

INTRODUCTION

This manual has been developed as a study guide for the Florida State Fair Youth Dog Skillathon, which is a part of the Champion Youth Program. The topic for this year's Skillathon is **Products and Marketing**.

The Florida State Fair recognizes that agricultural education instructors, 4-H agents, parents, and leaders provide the traditional and logical instructional link between youth, their animal projects and current trends in the animal agriculture industry.

This manual is provided as a study guide for the Skillathon competition and should be used as an additional aid to ongoing educational programs. At the back of this manual are additional web sites. Reference materials are also listed for further study.

Sections are labeled to help exhibitors and educators identify which materials are required for their age level.

YOUTH DOG SHOW

Juniors (age 8 – 10 as of Sept. 1, 2024)

- A Responsible Dog Owner
- Selecting the Right Dog
- American Kennel Club (AKC) Breeds by Group (except Miscellaneous Class)

Intermediates (age 11 – 13 as of Sept. 1, 2024)

All of the Above Plus

- Jobs for Dogs
- Responsibly Breeding Your Dog
- Marketing Your Puppies

Seniors (age 14 and over as of Sept. 1, 2024)

All of the Above Plus

- Foundation Stock Service
- Miscellaneous Class
- Dog Registry Organizations
- Registration and Pedigree

Only Senior exhibitors will be eligible to qualify for the top four Champion Youth Awards. Intermediate and Junior exhibitors will only complete the segments of the Skillathon and Record Book Test that are designated for their age level.

A RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER

Owning a dog comes with a lot of responsibilities. These responsibilities include taking care of your dog's physical and emotional needs as well as making sure it is a good family member and neighbor. Being a responsible dog owner is a lifetime commitment.

One of the most important parts of being a responsible dog owner is making sure your dog has everything it needs to stay healthy. Like you, dogs need to be given a regular checkup and vaccinations to help prevent them from getting any serious and possibly fatal diseases. Regular vaccinations help prevent distemper, coronavirus, parvovirus, hepatitis, leptospirosis, and rabies. Dogs that are around others' dogs, for example when boarded or going to dog parks and dog shows, should also be given a preventative shot for kennel cough. In addition to veterinary care, a dog needs to be provided with regular toothbrushing, a proper diet, and plenty of fresh water throughout the day. Every dog needs regular exercise; learn all about your dog's breed and how much exercise your dog needs.

If your dog gets out of your yard without you, he needs identification. There are many ways to identify your dog, such as keeping a collar with identification tags on him whenever he goes outside. Dogs also can be tattooed and then registered with an organization that keeps records of who owns the dog. Today's most popular and reliable method is microchipping; a small microchip with a special number is placed under the skin. The dog's information is registered with an organization who would contact you if your dog was found alone.

The best protection against losing your dog is to train your dog. To help your dog become a respected and loved family member, you need to teach your dog the rules of your home. Taking a dog to obedience classes at a local dog club can help you with this task. For the safety of your dog, he should come when called, sit, stay, and learn not to run out of the door. For your safety and the safety of others, your dog should not jump up on visitors or family members. He should heel calmly on a leash, not pulling on the collar at the end of the leash. Once properly trained, you and your dog can take the Canine Good Citizen test given at a local obedience club; it is a two-part program that tests basic obedience and good manners. Once your dog passes the test, you may receive a certificate from the American Kennel Club.

If you take your dog anywhere, your dog needs to know the rules of being polite in public, as does the person walking the dog. Never let your dog urinate on your neighbors' bushes or flowers and always pick up after your dog when it has gone to the bathroom. Do not allow your dog to bark at or jump on people you are passing on the sidewalk. Make sure your dog is a respectful and friendly neighbor.

