

# AKC® Procedures for Registration Matters

**NOTE:** This Rulebook contains the following insert(s):

\*Yellow Insert - Effective October 1, 2009

\*Blue Insert - Effective November 1, 2009  
Insert(s) located after inside front cover



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB<sup>SM</sup>

## MISSION STATEMENT:

The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

This document is used by various departments at AKC as a guide to deal with registration matters. Copies will be provided upon request.

This insert is issued as a supplement to the *AKC Procedures for Registration Matters*, pamphlet printed April 2008.

**Effective October 1, 2009**

**XII. LIMITED REGISTRATION \***

Limited registration can be designated at the time the dog is individually registered or during the first transfer of a dog, provided the dog was registered initially by the litter owner(s) through the Full Litter Registration process. The limited designation may be removed upon the written permission of the litter owner(s) and upon submission of a form for that purpose, which is available from the AKC, and the required fee.

Approved by AKC Board of Directors

\*This replaces paragraph 3 of section XII

Yellow Insert  
Issued September 2009  
RREGS2 (4/08)

This insert is issued as a supplement to the *AKC Procedures for Registration Matters*, pamphlet printed April 2008.

## **Effective November 1, 2009**

### **VI. Signatures E. Signing for a minor**

E. If a dog or litter is to be registered in the name of a minor, the space provided for signature of owner should be signed as follows:

Name of child (Minor)

Per: personal signature of parent or guardian (relationship)

In addition, a Parental/Guardian Registration Certification Form should be submitted along with the application. The form is available from the AKC website and only needs to be submitted one time per dog registration and is not required for litter registrations if a Parental/Guardian Registration Certification Form was submitted with the dog registration.

This procedure for signing for a minor must be followed every time the signature of the minor is required on an application form.

NOTE: Be certain to indicate your relationship to the minor next to your personal signature to avoid rejection on the application form.

Approved by AKC Board of Directors

Blue Insert  
Issued November 2009  
RREGS2 (04/08)

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## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this booklet is to acquaint you with certain procedures relative to particular registration matters.

Hopefully, a knowledge of such procedures will prevent problems BEFORE THEY ARISE.

Not every situation is covered in this pamphlet, but in our experience, the situations that are included are those that frequently cause problems.

If you have any questions concerning these procedures or questions on any other registration matters, do not hesitate to call our Customer Service department at (919) 233-9767 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time or email: [info@akc.org](mailto:info@akc.org).

## I. OWNERSHIP

### A. OWNER DECEASED

If the owner of a dog or litter dies, AKC registration forms can only be signed by the person authorized to sign for the deceased. Before the AKC can accept the signature of the person completing AKC forms for the deceased, we must be furnished with authorization to do so.

If an Executor or Administrator has been or will be appointed for the decedent, a copy of the Letters Testamentary, Letters of Administration, or the equivalent document naming the person(s) or bank appointed by the Court to serve as Executor or Administrator of the Estate should accompany our Statement of Legal Rights form.

If **no** Executor or Administrator has been or will be appointed, the next of kin authorized to sign for the decedent must complete a Statement of Legal Rights Form, indicating his/her relationship to the decedent. The Statement of Legal Rights form must be completed in its entirety, signed and notarized before being submitted.

The signature for the deceased should appear as follows on all AKC documents:

Print name of deceased (Date of Death)  
Per: Signature of Executor, Administrator or  
signature of next of kin (relationship to deceased)

If more than one person is authorized to sign, then all signatures must appear on the AKC document. The complete application and required fee should then be submitted with the Statement of Legal Rights form.

### B. OWNERSHIP OF DOG ACQUIRED THROUGH SHERIFF'S SALE, ETC.

If ownership of an AKC registered dog or registrable dog has been acquired pursuant to a statute, such as a sheriff's sale, etc., the American Kennel Club® will consider the registration or the transfer of ownership on its records, under certain conditions.

Before we would consider such action, we would require, in addition to proof of the dog's identity:

- A. A copy of the applicable statute.
- B. Proof that the provisions of the statute have been met.
- C. The last known mailing address of the previous owner.

### **C. CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP DUE TO DIVORCE**

If ownership of a dog changes as the result of a divorce settlement, this change must be recorded as any other transfer. Transfer from one party to another, or from co-ownership to sole ownership should be recorded on the reverse side of the dog's Registration Certificate.

