

The Boykin Spaniel Society®
Preferred Breeder Program

Introduction

The Boykin Spaniel Society Constitution identifies the Society's objectives which include: (1) to encourage and promote the breeding of healthy purebred Boykin Spaniels and to do all possible to perpetuate their natural hunting ability; and (2) to do all in its power to protect and advance the interest of the breed by encouraging responsible breeding practices. With those objectives in mind, the Board of Directors has implemented a Preferred Breeder Program. Participation in this program is voluntary and is available to all Society members in good standing who apply and are approved, and renew their pledge to uphold all of the Society's constitutional objectives.

Applications for enrollment in the program will be reviewed by the Registry Committee members and they will report their recommendations for admission to the Board of Directors. Once approved for Preferred Breeder Program membership, and so long as there is good faith compliance and ethical behavior by the breeder, enrollment is valid for two years. A notice of the need for re-application will be given at least forty-five days before the expiration of their enrollment. No fee is charged for application or enrollment.

There are two tiers to the Preferred Breeder Program at this time: Silver Level and Gold Level.* The Board of Directors may add one or more tiers in the future, and at its sole discretion may amend any aspect of the program, as it may determine, at any time.

By creating this Preferred Breeder Program, the Directors believe that a very useful tool will be made available for seekers of purebred Boykin spaniel puppies from responsible breeders. We do acknowledge that there are likely to be a good number of members who are equally selective and diligent in their breeding practices, and in some cases there may be some who exceed the requirements, but choose to not participate. As stated above, this is a voluntary participation program. Those members who are enrolled in the program will have their identities made available to the public-at-large on the Society's website and similar media outlets, and whenever direct contacts are made to Board Directors and to the Society's office staff.

** Please do not confuse "Silver Level" and "Gold Level" designations in this program with the general membership levels which are similar: "Silver Member" is sometimes used to designate a Boykin Spaniel Society Sponsor-level Member, and "Gold Member" is sometimes used to designate Life Members.*

Silver Level

This is the tier where most applicants are anticipated to request enrollment. The Silver Level Preferred Breeder Program member:

- attests that for each of the inheritable genetic traits of Exercise Induced Collapse, Degenerative Myelopathy and Collie Eye Anomaly, both breeding mates in every breeding shall have been DNA tested by an OFA-recognized genetics testing laboratory for each of those particular traits. If one of the mating pair is not documented as Clear for any one particular trait, the other dog must be documented as Clear for that particular trait.
- attests that for each of the inheritable physical traits of hip dysplasia, pulmonic stenosis heart disease, patellar luxation and inherited eye diseases such as juvenile cataracts, both breeding mates in every breeding shall have been classified as Fair or better for hip dysplasia by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), and that both breeding mates are OFA-certified as Normal for heart disease, patellar luxation and eye disease. In lieu of OFA certification, an applicant may fulfill the above cardiac and eye requirements by attaching to their Preferred Breeder Program application the same appropriate original documentation prepared by veterinarians as would be required by the OFA in order to obtain an OFA clearance certificate.
- agrees that in all cases where they actively participate in any Boykin spaniel breeding but are not the registered owner of the litter sire or dam, that the health examination requirements and restrictions set forth above will be strictly followed by the breeding mate owner(s).
- agrees to utilize clear and concise written contracts to document the sale of every puppy, assures that every contract is signed by breeder and buyer, and that the contract language states that the buyer must obtain a valid Boykin Spaniel Society Certificate of Registration for his/her puppy. In cases where they are the provider of stud dog services, they will make certain that the dam owner adheres to the preceding sentence.
- agrees to record all Boykin spaniel litters he/she produces, the puppies and their purchasers, and retain all records for a minimum of five (5) years after the date of whelping
- agrees to record the Boykin spaniel litters and number of puppies in each litter if they are the owner of the sire but not the dam
- consents to be audited or inspected by one or more Director(s) of the Society at any time, for any reason.

For all DNA testing requirements, "Clear-By-Parentage" may be recognized in lieu of testing only if both parents of that dog were (a) DNA tested by an OFA-recognized genetics testing laboratory for that particular trait, (b) both parent dogs were determined to be Clear for that trait, and (c) the original DNA analysis documentation is provided with the Preferred Breeder Program application.