SELECTING THE RIGHT DOG

Once you have decided that you are ready for a dog and all the responsibilities that come with dog ownership, you need to decide what breed of dog you want. There are many good websites that will help you find the right breed for you, but it will require a bit of time and patience on your part to complete the questionnaires to help you make a good choice. You will need to determine what size dog you can have, temperament, and the amount of time you will be able to commit to exercise and groom the dog you choose. The American Kennel Club (AKC) and the dog food companies, Iams and Pedigree, have websites to help select a breed that is right for you and your family.

AKC: <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/lifestyle/answer-5-questions-find-right-dog/>

Iams: <https://www.iams.com/dog-breed-selector>

Pedigree: <https://www.uk.pedigree.com/dog-advice/getting-a-dog>

You can also go to the library to read about the different breeds. In addition, AKC has The Complete Dog Book for Kids and The Complete Dog Book; both are good references to use.

There are many questions that can help you choose what breed of dog is right for you. Here are a few questions to get you started.

- What do I want to do with my dog?
- What size dog do I want?
- Do I want a puppy or an older dog?
- Do I want a dog that is easy to train?
- Do I want a dog that needs a lot of exercise?
- Do I want a dog that needs a lot of grooming?
- Do I want a purebred dog or a mixed breed dog?

Once you have answered these questions, you will probably think of a lot more questions that will help you decide the breed of dog you want. In addition, the online questionnaires can help you choose a breed. Make sure you become familiar with the temperament, size, and exercise requirements of the breed you think you want. Research the breed carefully. Does it really match your wants and expectations? Call your veterinarian and breeders of the dog you are considering and ask them questions. If you do not already have a veterinarian, ask friends for referrals for a local vet.

Purebred dog or mixed breed dog, which is for you? Will you be showing your dog only in 4-H or will you be showing your dog in other groups like AKC and UKC? Except for 4-H, you will need to register your dog to show in the different types of events (conformation, obedience, agility, rally, herding, tracking, etc.). In what types of shows do you want to enter your dog? Conformation shows require an intact (not fixed) purebred dog that meets the breed standards. Companion events (obedience, rally, or agility) in AKC, UKC, or other dog-related clubs do not require an intact purebred dog, but the dog still needs to be registered. Mixed breed dogs can be wonderful pets but getting a puppy with unknown parents can lead to surprises with your dog's coat, size, and temperament. Choosing a

purebred dog will let you know the characteristics that a puppy will most likely grow into. If you prefer a mixed breed dog, what breed do you want to see most in your new dog? For example, do you want a dog with a collie in their heritage? Or with a spaniel in their family tree?

Once you have decided on the breed, you need to know where to look for your new dog. There are many places to find good puppies or adult dogs. You can ask your local veterinarian for breeders he can recommend, or you can ask your local dog club or kennel club about breeders in their club. You can look for a dog at the local Humane Society or SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals). Often purebred dogs as well as mixed breed dogs can be found in shelters. There are rescue groups for most breeds of dogs and they often have dogs that are mixed breeds as well. Both UKC and AKC have lists of rescue groups to find puppies or adult dogs.

If you decide to find a purebred dog, you then need to find a reputable breeder. One of the best places to go to is a local kennel club or a dog show. Both AKC and UKC have referrals for the "Parent Clubs" or national clubs for each breed of dog. They will help you find local clubs, breeders and rescue organizations. At a dog show, you can find the breed that you have selected and see dogs from local breeders. Once you have found a breeder, go visit the kennel and look at the facilities as well as the dogs. Is the kennel clean? Do the dogs get exercise? Can you see the mother or father of the litter? Do they have any dogs from previous breeding that you can see? Ask about the breed, their temperament, exercise requirements, health concerns, their policy for returning the puppy if it does not fit into your family or has health concerns at the first veterinary visit and ask for references.

Do not be in a hurry and just pick the first one you meet. Remember, this is a life-long commitment!

Junior, Intermediate and Seniors

AKC BREEDS BY GROUP

Currently there are over 340 different breeds recognized by different registries around the world. The American Kennel Club (AKC) recognized more than 200 of these breeds, placing them in one of seven main groups: Sporting, Hound, Working, Terrier, Toy, Non-Sporting, and Herding.