If you are unable to obtain a properly executed certification of transfer and you request assistance from the American Kennel Club, be certain to submit the following:

1. The AKC Registration Certificate completed, with the exception of the unobtainable signature, together with the required transfer fee.
2. A photocopy of the divorce decree which includes the property settlement, or the appropriate document awarding ownership of the properly identified AKC dog in question.
3. The present or last known mailing address of the party whose signature cannot be obtained. If the dog's AKC information is not properly identified in the divorce decree, or if the co-owner refuses to sign or cannot be contacted, the dog will not be transferred.
4. If ownership changes as the result of a divorce settlement, the date of sale indicated on the certificate should generally reflect the date the property settlement became final.

When all the information and material are submitted, the AKC will review the matter and ascertain whether the registration or transfer of ownership can be effected in its records.

### **D. DOGS ACQUIRED FROM HUMANE SOCIETY OR SIMILAR ORGANIZATION**

The American Kennel Club does not provide registration service for dogs acquired from Protective Leagues, Humane Societies or similar organizations.

Also, when a dog is turned over to a Humane Society or similar organization, it should be understood that AKC papers will not be transferred.

## **E. DOGS OWNED BY COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS OR CORPORATIONS**

Under AKC procedures, ownership of a dog will not be recorded in the name of any organization or corporation which, in any manner, deals in dogs for resale. This procedure has been adopted to foster and encourage the amateur sport of breeding and showing purebred dogs.

## **II. NAMING OF DOGS**

The person who owns the dog at the time the application for registration is submitted to the AKC has the right to name it, in the absence of a written agreement.

There are guidelines that determine the acceptability of a name. Some of these are as follows:

1. Name choices are limited to thirty (30) letters. Spaces between words, apostrophes and hyphens are counted.
2. All letters in a dog's name are limited to the standard English alphabet. When registration certificates are printed, all letters are capitalized. Diacritical markings (accent grave, accent acute, umlaut, etc.) are not printed on registration certificates in a dog's name.
3. Registered Kennel Names cannot be included in a dog's name unless their use is authorized by the owner of the name.
4. Roman numerals must not be included at the end of the dog's name. The AKC reserves the right to assign roman numerals for identification purposes. The AKC permits thirty-seven (37) dogs of each breed to be assigned the same name.
5. There are no restrictions on arabic (1,2,3), cardinal (one, two, three), or ordinal (first, second, third) numbers.
6. Words and phrases that may not be included in a dog's name:
  - A. Champion, champ, sieger and any AKC title or show term, either spelled out or abbreviated.
  - B. Obscenities and words derogatory to any race, creed or nationality or transliterations of such words.
  - C. Kennel(s), male, stud, sire, bitch, dam and female.
  - D. Breed names alone.

7. An imported dog must be registered with the same name under which it was registered in its country of birth, except for the addition of a Registered Kennel Name.

All dog names are subject to AKC approval.

According to Chapter 3, Section 7 of *Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline*: The name of a dog registered with The American Kennel Club will be allowed to be changed provided the dog was whelped in the United States and in cases where the breeder(s) first individually registered the dog, their written consent would be required. A dog name containing a Registered Kennel Name cannot be changed without the written consent of the owner(s) of that Registered Kennel Name.

However, no change in the name will be recorded by The American Kennel Club after the dog has produced or sired an AKC registered litter or received an award at an AKC licensed or member event.

Any name change must comply with all AKC requirements.

### **III. CONTRACTS**

It has been our experience that all too frequently, severe and complicated problems result from disputes over conditional sale, conditional stud and co-ownership contracts or any contract or agreement relating to restrictions or limitations people try to place on the sale or breeding of a dog.

#### **A. SPAY/NEUTER CONTRACTS**

A written agreement between buyer and seller to the effect that AKC registration papers will not be furnished to the buyer until the seller has been furnished with evidence that the dog has been neutered or spayed is acceptable under our rules.

If a dog is sold under such conditions, it is important that the agreement be signed by the buyer before the dog leaves the seller's premises.

Many breeders using this type of agreement include clauses to the effect that the dog must be spayed or neutered by a certain date (or age).

