



# *The Golden Retriever Club of America, Inc.*

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March 02, 2020

## **Health Statement**

The Golden Retriever Club of America® strongly recommends that all U.S. breeding dogs have screening tests performed to determine their status in regard to the following potentially inherited conditions: hip dysplasia, elbow dysplasia, inherited eye disease, heart disease and NCL.

Hips- Report from the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) or PennHIP at 24 months of age or older.

Elbows - Report from OFA at 24 months of age or older.

Eyes - Report of an examination by a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists conducted within 12 months prior to a breeding.

Hearts - Report from a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Cardiology) at 12 months of age or older.

For uniformly fatal recessive genetic diseases for which DNA tests are available such as neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis (NCL) of Golden Retrievers, at a minimum, one parent should be DNA tested normal/clear.

The results of these screening tests will be recorded in an online, professionally managed database such as the OFA database (<http://www.offa.org/>). For imported semen, AKC DNA will be obtained and examinations of hips, elbows, eyes and hearts will be conducted as for U.S. dogs or according to guidelines from the parent Golden Retriever Club of that country. Documentation of these examinations will be available for inspection.

For more information, see <https://www.grca.org/about-the-breed/health-research/health-screenings-for-the-parents-of-a-litter/>

This statement has been approved by the GRCA Board of Directors.

Kurt Macauley  
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Club of America