Sporting Group

Junior, Intermediate and Seniors

Naturally active and alert, sporting dogs make likable, well-rounded companions. Members of the Sporting Group include pointers, retrievers, setters and spaniels. Remarkable for their instincts in water and woods, many of these breeds actively continue to participate in hunting and other field activities. Potential owners of Sporting dogs need to realize that most require regular, invigorating exercise.



American Water Spaniel



Barbet



Boykin Spaniel



Bracco Italiano



Brittany



Chesapeake Bay Retriever



Clumber Spaniel



Cocker Spaniel



Curly-Coated Retriever



English Cocker Spaniel



English Setter



English Springer Spaniel



Field Spaniel



Flat-Coated Retriever



German Shorthaired Pointer



German Wirehaired Pointer



Golden Retriever



Gordon Setter



Irish Red and White Setter



Irish Setter



Irish Water Spaniel



Labrador Retriever



Lagotto Romagnolo



Nederlandse Kooikerhondje



Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever



Pointer



Spinone Italiano



Sussex Spaniel



Vizsla



Weimaraner



Welsh Springer Spaniel



Wirehaired Pointing Griffon



Wirehaired Vizsla

Hound Group

Junior, Intermediate and Seniors

Most hounds share the common ancestral trait of being used for hunting. Some use acute scenting powers to follow a trail. Others demonstrate a phenomenal gift of stamina as they relentlessly run down game. Beyond this, however, generalizations about hounds are hard to come by, since the Hound Group encompasses quite a diverse lot. There are Pharaoh Hounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Afghans and Beagles, among others. Some hounds share the distinct ability to produce a unique sound known as baying. You would best sample this sound before you decide to get a hound of your own to be sure it is your cup of tea.



Afghan Hound



American English Coonhound



American Foxhound



Azawakh



Basenji



Basset Hound



Beagle



Black and Tan Coonhound



Bloodhound



Bluetick Coonhound



Borzoi



Cirneco dell'Etna



Dachshund



English Foxhound



Grand Basset Griffon Vendeen



Greyhound



Harrier



Ibizan Hound



Irish Wolfhound



Norwegian Elkhound



Otterhound



Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen



Pharaoh Hound



Plott Hound



Portuguese Podengo Pequeno



Redbone Coonhound



Rhodesian Ridgeback



Saluki



Scottish Deerhound



Sloughi



Treeing Walker Coonhound



Whippet

Working Group

Junior, Intermediate and Seniors

Dogs of the Working Group were bred to perform such jobs as guarding property, pulling sleds and performing water rescues. They have been invaluable assets to man throughout the ages. The Doberman Pinscher, Siberian Husky and Great Dane are included in this group, to name just a few. Quick to learn, these intelligent, capable animals make solid companions. Their considerable dimensions and strength alone, however, make many working dogs unsuitable as pets for average families. Again, by virtue of their size alone, these dogs must be properly trained.



Akita



Alaskan Malamute



Anatolian Shepherd Dog



Bernese Mountain Dog



Black Russian Terrier



Boerboel



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Chinook



Doberman Pinscher



Dogo Argentino



Dogue de Bordeaux



German Pinscher



Giant Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss Mountain Dog



Komondor



Kuvasz



Leonberger



Mastiff



Neapolitan Mastiff



Newfoundland Mastiff



Portuguese Water Dog



Rottweiler



Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

Terrier Group

Junior, Intermediate and Seniors

People familiar with this Group invariably comment on the distinctive terrier personality. These are feisty, energetic dogs whose sizes range from fairly small, as in the Norfolk, Cairn or West Highland White Terrier, to the grand Airedale Terrier. Terriers typically have little tolerance for other animals, including other dogs. Their ancestors were bred to hunt and kill vermin. Many continue to project the attitude that they are always eager for a spirited argument. Most terriers have wiry coats that require special grooming known as stripping in order to maintain a characteristic appearance. In general, they make engaging pets, but require owners with the determination to match their dogs' lively characters.



