



DOGS
VICTORIA
YOUR CANINE COMMUNITY

Dogs Victoria Breeder Series

Health Management Plan

Breeder's Name:

Membership Number:

† (03) 9788 2500 | f 9788 2599 | office@dogsvictoria.org.au
Victorian Canine Association Inc Trading as Dogs Victoria
655 Westernport Hwy Skye, Vic 3977
Locked Bag K9, Cranbourne Vic 3977

Copyright © Dogs Victoria 2023

www.dogsvictoria.org.au



Management of my Property

About my Property

This section documents how you manage your property – regardless of whether it is a regular suburban house, a rural property, an apartment, or a townhouse.

Describe your Property:

(i.e. small acreage, suburban house with a back yard, unit with a paved courtyard, flat/apartment)

Describe where your dogs are housed during the day and at night:

(i.e. in the backyard, in kennels, inside the house, in a yard with access into the laundry etc.)

During the Day

At Night

Describe where your dogs are exercised:

(i.e. 'my property has no yard so my dogs are exercised with daily walks, and once a week we travel to a fenced dog free area for a safe off-leash run' or 'my dogs are exercised on my property in a 1 acre fenced area')

Breeder Initial



Management of My Property Hygiene

My Hygiene and Disinfection Routine

- » I ensure that all areas at my property used to house, care for, and exercise my dogs are kept clean and tidy.
- » All of my dog's bedding is washed regularly and replaced when damaged or no longer safe.
- » All dog faeces are picked up *daily* (or more often if required) and disposed of in appropriate waste bins.
- » When cleaning, I use a *hospital grade* disinfectant, following the manufacturer's instructions.
- » If my dogs are housed in kennels (or pens), I disinfect those kennels before a new dog is added, when dogs change kennels or, if there are no changes to the dogs housed, **at least weekly**.
- » If my dogs are housed inside my house, I disinfect all hard surfaces regularly.
- » All of my feeding and watering utensils are rinsed daily and washed in a dishwasher or by hand once each week (or more often as required). After cleaning they are rinsed thoroughly to ensure there is no residual disinfectant or detergent left behind.
- » I ensure that any toys, enrichment items, and equipment are kept clean by washing them weekly (or more frequently if required) in a dishwasher, washing machine, or by hand using warm soapy water. They are rinsed thoroughly to ensure there is no residual detergent or disinfectant left behind.

Additional details of your Hygiene and Disinfection Routine:

(describe any parts of your routine not listed above)

Details of the Disinfectant Products you use:

(i.e. bleach, parvocide, F10)

How do you dispose of Dog Faeces?

(i.e. dog poo is bagged and placed in household waste, worm farm/compost, commercial waste, septic system)

Breeder Initial



Management of My Property Pests

How I Control Pests at my Property

- » I ensure that all uneaten food is disposed of promptly by placing it in an appropriate waste bin.
- » I make sure that my dog food is stored in such a way that prevents pests accessing it.
- » Where possible, all internal areas used for housing my dogs will have physical barriers to prevent access by flies, mosquitos and rodents (e.g. fly screens)
- » When using chemicals for pest control, I use them according to the manufacturer's instructions, and in such a way that prevents accidental exposure to other animals (e.g. using bait stations).
- » I regularly inspect the external walls of indoor areas to check for holes or gaps that might allow rodents to access. Any potential access points are blocked up or fixed to minimise access.
- » I quickly dispose of any dead pest animals when I find them.

Additional details of your Pest Control Measures:

(describe any parts of your routine not listed above)

Details of the Chemicals or Products you use for Pest Control:

(i.e. rat bait in bait stations, mouse traps)

Breeder Initial



Management of My Property Emergencies

My Emergency Management Plan

- » I have a documented emergency management plan to cover both the humans and animals that may be present at my property during an emergency event (including visitors). I have also documented a plan for days of extreme risk, including any plans to relocate to a safer location. *(Please refer to the Dogs Victoria Fact Sheet on preparing emergency plans that include your animals, it contains links to a variety of resources that may help you)*
- » I have considered the different types of emergencies that may affect my property (i.e. bushfire, flood, disrupted access to my property, severe storm, loss of power or water etc.)
- » All of the people who are regularly at my property are aware of my emergency plan, including how, when, and to where I plan to evacuate should the need arise.
- » Where a full evacuation may not be possible, I have considered other strategies that reduce the risk of harm to any animals that may have to remain on the premises.

