

May 28, 2009

Dear ALAA Breeder Members,

The purpose of this notice is to communicate several issues:

Accuracy in Advertising

Concerns regarding accurate disclosure on websites of the generation or breed of a dog used in a program have come to our attention. The ALAA requires that all breeder members adhere to ethical practices of truth in advertising as per the Standards of Excellence in Breeding Practices. We have found that some sites are inaccurately stating a dog or litter as Australian Multigen Labradoodle, or simply not indicating what the dog or parent of a litter are and this is causing concern among breeders as well as confusion for many pet purchasers.

In light of these concerns, all member breeders are being required to update their website information for each dog and litter to indicate if it is a purebred Labrador Retriever, purebred Poodle, Cockapoo, Labradoodle, Australian Labradoodle, or Australian Multigen Labradoodle dog or puppies. We will allow until July 1, 2009, for these changes to be made. Any website or breeder found to not be adhering to ethical practices of truth in advertising after this date will be subject to disciplinary action.

To clear up any confusion as to what should be listed as Labradoodle, Australian Labradoodle, or Australian Multigen Labradoodle please refer to the following:

- Any dog or litter that does NOT have any Australian lineage and is comprised of Lab x Poodle should be called a Labradoodle.
- Any dog or litter that has one Labradoodle parent and one Australian Labradoodle parent should be called Australian Labradoodle.
- Any dog or litter that is out of two Australian Labradoodle parents should be called Australian Multigen Labradoodle.
- If a cockapoo x Labradoodle has been approved for breeding, those offspring resulting are currently called Australian Labradoodle. Per the announcement that went out to breeder members on March 4, 2009, the grading scheme will be under discussion and revision and any Cockapoo x Labradoodle pairing may be subject to a name change at a later date.

Thank you for your timely attention to ensuring that all dogs and litters adhere to the truth in advertising standards of the ALAA.

Updated Infusion Information

Regarding the infusion process, it has come to our attention that OFA thyroid (or comparable) testing was also recommended by the infusion committee but was inadvertently left off the notice that was sent out to breeder members. We apologize for this omission and are notifying all ALAA member breeders who wish to develop new lines of Australian Labradoodles that thyroid testing is required and that the first testing date for thyroid should not be sooner than the dog's 1st birthday. Thyroid testing is required to be done every 18 months.

The health testing for each dog presented for pairing approval must meet or exceed Gold Paw testing requirements. This applies to both the cockapoo and the labradoodle.

Additionally, the guidelines are being revised to indicate that each Cockapoo will be judged on its qualifications regardless of generation and will not be limited to F1B or higher generations.

Also, assessing conformation of a dog in full coat is near impossible. Stacked photos of dogs being presented for infusion approval must be taken of the dog in a very short hair cut between 1/2" to 1" in length. If the photos submitted do not show the dog's conformation well enough, they will be rejected and new photos will be requested. .

Lastly, is requiring that all pairing requests be sent in a minimum of 30 days before the expected heat cycle. Last minute pairing requests may result in the board automatically rejecting the request if sufficient time to assess the pairing is not available.

The complete set of infusion rules may be obtained from the Secretary.

2009 Breeders' Conference

We are very excited to announce that Myra Savant Harris, author of *Canine Reproduction And Whelping: A Dog Breeder's Guide* and *Puppy Intensive Care: A Breeder's Guide to Care of Newborn Puppies*, will be conducting her acclaimed seminar for us in Seattle, Washington, the weekend of 9/26. We obtained very enthusiastic feedback about Myra from other breed clubs. If you would like to read more about Myra, please visit her website: www.myrasavantharris.com. Myra is a former nurse and is also a breeder of Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. We are still working on the venue and will announce further information regarding the conference when it is available.

Use of Labradoodles in Other Breeds

We are concerned about the use of Labradoodles in other breeds, for example, the North American Retriever (NAR), which consists of a Labradoodle bred to a Goldendoodle. In order to prevent these dogs from accidentally or purposefully being integrated into the Australian Labradoodle lines, effective immediately all Labradoodles and Australian Labradoodles that are considered to be new lines must be presented with a six generation pedigree upon registration. Additionally, ALAA registered Labradoodles may not be used to breed NAR or any other breed. This is to protect the future of the Australian Labradoodle. Breeders who wish to use non-ALAA Labradoodles to breed other breeds may remain members, but those Labradoodles used in the breeding of other breeds will not be registerable with the ALAA at any point in the future. Members are required to disclose to the board that they are breeding unregistered Labradoodles with other breeds. Lack of disclosure will result in disciplinary action.

IALA Representatives

We are pleased to announce that the ALAA representatives to the IALA will be Heather Hale, Bonnie Patrick, and Shari O'Quinn! The purpose of the IALA will be to establish a web presence and rules for the sister organizations, such as the ALAA, ALA, and ALAEU. It will also propose and maintain the common rules for the organizations, such as the grading scheme. We look forward to their achievements!

New Paw Requirements

The Health Committee has recommended, and the Board adopted, a new requirement for the Gold Paw Rewards Program. Breeders with gold paws will have until January 1, 2010, to achieve compliance with the following new requirement:

- PRA clearance. If status is verifiable via parent dog health test reports, this test requirement will be waived. Dogs with unknown PRA status must be tested and results submitted to the ALAA for recording by 1-1-10.

In addition, the CBC portion of the thyroid testing will no longer be required as it does not help screen for inheritable disease. It is only helpful to screen for overall general health of the dog at the time of the blood draw.

Thyroid testing and eye clearances must be re-done every 18 months and submitted to the ALAA. It is up to each member breeder to make sure they are in compliance with this requirement. Lack of compliance could result in disciplinary action.

As always, we would like to express our appreciation to our breeders for your dedication to maintaining the health of our breed.

Regards,

ALAA Board Members