Gold Level

The Gold Level Preferred Breeder Program member must meet more rigorous requirements than those which are established for the Silver Level. In addition to all of the Silver Level requirements listed on the previous page, the Gold Level Preferred Breeder Program member:

- must have a historical record of breeding Boykin spaniels for a minimum of 5 years, have been registering their litters with the Boykin Spaniel Society, and have not had any documented Code of Ethics violations during the 5 years preceding the date of application for Gold Level Preferred Breeder Program membership.
- must consent to allowing customers and potential customers to visit their kennels (that portion of their property where breeding dogs and puppy litters are regularly kept).
- must own at least one breeding dog, or must have produced a direct offspring from a breeding of his/her breeding dog(s), who earned a title in a field trial or hunt test of a performance program recognized by the Society.

How to Apply

Applicants must print out and then complete the following two-page application. Check each box to confirm your understanding and agreement, provide all the required attachments, and mail full packets to:

Boykin Spaniel Society, ATTN: Registry Committee, PO Box 2047, Camden, SC 29020

Boykin Spaniel Society® Preferred Breeder Program Application

Applicant Name

_____

Mailing Address

_____

_____

Telephone Number(s)

_____

Email address

_____

Office Use Only

☐ Regular Member
Expires _____

☐ Sponsor Member
Expires _____

☐ Life Member

☐ Member Information File checked

☐ Office needs to be contacted

This application is for: ☐ Silver Level ☐ Gold Level

Please mark your preference/choice

This is a 2 page document

All Applicants Complete this Section

☐ In **every** breeding in which I participate as owner of the sire or the dam or both, I hereby attest that **both** breeding mates shall first have been DNA tested by an OFA-recognized genetics testing laboratory for Exercise Induced Collapse, for Degenerative Myelopathy, and for Collie Eye Anomaly. If one of the mating pair is not documented as Clear for any one of those three particular traits, the other dog shall be documented as Clear for that same particular trait.[1] [2]

☐ In **every** breeding in which I participate as owner of the sire or the dam or both, I hereby attest that **both** breeding mates shall first have been classified by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) as Fair or better for hip joint structure (hip dysplasia appraisal.)[3]

☐ In **every** breeding in which I participate as owner of the sire or the dam or both, I hereby attest that **both** breeding mates shall first have been OFA-certified as Normal for inheritable cardiac disease, inheritable patellar luxation, and inheritable eye disease. In lieu of OFA certification, I will fulfill the above cardiac, patellar luxation and eye requirements by attaching to this Preferred Breeder Program application the same appropriate original documentation prepared by veterinarians as would be required by the OFA in order to obtain an OFA clearance certificate for that dog. ***EXCEPTION:*** *In rare cases such as those where frozen semen of a no-longer-living dog might be used for breeding and these OFA certifications were not obtained while the dog was living, the approved Preferred Breeder Program member* ***shall first*** *obtain a requirement waiver from the Boykin Spaniel Society before proceeding with the breeding, and then* ***shall*** *provide full written disclosure of the unique circumstances to the dam owner and to puppy purchasers.*[4] [5]

☐ In **every** breeding in which I participate as owner of the sire or the dam or both, I hereby attest that clear and concise written contracts of sale shall be utilized to document the transfer of every puppy, that every contract is signed by breeder and buyer, and that the contract language states that the buyer must obtain a valid Boykin Spaniel Society Certificate of Registration.[6]

☐ I agree that if I am the owner of the dam, I will record (a) all Boykin spaniel litters which I produce, (b) the puppies, and (c) the purchasers of those puppies. I will retain those records for a minimum of five (5) years after the date of whelping.[7]

☐ I agree that if I am the owner of the sire, I will record (a) all Boykin spaniel litters which I co-produce, and (b) the number of puppies produced in each of those litters. I will retain those records for a minimum of five (5) years after the date of whelping.[8]

☐ I understand that for all DNA testing requirements, "Clear-By-Parentage" may be recognized in lieu of testing only if both parents of that dog were (a) DNA tested by an OFA-recognized genetics testing laboratory for that particular trait, (b) both parent dogs were determined to be Clear for that trait, and (c) the original DNA analysis documentation is provided with the Preferred Breeder Program application.

