

# Irish Wolfhound Club of America

## Breeder Directory FAQ

The IWCA Board of Directors has re-launched the Breeder Directory to assist participating IWCA breeder members in connecting with those seeking to acquire thoughtfully bred hounds.

It is not the intention of the Board of Directors or the Breeder Directory Committee to tell breeders how they should run their breeding programs, what contracts they use to sell their puppies, or how much to charge. We do however, request Breeder Directory participants remember that they were once searching for their first Irish Wolfhound knowing little or nothing about the breed other than they had seen one and hoped to bring one of these marvelous creatures into their life. We ask that when your patience is tried by yet another email asking, “how much are your puppies?”, you are kind, courteous and helpful.

Eligibility for inclusion on the Breeder Directory includes:

- Have been a member of the IWCA for at least 3 years prior to submitting the application
- Be a member in good standing with the Irish Wolfhound Club of America
- Only breed Irish Wolfhounds with Irish Wolfhounds that are registered with the National registry in the country of birth
- Complete the on-line application form located in the Members section of the IWCA web page
- All litters must be registered with the National registry in the country of birth
- Never breed an Irish Wolfhound to any other breed or mixed breed dog
- Agree to abide by the IWCA's *Standard of Behavior for Breeders*

The Directory will consist of two parts, the Breeder List on the IWCA web page (“Web Listing”) and a Database.

The Web Listing will appear as it currently does on the IWCA Breeder Directory web page with participants listed alphabetically by state. At a minimum, the breeder's name and kennel name will appear on the Web Listing. Participants may choose to have all or some of the following information appear on the web page: email address, phone number, and links to your social media presence (URL to your web site, Facebook page, or Instagram).

The Database provides breeders the opportunity to announce planned breedings, puppies, young adults, or adult hounds available for placement. The information contained in the Database will not appear on the website, it *will* be visible to other Breeder Directory participants.

Information contained in the Database for each breeder may include:

- Planned breedings (estimated breeding date)
- Litter date of birth
- Dam/sire names and their registration numbers (AKC, CKC, etc.)
- Health testing done pre-breeding (if applicable)
- Puppies available (gender and number)
- Young adult dogs available for placement
- Mature dogs available for placement (rehome, not rescue)

Other information found in the Database will include:

- Willingness to respond to “information only” inquiries
- Preferred contact method (email, phone call, etc.)
- Willingness to do home checks in their area
- Willing to assist in transporting hound to new homes

A Single Point of Contact (“SPC”) email address, [breeder.directory@iwclubofamerica.org](mailto:breeder.directory@iwclubofamerica.org) has been created. Inquirers seeking more detailed information than what appears on the Web Listing will be directed to send an email to the SPC.

When an email is sent to the SPC the names and preferred contact method for every breeder who meets the inquirer’s specific criteria will be sent by a member of the Breeder Directory Committee within 72 hours of receipt.

Directory Participants are responsible for keeping all their information updated!

Benefits of being on the Breeder Directory include:

- Doing your part to preserve the breed
- Helping provide a strong web presence of people who thoughtfully breed Irish Wolfhounds
- Access to puppy buyers
- Creating a “home check” network of potential new homes
- Possibility of creating a transportation network
- Opportunity to re-home older hounds

On an annual basis and done as part of IWCA Member Renewal, Breeder Directory participants will be required to reaffirm their commitment to abide by the *Standard of Behavior for Breeders*. Re-affirmation requires you to either check a box (if renewing online) or to submit a signed copy of the *Standard of Behavior for Breeders* (if renewing via mail). Failure to reaffirm will cause you to be removed as a Breeder Directory participant and require re-application.

For more information, please refer to the Policy for IWCA Breeder Directory.

To apply, complete the on-line application found under the “My Account” tab on the IWCA Members page.

Questions? Contact us at [breeder.directory@iwclubofamerica.org](mailto:breeder.directory@iwclubofamerica.org)

# ***Irish Wolfhound Club of America, Inc.***



## **Standard of Behavior for Breeders**

**The purpose of breeding Irish Wolfhounds is to bring the Breed Standard to life. In order to do this, one should:**

1. Have a clear understanding of the Breed Standard.
2. Have a basic knowledge of genetics.
3. Know the pedigrees of both dog and bitch - understanding faults and strengths and the genetic defects on both sides.

