

ALAA News

Dear Breeder Members,

We realize that it's been a while since you have heard from us, however you may rest assured that we have been busy working on ALAA issues. We would like to bring some of them to your attention at this time.

1. Inbreeding Tool
2. Automatic Paw Programming
3. Use of Outside Studs and Paw Status
4. ALAA Bylaws
5. ALAA Election
6. Annual Meeting

Inbreeding Tool

As you are aware, we have had a four generation rule for inbreeding or linebreeding in effect for several years. During this time we have frequently addressed questions about how to count the generations. We are excited to let you know that we now have an online tool that you can use to determine whether or not a mating fits within the guidelines. To use the Inbreeding Tool, follow the directions below:

7. Log in to the ALAA Registry:
<http://www.ilainc.com/Members/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=/members/Default.aspx>.
8. Click Four Generation Inbreeding Test in the Breeder Resources column.
9. Follow the instructions to submit the breeding candidates, and click the Test Relationship button.
10. The results will indicate whether or not the mating is acceptable from an inbreeding perspective.

NOTE: Only dogs in the registry may be entered into the tool.

Automatic Paw Programming

In the near future we will be adding an automated paw programming tool to the database. What this will mean to you is that in order to retain your paw status, you will need to keep your dogs' testing up-to-date.

Once the programming is complete, you will receive advance reminders that specific tests are needed for your dog(s) in order to retain your Paw status. Once you submit the test results, the dog's testing will be updated in the registry. If test results are not submitted by the end of the grace period, your paw status will change automatically on the breeder member page of the ALAA website.

The system will have overrides in place so that a dog that is pregnant, nursing, or perhaps has another reason that it cannot be tested within the time period can be rescheduled upon request.

We feel this tool will help you manage the testing requirements for your dogs and stay current.

We will send out more information as it comes available. Please do not think that you are suddenly going to lose your paws. Once the system goes live everyone will receive notification of what is due and will be given sufficient time to get caught up if you are behind.

However, now is a good time to take a look at your dogs' testing and to determine what you might need to do to remain in compliance.

Use of Outside Studs and Paw Status

If you have a gold or silver paw, your customers expect the parents of their puppies to be tested to a certain level. We would like for everyone to be aware that if you are using outside studs that are not tested to the same level as your paw status, you must indicate this in the litter description on your website.

ALAA Bylaws

We have worked with our attorneys to develop new bylaws for the ALAA. We are currently awaiting the final draft.

In order to address past concerns, the new bylaws will include the following changes:

- Establishment of two classes of members, pet members and breeder members, along with guidelines regarding the voting privileges of each.
- Term Limits - Each officer may serve a maximum of 3 terms in a particular position. There are no term limits for the President. This was recommended by our attorneys in the interest of the organization's management continuity.

The new bylaws must be approved by membership vote. We are currently awaiting preparation of the approval documents by our attorneys.

ALAA Election

At this time we would like to request resumes from those interested in running for an ALAA office for the upcoming term. Please submit resumes to info@ilainc.com, and indicate the position you are seeking. We have not yet established an exact date for the election.

Annual Meeting Announcement

You should have received a separate email from us announcing the Annual Meeting to be held on 4/5. We hope you will attend!