**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 14 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, Nosework, 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 or be with your puppy for potty breaks, meals and training, or else reconsider adding a puppy to your life.

I have a limited number of breeding dogs, and all are raised inside the home with their relatives and the occasional Hokkaido or group of Shiba friends. I view this as a very serious endeavor, one that I am passionate about, and my line is precious to me. 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.

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.

2022 PUPPY PRICE:

My total puppy price for new reservations beginning 2022, is $4000 which includes the application fee, limited AKC registration and pedigree, 30 days AKC and 30 days Trupanion pet insurance, 1 set of vaccines, 2-3 dewormings, microchip, puppy kit, my personal puppy guide, a required reading list, a home visit, follow up, lifetime return visits for 1 on 1 training, and a contract. Up to $500 of that can be credited back to you if you require private training with my recommended private trainer, or agree to complete health tests, or participate with your dog in any titling events like agility or dog shows. I will negotiate co-ownerships for those who are able to responsibly keep a show quality puppy intact for breed preservation. Plan for an additional flight cost of your ticket +$200-$400 if you are traveling and carrying the puppy back with you.

BE AWARE:

\*Application fees (aka $500 deposit) are NON-refundable. If I agree to accept you on my waitlist, I already have a breeding planned for you, am comfortable selling you a pet, and have provided you with phone/in person guidance and supplied you with my personal puppy guide/required reading list. If you choose to support a pet store or back yard breeder or non-reputable breeder that I did not refer you to, you will lose your application fee.

DO NOT CONTACT ME IF:

\*You are on another breeder’s waitlist

\*You have no relevant breed experience AND do not live in a house AND only want a Shiba because they are cute

\*Are expecting a puppy right away

\*Expect a refund if you find a cheaper puppy somewhere else sooner

\*Don't plan to participate in follow up visits

\*Expect a payment plan or discount (I will take partial payments up to the puppy pickup date however)

I will accept a small number of applications for my fall 2022 and 2023 breedings for very qualified homes. An initial application fee of $500 is required to join my waitlist, and covers services rendered as the puppies grow. That is NOT REFUNDABLE. Homes with breed or similar experience preferred, within 1-2 hour driving distance from Puyallup, with fenced yard (sorry no apartments unless you are otherwise extremely qualified and physically active and able to provide a safe off leash play space.) Preference always given to performance homes and homes interested in breed preservation (able to delay spay/neuter until their dogs are old enough for breeding evaluation.)

I do sometimes place puppies with NEW breed owners with no prior experience with the breed . It takes a lot of time for me to work one on one with brand new owners, which is why I prefer experienced homes. When applying, please keep this in mind.

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 and age:*

*Home Address (no PO boxes):*

*E-mail(s):*

*Phone(s):*

*Occupation:*

*Driver’s license copy requested prior to home visit and entering into contract (this is for my safety and puppy safety):*

*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? What breeder did your prior pets come from, or where did you acquire them?*

*-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

*-Who is going to be the primary caretaker of the dog? Who will be responsible for training, exercise, feeding, midnight potty breaks, medications etc?*

*-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? Do you rent or own? 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 have signed up for puppy classes to start within the first 2 weeks of when you get your puppy. Classes must be a series of ongoing approved positive puppy training classes and an additional set of classes for obedience after puppy classes are complete.*

*After much consideration, I am also requiring owners to bring the puppy back to me 1 week after purchase for training and check in, and again the second week after purchase IF you have not already begun puppy classes.*

 *I am also hoping to finish my shop remodel in 2022 so that I may offer puppy classes/play dates in a nice work space as Covid and facility closures had made it very difficult to find puppy classes for some families, and limited socialization efforts.*

*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?*