#### **B. STUD CONTRACTS**

Agreements between individuals concerning stud fees should be in writing and clearly state all obliga-

tions and circumstances. The contract should be signed by all parties to the transaction and each signer thereto should receive a copy.

The stud fee is set by the stud dog's owner. The mode of payment may differ. The stud owner may request a cash fee, "pick of the litter", one or more puppies from the resulting litter, etc.. The collection of the stud fee is the stud owner's responsibility.

The American Kennel Club takes the position that the owner of the sire is required to sign an application to register a litter certifying only to the fact that a particular dam was bred to the sire identified on the Litter Registration Application form on a specified date of mating, unless there is an agreement signed by all parties concerned in which it is specifically set forth that the owner of the sire is not obligated to sign an American Kennel Club Litter Registration Application form until such time as the stud fee has been paid.

### C. CO-OWNERSHIP CONTRACTS

Co-ownership arrangements, in far too many cases, lead to problems. While AKC registration application forms provide for more than one owner, **we recommend that co-ownerships be avoided.** It has been our experience that purchasing a dog "outright" is preferable.

We would like to point out that if a co-owner is suspended of all AKC privileges, then for the term of the suspension, recording of a transfer of the dog that is co-owned is barred and registrations of litters sired by or whelped by the dog in question are barred. Wins taken by the dog in AKC-licensed or member events are subject to disallowment.

For the reasons cited above the AKC recommends that co-ownerships be avoided.

### D. DOG SOLD *WITHOUT* AKC REGISTRATION PAPERS

If a dog is delivered or sold with the understanding that AKC papers will *not* be furnished, the donor or seller must obtain from the recipient or buyer a signed statement agreeing to this condition, and such disposition of a dog without papers must be indicated in the seller's records.

**NOTE:** The AKC suggests that the donor or seller withhold identifying information (sire and dam's AKC registered names and numbers, litter registration numbers, etc.) and only provide information concerning the dog's date of birth, shots administered, shots

needed and any other information the recipient or buyer would require in order to provide properly for the dog's welfare.

We do not countenance understandings or agreements that put a price on "papers." If a person acquires a dog without papers, with the explicit understanding that papers will be furnished for payment of an additional amount of money, the buyer has, in effect, forfeited any rights to papers. If at some later date he decides he wants papers, the AKC can only advise him to go back to the seller to resolve the matter.

#### **IV. BUYER PURCHASES A SICK OR DEFECTIVE DOG**

The American Kennel Club is always concerned when we learn of sick dogs. In situations such as this, it is vital to seek veterinary care and to inform the breeder so they can use this knowledge in future breeding decisions.

The AKC is a strong proponent of research that will result in healthier, longer lives for all dogs. In 1995, the AKC established the AKC Canine Health Foundation and has contributed over \$15 million since its founding. The foundation has helped fund nearly 250 studies. Some useful information can be found at the AKC Canine Health Foundation Web site, [www.akcchf.org](http://www.akcchf.org).

Another resource would be the breed club. A parent club is the national organization designated by the AKC to represent a specific breed. It may also help to notify the parent club's health liaison, as AKC-CHF surveys the parent clubs every two years to determine the top health concerns.

If a dog owner is attempting to recover all or part of the dog's purchase price and they are unable to settle with the seller, we recommend that they seek legal counsel to determine if they can gain relief through civil channels. It may also help to contact the Better Business Bureau or Consumer Protection Services in their area.

#### **V. LEASING A BITCH**

Under the *Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline* (Chapter 3, Section 1)—"The breeder of a dog is the person who owned the dam of that dog when the dam was bred; except that if the dam was leased at the time of breeding, the breeder is the lessee."

If a bitch is leased at the time of mating and/or whelping, a Lease Notification form must be filed promptly with the American Kennel Club. These forms may be obtained, upon request, from the AKC.

If a bitch is leased at the time of mating the breeder of the litter is the lessee. If the bitch is leased at the time of whelping, the lessee is the litter owner and the litter may be registered only by the lessee.

Every lease must have a termination date, and both the effective date and the termination date must be entered on the Lease Notification form.

If a dam is co-owned, all owners must sign the form.

**NOTE:** It is important that the owner and lessee should each have a written copy of the complete lease agreement signed by the other party.