☐ I consent to be audited or inspected by one or more Society Director(s) at any time, for any reason.[9]

Silver Level applicants proceed to ***All Applicants Complete this Section*** *on the following page*

Gold Level applicants complete the next two sections

Gold Level Application

☐ I hereby attest that I have a historical record of breeding Boykin spaniels for a minimum of 5 years, registering their litters with the Society, and have no documented Code of Ethics violations during that time. I understand that this does not mean that my 5 years must be consecutive years, nor does it necessarily mean breeding in the most-previous 5 years.[10]

☐ I hereby attest that at least one of the breeding dogs registered in my name with the Society, or that a Society-registered direct offspring from one of my breedings, has earned a title in a field trial or hunt test of a performance program recognized by the Society.[11]

☐ I will allow customers and potential customers to visit my kennels (that portion of my property where breeding dogs and puppy litters are regularly kept), and I will actively encourage them to do so.[12]

All Applicants Complete this Section

☐ I hereby acknowledge and affirm that sire and dam pre-breeding health examination requirements and restrictions defined elsewhere in this application are equally applicable to me in all Boykin spaniel breedings in which I actively participate and am not the registered owner of the sire or dam.[13]

☐ I hereby acknowledge that a condition of my Society membership-in-good-standing is my agreement to adhere to the standards of conduct mandated by the Society's Constitution, By-Laws and Code of Ethics; and that the Board of Directors retains the authority and the discretion to suspend or remove any breeder from the Preferred Breeders Program upon the filing of a complaint or a finding of a violation of the Society's Code of Ethics.[14]

☐ I hereby acknowledge that Board of Directors may, at its discretion, amend the Preferred Breeders Program at any time. The Board may also, at its sole discretion, issue policy waivers on a deliberated case-by-case basis.[15] [16]

☐ I understand that if I am accepted into the Preferred Breeders Program, that re-application is required every two years, but that I may submit an application for a change in level at any time.[17]

☐ If I am accepted into the Preferred Breeders Program, I agree to the publication and any other release of my identity in The Boykin Spaniel Society Magazine, as content of the Society's websites or social media sites, or through all manner of communication by Society employees and/or Directors to prospective buyers of puppies.[18]

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Attachment Checklist

☐ Attachment 1 Dog Information

☐ Gold Level applicants: A written statement which describes how you meet the "five year past history" requirement. Include the registration number of the sire or dam, and the year(s) In which the breeding occurred.

☐ Any/all required supplements to Attachment 1 info

☐ Gold Level applicants: Photocopy of the performance title certificate meeting the requirement (only provide one) and mark on the photocopy a complete description of this dog's relationship to your breeding program

Attachment 1 Dog Information		
Name on Registration		
Registration Number		
Male or Female?		
OFA Hips cert. number*		
OFA Eyes cert. number**		
OFA Heart cert. number***		
OFA Patella cert. number***		
OFA DNA – EIC cert. number		
OFA DNA – CEA cert. number		
OFA DNA – DM cert. number		
Name on Registration		
Registration Number		
Male or Female?		
OFA Hips cert. number*		
OFA Eyes cert. number**		
OFA Heart cert. number***		
OFA Patella cert. number***		
OFA DNA – EIC cert. number		
OFA DNA – CEA cert. number		
OFA DNA – DM cert. number		

Use this sheet to list all of the dogs registered in your name which might be used by you for breeding. *Complete additional copies if necessary*. You may add more dogs to your record at any time by re-submitting this form with the relevant information pertaining to that dog or those dogs only.

* Alternatives to OFA's hip classification process are not acceptable, even if OFA assigns a number.

** If an OFA eye certification does not exist for this dog, you **must** attach the same original certification paper completed by the DACVO ophthalmologist at the time of the examination. Although the position of ACVO is that eye examination reports are only valid for one year, and repeated exams will better assure that inheritable eye diseases do not exist, your failure to have current eye examinations will not automatically disqualify you.

*** In lieu of OFA certification numbers, you may attach the relevant OFA certification form(s) with the original signature of the examining veterinarian (no copies) and his/her contact information.

REGARDING DNA ANALYSIS FOR DISEASE: If you do not have OFA certificates for any of these three items, you **must** attach a certificate of authenticity from the DNA testing laboratory **and** have given the testing lab your permission to discuss your dog's test results with us. We **will** contact the lab to verify.

Explanation of endnotes (footnotes) appearing in the Application

[1] Here, and throughout this entire application, "breeding in which I participate" means **all** breedings of Boykin spaniels, without regard to whether or not the breeding is successful and/or whether or not the produced litter is registered with the Society.

[2] The most up-to-date listing for "OFA-recognized genetics testing laboratory" may be found at the OFA website, www.ofa.org Both dogs must have certified DNA analyses for these inheritable diseases. If one dog is found to be a Carrier or Affected/At-Risk for EIC, the other dog must be Clear for EIC. Likewise, if one dog is found to be a Carrier or Affected/At-Risk for CEA or DM, the other dog must be Clear for CEA or DM as appropriate.

