

Announcements

New Policies & Revisions

Below you will find a list of new policies or revisions for the ALAA. It is not only important, but also your responsibility, as a Breeder Member to read these announcements and stay current with any changes. We understand that as a Breeder Member you may need time to make the adjustments within your breeding program to reflect the current rules and regulations. We have taken that into consideration when making these policy changes and have allowed ample time for you to do so.

There has been one new policy that the ALAA has implemented in the past year that we would like to provide some insight into. This may help you, as a Breeder Member, to better understand why this policy is important. The request for Breeder Members to provide the ALAA registered names and numbers on their websites listed by the appropriate dog came from the inability to properly do yearly audits. All Breeder Members are bound by, and must adhere to, the same Code of Ethics. It is a daunting, if not impossible, task to properly perform an audit without this information. Every Breeder Member is to register all breeding dogs in their program, register all litters produced in their program, and have current and passing health testing on all their dogs, whether they are co-owned or not. It is, and was, unfair to have a Breeder Member listed with the ALAA who is or was, not compliant and following our Code of Ethics. It is our hope that this policy will help to better protect the Pet Owner as well as our Breeder Members. There is an expectation that anyone listed on the ALAA website is adhering to the same Code of Ethics. This policy allows much more transparency and helps to ensure all things are equal amongst Breeder Members. The Board would like to thank all the Breeder Members that complied with this new policy in a timely manner.

Changes in Accepted Hip Scores

In our quest to always strive for improving this wonderful breed we all love, there will be times when the necessity arises for us to change health testing guidelines. The ALAA has revised the accepted hip scores effective 9-1-11.

The new accepted hip scores are:

- OFA Excellent, Good, Fair Prelim or Final at any age
- PennHip 30% or better at any age
- BVA up to 18
- Dr. Wallace report (same standards as OFA requirements), Dr. Wyburn report (same standards as BVA/AVA requirements)

What does the change in accepted hip scores mean for you?

All dogs need to have a passing OFA hip test (Excellent, Good, Fair), PennHip 30% or better, OR BVA up to 18 in order to be considered an appropriate breeding candidate within the ALAA. If you have a dog that was tested prior to 9-1-11 with health testing that meets the previous guidelines, there is no further action needed.

You may no longer breed a dog with a Borderline OFA rating. It must be retested prior to being bred. OFA will not issue a second grade of Borderline once it is retested. At that time, the dog will either pass or fail.

PennHip does not document hip dysplasia or rate hip scores with a pass or fail scoring mechanism. They provide a distraction index or DI score which is a percentage of laxity. Their recommendation is to breed dogs that have a rating of 50% or better. While the ALAA agrees that more stringent health requirements are in the best interest of the breed, we also want to allow some room for discretion within your own breeding program, which is why the 30% or better requirement was adopted rather than the 50%, as suggested by PennHip.

Correction in the Grading Scheme

There is a typographical error in the published grading scheme listed on the ALAA website. If you have referenced the ALAA Grading Scheme or copied it on your website please make the appropriate revision. The coding within the registration process is correct and any and all pedigrees that have been issued are also correct.

There are two corrections you should be aware of:

1. Additional definition of a Labradoodle as follows:
 - Labradoodle: The offspring of a Labradoodle (F1) bred to a Labradoodle (F1, F1b, Multi-gen)
2. Corrected definition of a Multigenerational Labradoodle (Multigen):
 - Multigenerational Labradoodle (Multi-gen): The offspring of a Labradoodle (F1b or Multi-gen) bred to a Labradoodle (F1b or Multi-gen)

Please note, the corrections above do not impact the definition of the Australian Labradoodle or Multi-gen Australian Labradoodle.

Thank you for making the appropriate revisions to your website and we apologize if this has caused any confusion. If you have any questions feel free to contact Heather Hale at gm@ilainc.com.

Removing the Reference to IALA Sister Organization from ALAA Website

In an attempt to have unity with other Labradoodle associations in other countries, formation of the IALA was attempted. This was to be a joint effort between Australia and the US. Over the years and with the retirement of some of the original Australian Breeders, this was never able to come to complete fruition. There was an attempt to form and execute a functional IALA but that has since gone by the wayside. Effective immediately the ALAA has decided to remove any and all references to the IALA from the ALAA website. This will ensure the information presented to both Breeder and Pet Members is current and accurate. The removal of these references in no way changes the ALAA Code of Ethics or Bylaws. We are just simply removing the acronym and reference to a sister organization that no longer exists. If you have any additional questions feel free to contact Heather Hale at gm@ilainc.com.