**In addition, a member who undertakes to breed a bitch or use their hound at stud must:**

1. Only breed to preserve the Irish Wolfhound standard as defined by the Irish Wolfhound Club of America or the standard of the country of the breeder's residence. As far as possible, breed only those animals free from hereditary defects.
2. Breed only those animals that have attained the minimum height and weight as specified by the breed standard of the country of the breeder's residence.
3. Be prepared to provide the proper care for both the bitch and the litter and to retain the puppies for as long as is necessary to find proper homes, even if that means retaining the entire litter for their lives.
4. To take back any animal they have bred for whatever reason for the life of that animal.
5. Never import or export litters of Irish Wolfhounds or sell entire litters, either to a private party or for commercial resale.
6. Never buy or sell bitches in whelp.

The owner of the sire must also be prepared to take responsibility for placement of the puppies, referring prospective purchasers to the bitch owner and helping with screening of homes, if asked. In other words, the owner of the sire should regard those puppies the same as if they owned them themselves.

### **Both bitch and dog owners should**

1. Ascertain that some homes are available prior to the breeding.
2. Have a contract covering placement of puppies, screening of buyers, fee, return service, and any other specifics.
3. Not split the litter in lieu of a stud fee for the primary purpose of resale.

## **In general**

1. One should never breed for personal profit or commercial exploitation of the breed.
2. While it is expected that breeders will retain their most promising puppies or sell them to other serious students or guardians of the breed, breeders should also consider selling a puppy or adult hound on a non-breeding contract or limited registration, and encourage at an appropriate age, the spaying and neutering of all others.
3. Breed only those stud dogs and bitches that are in excellent health, generally between the ages of 24 months and 6 years.
4. Normally breed an individual bitch no more than two out of three consecutive seasons and not produce more than three litters in her lifetime.
5. Breeders will act responsibly towards all puppies produced by their bitch for the lifetime of the puppies.

## **Care and Sale of a Litter**

### **The breeder must**

1. Be prepared to give up 3 months of her/his life to care for the bitch and puppies. The bitch needs supervision and care while in the whelping and nursing phases and the puppies need constant care and socialization from birth until they leave for their new homes at 10-12 weeks.
2. Provide all puppies with proper veterinary care and a clean and safe home environment. The puppies should be parasite-free, have a good diet and the appropriate immunizations, and have tested negative for liver shunt (PSS) before leaving for their new homes. Puppies testing positive for PSS should not be sold.
3. Be prepared to euthanize any puppy that is deformed or irreversibly ill.
4. Determine the quality of each puppy. It is recommended that breeders not use the phrase "show quality" as it is difficult to ascertain whether this is true until the puppy is considerably older.
5. Place only the most promising puppies in homes where the puppies may be bred and then only after the breeder has carefully investigated the new owners' qualifications for becoming future breeders of Irish Wolfhounds. Breeders must exercise the utmost care whenever placing puppies with full registration and without a non-breeding contract.
6. Attempt to determine the desire and ultimate intent of prospective buyers for each Wolfhound. Their interest and ability to provide a safe, adequate and loving home should be determined. The availability of a fenced area for the hound(s) to exercise in is essential.
7. Give the prospective buyer an honest appraisal of cost management, as well as the physical, mental and nutritional needs peculiar to the breed.
8. Provide each new owner at the time of sale the following:
  - a. Feeding instructions.
  - b. A 5-generation pedigree.
  - c. Medical records that include number and type of vaccines, dates of vaccinations, date of deworming's and the negative PSS testing result documentation.
  - d. An IWCA membership application, Regional Club membership application (if appropriate) and a note about why they should become a member
  - e. A copy of Code of Ethical Conduct and this Standard for Conduct.
  - f. A bill of sale.
  - g. A copy of the Breed Standard.
  - h. AKC registration forms specifying Breeding or Non-Breeding registration.

## **General Dos and Don'ts**

1. Should not release a puppy to its new home prior to 10 weeks of age.
2. Breeding arrangements should never be established which would encourage the average buyer to undertake a breeding program.
3. If a breeder does not have the time, facility or desire to manage the mating, whelping and aftercare of a bitch, that bitch should not be passed to another person, just to produce puppies.
4. All new owners should be advised to have their puppies checked by a veterinarian within 48 hours of receiving the puppy.
5. All new owners should be asked to keep the breeder informed about the development of the puppy and should be told to contact the breeder immediately concerning any health problems, physical abnormalities, and/or death of the dog.
6. The breeder should likewise keep in contact with the new owner for the life of the dog.
7. The contract of sale should include a stipulation whereby the breeder will be notified of any plan on the part of the owner to resell or otherwise dispose of the puppy. This stipulation would also require the buyer to either return the dog to the breeder or place it with new owners who have been approved by the breeder.
8. If a puppy is to be co-owned, a contract should be drawn covering all details of the co-ownership and signed by both owners.
9. Puppies under the age of 11 weeks should not be exported or imported.
10. All puppies should be evaluated as sound and in good health at the time of sale.
11. Each breeder should be willing to replace a puppy or to refund all or a portion of the purchase price if the puppy proves to have a structural defect. Such a problem should be confirmed by the breeder and owner's veterinarians. Exact provisions for this should be stated in the contract of sale.