**Leases are not accepted for male dogs nor for the purpose of entering a dog of either sex in dog shows or other AKC events. The right to exhibit a dog cannot be transferred by the person who actually owns it.**

## VI. SIGNATURES

If you are having trouble obtaining any signatures, please contact the AKC Case Management Department in writing.

### A. DAM OWNERS' SIGNATURES

All dam owners' signatures are required to register a litter. All applications without the proper signatures will not be accepted.

### B. ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

#### **Dam Owner:**

The AKC requires only one owner of a co-owned dam to submit a litter application online. The owner submitting the application is required to have written permission of all the co-owners of the dam and be able to present the written authorization to the AKC upon request. A Sample Authorization Form is available for review on the AKC Web site. The policy of requiring all the co-owners to sign-off on a puppy transfer is still in effect.

#### **Sire Owner:**

The policy of requiring only one owner's signature of a co-owned sire remains in effect for online litter submissions.

#### **False Online Certifications:**

As with paper applications, the AKC requires proper certification from the appropriate parties to register litters or individual dogs via online registration. Individuals who improperly certify to an online registration are subject to disciplinary action.

## C. STUD DOG POWER OF ATTORNEY

You may authorize the American Kennel Club to accept the signature of someone other than yourself if you are the actual owner of an AKC-registered male. Such authorization would only apply to applications to register litters sired by that dog.

You may obtain a Stud Dog Power of Attorney form from the American Kennel Club. The period of authorization is limited to one (1) year. A new form must be filed with the American Kennel Club after one (1) year if authorization is to be extended.

If authorized, you should sign the Litter Registration Application forms as follows:

Printed name of owner of stud dog

Per: personal signature of authorized person (SDPOA)

## D. POWER OF ATTORNEY

We will accept one person signing for another on all registration application forms only if we are provided with the proper authorization.

If you wish to grant authorization to someone to sign registration application forms for you, you may request a Power of Attorney Authorization from the AKC. The Power of Attorney Authorization should then be completed by both the person authorized to sign, and the person granting authorization. The form should then be notarized and returned to the AKC for recording purposes.

The authorization is accepted for one year only, and if it is to be renewed, a new Power of Attorney Authorization form should be submitted.

Applications should be signed as follows:

Printed name of owner

Per: signature of authorized person (POA)

**NOTE:** Signing another's name on an AKC form without completing this authorization form will result in disciplinary action. Do not complete a Power of Attorney Authorization if you are signing for a minor. (See section on signing for a minor.)

## E. SIGNING FOR A MINOR

If a dog or litter is to be registered in the name of a minor, the space provided for signature of owner should be signed as follows:

Name of child (Minor)

Per: personal signature of parent or guardian  
(relationship)

This procedure must be followed every time the signature of the minor is required on an application form.

**NOTE:** Be certain to indicate your relationship to the minor next to your personal signature to avoid rejection on the application form.

## VII. REGULATIONS FOR RECORD KEEPING AND IDENTIFICATION OF DOGS

For dog owners, breeders, dealers, pet shops and all persons or firms that sell or give away dogs that are registered or to be registered with the American Kennel Club.

### A. GENERAL PRACTICES

Each person covered by these regulations must follow such practices as, consistent with the number of dogs involved, will preclude any possibility of error in identification of any individual dog or doubt as to the parentage of any particular dog or litter.

Thus, if more than one dog is shipped to some new owner or if a number of similar dogs are kept in a kennel or pet shop, **a system must be used, such as marking, tagging, tattooing or microchipping each dog**, which will preclude any possible error in identities, and a record of the identifying information must be kept. Bitches in season must be so segregated from males that there can be no doubt as to the identity of the sire of any litter. Puppies from different litters must be so segregated, marked or identified that there can be no doubt as to the parents or age of a particular puppy, and the identifying information must be recorded.

**NOTE:** If microchips are used as the primary means of identification, a scanner must be present at all times if there are more than 20 dogs over six months of age on the premises. All dogs sold at auctions must be identified by microchip.

### B. RECORDS

To provide a source of reference for registration or transfer applications which have been made or may later be made to the American Kennel Club, and to assure the accuracy of such applications, certain minimum written records must be maintained. When kept on a computer, a separate printed copy (hard copy) of all required records, apart from the computer or storage disks, must be available.

