**Masakado Shiba Inu Prospective Home Questionnaire**

Thank you for your interest in my Shibas. I bought my first Shiba Inu in 2007. Since then, I’ve learned of the importance of supporting only reputable breeders, which is how I came across my second Shiba, from Leslie Engen in Redmond, WA (San Jo Shibas). Nearly 11 years later, my subsequent Shibas have all come from Leslie and/or been bred under her mentorship. My Shibas participate in a variety of hobbies, including Agility, Rally, Flyball, Barn Hunt, Truffle Hunting, Obedience, Lure Coursing, dog shows, and therapy work. Of course we also do beach trips, hikes, glamping and being lazy on weekends as well. The dogs have earned multiple titles in multiple sports, and are enthusiastic performers and well spoiled house pets. My love of Japanese dog breeds has only deepened with my later involvement with Kai Ken and Hokkaido, and an epic trip to Japan in 2016 with my good dog friends, with additional importing of new dogs to help in breed preservation efforts. I hope to return again soon!

By the time you have received this application, you should have already done a great deal of research on the breed beyond their physical traits. You should have met several, and spoken to their owners. Ideally, you will have even lived with a Shiba or other related independent spitzy breed, and be familiar with prey drive and off leash training precautions. You should be established in your home and career so that a new puppy will be well cared for and not subjected to instability. Potential housing issues should be prepared for (moving and can’t take your pet? It’s not the time to get one!) Planning how to manage work/home life with a new family member should be discussed with everyone in the home. You should have the ability to be present for your puppy at least every 4 hours during the day while they are young and learning about house training. That means if you work 12 hour shifts, you must have people present in the home to be with your puppy for potty breaks, meals and training, or else reconsider adding a puppy to your life.

I have one female Shiba for breeding (Eva) and she lives as a house pet along with her spayed grandmother, her Uncle Marko, grandpa Ike, and the occasional Hokkaido or group of Shiba friends. Eva has recently completed her AKC championship and health tests for breeding. I view this as a very serious endeavor, one that I am passionate about, and her line is precious to me. My last Shiba litter was 4+ years ago as I keep my dog numbers low for their quality of life. With respect to that, each of my limited number of Shiba Inu puppies is equally precious to me and I heavily screen suitable families for the few puppies I may have available after I make my selection to continue with breed preservation. I will accept a small number of applications for a fall 2019 breeding. Sires of the litters are chosen by Eva’s co-breeder Leslie Engen. An initial application fee of $500 is required to join my waitlist, and covers services rendered as the puppies grow.

As I have generations of health tested Champion dogs behind my own dogs, who are also fully health tested (hip x-rays, patella screens, eye screens, cardiac and thyroid testing), I can offer a promise of health for the life of the dog, within reason, which includes lifetime breeder support. That said, there is no way to guarantee how puppies develop if my instructions for raising them aren’t adhered to. In general, I expect my litters to become good healthy companions like their parents and grandparents. There will be a lot of breeder support no matter what happens, and I have a strong interest in finding great dedicated homes who want to keep in contact.

Puppies usually go home at 8 weeks, will have AKC registration and pedigree, microchip, 1st vaccines, de-worming, basic crate and house training, and will have been well socialized to other dogs, children, and people by that time. Puppies are sold with a contract for the remaining price of $2500 USD, which reflects dog show costs, registrations, training, health testing and maintenance expenses. I do not ship, so puppy pick up must be face to face. Average litter size is around 3. The price may vary depending on number of puppies available. Application fee goes toward services rendered. Preference is given for performance homes and homes able to delay spay/neuter until their dogs are old enough for breeding evaluation.

If you are seriously considering a Shiba Inu, please take the time to fill out my screening form. Your answers will help me determine if this breed is going to be a good fit with your lifestyle. Additional info is on my webpage www.masakadoshiba.com. The Nihon Ken Forum is also a good resource to learn more about the six native Japanese breeds.

***Contact Info*** *Date:*

*Name:*

*Home Address:*

*E-mail(s):*

*Phone(s):*

*Driver’s license number:*

*Name and contact of Veterinarian:*

*Name and contact of other reference if no prior pets:*

# Background

*-Why are you interested in buying a Shiba? What attracted you to the breed?*

*-What activities do you see yourself sharing with your Shiba?* *(Companionship, Hiking, Therapy, Agility, Showing, etc.)*

*-Have you had dogs before? What happened to each one? How long did they live, what did they die of? Please describe:*

*-Are you a member of any dog or animal related clubs? (4-H, breed clubs, etc.)*

*-Please describe your experience with dog training, and what plans have you made for your Shiba’s training? Puppy classes are mandatory and adult level obedience training is required as well.*

# Your Situation

*-Where will the dog spend the day? The night? How many hours a day will the dog spend alone? Have you made plans for the puppy to have potty breaks and walks if you work?*

*-Shiba are still tied to their recent hunting ancestry from Japan, and this litter has active performance/show dogs in their pedigrees. What exercise will you be able to provide morning and evening so your Shiba will be ready to settle when you are ready to settle?*

*-Do you have any other pets that your future Shiba would interact with? Please describe:*

*-How many adults are in your home? Do you have any babies, toddlers, or children (under 14)? If so, do they have any dog experience and how do you plan to manage everyone around your Shiba?*

*-Does anyone in the home have any animal allergies?*

*-Does everyone in the home want a dog? Are they prepared for a noisy puppy in the middle of the night? What is your potty training plan?*

*-Please describe your home, neighborhood and yard? If no yard, how do you plan to exercise your dog?*

*-What are the pet size or noise requirements where you live? Depending on your lifestyle, an apartment may be a challenge for your Shiba if you work away from home for long hours as they often find ways to entertain themselves when under stimulated.*

*-Do you need a landlord’s permission to own a pet?* *Would you mind a home visit before purchasing a puppy?*

*-Do you have a preferred sex or color of Shiba? (Puppies may be white, black and tan, sesame, or red).*

# Requirements

*I require all puppy buyers to sign a contract that they will spay/neuter their dog no earlier than 6 months to avoid growth issues, and no later than 12 months if the dog is not in a breeding program.*

*I require that owners responsibly contain any intact dogs and not breed them outside of the contract. I reserve the right to withhold registration and litigate if these conditions are not met.*

*Puppy buyers agree that they will maintain regular contact with the breeder and take good care of the dog, returning him or her to me if they can no longer keep their puppy. Microchip registration is under my name with owners as secondary contact.*

*I also require that you take the puppy to a series of approved positive puppy training classes and an additional set of classes for obedience after puppy classes are complete.*

*I strongly encourage obtaining pet insurance prior to puppy pickup. I do require that the dog not be kept as an outdoor dog, or tied up regularly as a means to keep him or her at home. Are you willing to comply with these requirements?*