

Guardian Home Contract

Dantapelle Australian Cobberdogs - Brisbane



What Is the Guardian Home Program?

In our efforts to follow a responsible and ethical breeding program and make the right decisions regarding our breeding dogs, and to give them the fullest lives that they can possibly enjoy, we have decided to make use of the Guardian home concept. There are many benefits, both to the puppy being placed and the family welcoming the new puppy into their home.

Benefits to the Guardian Home Family:

- Lower cost or no initial buyer cost, for a top quality, pedigree Australian Cobberdog.
- Ongoing support and communication with us and guidance in raising your puppy
- Interaction with the rest of the Dantapelle family nearby !
- You can schedule your family trips during breedings/ whelping without the cost of boarding your puppy.

Benefits to the Breeding Dog:

- Raised in a caring loving home as a pet throughout his or her breeding career. Not re-homed after his/ her breeding career is over and having to adjust to a new family.
- No need for kennelling

Part of a Family

We want each of our breeding dogs to be part of a family, where they are loved and adored. We feel that by keeping the number of dogs actually living full time with us to a minimum in our Home, that each dog gets lots of love and attention and normal interaction and socialization with their forever family !

This is why we love the Guardian home concept. This is where our other breeding dogs get to live with **their** family, that will be theirs forever without needing to be kennelled. They get to be a family pet and get spoiled! The Guardian home is the puppy/dog's forever home. They live with this family at all times while Dantapelle Australian Cobberdogs reserves breeding rights for a set amount of time (each situation is slightly different so we prefer to work out specific details with each family on an individual basis.) Once the Guardian Dog has completed his/her breeding career, he/she will be spayed or neutered at our expense and ownership will transfer to the Guardian.



Female Guardianship

With a female breeding dog, she will visit us once a year or two back-to-back pregnancies then a year's rest, then one last pregnancy for breeding purposes (this of course can vary on the dog's health and at the consultation with a Vet Specialist). Usually, it is for a few hours on 2-3 different days. Then she'll come back to stay with us to deliver her puppies and remains until her puppies are weaned. *(This is usually at 8 weeks of age)*

Male Guardianship

The male breeding dogs will be needed from time to time, usually just for a few hours. Our Guardian families for Male breeding dogs will have to keep him un-desexed until he is 5 years of age then he will be desexed and they will then become full owners of the dog.

Is There a Cost Involved to Be a Guardian Home?

No, not for the pup/dog but the guardian home family is responsible for vet cost not associated with whelping or pregnancy. Guardian homes are responsible for normal dog owning costs (worming, flea treatments, grooming, feeding etc).



Responsibilities of the Guardian:

Our Guardian Home Families are responsible for the general routine veterinary care and wellness of the Guardian puppy/dog placed with them. They are also responsible for the safety (good yard and fencing, free from snakes) and securing the dog/bitch when they are in season.

This includes:

- Annual vaccines and medications
- **Good Food** - feeding a high quality dog food and raw/fresh food feeding (as instructed when pup or dog is picked up)
- **Regular Grooming** - this must be maintained the dog is not to be left unbrushed or ungroomed, there is to be no matting, we prefer their coats to be kept at a length that makes grooming and care easy but still maintain the look of a Cobberdog,
- Other medications - monthly heartworm prevention if in a heartworm zone, flea/tick prevention – DO NOT USE COMBINATION, preferred a separate worming and flea/tick – such as Drontal, or Interceptor Spectrum for worms and Frontline drops for flea/tick.
Consult us first during pregnancy !
- **Wellbeing and socialisation** - training, regular exercise and socialization, and most importantly all the love and care and attention possible.

Any "breeding related" medical costs for the Guardian Dog are the expense of Dantapelle Australian Cobberdogs. Our Guardian Homes are only responsible for routine maintenance and medical care just as they would if they had their own pet dog, not used for breeding.

The process for Guardian families:

Most of our dogs/pups available for our Guardian Program will be female. Occasionally we will have a male available as well!

When the Guardian dog is in season, the Guardian Family is required to contact us immediately. An intact female usually has a heat cycle that will last between 14 and 21 days. During this time, we will need access to her for breeding-related appointments. Once she has been mated, she will remain with her Guardian Family until one week before her due date. At that time, the Guardian dog will come back to stay with us



throughout her remaining pregnancy and will be returned once her pups are fully weaned approximately 8 weeks later. Guardian Families are welcomed and encouraged to visit with scheduled visits while their Guardian Dog.

If you are applying for a Guardian Home puppy, she will come to you at 8 weeks of age. During the first year, will have her health testing completed. Once we receive all of the results from her health testing, we are then able to assess whether or not she will enter our breeding program.

If you are receiving a Guardian Home Puppy, we ask for monthly photos and updates, so that we can watch her develop, and update our website. We may also will require a visit to our Guardian Family's home every few months during the first year to assess the Guardian Puppy, as well as build a relationship with her for the future. Occasionally, we will ask our Guardian Families to bring the puppy to us for a visit so that she can get comfortable with our home for when she will be here with us in the future having her beautiful babies.

How Many Litters Will A Guardian Female Produce?

Each dog is individually assessed before determining their required litters. Most of our Guardian dogs will have 2 or 3 litters for us (this depends on whether you have an adult that has already had litters or a puppy entering our breeding program). Female Guardian Puppies placed in a Guardian home will have up to (and no more than) a total of 3 litters. The health and wellbeing of our dogs is paramount and prior to **any** breeding, the dog will receive clearance from our Vet Specialist.



What Are the Requirements to Become A Guardian Home?

To be considered as a Guardian Home for one of our breeding dogs, we require that you live within 2 hours of our home (in North Brisbane), it is necessary that you have physical fencing to provide a safe and secure environment for the Guardian dog/puppy, own your own home (or have written permission to keep a dog), and have a schedule that will allow for your dog to not be left alone for extended periods of time. All dogs and pups placed in Guardian Families must be mainly indoor dogs. Guardian Families must have reliable transportation, and a willingness to bring the Guardian dog/pup to us when needed throughout the year.

All guardian carers must comply with the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (1979)** and with standards and guidelines for the care of breeding dogs with the following Codes:

- **Animal Welfare Code of Practice - Breeding dogs and cats (PDF.L.468.15 KB)**
- **The Companion Animals Act (1998)**

If you are in agreement, with all that is stated here in this document, then please sign where required knowing that this is a legally binding contract and any failure to work with the breeder and owner of this dog will be regarded as a breaking of this contract and may result in the pup or dog being relocated back to the owner/ breeder (Dantapelle Australian Cobberdogs).

The pup/dog will remain in the breeder's name until the breeding life if this animal has finished and then will be legally signed over to the guardian family.