[3] You agree to only act as a party to a Boykin spaniel breeding where **both** the sire and the dam have been appraised by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) as having Fair, Good, or Excellent hip joint structures, and have the certification credentials ("OFA numbers") to give evidence of compliance with this requirement. Both dogs must have OFA certification before breeding. "Preliminary" OFA assessments are not considered to meet this requirement. Because OFA will not fully certify hip joint quality prior to any dog being at least 24 months of age, this stipulation indirectly causes the requirement that a Preferred Breeder Program member will not participate in any breeding of juvenile (under 2 years old) Boykin spaniels.

[4] You do not need to include original veterinary certifications for cardiac, patellar luxation and/or eyes if OFA has issued certificates for your dog(s). Instead, just provide the OFA certificate number in the appropriate place on Attachment 1.

[5] The exception clause was added after the initial inception of the Preferred Breeder Program in order to address the unique circumstance of using frozen semen collected from stud dogs before the inception of this program, and the dog cannot now be physically examined. There may be other similar unique circumstances. **Whenever possible**, PBP members who are faced with this dilemma must petition the Board for a waiver of the OFA requirements here before proceeding with such a breeding.

[6] It is a requirement that Preferred Breeder Program members utilize Contracts of Sale to document the transfer of all puppies when they own the litter (meaning, that they are the owner of the dam.) If you owned the stud but are not the litter owner, it's your responsibility to make certain that person utilizes a Contract of Sale. Even a puppy transfer contract of sale is a legally-binding document, and we strongly urge you to engage the help of a legal professional to create your own. They do not need to be complicated.

[7] This does not have to be complicated, just permanent. And what's required should be self-explanatory.

[8] This does not have to be complicated, just permanent. And what's required should be self-explanatory.

[9] Unless there are extenuating circumstances, you will be given at least 24 hours notice prior to any inspection. Any failure to allow inspection will be grounds for your removal from this program.

[10] For example, if the date of your application is 11/1/17, the Boykin Spaniel Society® must be able to look up litter registration records prior to 11/1/12 and discover that you were recorded as the owner of the sire or dam for a registered litter.

[11] Please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions section of the Preferred Breeder Program document for information regarding acceptable "title" requirements. The purpose of this requirement is to provide evidence that your dog(s) perform(s) sufficient talent and ability to fulfill their heritage of companionable gundog.

[12] This should be self-explanatory: you must allow access to your premises by any prospective buyers. A Preferred Breeder Program member should have no reason to be concerned about this.

[13] Philosophically, all Boykin Spaniel Society Preferred Breeder Program members need to be fully committed to the constitutional objective of "protect and advance the interest of the breed by encouraging responsible breeding practices". Choosing breeding mates based on the health disposition of both dogs is being responsible, and everyone in this Program is positioned to influence the behavior of those dog owners who are not themselves in the Program but actively engage you in their breeding mate choices. Just because you are not the registered owner of the sire or dam doesn't override the obligation you would have if you are the registered owner.

[14] The Board will follow the same procedures described in the Code of Ethics and the Constitution and Bylaws for investigating allegations of wrong-doing, etc.

[15] Any changes to the Preferred Breeder Program are not expected to affect any members who are enrolled in the program at the time changes are implemented. Program members might not be directly notified of changes. When and if changes are made, notices will appear on the www.boykinspaniel.org website.

[16] The Board of Directors reserves the discretionary rights to, after thoughtful deliberation, approve or disapprove PBP membership applications and/or policy waivers.

[17] You may request either being upgraded from Silver Level to Gold Level, or downgraded from Gold Level to Silver Level, one time only during your 104 week (2 year) enrollment period.

[18] We will publish your name, city/town, state, and phone number. You will be contacted by a committee member to confirm your contact information prior to publication. At that time, you will be asked if you wish to have a business name included in your listing.

We have prepared a listing of "Frequently Asked Questions" and that document begins on the following page. If you have other questions, please contact the Society office via email at boykinss@boykinspaniels.org and mention "PBP Question" in the email subject line.

Preferred Breeder Program FAQs ("Frequently Asked Questions")

Is PennHIP acceptable in lieu of OFA hip certification?

We recognize that there are protocol differences between OFA and the PennHIP type of evaluation. Some breeders have a preference for PennHIP, and some breeders go so far as to have both evaluations performed. There are also some dog breeders (not just breeders of Boykin spaniels) who resort to obtaining PennHIP evaluations after the dog's hips were judged to be Borderline or worse by the OFA veterinary panel. We looked to the Boykin Spaniel Foundation's program with regards to hips, and also considered that the greatest number of our members rely on the OFA as their preferred hip validation procedure. In the end, we settled on limiting the hip classification requirements to OFA, Fair or better; we feel it "levels the playing field" for all.

