



Standard Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.

Guidelines for Interaction between a Prospective Puppy Buyer and a Responsible Breeder

Buying a Standard Schnauzer puppy is a significant decision and it should be recognized that it involves lifelong commitments on the part of both the prospective buyer/owner and the breeder/seller. Below are points that a **Prospective Puppy Buyer** should reasonably expect from a **Responsible Breeder**.

Breeders of Standard Schnauzers have the ultimate responsibility for maintaining the health of the breed. Therefore, the Board of Governors of the Standard Schnauzer Club of America, Inc. (SSCA) strongly urges Breeders to insure that (1) all appropriate health tests are conducted and incorporated into decisions prior to breeding, (2) puppies are appropriately registered and (3) the sales agreement for all puppies includes details regarding the sale, expected care and breeder and owner responsibilities for the life of the dog as spelled out below.

Recommended Health Tests for Dam and Sire prior to Breeding

1. All dogs used for breeding should first be x-rayed (radiographed) and found free of hip dysplasia by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA). Dogs under two years of age should have a preliminary OFA evaluation and dogs over two years of age should have an OFA number.
2. Evaluation of eyes by an American College of Veterinarian Ophthalmologists (ACVO) Certified Ophthalmologist with no evidence of heritable eye disease. Exam should be conducted within one year prior to breeding and a current OFA or Canine Eye Registration Foundation (CERF) Eye Certification Registry number should be available.
3. Molecular/genotype analysis for risk of genetic diseases, including testing for the risk of Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM). In NO case should two Carriers be bred. However, if one parent is a Carrier, then the other parent's results should be Negative (Normal) to ensure that none of the offspring will be affected with DCM.
4. Breeders are urged to make the results from all health tests available in the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) database. Test results can be confirmed on offa.org. These results should be included in advertisements, including personal websites.
5. Accurate records, as outlined by the AKC requirements for "Care and Conditions", will be maintained.

Puppies Registration

- The Breeder will facilitate AKC registration of all puppies by providing valid registration forms and/or transfer of ownership forms to Buyer. This may include Limited registration when applicable.

Puppy Buyer Information Guidelines

- Results from all health tests conducted for sire and dam should be available to potential puppy buyers prior to purchase.
- Puppies should be accompanied by a current health certificate, a three generation pedigree, and a feeding and care guidelines.
- Buyer will have the puppy microchipped, if the breeder has not already done so. The puppy's microchip number needs to be registered with the appropriate microchip registry.
- All sales should include a sales agreement signed by the "Seller" and the "Buyer" listing specific obligations of both "Buyer" and "Seller", and conditions for return of puppy, if this becomes necessary
- Conditions for spay/neuter should be stipulated in the Sales Agreement when appropriate with Limited AKC registration.
- Potential homes will be carefully screened.
- Puppies will not be used as prizes, auction or raffle items, or sold to retailers, wholesalers, commercial dealers or paid agents.
- If the buyer is unable to keep the dog, the breeder will assist the buyer to re-home the dog.
- If the dog enters rescue, the breeder will assist the Rescue Program to rehome the dog and if necessary take the dog back while assisting to re-home the dog.

SSCA web page: <http://www.standardschnauzer.org/index.html>

Go to the **Breeders Information** for a listing of SSCA breeders

Go to **Available Litters** for currently available Puppies