Details of your Emergency Management Plan:

My Emergency Management Plan is:

Attached to this Plan

Filed, Stored or Displayed: (where?)

Detailed Below

Breeder Initial



Routine Care of my Animals

Daily Care

Daily Health, Behaviour and Welfare Checks for my animals

- » All of the animals in my care will undergo a daily health check.
- » This check will include:
 - noting any changes of behaviour that may indicate a health or welfare concern
 - observation for any signs of illness or disease - coughing, sneezing, vomiting, diarrhoea etc.
 - observation for any signs of injury, pain, swelling or discomfort
 - noting any changes to appetite or activity level
 - noting any changes to the coat or hair - hair loss, matting, scratching, signs or symptoms of parasites etc.
 - for entire females - any signs of oestrus
 - observation of their kennel, pen, bed or yards
 - noting anything else that may indicate health or welfare concerns
- » Pregnant, lactating or elderly dogs will be examined/observed more regularly.
- » All dogs will have a regular dental check where their teeth and gums are inspected.
- » Puppies will be identified in a manner that allows for individual health, behaviour and welfare assessments to be made.
- » Where puppies are less than 2 weeks of age, they shall also be weighed at least once each day and advice from a veterinarian shall be sought for puppies that are not gaining weight.
- » Puppies within a litter need to be observed more frequently to ensure that they have adequate access to food, water and resting places, and that smaller or less robust puppies are not disadvantaged.
- » Where any problem is detected, I will take immediate steps to address the issue or seek the advice of my veterinarian.
- » Records of any concerns or health problems (including treatments) should be recorded in the individual's health record.
- » Regardless of their health status, all of my dogs will have a general health check by a veterinarian at least once each year.

Details of any additional Breed-Specific Health, Behaviour or Welfare assessments you do:
(i.e. inspection of facial folds in brachycephalic breeds)

Breeder Initial



Routine Care of my Animals Disease

My Response to an Outbreak of Disease or a Sick Animal

- » If I am concerned that one or more of my dogs have an infectious disease I will:
 - immediately contact my veterinarian for advice
 - isolate the animal from my other animals (where possible) or move the affected animal(s) to an isolation facility at my veterinarian's practice
 - reduce the risk of disease spread by ensuring items such as bedding, food and water utensils, toys etc. are not shared with other animals
 - ensure that hygiene and disinfection protocols are strictly followed and modify them as advised by my veterinarian
 - reduce the risk of disease spread by ensuring that my other dogs do not attend shows, trials, events, or visit places where they are likely to be exposed to other dogs (such as dog parks, training classes, grooming parlours or boarding kennels)
 - reduce the risk of disease spread by ensuring that any visitors to my property do not come into contact with my dogs (where possible)
 - reduce the risk of disease spread by preventing other dogs from entering or visiting my property (*includes breeding animals coming to be mated*)
- » When cleaning and disinfecting each day, any sick dogs will be fed, watered, exercised (if appropriate) and their kennels or pens cleaned last.

Additional details of any isolation or disease control strategies you use:

Breeder Initial



Routine Care of my Animals Vaccination

My Vaccination Program

Immunity in dogs can be established early in life by vaccination, and maintained throughout adult life either through a recognised vaccination protocol, or by confirming the presence of immunity with antibody titre testing.

The Australian Veterinary Association vaccination policy states:

'Every dog and cat should be appropriately immunised, and each individual animal should be vaccinated as frequently as considered necessary by their veterinarian to provide protection. The vaccination protocol to be followed and the vaccines to be used should be determined within a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.'

Vaccination

- » All of my dogs will be vaccinated in accordance with my veterinarian's advice.
- » The details of any vaccination given and the date of the next vaccination will be recorded in the dog's record (*usually in the form of a vaccination 'certificate' as provided by the veterinarian administering the vaccine*).
- » Vaccination of puppies will not commence prior to 6 weeks of age (unless otherwise recommended by my veterinarian)
- » A standard vaccination protocol for puppies will be developed with my veterinarian and may consist of 2 or more doses of vaccine, covering different diseases.

