I believe that any Mini Aussie in the care of another volunteer is not being treated humanely or is not receiving care authorized by MARS or is being exploited in any way.

To refrain from any activity that could jeopardize the status of MARS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

## THE AGREEMENT

By signing this document I state that I have never been arrested for, or convicted of, animal abuse.

In volunteering to work with Mini Aussie Rescue & Support, Inc. (MARS) I consent to abide by all terms of the MARS Bylaws, the MARS Handbook, the MARS Volunteer Code of Ethics and all other policies approved and implemented by MARS.

I fully understand and agree to assume all risks involved in any and all duties that I perform for MARS in my volunteer capacity and I agree to hold MARS harmless for any injury(s) that I might sustain during the course of my volunteer duties.

This waiver does include myself, all of my family members, heirs, and descendants forever from seeking any legal action whatsoever against MARS or its representatives.

### Volunteer

### MARS, Inc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Volunteer)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of MARS Representative)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name & MARS Title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

I am (check one):      \_\_\_\_\_ Over 18 years old      \_\_\_\_\_ Under 18 years old

Volunteers under the age of 18 require the signature of a Consenting Parent or Legal Guardian.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent or Guardian)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)