

NorthPaws

The Beginning

Our breeding process begin with our girls:

- We observe temperament as she grows to the age of two,
- We complete all relevant health tests suited to her breed

If we feel her temperament and the results of her health tests are suitable to becoming a mum we look for a suitable stud.

NorthPaws use the same process of selecting a stud as we do for assessing the suitability of our bitches, we look at:

Co-efficient: we use the Kennel Club COI calculator for this process. For our F1b Cavapoos we look at the link between our F1 Cavapoos purebred parent to the stud we are choosing. If the stud we are looking at is closely related to our girl then we do not go any further.

Health Screening: no matter which breed we are looking at we ensure that at least the required testing has been carried out. We then assess this against our girls results to ensure we are not causing any faulty genes to meet and thus creating an unhealthy puppy. The genetic testing gives three rating.

Temperament: we have the pleasure of getting to know our girls from at least 8 weeks of age when they join our household so we are well aware of their temperaments,. In order to understand the temperament of a stud we talk extensively with their owner and meet them prior to mating.

Understand in more detail:

Co-efficiency explained: Line breeding/Inbreeding occurs when puppies are born to two dogs who have relatives in common. The history of dog breeding is eye opening. In the late 1800s records of dogs in the UK began and a law restricting crossbreeding was set. This meant that the genetic population of dog breeds became very small, creating 'island populations' and meaning related dogs were mating causing a rise in the inherited disorders we know about today.

In an effort to reduce birth defects, the spread of known and unknown inherited disorders, responsible breeders will check the inbreeding calculator (co-efficient/ COI) for their dogs before making a mating match. This calculates the probability that two copies of a gene variant have been inherited from an ancestor common to both the mother and the father. The lower the degree of inbreeding, the lower the inbreeding coefficient.

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Genetic Screening explained: A puppy will inherit half its genetics from mum and half from dad, the genes form to make pairs. Genes come in two types: dominant or recessive.

Dominant genes render recessive genes harmless, in effect they overpower them. Acting like a switch they turn off the recessive gene, preventing it from causing harm.

Possible combinations:	Gene type:	Result on health
Dominant + Dominant	Normal + Normal = clear	Healthy
Dominant + Recessive	Normal + Faulty = carrier	Healthy
Recessive + Recessive	Faulty + Faulty = affected	Un-Healthy

Health Screening allows us to identify the recessive/faulty genes however, by eliminating these dogs from breeding programmes will result in yet more genes begin lost in an already historically diminished gene pool. We must endeavour to not cause more 'island populations' resulting in no new genetic material and thus increasing the chances of faulty genes meeting.