Titre Testing

- » Where titre testing is used to demonstrate ongoing immunity in adult dogs, titre testing will take place every 3 years, and results will be recorded within the dog's health record.
- » Until there is a validated test in Australia for Canine Infectious Hepatitis (Caine Adenovirus), I will arrange for this test to be completed overseas.
- » Where titre testing shows reduced levels of immunity, my adult dogs will be vaccinated to ensure that their immunity returns to protective levels.

Details of my vaccination program for puppies:

Details of my vaccination program for my adult dogs:

Breeder Initial



Routine Care of my Animals

Parasite Control

My Parasite Control Program

- » I seek advice from my veterinarian in relation to appropriate parasite control for my specific situation (breed, location, exposure risk, breeding animals, rotation of active ingredients, etc.)
- » I only use products that are registered for use in dogs or puppies, and ensure that they are safe and appropriate for each life stage I intend to use them for.

Internal Parasites

- » My adult dogs are treated for intestinal worms (hookworm, whipworm and tapeworm) using products registered for use in dogs at a dose and frequency as designated on the product label (unless otherwise instructed by my veterinarian).
- » Any puppies I breed are dosed for intestinal worms using products registered for use in puppies, every two weeks until they reach 12 weeks of age (unless otherwise instructed by my veterinarian).
- » Where there is a risk of exposure to Heartworm, all of my animals receive a preventative treatment as advised by my veterinarian.
- » The details of any internal parasite treatment given (including the date, dosage and product used) will be recorded in the animal's individual health record.

External Parasites

- » I regularly screen all of my animals for the presence, or symptoms of external parasites such as fleas, mites, ticks or ringworm (a fungal infection).
- » When necessary, or where there is increased risk, I administer treatments for external parasites as directed by my veterinarian.
- » The details of any external parasite treatment given (including the date, dosage and product used) will be recorded in the animal's individual health record.

Details of my parasite prevention program for puppies:

(include product name, dosage and frequency)

Details of my parasite prevention program for my adult dogs:

(include product name, dosage and frequency)

Breeder Initial



Routine Care of my Animals

Grooming

My Grooming Routine

- » I perform a regular routine of skin and coat care appropriate to my breed and the individual animal.
- » All of my animals are groomed (by brushing, combing, bathing and/or clipping) at a frequency that ensures that their coat remains in good condition and is free of foreign matter (such as grass seeds or burrs), knots, and mats.
- » I ensure that the length of my dog's coat is appropriate and does not hinder normal function and activity.
- » If my dog's coat becomes soiled (i.e. with mud, faeces, vomit or any other contaminant), it is addressed promptly.
- » All of my animals have their toenails regularly checked and trimmed at a frequency that prevents overgrowth and foot problems.
- » If my dogs are wet, or have been bathed, they are able to get dry - either through me drying them, or through access to an appropriate warm and dry area.
- » I ensure that my dog's skin, eyes and ears are disease free, or that any identified conditions are being treated under the supervision of my veterinarian.
- » I regularly check that there is no unpleasant odour associated with my dog's skin or coat.

Details of my standard grooming regime:

(include details of frequency of grooming and any specific tools or products used)

Details of breed specific grooming requirements:

(for example: cleaning of facial folds, management of long coats between grooming sessions)

Breeder Initial



Routine Care of my Animals

Diet

Diet and Nutrition

- » All of my animals will receive a nutritionally complete and balanced diet, appropriate for their life stage.
- » The amount of food provided to each animal will vary depending on their age, body condition score, health status, lactation status, activity level and the ambient temperature.
- » All dogs will have access to clean, fresh water at all times.
- » All food and water containers shall be kept clean, and uneaten food disposed.
- » All food items will be stored in such a way to prevent it from spoiling, or being accessed by pest animals.
- » Where I choose to feed a 'home-cooked' or 'raw' diet, I will consult with my veterinarian to ensure that all of the nutritional needs of my dogs are being met.