Airedale Terrier



American Hairless Terrier



American Staffordshire Terrier



Australian Terrier



Bedlington Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie Dinmont Terrier



Glen of Imaal Terrier



Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



Manchester Terrier



Miniature Bull Terrier



Miniature Schnauzer



Norfolk Terrier



Norwich Terrier



Parson Russell Terrier



Rat Terrier



Russell Terrier



Scottish Terrier



Sealyham Terrier



Skye Terrier



Smooth Fox Terrier



Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier



Staffordshire Bull Terrier



Welsh Terrier



West Highland White Terrier



Wire Fox Terrier

Toy Group

Junior, Intermediate and Seniors

The small size and adorable expressions of dogs in the Toy Group illustrate the main function of this group: to embody sheer delight. Do not let their tiny stature fool you, though - many of the dogs in the Toy Group are tough as nails. If you have not yet experienced the barking of an angry Chihuahua, for example, well, just wait. Dogs from this group will always be popular with city dwellers and people without much living space. They make ideal apartment dogs and terrific lap warmers on nippy nights.



Affenpinscher



Biewer Terrier



Brussels Griffon



Cavalier King Charles Spaniel



Chihuahua



Chinese Crested



English Toy Spaniel



Havanese



Italian Greyhound



Japanese Chin



Maltese



Manchester Terrier



Miniature Pinscher



Papillon



Pekingese



Pomeranian



Poodle



Pug



Russian Toy



Shih Tzu



Silky Terrier



Toy Fox Terrier



Yorkshire Terrier

Non-Sporting Group

Junior, Intermediate and Seniors

Non-sporting dogs are a diverse group. Here are sturdy animals with as different personalities and appearances as the Chow-Chow, Dalmatian, French Bulldog, and Keeshond. There are many differences in size, coat, and head shape. Some, like the Schipperke and Tibetan Spaniel, are not commonly seen in the average neighborhood. Others, like the Poodle and French Bulldog, are very popular. The breeds in the Non-Sporting Group are a varied collection in terms of size, coat, personality and overall appearance.



American Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Coton de Tulear



Dalmatian



Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian Lundehund



Poodle



Schipperke



Shiba Inu



Tibetan Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli

Herding Group

Junior, Intermediate and Seniors

The Herding Group, created in 1983, is the newest AKC classification; its members were formerly members of the Working Group. All breeds share the fabulous ability to control the movement of other animals. A remarkable example is the low-set Corgi, perhaps one foot tall at the shoulders, which can drive a herd of cows many times its size to pasture by leaping and nipping at their heels. Many herding dogs are household pets and never cross paths with a farm animal. Nevertheless, pure instinct prompts many of these dogs to gently herd their owners, especially the children of the family. In general, these intelligent dogs make excellent companions and respond beautifully to training exercises.

(Herding Group, continued)



Australian Cattle Dog



Australian Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian Lakenois



Belgian Malinois



Belgian Sheepdog



Belgian Tervuren



Bergamasco



Berger Picard



Border Collie



Bouvier des Flandres



Briard



Canaan Dog



Cardigan Welsh Corgi



Collie



Entlebucher Mountain Dog



Finnish Lapphund



German Shepherd Dog



Icelandic Sheepdog



Lancashire Heeler



Miniature American Shepherd



Mudi



Norwegian Buhund



Old English Sheepdog



Pembroke Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland Sheepdog



Puli



Pumi



Pyrenean Shepherd



Shetland Sheepdog



Spanish Water Dog



Swedish Vallhund

JOBS FOR DOGS

Intermediate, Senior

Dogs have been developed over time to help humans with a variety of tasks, including the job of being a companion. The development of each breed stems from the need for a dog to “fit” a job, with the form following the needed function. For example, a guard dog should be large and muscular, but a dog made to keep one warm at night will be small and compact to nestle close to someone. A hunting dog needs a keen sense of smell or great eyesight, like scent hounds and sight hounds, respectively.