**All required records must be made immediately** when dog is acquired and delivered, and at time of

mating, whelping or death. Records must be kept on forms devoted to that exclusive purpose and must be consecutive, accurate, up-to-date and maintained for at least five (5) years after the dog has died, has been sold or has been given away.

**a. Records to be kept by owners and breeders.**

1. The owner (and the lessee if a dog is leased) shall keep a record of each dog owned (or leased) which will show:

- Breed
- Registered name and number (or litter number if not registered)
- Sex, color and markings
- Date of birth
- Names and numbers of sire and dam
- Name of breeder
- Name and address of person from whom **directly** acquired
- Date of acquisition
- Date and duration of lease, if any

and when dog is sold, given away or dies:

- Name and address of person to whom **directly** sold or delivered
- Date sold or delivered or date of death
- Kinds of papers and date supplied

In addition, the owner (or lessee, if dog is leased at that time) shall keep the following breeding records:

2. Whenever dog is mated to another dog:

- Date and place of mating
- Names of persons handling mating
- Registered name and number of dog to which mated
- Name and address of its owner

3. and (if a female) when resulting litter is whelped:

- Date of whelping
- Number of puppies whelped by sex and by color and markings
- Litter registration number
- Date of sale, gift or death of each puppy so described
- Name and address of person acquiring each puppy so described
- Kinds of papers and date supplied
- Registered name and number of each puppy registered by breeder

**b. Records to be kept by persons or firms who sell or give away dogs bred by others, including dealers, pet shops and persons acting as agents or brokers or selling on consignments:**

*For Each Unregistered Dog*

Breed  
Sex and color and markings  
Date of birth  
Litter number (when available)  
Names and numbers of sire and dam  
Name of breeder

*For Each Registered Dog*

Breed  
Registered name  
Registration number

*And for All Dogs*

Name and address of person from whom **directly**  
acquired  
Date of acquisition  
Name and address of person to whom **directly**  
sold or given  
Date sold or delivered, or date of death  
Kinds of papers and date supplied

**C. IDENTIFYING DOGS  
AT TIME OF DELIVERY**

If properly completed AKC registration papers are not supplied with the dog when it is shipped or delivered to someone else, the person delivering or shipping the dog must furnish the person acquiring the dog with a bill of sale or other signed memorandum giving all of the identifying information listed below. A promise of later identification is not acceptable.

*For a Dog Not Yet Individually Registered*

Breed  
Sex and color and markings  
Date of birth  
Litter number (when available)  
Names and numbers of sire and dam  
Name of breeder  
Date sold or delivered

*For a Registered Dog*

Breed  
Registered name  
Registration number  
Date sold or delivered

This identifying information must be supplied *with the dog* even though AKC papers are not yet available, and even to a person who takes the dog *only for resale as an agent or on consignment*, and the same information must be passed on by him when he disposes of it.

(The only exception to this requirement is when there is a written agreement made between the parties when the dog is delivered specifying that registration papers are never to be given.)

#### **D. INSPECTION**

The rules provide that The American Kennel Club or its duly authorized representative shall have the right to inspect the records required to be kept and the practices required to be followed by these regulations, and to examine any dog registered or to be registered with The American Kennel Club.

The American Kennel Club will also refuse registration to any dog where conditions of the dogs and/or kennels do not meet the minimum standard, as set forth by The American Kennel Club. The American Kennel Club will also report these conditions to the appropriate governmental or humane agencies.

#### **E. PENALTIES**

The rules provide that The American Kennel Club may refuse to register any dog or litter or to record the transfer of any dog, for the sole reason that the application is not supported by the records required by these regulations.

The rules also provide that The American Kennel Club may suspend any or all privileges of any person who fails to observe the above regulations. (See chapter on Suspension of Privileges.)

### **VIII. PERSON SUSPENDED OF AKC PRIVILEGES**

Chapter 8, Section 3, of the *Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline* states: "Any or all privileges of AKC shall be withheld from any person suspended." This means that for specific offenses the person suspended from event privileges may not participate in any event held under AKC rules and regulations, except as a spectator. The reference to attending any event held under AKC rules as a spectator is all-encompassing. It includes, but is not limited to, prohibiting a suspended person from grooming or in any way preparing a dog for the event; leading an entered dog on the event grounds; or attempting to influence a dog or handler in an event.