Details of the diet I feed to puppies:

(include details of frequency of feeding, type of food, quantity and additional 'non-meal' items routinely used)

Details of the diet I feed to my adult dogs:

(include details of frequency of feeding, type of food, quantity and additional 'non-meal' items routinely used)

Breeder Initial



Routine Care of my Animals Enrichment

Enrichment, Handling and Exercise

- » All of my animals will receive exercise, enrichment and handling appropriate to their age, health status and behavioural needs.
- » Any puppies I breed will be handled every day, and a socialisation program that helps prepare them for life as a well adjusted family pet will be instituted from an appropriate age.
- » Enrichment activities will be tailored to individual dogs, and all enrichment items will be inspected regularly for damage, kept clean and disinfected. Enrichment programs must include rotation of activities and will not be limited to periods of exercise and handling.
- » Exercise and enrichment activities must take into consideration the temperament of individual animals and if more than one animal is participating, the safety of each individual must be considered.

Details of my Exercise, Enrichment and Handling program for puppies:

(include details of frequency, duration, type of activities, and strategies used)

Details of my Exercise, Enrichment and Handling program for my adult dogs:

(include details of frequency, duration, type of activities, and strategies used)

Breeder Initial



Routine Care of my Animals

Euthanasia

Euthanasia

- » If deemed necessary, any euthanasia will be performed by a registered veterinarian.
- » In an emergency situation, I will contact my veterinarian and request advice.
- » If the veterinary practitioner is unable to attend within a reasonable time, or provide suggestions with respect to alternative care, and both the veterinary practitioner and I agree that immediate euthanasia is required, I will carry out that euthanasia in a manner agreed to by the veterinary practitioner. In such a situation, I will request written certification from my veterinarian following this event, and retain this in my records.
- » I will not permit any euthanasia procedure to be performed in view of any other animals.
- » I will ensure that the body of any euthanased (or deceased) animal is disposed of in an appropriate manner.

Details of my regular Veterinarian:

Details of my nearest Emergency or 'Out of Hours' Veterinarian:

Details of other Veterinarians in my area who I may be able to call on in an Emergency:

Breeder Initial



Assessing Stud Dogs and Breeding Females

Prior to Being Bred or Used at Stud for *the first time*:

- » I ensure that I have assessed the physical conformation, working ability and temperament of any proposed breeding animals, and I feel that they are good examples of my breed.
- » I ensure that any dog or bitch that I am considering breeding from has undergone all relevant breed health testing requirements, and that copies of the results, clearly showing the animal's microchip number, are recorded in the animal's individual record.
- » Where breed health testing requires ongoing screening by a Veterinary Specialist (such as heart clearances or eye examinations), I ensure that the animal has been assessed within the last 12 months.
- » I ensure that any breeding animal has met the minimum age requirements as set out in the Dogs Victoria regulations.
- » I ensure that any breeding animal is fit and healthy, and is up to date with all required preventative health care treatments.
- » I ensure that any dog or bitch I intend to use for breeding has undergone their 'Veterinary Clearance to Commence Breeding' and that a copy of this is recorded in the animal's individual record.
- » Before breeding any dog or bitch I ensure that they have undergone a veterinary health check in the previous 12 months.
- » I consider the current health status of their Sire and Dam, and any litter mates (where possible) before considering including them in any breeding program.

Details of the Breed Health Tests you do:

(please list all of the health testing you undertake for animals being used for breeding)

Details of any other assessments you do:

(please add details of any other assessments you undertake)

Breeder Initial



My Breeding Activities Assessment

Assessing Stud Dogs and Breeding Females

Before Breeding any of my Dogs or Bitches for a **second or subsequent time**:

- » I ensure that any animal I am considering breeding with continues to be fit and healthy, and is up to date with all required preventative health care treatments.
- » I ensure that they have undergone a veterinary health check in the previous 12 months.
- » Where breed health testing requires ongoing screening by a Veterinary Specialist (such as heart clearances or eye examinations), I ensure that the animal has been assessed within the last 12 months.
- » I consider any difficulties encountered with breeding and/or whelping previously – ease of whelping (i.e. caesarean, difficult whelping), mothering skills, lack of milk, litter size.
- » I consider any other condition, illness or injury that might affect the animal's ability to breed, whelp and raise a litter.
- » I consider the health status of any offspring produced previously.
- » I consider the temperament and quality of any offspring produced previously (including conformation, working ability, and behaviour).
- » I consider the current health status of their Sire and Dam, and any litter mates (where possible).