Dogs have worked for humans in a wide variety of jobs. These jobs have included: herding, guarding livestock, pulling sleds, protecting humans, hunting, and retrieving. The Saluki, the oldest known breed, was first developed in Syria around 329 B.C. for their amazing speed, stamina and hunting abilities. The Chow-Chow was bred in China for hunting, carting and guarding. Innovations in warfare, farming, transportation, and hunting have greatly reduced the need for many of these working dogs. Some dog breeds have gone extinct, and many others have been repurposed for other pursuits using the traits that made them so successful.

Working dogs today include herding dogs; hunting dogs; police dogs; military dogs; detection dogs used to find bed bugs, termites, drugs, and explosives; search and rescue dogs; service dogs; therapy dogs; and emotional support dogs. All these dogs, except emotional support dogs, require specialized training. Service Dogs are trained to perform specific tasks that help their disabled handlers, such as retrieving items, guiding a blind person, or detecting a drop in blood sugar. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandates that these animals have access to all public places where they accompany their handlers. Therapy Dogs provide comfort and affection as they visit various institutions with their handlers. Therapy Dogs require basic obedience; they need to be invited to work in hospitals, assisted living centers, and in courtrooms. Emotional Support Animals (ESA) are companions that help ease anxiety, depression, and certain phobias. A prescription from a mental health professional is required for a dog to be legally considered an ESA dog. ESA dogs cannot go to hospitals, assisted living facilities, or courtrooms like a service dog or a therapy dog. Someone with an ESA dog, with the proper documentation, may apply to their landlord for an exception to a no-pet rule.

With more leisure time, many people have begun to focus on activities with their canine companions. Dog sports are at an all-time high in popularity. These sports include breed conformation and performance events such as obedience competitions, rally, lure coursing, barn hunt, agility, scent work, flyball, disc dog, dock diving, field trials, and herding, to name a few. Conformation events are competitions that promote breeding for conformation to breed standards, and require a registered, unneutered, purebred dog to participate. Performance events require you to register your dog but both purebred and mixed-breed dogs can participate. For example, the American Kennel Club (AKC) has alternative registries for non-papered dogs. These are the Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) for dogs that look like a particular breed, and Canine Partners (CP) for mixed-breed dogs, which are referred to as All-American dogs. Kids aged 9-17 can also show their All-American dogs in Junior Showmanship classes at AKC shows after applying for a Junior number. You can find out more at <https://www.akc.org/sports/juniors/>.

RESPONSIBLY BREEDING YOUR DOG

Intermediate, Senior

“A responsible breeder is always a student.” This is the first line of the American Kennel Club’s (AKC) handout, *Getting Started as a Responsible Dog Breeder*. Responsible breeding is a major commitment of your time and money and begins long before you have your first litter of puppies. Are you ready for the time commitment from breeding to placing puppies, money needed for food and veterinary care for the bitch (female dog) and puppies, and the emotions of letting the puppies go to a good home? Is your dog a good representative of its breed? Why do you want to breed your dog? Responsible breeders know their dogs will help maintain their breed’s good quality characteristics and conformation; that is why they breed their dogs.

Before you breed your dog, you should:

1. Learn about the breed standards
2. Learn about the breed’s temperament
3. Learn about your dog’s bloodlines and any health issues that may be associated with it.
Most breeds should have their eyes, hips, shoulders and several other qualities examined for soundness. And there are several genetic tests that should be completed to determine if the individual is a carrier for a syndrome.
4. Objectively evaluate your dog to determine *if* she or he should be bred; have someone else evaluate your dog (a local veterinarian or breeder)
5. Read about breeding dogs, whelping puppies, and finding homes for the puppies
6. Talk to your veterinarian about the costs of whelping a litter and getting shots for all the puppies
7. Know the laws in your area about breeds permitted
8. Go to dog shows and study your breed
9. Become a part of your breed club to learn more

