

Evergreen Golden Retriever Club

Breeders List Guidelines

Revised April 2011

I. Description of the Breeders List

The Evergreen Golden Retriever Club (EGRC) is part of the nationwide breeder referral network of the Golden Retriever Club of America (GRCA). The EGRC Breeders List is an online resource for Club members and the general public to locate reputable Golden Retriever hobby breeders in the Pacific Northwest. It is also an aid to EGRC member breeders in marketing their puppies to buyers exposed to the educational materials offered on the EGRC and GRCA websites.

The Breeders List is composed of two parts: 1) List of EGRC Member Breeders, and 2) Current Litters. After their application is approved, breeders will be added to the List of Breeders, and if their application includes a Litter Announcement Application, once it is approved, the litter will be added to the Current Litters section.

II. Mission Statement of the Breeders List Guidelines

These guidelines are designed to provide EGRC breeders with a clear and concise description of the requirements for participating in EGRC's Breeders List on the Club website (www.egrc.org). EGRC's goal with these guidelines is to ensure that the health and welfare of the Golden Retriever breed and the breeding programs of EGRC members are of the highest possible standard. It is a privilege to represent the Golden Retriever breed, EGRC, and one's own kennel on this website.

III. Breeders List Administrator

The Breeders List Administrator is responsible for:

- A. Receiving requests from EGRC breeders to be added to the Breeders List.
- B. Verifying information on Breeders List Applications and Litter Announcement applications.

- C. Forwarding payments for approved applications to the Treasurer, and returning payments for any applications not meeting these requirements.
- D. Promptly providing the Webmaster with updated information.
- E. Promptly responding to phone and email questions from EGRC members and the general public, who often have questions about the Breeders List or the process.
- F. Promptly informing the EGRC Board of Directors and the Breeders List Review Committee of any breaches of these guidelines, complaints received about breeders, or other issues needing special attention.

IV. Breeders List Review Committee

A committee appointed by the Board of Directors, consisting of three persons, one of which is a Board Member, shall review all litter listing applications for approval. Further, the committee shall be available to evaluate any issues that develop. They may make binding decisions, which shall be reported to the Administrator and the Board of Directors. The committee has the option to instead refer issues to the Board for a final decision.

V. Breeder Eligibility, Breeders List Application and Fee

- A. MEMBERSHIP: Only EGRC Members in good standing are eligible to be included in EGRC's Breeders List.
- B. WAITING PERIOD: There is a one (1) year waiting period for all new members before applying for the Breeders List.
- C. CLUB SERVICE: Breeders must provide service to the Club in the year prior to applying for listing on the EGRC Breeders List. They may choose one (1) or more of the positions in item #1 below, OR work in at least two (2) of the capacities listed in item #2 below:
 - 1. One (1) of the following:
 - a. EGRC Board of Directors
 - b. Newsletter Editor

- c. Webmaster
- d. Breeders List Administrator
- e. Club Columnist for the *Golden Retriever News*
- f. Public Education Booth Chair
- g. Membership Chair
- h. Meeting Hospitality Chair
- i. Meeting Program Chair
- j. Awards Chair
- k. Judges Selection Committee Chair
- l. All EGRC event chairs
- m. Chairs of the Specialty Committees

OR

- 2. At least two (2) of the following:
 - a. Property Chair, Sunshine Chair, Historian, GRCA Delegate.
 - b. Chair or member of the following committees: Nominating, Budget, Donations, or Breeders List Review.
 - c. Member of the Judges Selection Committee.
 - d. Member of an EGRC event committee other than the Specialty.
 - e. Working at an EGRC event.

NOTE: Merely attending a meeting or event, or entering a dog event, does not constitute service to the Club.

- D. CODE OF ETHICS: Breeders must agree on their application to adhere to the EGRC Code of Ethics, as posted on the Club website. Failure to adhere to the EGRC Code of Ethics will result in removal from the Breeders List.
- E. PUBLIC EDUCATION: In addition to providing Club Service, all breeders are expected to promptly respond to inquiries from the public, even if they don't currently have puppies available, to help educate prospective buyers about all aspects of the breed (i.e., health, behavior, training, breed standard, breeding issues, etc.).
- F. SALES CONTRACT: All EGRC breeders must provide their buyers with a written sales contract describing the terms and conditions, and any guarantees offered. Breeders should have buyers sign the contract before release of the puppy. Breeders are to keep the original and sign a copy for the buyer. EGRC will provide breeders with sample contracts upon request.

- G. SPAY/NEUTER CLAUSE: Sales contracts must include a Spay/Neuter clause for puppies not intended for breeding. The age for spaying and neutering should be determined by the breeder and be clearly stated in the contract. Breeders should discuss this with potential buyers well in advance of purchase.
- H. LIMITED REGISTRATION: Puppies not intended for breeding should be sold on AKC Limited Registration, except puppies sold to those who wish to compete in Canadian Kennel Club performance events.
- I. BREEDERS LIST APPLICATION: Breeders meeting all the requirements above may apply for inclusion in the Breeders List at any time during the year. They must complete the Breeders List Application and mail with payment to the Administrator. A Litter Announcement Application with additional fee may be submitted along with the Breeders List Application (see section V below). Copies of the application forms are available in the Breeders List section of the EGRC website (www.egrc.org).
- J. FEE: An annual fee of \$30 is required to be included on the Breeders List. Payment must be included with the application.