Details of any other assessments you do:

(please add details of any other assessments you undertake)

Breeder Initial



My Breeding Activities

Breeding Choices

How I Determine Which Animals are Bred Together

Before Selecting a Dog and Bitch to be Bred Together:

- » I assess the physical conformation, working ability and temperament of both the dog and the bitch, and I feel that they are good examples of my breed that complement each other's strengths and weaknesses.
- » I ensure that both animals are purebred, of the same breed, and are registered on the Dogs Australia Main register (Blue pedigree papers).
- » When using a Stud dog belonging to another breeder, I ensure that all owners of that dog are current financial members of the Dogs Australia recognised controlling body in their state.
- » I ensure that both animals have undergone all of the required health testing for the breed, and that I have copies of all results clearly showing the animal's microchip number. I will also ensure that both of the proposed breeding animals have undergone a veterinary health check in the previous 12 months.
- » I ensure that any proposed breeding will minimise the risks of passing on to the next generation any heritable defects – this includes physical defects, known breed health issues, and temperament issues.
- » I consider all of the health testing results available to me prior to breeding, and ensure that any breeding aligns with the Dogs Victoria Code of Practice for Hereditary Diseases (Regulation 20.3), and the Victorian State Government's mandatory *Code of Practice for the Breeding of Animals with Heritable Defects that Cause Disease*.
- » I will consider the health status of any other offspring that have been produced by the Sire and/or the Dam.
- » I will not breed any animals that are unfit, unhealthy, or have physical or temperament issues that could impact their ability to whelp and raise a litter.
- » I will not breed first generation individuals together - i.e. father-daughter, brother-sister, mother-son
- » If my female has had previous litters, I will ensure that any planned breeding will not cause her to whelp more than twice within an 18 month period, and no more than five times in her lifetime.
- » Where my bitch will be 8 years at the time of the mating, I ensure that she has undergone a Veterinary Health Clearance within the three months prior to the mating, and a certificate stating that she was in good health at the time of the proposed mating will be kept in her individual record.

Details of any other assessments or considerations:

(please add details)

Breeder Initial



My Breeding Activities Retirement

What I plan to do when one of my Animals is Retired From Breeding

All dogs and bitches who have been involved in breeding will eventually come to a point where they are no longer suitable for, or required for, future breeding plans. As a breeder you need to have a plan in place for what will happen to these animals.

Dogs Victoria Regulation 20.1.11.1 states *If breeding animals are determined to be no longer suitable for breeding, or are retired and are to be rehomed, they must be prevented from further breeding by transfer to limited register, neutering, contraception, contract of agreement or other means.*

When I decide that one of my animals is not suitable for breeding, or I no longer plan to breed with them:

- » I will decide whether to keep that animal as my own pet (taking into account the permitted number of animals I am allowed to have at my premises), or where the animal's health and temperament have been assessed as suitable, I will re-home the animal to a suitable home.
- » If I plan to re-home a retired breeding animal, I will ensure that I meet all of the requirements for sale including the provision of a Breeder Health Declaration and adhere to the Sale Guarantee outlined in the Dogs Victoria Regulations.
- » In the rare event that my veterinarian has deemed a dog or bitch as unsuited to being kept as a pet, or able to be rehomed due to health or behavioural issues, I may choose to have that dog euthanased by a veterinary practitioner.

If I plan to re-home a retired breeding animal, I will:

(please add details - i.e. 'have the animal de-sexed prior to re-homing', or 'move the animal to the Limited Register to prevent any further litters', etc.)

Breeder Initial



My Breeding Activities

Whelping

How I plan to Whelp and Raise my Litters

Whelping my litters

- » All pregnant bitches are monitored closely as their due date approaches.
- » I ensure that my whelping area is set up at least a week prior to the expected whelping date.
- » My whelping area meets all of the criteria outlined in the *Dogs Victoria Breeder Education Package Booklet*, and is kept clean and disinfected with appropriate bedding at all times.
- » I ensure that my veterinarian is aware of my bitch's expected due date, and I have plans in place if I need veterinary assistance during the birth (both night and day).
- » Once my bitch has begun whelping her litter, I make sure she is monitored **constantly** until the whelping is complete.
- » If there are any concerns relating to the health or welfare of the bitch or the puppies during the birth, I seek veterinary advice immediately.
- » I continue to closely monitor the mother and pups until the puppies are feeding, and maternal acceptance has been firmly established.
- » I ensure that the mother of the pups undergoes a 'Post Whelping' Veterinary examination within 8 weeks of giving birth.