Accepting Foreign Registration

The ALAA has reviewed the registration process and pedigree information accepted by foreign registries. We have come to the conclusion that we will no longer accept registration pedigrees presented to us that do not have proper documentation of lineage. In the past, we have honored all dogs previously registered with the ALA or ALAEU. Effective immediately, the ALAA will require a six generation pedigree containing registered names and numbers for any purebred dogs listed in the pedigree (Labrador Retrievers, Poodles, Cocker Spaniels) when requesting ALAA registration for any dog, regardless of its registration status in another country. As we move forward with this wonderful breed, we need to be certain that our pedigrees are accurate. In order for the ALAA to have a future in legitimizing our breed, a pedigree's authenticity, transparency and accuracy cannot be in question.

What does this mean for you?

When seeking to register a dog, you will need to have the appropriate registration paperwork, including registered names and numbers for all purebred dogs (Labrador Retrievers, Poodles, Cocker Spaniels) within a six generation pedigree to be considered for ALAA registration. This is the same policy that all ALAA Member Breeders currently adhere to when registering any non-ALAA dogs. It is each Member Breeder's responsibility to have this information verified before requesting ALAA registration. It is our goal to bring consistency to the registration process for all dogs seeking registration. If you have purchased a dog registered with the ALA or ALAEU prior to this announcement, the guidelines that were in place at the time of the purchase will be honored.

It's Roundtable Time Again!!

We are excited to announce the 2011 Breeders' Roundtable and don't want you to miss out on this great event!! It will be held in Santa Monica, California on October 21-23, 2011! The previous Roundtables were held in Atlanta, Orlando, Austin, and Seattle. We look forward to hosting this event on the West Coast this year and hope to see those we've already met, and to meet many new friends.

This year, we have asked Pat Hastings to present her seminar, "Structure in Action". It combines Pat Hastings' Puppy Puzzle Presentation, as well as Hastings' discussion of the value of structurally evaluating adult dogs that are being considered for a breeding program, working trials or performance competition, along with a veterinarian's perspective on how to reduce the risk of structural injuries in working and performance dogs. Below is the direct link to Pat Hasting website for additional information:

<http://www.dogfolk.com/structureinactionworkshop.htm>

Below is a very preliminary agenda for the weekend:

- Friday 10/21 - Plan to arrive in time for a 7:00 PM meet and greet.
- Saturday 10/22 - Pat Hastings will present her "Structure in Action" Seminar 8:30-5:00
- Sunday 10/23 - Roundtable discussion and misc. 9:00 - noon
- We will have our final meal at noon on 10/23 and adjourn.

If you have suggestions on topics or if there is any information you would like us to go over on Sunday morning in our open discussion time, please email them to Heather Hale at gm@ilainc.com. It is my hope that this be as informative and as useful as possible so any and all suggestions are welcome!!

Again this year, the cost for attendance will be \$75.00 per Member Breeder, and \$150.00 per Non-Member Breeder. This fee is for Roundtable registration plus Saturday and Sunday continental breakfasts and lunch buffets. It does not include your lodging.

The Roundtable Conference will be held at the Double Tree, in Santa Monica. The hotel has reserved a section for Roundtable attendees, but will only hold those rooms until September 30th. Special ALAA event room rates are from \$149.00 per night. Every attendee is responsible for booking their own reservations with the Double Tree. If you do not reserve before September 30th, your room will be subject to the normal hotel room rates. Reservations can be made online by clicking the link below:

http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/S/SMOPCDT-ALA-20111021/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

The Double Tree does not offer complimentary shuttle service from LAX Airport. It is about \$16.00 per person from LAX to the Double Tree Hotel. If you would like to arrange for shuttle service you can do so by calling 1-800-Bluevan or following the link below:

<http://www.supershuttle.com/en/LAXAirportShuttleLosangeles.html>

Payment for Roundtable registration may be made via PayPal by using the payment links on the ALAA website: <http://www.ilainc.com/ALAARoundtable.html>.

In the Comments section of your PayPal payment, please be sure to include your name and your kennel name.

If you prefer to pay by check, please mail to Butch Charlton, 10729 Grassy Creek Place, Raleigh NC 27614. Checks should be made payable to the Australian Labradoodle Association of America.

Registration will be open to Member Breeders only until September 1st, at which time the remaining availability will be offered to non-members as well. Space is limited, so register early!

If you have any questions, please contact Heather Hale at gm@ilainc.com

We look forward to seeing you in Santa Monica!

REGARDS,

ALAA BOARD