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## **Puppy Agreement (Non AKC)**

The following requirements are put forth in the best interest of the puppy, the breeder, and the new owners. Failure to comply with any of the following will result in loss of any guarantees from the breeder, and possible confiscation of the dog. Thank you for your understanding.

- 1. The dog must be spayed or neutered within the first 6 months of purchase from the breeder. The breeder must be notified of the procedure, via a letter of surgical spay/neuter from the veterinarian that performed the operation. Alternatively, a legible picture text or scan, of the veterinary invoice showing the spay/neuter, sent to the breeder, will suffice.
- 2. It is highly recommended that the New Owners enroll in, and complete, a Puppy Kindergarten class such as the A.K.C. S.T.A.R. Puppy Class, or similar class offered locally. Usually it is once a week for six weeks, and costs about \$100.00. It is well worth the time and money, to be able to have a dog that actually listens to you, and is a JOY to work with!!! Not enough good things can be said by doing this.
- 3. New owners must send photos of the dog, to the breeder, at least twice per year, for the first two years. Photos need to be sent when the dog is 6 months, 1 year, 1.5 years, and lastly at 2 years. The photos must be of good clarity and sufficient lighting to be able to see the dog in detail. I prefer them to be shot at eye-level to the dog, and to contain one good close-up head shot from straight on, and a full body, side profile photograph. It is helpful to have one person holding the dog while the other person takes the photos. These can be sent to me via email or through the mail. These photos are to ensure both a quality breeding program, and the condition of the dog.
- 4. Dog must be fed a good quality adult dog food, with meat as first ingredient. Puppies require as much food as they can eat. Not to be fed all at once during the day, as this can cause bloat and can be fatal. Do NOT feed "Puppy Food" or "Large Breed" food, as these types of food can be too high in protein, and other elements, and can cause irregular/rapid growth of bones/tissues, resulting in major problems. Make sure food has a protein content of less than 26%. Later on, after they are done growing (usually around 1.5 years) they can go on a higher protein diet, if the new owner prefers to do so. The food I feed and recommend is called "Diamond Naturals", the Chicken and Rice, All Life Stages formula. Do not feed dog foods containing wheat or soy. It is very bad for most

dogs. Supplementing with powdered, dried kelp, and fish oil is recommended.

- 5. Do not let the puppy go up/down large flights of stairs, jump up or down too much (as in a pick-up truck bed etc), or get over-exercised, because this can stress the puppy's growing bones and develop problems later on. Any type of "jarring" movement or impact should be avoided. Also, make sure that the Shiba does not grow up primarily on hard slippery surfaces like wood or tile floors. Rugs or similar should be put down, to ensure proper traction, as this can affect bone / joint growth. This should be for the first 2 years, as they keep growing until then.
- 6. Take the puppy with you as much as possible, and introduce it to as many different dogs/animals/people/situations as you can. This will help to socialize the dog, and help to form a well-rounded, well-adjusted adult dog that will be a pleasure to be around.
- 7. Please notify the breeder immediately, if any major health problem were to develop in the dog.
- 8. If, for some reason, you find you are no longer able to care for the dog, the breeder has "First Right of Refusal," meaning that you MUST contact the breeder first, and we will take the dog back at no more than 50% of the original purchase price.
- 9. Failure to comply with "First Right of Refusal" will result in a monetary penalty no greater than the original purchase price of the dog, as well as likely court proceedings.
- 10. Please notify the breeder immediately, of any changes to your phone number or address.
- 11. Breeder will not be held responsible for any and all damages caused by purchased dog.