Why is it desirable for a dog to be shown in conformation shows before breeding? Conformation is the judging of an individual dog based on its breed standards. Each breed of dog has a set of standards that a judge uses to evaluate the dog. It starts with the angulation of the shoulders, hips and legs; but also includes the shape of the head, ears, eyes, and many other features of the dog. Movement is important, especially with breeds that have jobs. Temperament is also part of the evaluation. A dog that has earned a championship has been assessed by several judges and has been determined to meet the breed standards better than all the other dogs in its class.

A responsible breeder is objective. Not all dogs can or should be bred. Each dog needs to be honestly evaluated for its good and bad points before it is bred. Ask someone who does not know your dog to evaluate it. Conformation show titles can be one way to evaluate your dog. Each breed must also be evaluated for health concerns, such as hips, eyes, and elbows. Dogs should be in good condition before breeding, including pre-breeding health tests, good nutrition, and exercise. Temperament testing should be given to the potential breeding dog.

Selecting a potential mate is a very important part of breeding a dog. No dog is perfect; evaluate your dog’s flaws and find a mate that will help eliminate or reduce those flaws. In addition, your dog’s good characteristics should help hide the flaws of its mate.

Once your dog is bred, you need to prepare the nursery for the bitch and her puppies. Continue regular check-ups with your veterinarian during the entire gestation period. It is essential to learn what is required for whelping puppies and be prepared if the bitch needs help with the birthing process. Make sure to have milk in case the dam (mother dog) does not have enough milk or dies while whelping the puppies.

Finally, you must give the puppies all the care that they need after the whelping. The puppies and the dam should be kept clean, dry, and out of drafts. Once they are born, you should weigh and measure the pups, recording the results in a notebook. They should be weighed regularly to make sure that they are growing properly, not underfed or overfed. Puppies need a lot of your time even before a litter is weaned. A responsible breeder exposes the puppies to a variety of stimuli, including sounds, textures, surfaces, etc. Once the puppies are weaned, they require constant cleaning of their pen, exercise, and socialization. Shots and complete check-ups with evaluation by a veterinarian are essential if the litter is to be registered in AKC, UKC, CKC, or any breed clubs. You should register the litter before you sell the puppies.

MARKETING YOUR PUPPIES

Intermediate, Senior

Are you a one-time breeder or do you plan to breed yearly? Do you breed for conformation champions, performance champions, pet quality pups, or for the total dog? Do you want puppies to go to an experienced home or to first-time dog owners? Where you market your litter is dependent on your answer to these questions.

All major clubs have advertisements in their magazines, people with or without experience look for kennels and breeders in these magazines. Clubs also have a list of breeders on their websites and many veterinarians will allow you to post information on their bulletin boards. Showing your dog is also a great way to advertise your dog. Additionally, many experienced breeders build up a reputation and place their puppies by word of mouth.

Before you sell the litter, you must decide if you are hoping to increase your kennel size or if you are contracted with the sire's owner for a pick of the litter. Which puppies are of show quality, and which are of pet quality? What is the temperament of each pup and what type of home would be most suitable? It is your responsibility to objectively assess each puppy and place it in the right home.

Once you know your litter and each puppy's temperament, you need to find the right homes for the puppies. Reputable breeders interview each prospective home and reserve the right to turn down any offer (and will) they think will not be a good home. To help with your decisions, write a list of questions such as:

1. Why do you want a puppy?
2. What do you know about the breed?
3. Who will be the primary person responsible for the dog?
4. Are there any children at home?
5. Is anyone at the house allergic to dogs?
6. Where do you plan to go for basic obedience?
7. Do you have a veterinarian?
8. Do you have any references from a veterinarian or a previous breeder?