Further, for specific offenses a suspended person may not enter any event held under AKC rules and regulations when the published closing date for the event occurs before the period of suspension ends. What this means is that a suspended person cannot make an entry into any AKC event until his or her period of sus-

pension is over. Also, no co-owned dog may be shown during this period.

Further, for specific offenses, the registration facilities of AKC shall not be available to a person suspended of registration privileges. This means that AKC will not accord registration of any litter or individual dog or transfer ownership of any dog owned solely or in part by the suspended person to another person. Additionally, AKC will not register any litter of dogs owned by any other party if the sire of the litter was solely or in part owned by a suspended person and if the mating occurred after the date of notification. All applications are held in abeyance pending completion of the inquiry. Any transaction which occurs during the term of suspension will never be accorded registry service.

a. When a dog is registered in a co-ownership and any of the above suspension conditions exist as to any co-owner, no registration will be accorded to that dog.

b. **Hardship Policy:** When a breeder (seller) has been charged, placed on referral or suspended, AKC will consider transfer and registration of dogs and litters owned by innocent third parties. The buyer must provide dated documentation (such as a cancelled check or veterinary records) that show the dog(s) was acquired before the breeder (seller) was charged, placed on referral or suspended. The parentage of the dog or litter must not be in question, and all other requirements for registration must be met.

c. **Hardship Policy Concerning Innocent Third Parties Involved in Circumvention:** Effective January 1, 2002, innocent third parties who purchase dogs from individuals who have acquired registration by circumventing their suspension will not have the registration of their dogs/litters cancelled if the parentage of their dogs is not in question.

## IX. OVERAGE/UNDERAGE SIRES AND DAMS

Chapter 3, Section 5 of the *Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline* reads as follows:

“No dog or litter out of a dam under eight (8) months or over twelve (12) years of age at the time of mating, or by a sire under seven (7) months or over twelve (12) years of age at the time of mating, will be registered unless the application for registration shall be accompanied by an affidavit or evidence which shall prove the fact to the satisfaction of The American Kennel Club.”

If you have had a litter registration application form rejected because the age of the sire and/or dam was not in compliance with Chapter 3, Section 5 and you request the AKC to reconsider the matter, you should submit as much information and material as possible.

The AKC would want to know if the breeding that took place was a “planned” breeding. We would also want to know if there were any witnesses to the breeding who are in a position to identify the sire and dam and, if so, statements from those witnesses should be submitted. You should tell us how the bitch was confined during the entire heat period and whether or not there was any possibility of the dam being exposed to any other male during the season in question.

In the case of an overage sire, we would ask whether a recent sperm count was done by a veterinarian and, if so, that we receive a copy of the veterinarian’s findings.

If you own an overage male and you intend to use the dog at stud, we recommend that you have a sperm count done by your veterinarian. If the veterinarian finds that the male is capable of siring a litter you should make several photocopies of his findings, which can then be submitted in the future with applications for litters sired by the dog. We would also recommend that you have a sperm count done every six (6) months thereafter.

## **X. DNA**

### **A. FREQUENTLY USED SIRES DNA REQUIREMENT**

Effective for litters whelped on or after July 1, 2000, every sire producing seven or more litters in his lifetime or producing more than three litters in a calendar year must be AKC DNA Profiled. These DNA profiles will be used for genetic identity and for parentage verification, and thus will be used to advance issues relating to the integrity of the registry. Dogs with DNA profiles from the voluntary DNA Profiling Program or from the Parent Breed Club DNA Program meet this requirement. DNA samples processed in the Compliance Audit Program (kennel inspections), however, do not meet this requirement and profiles are not issued.

### **B. MULTIPLE-SIRED LITTERS**

Effective September 1, 2000 (and retroactive for 24 months), the AKC will consider the registration of litters with more than one sire, or litters for which the identification of the sire is in question. The registration must be based upon AKC DNA Profiles for the sire(s), dam, and all puppies. In addition to the registration fee

for each litter, an administrative fee of \$200 (per dam, per whelping) will be charged for litters with more than one sire. This policy is meant to ensure the integrity of the registry and allow for the registration of purebred dogs with AKC DNA profiled parentage - it is not meant to encourage the use of multiple sires.