Is there any way I might be able to get into this program without meeting the full 100% of the minimum requirements?

Yes, there is that possibility, but it is extremely small. Your application would have to include a convincing written appeal for a waiver, and you'll have to accept that the review by the committee and the Board will delay the approval process. In some cases, particularly those related to health/inherited disease screenings, the Boykin Spaniel Foundation Board of Directors might be asked to consult as well.

I've bred Boykin spaniels in the past, but I wasn't doing all of the things listed as requirements. Does this disqualify or limit me?

The short answer is no it does not, not at this time, except for the breeding history requirement for Gold Level. Obviously it's to your advantage when you can give evidence to prospective puppy buyers that you have been complying *before* the Preferred Breeder Program came along. However, if you have not been, the approval process is highly unlikely to disqualify you for that reason alone.

Does being a listed Preferred Breeder Program member mean that the Society certifies, recommends or endorses the individual?

No, it does not. We are the official Registry of the Boykin spaniel and will not recommend breeders or maintain an approved breeder list. "Preferred" does not mean "approved". We expect all parties involved in the purchase and sale of puppies to act responsibly, and we assume no liability or responsibility for any disputes that may arise between purchaser and seller.

Can I apply for this program if I have not yet been a Boykin spaniel breeder?

Yes, so long as you realize that you might be contacted by potential buyers of purebred Boykin spaniel puppies and they are likely to have questions about your history as a breeder. You should be prepared to explain to them why you enrolled in the program.

If I am approved to be in this program, how much of my personal information will be published?

We will publish your name, telephone number, city or town, and state of residence.

What is meant by "earned a title in a field trial … of a performance program recognized by the Society"? Does a completion qualify?

Only a placement of first, second, third or fourth would qualify as a field trial title.

Does a first, second, third or fourth place finish in the Puppy stake of the Boykin Spaniel Retriever National Field Trial qualify as a "title"?

Two of the objectives stated in our constitution are (1) "to advance the interest of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition", and (2) "to do all possible to perpetuate natural hunting ability." In the member Code of Ethics, we find "It is the paramount responsibility of all BSS members to perfect through selection, breeding and training the type of dog most suitable in all respects for work as a companionable gundog". When considering the requirements and level of competition in the Puppy stake these days, and what participation alone means with respect to *sportsmanlike competition*, then yes, we believe that a placement in the Puppy stake meets the general intention of this Gold Level clause.

What about hunt test titles, would that same philosophy about Puppy stake in field trials apply for the beginner level of the popular hunt test events?

Yes, the philosophy is the same. If the title is earned in a retriever test program, regardless of the sponsoring organization, the dog is expected to exhibit desire, trainability, marking ability, and retrieving. The fundamental expectations of a dog you'd take dove hunting. They have to swim and retrieve, too. If the title is earned in a flushing dog series, they have to do those things plus hunt birds in the field. Should all Boykin spaniels be able to do those things, yes; can all Boykin spaniels do them, no.

What are the hunting "performance programs recognized by the Society"?

In addition to the Society's field trials and hunt tests, the approval groups will recognize the popular Hunting Retriever Club (HRC) programs, American Kennel Club hunt test programs, and the North American Hunting Retriever Association hunt test programs. Other programs will be given due consideration, provided the committee is provided with sufficient evaluation information with the application.

My Boykin spaniel breeding and puppy sales are done under my business (kennel) name, that's what I'm known by and identified with. Will the Preferred Breeder Program publicity use my kennel name, my own name, or both?

If you are approved, you will be contacted by a member of the Registry Committee and they will ask you whether you want your kennel name listed in addition to your name; they'll also confirm the telephone number you wish to have published.

My question is about the DNA testing. I understand the underlying principles and I also understand that with each of those three diseases you've listed – EIC, CEA and DM – that a dog would need to inherit a bad gene from the sire and the same bad gene from the dam. If one of the two dogs is Clear (no bad genes found in his or her DNA), why would I have to test the other dog's DNA, since the worst case for an offspring is that it would be an unaffected Carrier?

Simply put, because knowing all you can about both dogs' health is being responsible and ethical, and preferred.

Is this going to mean that a Preferred Breeder Program member can only breed his/her dog(s) with the dog(s) of another Preferred Breeder Program member while enrolled in this program?

