

# 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 via publication in The Boykin Spaniel Society Magazine, 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.

The option to advertise available litters of puppies for sale on [www.boykinspaniel.org](http://www.boykinspaniel.org) is a benefit which is only available to Society members who are enrolled in the Preferred Breeders Program.

*\* 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 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 three-page application. Check each box to confirm your understanding and agreement, provide all the required attachments, **sign IN INK**, and mail full packets to:

**Boykin Spaniel Society, ATTN: Registry Committee, PO Box 70, Rembert, SC 29128**

# 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.<sup>1 2</sup>
- 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).<sup>3</sup>
- 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.*<sup>4 5</sup>
- 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.<sup>6</sup>
- 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.<sup>7</sup>
- 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.<sup>8</sup>
- 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.<sup>9</sup>

***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.<sup>10</sup>
- 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.<sup>11</sup>
- 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.<sup>12</sup>

### 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.<sup>13</sup>
- 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.<sup>14</sup>
- 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.<sup>15 16</sup>
- 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.<sup>17</sup>
- 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.<sup>18</sup>

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Attachment Checklist

- Attachment 1 Dog Information
- Any/all required supplements to Attachment 1 info
- 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.
- 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

*When your name and contact information is published, what phone number(s) should be shown?*

\_\_\_\_\_

*What email address should be shown? (only one, please)*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Do you want a kennel/business name included? If so, what is it?*

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## Explanation of endnotes (footnotes) appearing in the Application

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> The most up-to-date listing for "OFA-recognized genetics testing laboratory" may be found at the OFA website, [www.ofa.org](http://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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> This does not have to be complicated, just permanent. And what's required should be self-explanatory.

<sup>8</sup> This does not have to be complicated, just permanent. And what's required should be self-explanatory.

<sup>9</sup> 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.



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<sup>10</sup> 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.

<sup>11</sup> 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.

<sup>12</sup> 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.

<sup>13</sup> 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.

<sup>14</sup> 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.

<sup>15</sup> 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](http://www.boykinspaniel.org) website.

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

<sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>18</sup> 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](mailto:boykinss@boykinspaniels.org) and mention "PBP Question" in the email subject line.*