VI. Litter Eligibility, Litter Announcement Application and Fee

EGRC Members, whose Breeders List Application has been approved, may apply to post a Litter Announcement in the “Current Litters” section of the Breeders List for litters meeting the following requirements.

- A. LITTER OWNERSHIP:
 - 1. The EGRC Member must be the owner, co-owner, or lessee of the bitch.
 - 2. They must be the person responsible for the screening and selection of buyers, and follow-up and support after the sale.
- B. AGE: Both the sire and the dam must be at least two (2) years of age at the time of the breeding.
- C. CLEARANCES: All health clearances (hips, elbows, eyes, and heart), with evaluations by appropriate specialists as listed below, **MUST** be posted on the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) website (www.offa.org) for both the sire and dam. This will enable potential puppy buyers to review the clearances online. Evaluations by general practitioners are **NOT** sufficient.

1. Hips and Elbows - The sire and dam must have x-rays of the hips and elbows done at two (2) years of age or older and the films submitted to OFA for evaluation by their panel of three Board Certified Veterinary Radiologists. OFA will provide OFA registration numbers and post them on their website for dogs with hip x-rays receiving a rating of Fair, Good, or Excellent; and elbows evaluated as Normal.

NOTE: Elbow clearances are required only for dogs born during the year 2000 or after.

2. Eyes - Eye examinations must be performed annually by a Board Certified Veterinary Ophthalmologist. The sire and dam must be found to be free from significant hereditary eye disease and the results registered with the Canine Eye Registration Foundation (CERF) to receive a CERF registration number (www.vmdb.org/cerf.html). CERF will forward this data to OFA for posting on their website.
3. Hearts - Cardiac examinations must be performed no earlier than one (1) year of age by a Board Certified Veterinary Cardiologist. The sire and dam must be found to be free from signs of hereditary heart disease and the results registered with OFA and posted on their website.

- D. FOREIGN COUNTRIES: In the case of sires and dams from foreign countries, copies of hip, elbow, eye, and heart clearances, appropriate for the country, must be submitted with the Litter Announcement Application to the Administrator.
- E. FROZEN SEMEN: Litter Announcement Applications for litters produced by frozen semen will be evaluated on a case by case basis by the Breeder's List Review Committee.
- F. LITTER ANNOUNCEMENT APPLICATION: Breeders, whose Breeders List Application has been approved, may apply at any time for a Litter Announcement. They must complete the Litter Announcement Application (available on the EGRC website, www.egrc.org) and mail with payment to the Administrator.

Once the Litter Announcement Application is approved by the Administrator and pregnancy of the bitch is confirmed, the litter will be posted in the "Current Litters" section of the Breeders List. The litter will be listed for 3 months and then automatically removed, unless the breeder requests an extension from the Administrator. The breeder must notify the Administrator when the puppies are whelped and when all puppies are sold.

- G. FEE: There is a fee of \$20 per Litter Announcement, and each litter must be submitted on a separate Litter Announcement Application. Payment must be included with the application.

Breeders that submit a Litter Announcement Application with their Breeders List Application may submit one check for the total fee of \$50, which is \$30 for the Breeders List and \$20 for the Litter Announcement.

VII. Procedures and Policies

- A. INELIGIBLE LITTERS: Breeders on the Club's Breeder List who, by design or accident, have a litter that does not fully fit the eligibility requirements in these guidelines, should remove themselves from the Breeders List during that time. However, if circumstances merit, others on the Breeders List may refer callers to that litter. Such circumstances might be a lack of other available litters, and there being only *minor* deviations from the litter requirements. This is an acceptable practice, providing there is full disclosure of the issues to the inquirer with appropriate caveats, both by the referring party and the owner of the litter.
- B. WEBSITE UPDATES:
 - 1. The Administrator will review new applications and submit them to the Webmaster as quickly as possible. The Webmaster will post them on the website in 3-5 days. It could conceivably take a total of 10 days for a request to appear on the website.
 - 2. When all their puppies are sold, breeders should notify the Administrator immediately, by voicemail or email, so that the website can be updated.

- C. RENEWALS: The Listing Year is from January 1 to December 31. Renewals will begin on January 1 for the coming year. Breeders will need to pay the \$30 annual fee and submit a new Breeders List Application. If including a Litter Announcement with the renewal, the breeder will need to include a check for \$50, which is \$30 for the Breeders List renewal, and \$20 for the Litter Announcement.
- D. RESPONSE TIME: For quality control, EGRC may send emails to monitor breeder response times. To facilitate quick email responses, EGRC recommends initial generic responses stating general information, such as price, and availability, expectations or requirements of the breeder, etc. EGRC will provide sample email responses upon request.
- E. REMOVAL:
1. The EGRC Board of Directors reserves the right to immediately remove any breeder from the Breeders List if it is determined that the breeder is not in compliance with these Guidelines, or while the Board or Review Committee investigates any complaints against the breeder.
 2. Breeders will be notified by email, phone, and/or certified mail of their removal for non-compliance, or regarding any issue, complaint, or other situation that needs to be addressed.
- F. REINSTATEMENT: Reinstatement to the Breeders List requires approval by the EGRC Board of Directors. Before applying for reinstatement, breeders must submit a copy of their contract, meet all requirements in Section V, parts B through H, and have resolved any complaints or other issues. Reinstatements occurring after January 1st will require payment of the new year \$30 Breeders List Fee.