## **Records**

Complete and accurate records shall be maintained as follows:

### **For the sire and dam of the litter**

1. AKC (or country of origin registration, for example CKC or KC) registered names and numbers and date of whelp.
2. A 5-generation pedigree of both parents.
3. Names and addresses of registered owners.
4. Dates of actual breeding.

### **For the litter**

1. Date of whelp and AKC litter number.
2. Number and sex of puppies whelped alive.
3. Number and sex of puppies' dead at birth (While this is not required, this is important for breeder's records).
4. Registered name (if applicable), name, sex and sale date of each puppy.
5. Name and address of owner of each puppy.
6. When possible, follow through on the cause and date of death of any dogs placed.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Policy for IWCA Breeder Directory**

The Directory is provided by the Irish Wolfhound Club of America ("IWCA") as a member privilege created to connect those seeking to own a thoughtfully bred Irish Wolfhound with IWCA members who breed them.

IWCA members who breed are eligible to be listed on the Breeder Directory (the "Directory").

The Directory will consist of two parts:

- an on-line listing on the Breeder Directory page of the IWCA web site
- a listing on the Directory Database ("Database")

The Directory will provide an on-line listing of IWCA Breeders' alphabetically by State.

Using the information provided by the Breeder participants, the Database will be a source for individuals seeking Irish Wolfhounds. Information available may include planned breedings, the availability of puppies, young adult, and adult hounds for placement.

Minimum information required to be listed on the website is the Breeder's name, kennel name, and State of residence. Optional information that may be listed on the Directory includes any combination or all of the following:

- Phone number
- Email Address
- URL or link to their social media accounts

In addition to the website listing, the above information will be kept on the Database. Breeders may also provide the Database with the following information, as applicable:

- Estimated date of planned breeding's
- Registered names and numbers of dam and sire
- Health testing done or to be done related to the breeding
- Sex and number of puppies available for placement (under 6 months of age)
- Age and sex of older hounds available for placement

Breeders are solely responsible for the content and accuracy of their listings.

Members can apply to be included on the Directory at any time.

Eligibility for inclusion on the Breeder Directory:

- Have been a member of the IWCA for at least 3 years prior to submitting the application
- Be a member in good standing with the Irish Wolfhound Club of America
- Only breed Irish Wolfhounds with Irish Wolfhounds that are registered with the National registry in the country of birth
- Submission of the completed on-line Application form. A paper version of the application is also available and should be submitted via email to [breeder.directory@iwclubofamerica.org](mailto:breeder.directory@iwclubofamerica.org) or USPS to the IWCA Secretary.
- All litters must be registered with the National registry in the country of birth

- Never breed an Irish Wolfhound to any other breed or mixed breed dog  
Submission of a signed copy of the *Standard of Behavior for Breeders* via email to [breeder.directory@iwclubofamerica.org](mailto:breeder.directory@iwclubofamerica.org) or USPS to the IWCA Secretary.

To remain on the Directory, a breeder must:

- Annually (along with IWCA membership renewal) attest to the fact they have abided by the terms of the IWCA Standard of Behavior for Breeders and will continue to do so for the following year.
- Only refer through the IWCA's Breeder Directory.
- Respond within 72 hours of receiving an inquiry, unless there are extenuating circumstances.
- Keep Directory information current and updated.

The IWCA Board of Directors reserves the right to remove a Breeder from the Directory should they be found in breach of the requirements and conditions for inclusion on the Directory.

Conditions for being removed from the Directory include, but are not limited to:

- Breeder does not adhere to IWCA Standard of Behavior for Breeders
- Breeder fails to annually attest to their adherence to IWCA Standard of Behavior for Breeders
- Habitually fails to respond to inquiries within 72 hours.
- Fails to uphold the Standard of Ethical Conduct for Members of the IWCA

Complaints about a Breeder must be submitted in writing to the Breeder Directory Committee for review. If the Committee determines that action is required, the complaint may be referred to the IWCA Board of Directors for further review.

The IWCA will not inspect, monitor, or regulate the breeding or business practices of the Breeders listed on the Directory.

The IWCA will not become involved in resolving any legal disputes between Breeders and their "clients".

The IWCA is not party to any contract between the Breeder and purchaser/client.

The IWCA is not endorsing, guaranteeing, or recommending any specific Breeders.

The IWCA is not guaranteeing or accepting responsibility for the health, temperament or any other aspect of the dogs sold by the Breeder participants.