Multiple-sired litters are not eligible for online registration at this time.

### **C. CUSTOMER-DRIVEN DNA COMPLAINT POLICY**

Effective July 1, 2002: Any AKC customer who questions the recorded parentage of a dog or litter may submit a complaint in writing to the AKC requesting DNA testing. The complaint must be accompanied by a deposit of \$500.00. If the allegation is sustained the deposit is returned. If the allegation is not sustained, the deposit is forfeited and becomes the property of The American Kennel Club.

In cases where parentage is shown to be incorrect, AKC will work with customers to correct the registrations of dogs and litters when possible. The responsible parties will be billed for the DNA processing costs and registration correction fees. Registration services will be placed on hold until payment is made. When corrections cannot be made, the necessary registrations will be cancelled. The AKC disciplinary procedures will apply to exclusions discovered as a result of this policy.

### **D. DNA REQUIREMENT FOR IMPORTED DOGS**

An AKC DNA profile is required on any imported dog registered on or after March 1, 2006 before any litter whelped or sired by that imported dog would be eligible for AKC registration.

This requirement applies to any imported dog, male or female, including dogs from Canada, Mexico and Bermuda as well as any imported dog of an AKC FSS breed.

## **XI. ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION**

Litters resulting from artificial insemination are not eligible for online registration at this time.

### **A. ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION USING FRESH SEMEN**

The American Kennel Club will consider an application to register a litter resulting from artificial insemination using **fresh semen**, provided both the sire and

dam are present during the extraction of the semen and the insemination of the bitch and the litter is, in all other respects, eligible for registration.

In order to register a litter whelped as a result of artificial insemination of the bitch using **fresh semen**, the following are required: a completed Application to Register a Litter Resulting from Artificial Insemination Using Fresh Semen and the proper registration fee.

The application form contains sections to be completed by the owner, co-owner or lessee of the dam on the date of mating, owner or co-owner of sire on the date of mating and two additional certifications to be completed in those instances when the owner of the sire has authorized someone else to extract the semen from the male and the owner or lessee of the dam has authorized someone else to inseminate the female.

*This form may be obtained from The American Kennel Club, upon request, free of charge. Also available on our Web site, [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).*

## **B. ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION USING FRESH EXTENDED SEMEN**

The American Kennel Club will consider an application to register a litter resulting from artificial insemination of the bitch using **fresh extended semen** provided the semen is extracted and extended by a licensed veterinarian; the insemination of the bitch is performed by a licensed veterinarian and the litter is eligible for registration in all other respects. The use of imported **fresh extended semen** may be considered on a case-by-case basis. The specific requirements for the use of imported **fresh extended semen** should be requested from The American Kennel Club.

To register a litter whelped as a result of using **fresh extended semen**, the following are required: a completed Application to Register a Litter Resulting from Artificial Insemination Using Fresh Extended Semen, the proper registration fee, and an AKC DNA Profile for the sire.

The form contains certifications from the owner, co-owner or lessee of the dam on the date of mating, owner or co-owner of the sire on the date of mating, the veterinarian extracting and extending the semen and the veterinarian inseminating the bitch.

*This form may be obtained from The American Kennel Club, upon request, free of charge. Also available on our Web site, [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).*

*The specific requirements for the use of imported fresh extended semen should be requested from The American Kennel Club prior to any intended collection, which would include a cheek swab sample for DNA profiling.*

## C. ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION USING FROZEN SEMEN

The American Kennel Club will consider an application to register a litter resulting from the artificial insemination of the bitch using **frozen semen**, provided the litter is, in all other respects, eligible for registration and the following conditions are met:

1. The collection of semen for the artificial breeding must have been reported to the AKC on the AKC Frozen Semen Collection Statement form. If the semen was collected after October 1, 1998, the sire must be AKC DNA Profiled.
2. The collector/storer must be on record with the AKC as familiar with and complying with the AKC regulations for record keeping and identification of dogs.
3. The frozen semen application form must be submitted containing the certifications completed by the owner of the semen, the owner of the dam and the veterinarian who performed the artificial breeding, together with the proper fee.
4. All sire owners must sign the form transferring ownership of the frozen semen.

