

Evergreen Golden Retriever Club

Breeders List Guidelines

Revised February 2024

I. Breeders List Description

The Evergreen Golden Retriever Club (EGRC) is part of the nationwide breeder referral network of the Golden Retriever Club of America (GRCA). The EGRC Breeders List is an online resource for Club members and the general public to locate reputable Golden Retriever hobby breeders in the Pacific Northwest. It is also an aid to EGRC member breeders in marketing their puppies to buyers exposed to the educational materials offered on the EGRC and GRCA websites.

The Breeders List is composed of two parts: 1) List of EGRC Member Breeders, and 2) Current Litters. After their application is approved, breeders will be added to the List of Breeders, and if their application included a litter listing, the litter will be added to the Current Litters section.

II. Guidelines Mission Statement

These Guidelines are designed to provide EGRC breeders with a clear and concise description of the requirements for participating in EGRC's Breeders List on the Club website (www.egrc.org). EGRC's goal with these guidelines is to ensure that the health and welfare of the Golden Retriever breed and the breeding programs of EGRC members are of the highest possible standard. It is a privilege to represent the Golden Retriever breed, EGRC, and one's own kennel on this website.

III. Breeders List Administrator

The Breeders List Administrator is responsible for:

A. Receiving requests from EGRC breeders to be added to the Breeders List.

- B. Verifying information on the breeder's application:
 - 1. Membership requirements (IV.A&B)
 - 2. Club Service (IV.C)
 - 3. Signature agreeing to abide by the EGRC Code of Ethics and other Breeders List requirements (IV.D&E)
 - 4. Litter sire and dam ages and clearances (V.B&C)
- C. Forwarding payments to the Treasurer for approved applications, and returning payments for any applications not meeting these requirements.
- D. Promptly providing the Webmaster with updated information.
- E. Promptly responding to phone and email questions from EGRC members and the general public, who often have questions about the Breeders List or the process.
- F. Promptly informing the EGRC Board of Directors of any breaches of these guidelines, or complaints received about breeders.

IV. Breeder Qualifications

- A. MEMBERSHIP: Only EGRC Members in good standing are eligible to be included in EGRC's Breeders List.
- B. WAITING PERIOD: There is a one (1) year waiting period for all new members. Upon completing their first year of Club membership, the EGRC member/breeder may apply for listing on the Breeders List.
- C. CLUB SERVICE: Breeders must provide service to the Club in the year prior to applying for listing on the EGRC Breeders List. They may choose one (1) or more of the positions in item #1 below, OR work in at least two (2) of the capacities listed in item #2 below:

1. One (1) of the following:
 - a. EGRC Board of Directors
 - b. Newsletter Editor
 - c. Webmaster
 - d. Breeders List Administrator
 - e. Club Columnist for the *Golden Retriever News*
 - f. Public Education Booth Chair
 - g. Membership Chair
 - h. Meeting Hospitality Chair
 - i. Meeting Program Chair
 - j. Awards Chair
 - k. Judges Selection Committee Chair
 - l. All EGRC event chairs
 - m. Chairs of the Specialty Committees

OR

2. At least two (2) of the following:
 - a. Property Chair, Sunshine Chair, Historian, GRCA Delegate.
 - b. Chair or member of the Nominating Committee, Budget Committee or Donations Committee.
 - c. Member of the Judges Selection Committee.
 - d. Member of an EGRC event committee other than the Specialty.
 - e. Working at an EGRC event.

NOTE: Merely attending a meeting or event, or entering a dog event, does not constitute service to the Club.

- D. **CODE OF ETHICS:** Breeders must agree on their application to adhere to the EGRC Code of Ethics (www.egrc.org). Failure to adhere to the EGRC Code of Ethics will result in removal from the Breeders List.
- E. **PUBLIC EDUCATION:** In addition to providing Club Service, all breeders are expected to promptly respond to inquiries from the public, even if they don't currently have puppies available, to help educate any prospective buyer

about all aspects of the breed (i.e., health, behavior, training, breed standard, breeding issues, etc.).