Are you satisfied with the answers? It is your responsibility to give the new owners a packet with all the health records, a small amount of puppy food, and your information so they can contact you with questions. The health records should include all shots, worming, and other treatments that have been given, and the veterinary clinic at which they were given. Microchip information should be included if the puppies are microchipped. You can also include pictures of the sire (father) and dam (mother) as a nice extra.

FOUNDATION STOCK SERVICE

Senior

The AKC organization started the Foundation Stock Service to (FSS) to facilitate rare breeds and their recognition with AKC. AKC acknowledges that throughout the world there are more than 300 distinct purebred dog breeds, not all of which are AKC recognized. A new breed to the AKC registry must fulfill the AKC requirements to become an AKC recognized breed. AKC is looking for new breeds that will have a nationwide interest from breeders and owners and will have an active parent club. When a new breed is first introduced to AKC, they are placed in the FSS. To be placed in the FSS, the some of the following criteria need to be met: 1) the breed must be recognized by another breed registry, and 2) the breed has a history that has been established for 40 or more years, 3) the breed cannot have a name identical to currently recognized breeds, and 4) written standards must be provided for the breed. See AKC for all the requirements for acceptance into the FSS. Breeds in the FSS cannot participate in conformation but can participate in performance sports.

AKC does not recognize breeds created by crossbreeding established breeds, nor does it recognize variations of established breeds. Neither of these will be admitted to the FSS. For more information go to <https://www.akc.org/breeder-programs/foundation-stock-service-program/program-home/>.

MISCELLANEOUS CLASS

Senior

After being accepted in the FSS, the next step is entry into the Miscellaneous Class. To move from FSS to the Miscellaneous Group, a breed must have at least 150 dogs with a minimum of documented lineage for three generations. The breed also needs a parent breed club established and a set of breed standards that have been agreed upon. When the Board of Directors is satisfied that a breed is continuing a healthy, dynamic growth in the Miscellaneous Class, it may be admitted to registration in the Stud Book and the opportunity to compete in regular AKC classes. Only a few of the requirements for entry into the Miscellaneous Class are discussed here; refer to the AKC website for the complete guide: <https://www.akc.org/breeder-programs/foundation-stock-service-program/program-home/>.

Dogs in the Miscellaneous Class may be shown and earn titles in conformation, companion, and performance events. Juniors can also use Miscellaneous breeds to compete in Junior Showmanship. Although not eligible for championship points, they may also compete at conformation shows in the Miscellaneous Class.

The following breeds are currently members of the Miscellaneous Class:



Basset Fauve de Bretagne



Bolognese



Czechoslovakian Vlcia



Danish-Swedish Farmdog



Dutch Shepherd



German Spitz



Japanese Akitainu



Kai Ken



Norbottenspets



Peruvian Inca Orchid



Portuguese Podengo



Pyrenean Mastiff



Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka



Small Munsterlander



Teddy Roosevelt Terrier



Yakutian Laika

* All information was retrieved from the AKC website: <https://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/>

DOG REGISTRY ORGANIZATIONS

Senior

These are all abbreviations for various Dog Organizations. They all have their own abbreviations for their specific title or event. If you want to participate in the various events, you will have to register your dog with the Organization that is sponsoring the event. This is just a short list of registries for dogs. For more information, please visit the club or association's website or research other registries.

ACA	American Canine Association
AKC	American Kennel Club
CKC	Canadian Kennel Club
EKC	European Kennel Club
ICA	International Canine Association
NADAC	North American Dog Agility Council
UKC	United Kennel Club
USDAA	United States Dog Agility Association

REGISTRATION AND PEDIGREE

Senior

“He has a pedigree a mile long!” exclaimed the owner of the dog wagging his tail next to me. Most people are justifiably proud of that large, mysterious piece of paper with a list of strange sounding names, some of them outlined in red. What exactly is this paper that seems so impressive? What does it really mean?

Very simply, a pedigree is a record of your dog’s ancestors – sire (father), dam (mother), grandsire, granddam, great-grandsire and so forth. Every creature, animal, plant or human has a pedigree. Unless someone takes the trouble to write it down and keep track of it, the information is lost in the mist of memory and time.