No, certainly not. There will be a lot of Society members who don't want to be in this program even though their registered dog(s) fulfill all of the requirements.

What if I get approved for this program but find myself with the opportunity to breed my dog with a dog who doesn't meet the strict program requirements for physical soundness (must have OFA Normal cardiac, eyes, and patellas, and OFA Fair or better hips)?

If that is a temptation that you're already thinking might be too great, then this program probably isn't for you: simply don't apply. If you were to find yourself faced with this choice after you've been enrolled in the Preferred Breeder Program and truly feel you need to do the breeding, contact the Society office with a written request to remove yourself. This is a voluntary program, meant for those members who breed or may breed and who feel the strict requirements have a high worth with regards to protecting and advancing the interest of the Boykin spaniel breed.

If you were to proceed with <u>any kind</u> of active participation in a breeding match that you pledged against doing, and you are enrolled in the program when that breeding happens, that is deliberately undermining the intention of the program and you will put the Board of Directors and its Registry Committee members in the unwanted position of reconsidering your enrollment in the program. Even if you do not own the dog(s), if you've had any kind of a say-so, the standards still apply to you.

If I am enrolled in this program and I've got the opportunity to breed my dog with one who is not Society-registered but otherwise meets 100% of the physical requirements, would doing that breeding be a problem?

Yes it would, because the litter produced would never be eligible for our registration. When you enrolled, you pledged that for every breeding in which your dog(s) is/are used, that all puppy ownership transfers would only be done with written contracts which state that the new owner must register the puppy with the BSS. Over in the Code of Ethics document, you'll find that misleading anyone about the registration status of any dog is not condoned. So if you are the litter owner (dam owner), you'd find yourself telling buyers they must do something you know will be impossible.

Does what you've just given as an answer mean that if I enroll in the Preferred Breeder Program, then my sire or dam cannot produce a litter that's registerable with another, different dog registry?

No, it means that 100% of the litters in which a dog owned by you participated in producing must be BSS registered; and, that you will advance (promote) our Registry as the principal and official registry of the Boykin spaniel by telling all puppy buyers that a condition of transfer (buying) is registering their puppy with the BSS. If they don't do what you've stipulated, and whether or not you're going to enforce the condition, is solely between you and them.

What if I have what I consider to be a very good breeding opportunity but for some very unique and special reason, I would put my good standing in jeopardy and I don't want to remove myself or be removed from the Preferred Breeder Program?

When this Program was implemented after many years of development, the Board of Directors tried to anticipate a lot of "what if" situations and addressed them as best as possible, but surely could not anticipate all of the possibilities. One real and valid example: a highly-desirable stud dog with a long lineage of exceptional offspring was never evaluated for patellar luxation during his lifetime. The owner collected and froze semen to potentially be used in future breedings but now the lack of OFA patellar certification is a problem.

The Board determined that in the event of such unique circumstances, the Program member should file a written consideration request so that the Board can evaluate each such request on a case-by-case basis, fairly weigh the merits of the appeal, and then provide a written waiver that may or may not include particular stipulations. When submitting, please be as proactive as you possibly can. In the example case, the Board determined that the Program member must clearly disclose the circumstances in writing and provide copies of that document to the puppy purchasers and dam owner (if they do not own the dam themselves).

If I voluntarily remove myself from the Preferred Breeder Program, but want to get back in later, how would I do that?

Your enrollment in the program begins on the day you are approved, and lapses exactly 104 weeks (two years) later. If you remove yourself during those 104 weeks, you can reapply at any time, but your readmission isn't automatic; if you are approved for re-enrollment, it will take effect on the originally-scheduled anniversary date. (Example: Your approval date is 1/1/18 and you voluntarily withdraw on 10/1/18; the soonest date for reinstatement is 1/1/20.)

If the Board revokes my enrollment in the Preferred Breeder Program, can I reapply for admission at a later time?

In the event that the Board of Directors finds that a removal from this program is warranted, it has the discretionary right to potentially reinstate members into the program in the future, upon their re-application for admission. This will be described in writing at the time of the member's removal from the program.

How do you intend to handle complaints or suspicions that I've violated my pledge and your trust, should those ever occur?

For the most part, these matters will be handled in the same manner as an Ethics code violation, and we refer you to that document for information. There is one possibly large difference: most usually, an Ethics code violation investigation isn't started until a written complaint by a first-hand aggrieved party is submitted to the Board, but in the case of a Preferred Breeder Program member violation, the most likely cause will be what's shown on a litter registration application.