*The Application to Register a Litter Resulting from Artificial Insemination Using Frozen Semen and a list of AKC approved frozen semen collection and storage facilities may be obtained from our Web site, [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org), or by writing to:*

The American Kennel Club  
8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100  
Raleigh, NC 27617-3390

*The regulations applying to the registration of litters produced through artificial insemination using frozen semen appear on the back page of the application.*

*A litter produced as a result of artificial insemination using imported frozen or fresh extended semen will be considered for AKC registration if the sire meets the requirements for AKC registration and is AKC DNA Profiled (if the semen was collected after October 1, 1998).*

## XII. LIMITED REGISTRATION

AKC registration application forms provide the option for registering dogs with limited registration. Limited registration means that litters produced by the dog are not eligible for AKC registration. The dog is eligible to compete in all AKC-licensed events except breed competition at an AKC-licensed dog show.

The decision as to the registration status of a dog is the responsibility of the litter owner(s). The litter owner(s) must indicate whether the dog is to be registered as limited, in the appropriate space on the dog application. If limited is not indicated, full registration will be assigned.

Limited registration can only be designated at the time the dog is individually registered. The limited designation may be removed upon the written permission of the litter owner(s) and upon submission of a form for that purpose, which is available from the AKC, and the required fee. Once the limited designation has been removed it may not be reimposed.

The decision as to whether or not a dog will be registered with limited registration is left solely to the litter owner(s). Limited registration is a tool with which the litter owner(s) can protect their breeding program. We would strongly recommend that if a dog is being sold with limited registration that the litter owner(s) make this condition clear to the potential dog buyer(s) so that there is no confusion about the terms under which the dog was purchased. If breeders provide a written bill of sale in addition to the registration application form, we would urge that the bill of sale include the fact that the dog is being sold with limited registration and that the buyer acknowledges in writing that the dog is being accepted with that condition.

For Online Dog Registration: If the limited registration box on your application is not darkened (you can see a 3-digit Full Registration Code in the box), your dog is eligible for full registration.

*“The term ‘owner(s)’ in this section means all of the owners of the litter at birth. Thus, all owners of the litter must agree to both the imposition and the removal of the limited designation. If the owners disagree on whether there shall be full or limited registration, in the absence of any written agreement to the contrary, the dog will receive full registration.”*

### XIII. TIME LIMITS

Chapter 3, Section 4 of the *Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline* provides time limits for dog and litter registrations as follows:

No individual dog from a litter whelped in the United States of America of which both parents are registered with The American Kennel Club shall be eligible for registration unless the litter has first been registered by the person who owned the dam at the time of whelping, or by the lessee if the dam was leased at the time of whelping, and, further, that an

application to register such litter is filed with The American Kennel Club no later than six (6) months from the date of whelping of the litter.

An application to register a litter filed with The American Kennel Club more than six (6) months from the date of whelping may be considered for registration provided the litter owner supplies such required information and remits such penalty fee as shall be determined by the Board of Directors. These restrictions shall not apply when the delay in filing the litter application results from an American Kennel Club investigation or inquiry, an action of law or other hardship circumstances satisfactory to The American Kennel Club.

An application to individually register a member of a registered litter shall be valid for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of issue of the application. An application to individually register a member of a registered litter filed with The American Kennel Club more than twelve (12) months from the date of issue of the application may be considered for registration provided the applicant supplies such required information and remits such penalty fee as shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

# NOTES

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## AKC CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

*PREFACE: The sport of purebred dog competitive events dates prior to 1884, the year of AKC's birth. Shared values of those involved in the sport include principles of sportsmanship. They are practiced in all sectors of our sport: conformation, performance and companion. Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years. With the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our sport, this code is presented.*

- Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
- Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
- The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
- The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
- The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge's placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
- The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
- The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.
- Sportsmen welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport.
- Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
- Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
- Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
- Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.
- Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.

Complete text of booklet available at: [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)

To order booklet(s), contact AKC at:  
The American Kennel Club Order Desk  
8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100  
Raleigh, NC 27617-3390  
Tel: (919) 233-9767  
E-mail: [orderdesk@akc.org](mailto:orderdesk@akc.org)

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