V. Listing Requirements

- A. **FEE:** An annual fee of \$30 is required to be included on the Breeders List. Payment must be enclosed with the completed application form.
- B. **AGE:** Both the sire and the dam must be at least two (2) years of age at the time of the breeding.
- C. **CLEARANCES:** All health clearances (hips, elbows, eyes, and heart), with evaluations by appropriate specialists as listed below, **MUST** be posted on the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) website (www.offa.org) for both the sire and dam. This will enable potential puppy buyers to review the clearances online. Evaluations by general practitioners are **NOT** sufficient. **NOTE:** Elbow clearances are required only for dogs born during the year 2000 or after.
 - 1. **Hips and Elbows** - The sire and dam must have x-rays of the hips and elbows done at two (2) years of age or older and the films submitted to OFA for evaluation by their panel of three Board Certified Veterinary Radiologists. OFA will provide OFA registration numbers and post them on their website for dogs with hip x-rays receiving a rating of Fair, Good, or Excellent; and elbows evaluated as Normal.
 - 2. **Eyes** - Eye examinations must be performed annually by a Board Certified Veterinary Ophthalmologist. The sire and dam must be found to be free from significant hereditary eye disease and the results registered with the Canine Eye Registration Foundation (CERF) to receive a CERF registration number. (www.vmdb.org/cerf.html) CERF will forward this data to OFA for posting on their website.
 - 3. **Hearts** - Cardiac examinations must be performed no earlier than one (1) year of age by a Board Certified Veterinary Cardiologist. The sire and dam must be found to be free from signs of hereditary heart disease and the results registered with OFA and posted on their website.

4. Foreign Countries - Dogs and bitches from a foreign country must provide hip, elbow, eye, and heart clearances appropriate for their country of residence.
- D. SALES CONTRACT: All EGRC breeders must provide their buyers with a written sales contract describing the terms and conditions, and any guarantees offered. Breeders should have buyers sign the contract before release of the puppy. Breeders are to keep the original and sign a copy for the buyer. EGRC will provide breeders with sample contracts upon request.
 - E. SPAY/NEUTER CLAUSE: Sales contracts must include a Spay/Neuter clause for puppies not intended for breeding. The age for spaying and neutering should be determined by the breeder and be clearly stated in the contract. Breeders should discuss this with potential buyers well in advance of purchase.
 - F. LIMITED REGISTRATION: Puppies not intended for breeding should be sold on AKC Limited Registration.

VI. Procedures and Policies

- A. APPLICATION: Breeders meeting all the qualifications above may apply for listing on the Breeders List at any time during the year. They must complete the approved application form, include all information requested, and mail to the Breeders List Administrator with a check for the \$30 listing fee. Copies of the application form are available on the EGRC website in the Members Only section.
- B. LISTING A LITTER: Once the application is approved by the Administrator and pregnancy of the bitch is confirmed, the specific litter will be posted in the Current Litters section of the Breeders List. The litter will be listed for 3 months and then automatically removed, unless the breeder requests an extension from the Administrator. The breeder must notify the Administrator when the puppies are whelped and when all puppies are sold.
- C. UPDATES:

1. The Administrator will review new applications and submit them to the Webmaster as quickly as possible. The Webmaster will post them on the website in 3-5 days. It could conceivably take a total of 10 days for a request to appear on the website.
 2. When all their puppies are sold, breeders should notify the Breeders List Administrator as soon as possible, by voicemail or email, so the website can be updated.
- D. RENEWALS: The Listing Year is from January 1 to December 31. Renewals will begin on January 1 for the coming year. Breeders will need to pay the \$30 annual fee and submit a new application.
- E. RESPONSE TIME: For quality control, EGRC may send emails to monitor Breeder response times. To facilitate quick email responses, EGRC recommends initial generic responses stating general information, such as price, and availability, expectations or requirements of the breeder, etc. EGRC will provide sample email responses upon request.
- F. REMOVAL:
1. The EGRC Board of Directors reserves the right to immediately remove any breeder from the Breeders List if it is determined that the breeder is not in compliance with these Guidelines, or while the Board investigates any complaints against the breeder.
 2. Breeders will be notified by email, phone, and/or certified mail of their removal for non-compliance, or regarding any issue, complaint, or other situation that needs to be addressed.
 3. Any breeder meeting the requirements, but found to be selling ineligible litters via contacts from the Breeders List, or referring inquiries on to someone else's ineligible litter, will be immediately removed from the Breeders List.

G. REINSTATEMENT: Reinstatement to the Breeders List requires EGRC Board approval. Before applying for reinstatement, breeders must submit a copy of their contract, meet all requirements in Section V, parts B through F, and have resolved any complaints or other issues. Reinstatements occurring after January 1st will require payment of the new year \$30 listing fee.