Provide any additional details relating to how you whelp your litters:

(this may include breed specific considerations in the lead up to, during, or immediately after whelping)

Breeder Initial



My Breeding Activities My Litters

How I plan to Whelp and Raise my Litters

Raising my Litters

- » I ensure that both the mother and the puppies are monitored closely and records are kept of the whelping and daily progress of each pup.
- » If there are any concerns relating to the health or welfare of the bitch or the puppies, I seek veterinary advice immediately.
- » All areas used to house the mother and the puppies are kept clean and disinfected with appropriate bedding at all times.
- » I ensure that both the mother and pups are cared for in line with the 'Raising a Litter of Pups' section of the *Dogs Victoria Breeder Education Package*.
- » Both the mother and the puppies receive adequate daily handling, grooming, exercise, socialisation and enrichment appropriate to their needs and developmental stages.

Provide any additional details relating to how you raise your litters:

(this may include breed specific considerations at the various stages of development)

Breeder Initial



My Breeding Activities Time of Sale

How I plan to Assess and Document the Health of Puppies or Older Dogs I Intend to Sell, Rehome, or Give Away

Puppies (up to 6 Months of Age)

- » I will ensure that no puppy is allowed to go to its new home prior to 8 weeks of age.
- » At the time of leaving my care, the puppy will be in the best possible state of health.
- » All of my puppies will have a veterinary health check prior to sale. I will provide the new owner with a copy of the *Dogs Victoria Puppy Health Check Certificate* (or equivalent), signed by my veterinarian, at the time of sale.
- » Where any health testing (such as DNA testing or early screening for breed health issues) has been completed prior to sale, I will provide the new owner with a copy of the results clearly showing the microchip number of the animal.
- » I will provide the new owner with a copy of the animal's preventative health care treatment record (including vaccination certificates, details of internal and external parasite control treatments etc.) and, if the animal has been de-sexed, I will provide the new owner with a copy of the de-sexing certificate.
- » I will undertake a health assessment of each puppy in the 24 hours prior to it leaving my care, and will complete a *Breeder Health Declaration* outlining details of any known physical abnormality at the time of sale and how that abnormality may affect future health and welfare of the dog.

Older Puppies and Adults (including retired Breeding Animals)

- » At the time of leaving my care, the animal will be in the best possible state of health.
- » Any older animal I plan to sell or give away will have had veterinary health check during the 12 months prior to sale. I will provide the new owner with a copy of the *Dogs Victoria Annual Health Check Certificate* (or equivalent), signed by my veterinarian, at the time of sale.
- » Where any health testing (such as DNA testing or early screening for breed health issues) has been completed prior to sale, I will provide the new owner with a copy of the results clearly showing the microchip number of the animal.
- » I will provide the new owner with a copy of the animal's preventative health care treatment record (including vaccination certificates, details of internal and external parasite control treatments) and, if the animal has been de-sexed, I will provide the new owner with a copy of the de-sexing certificate.
- » I will undertake a health assessment of the animal in the 24 hours prior to it leaving my care, and will complete a *Breeder Health Declaration* outlining details of any known physical abnormality at the time of sale and how that abnormality may affect future health and welfare of the dog.

Provide any additional details relating to how you plan to assess and document the health of animals you are selling or giving away:

Breeder Initial

Dogs Victoria Breeder Series Health Management Plan Breeder Declaration



Breeder Name & Dogs Victoria Membership Number

Address (where your dogs are housed)

I/We declare:

That I have completed each of the sections of this Health Management Plan, and that they are a true and accurate reflection of the activities I/WE carry out.

I will review my Health Management Plan annually, and if my activities vary significantly from the standard activities outlined, I will have them approved by my Veterinarian.

I will renew my Health Management Plan every five (5) years, or upon moving to a new property.

Breeder Signature:

Date:

Breeder Signature:

Date:

In the case of a Joint Membership, both members must sign.

Annual Review Record

1st Annual Review

Date:

Breeder Initial

2nd Annual Review

Date:

Breeder Initial

3rd Annual Review

Date:

Breeder Initial

4th Annual Review

Date:

Breeder Initial