The American Kennel Club and other animal registries are designed to keep track of pedigrees. For a small registration fee, the AKC will record your dog’s name and pedigree information. The AKC registration certificate you received for your dog means that its information is kept on file in the AKC’s records. For another fee, the AKC will provide you with a pedigree: a listing of the information they have kept on your dog’s registered ancestors.

The AKC records your dog’s name, color, sex, parentage, date of birth, breeder, owner, and any titles the dog has won in AKC sanctioned shows, obedience trials, or performance trials. When applying for registration, the AKC relies on breeders and owners to be honest. If the breeder of your dog has given the AKC false information, your dog’s pedigree may not be correct. Unfortunately, it is hard to verify all this information individually. Unless you personally know and trust your dog’s breeder, you really have no way of knowing if your dog is really the one recorded on his papers!

What a pedigree does not tell you is very important! Any purebred dog who meets the AKC’s requirements for registration may be registered and receive “papers”. The papers cannot tell you if the dog is of good quality or if it even looks like the breed it is supposed to be. All it can tell you is that the dog is registered, and his records are kept on file. Most people misunderstand this important point. Many poor-quality dogs are AKC registered. You cannot judge a dog’s quality just from looking at his registration papers or pedigree.

You now know that a pedigree can only tell you who your dog’s ancestors were. It can’t tell you if they were of good quality, what they looked like, or whether they may have had inherited health or temperament problems that they passed on to their descendants.

If your dog serves you well as a pet and companion, you may not care about finding out more about his family. If you intend to breed or show your dog, however, getting accurate information about his background is crucial! You will need to do much, much more than just memorize the names on his pedigree.

2 SAMPLES OF AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB REGISTRATION PAPERS

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB	
NAME ROSES ARE RED	NUMBER WS99999901
BREED GERMAN SHEPHERD	SEX FEMALE
COLOR SABLE	DATE OF BIRTH AUGUST 10, 2013
SIRE ECHO MY RESPONSE WS99999801 04-13	 AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB®
DAM GINGER WAS MY FIRST WS99999701 07-13	
BREEDER MARY JANE SMITH	CERTIFICATE ISSUED OCTOBER 8, 2013
OWNER JOHN JONES 123 ABC RD SMITHFIELD NC 99999-9999	<p><i>This certificate invalidates all previous certificates issued.</i></p> <p>If a date appears after the name and number of the sire and dam, it indicates the issue of the Stud Book Register in which the sire or dam is published.</p> <p>For Transfer Instructions, see back of Certificate.</p> <p><i>This Certificate issued with the right to correct or revoke by the American Kennel Club.</i></p>
REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE	

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB	
NAME CH SAMPLE DOG SPECIAL CDX TD JC (GERMANY)	NUMBER DL888888/01
BREED WEST HIGHLAND WHITE TERRIER	SEX MALE
COLOR WHITE	DATE OF BIRTH JAN 22 1997
SIRE CH SAMPLE WALTER'S RUNNING PARTNER NA JE CDX SZ2222222 (06-98) OFA24G OFEL24 CERF28 AKC DNA #V63333 (GER)	 AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB INCORPORATED®
DAM CH FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD CD TD SZ1111111 (07-00) OFA25G OFEL30 CERF28 AKC DNA #V55555 (GER)	
BREEDER JILL SAMPLE	CERTIFICATE ISSUED AUG 12 2001
OWNER GEORGE DOE 1234 SAMPLE AVENUE SAMPLE, SA 00000-0000	<p>If a date appears after the name and number of the sire and dam, it indicates the issue of the Stud Book Register in which the sire or dam is published.</p> <p>For Transfer Instructions, see back of Certificate.</p> <p><i>This Certificate issued with the right to correct or revoke by the American Kennel Club.</i></p>
REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE	

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