



NORSK LANCASHIRE HEELER KLUBB

Breeding criteria for the Norwegian Lancashire Heeler Club

The Norwegian Kennel Club's standard of ethical breeding is the basis of the criteria and recommendations given by the Norwegian Lancashire Heeler Club.

1. Dams or sires used for breeding should be both mentally and physically healthy. They should be registered in a Kennel Club and ID registered either by chip or tattoo
2. Sires should be 18 months before being bred. The Norwegian Club recommends waiting until two years of age.
3. One dog should not father more than a total of 20 offspring (four or five litters) independent of country litters are born in.
4. Dams should be two years of age before being bred.
5. One dam should not be mother to more than a total of 20 offspring (four or five litters) independent of country litters are born in.
6. Sires should have two testicles in scrotum. Dogs without fully developed testicles or with retained testicles is not eligible for breeding.
7. Breeding dogs should have a correct scissor bite and a full set of teeth
8. Patella should be examined by a certified veterinarian. To be eligible for breeding the dog should be deemed free (00). A 1/1-degree patella lux without clinical symptoms may be used if the intended mate is free. The dog must be more than 12 months when examined. It is recommended to repeat the examination at 3 years of age. The results from a patella examination should be registered in a Kennel Club.
9. Both parental animals must be EVCO examined by certified veterinarian and registered in a Kennel Club. The examination must be less than a year old when mating occurs. For the examination it is best that it is free, although a few exceptions is not a hinder for mating. Age related cataract is not a hinder for mating if previous examinations are free, a few lashes out of regular order is not a hinder for mating if previous examinations are free and PPM iris-iris can be mated with a dog without PPM. The club does not recommend mating animals with any kind of eye disease history. Known eye disease history from three generations on both sides are highly recommended. Both owners are obliged to reveal any family disease history.

Puppies after mated dogs without registered EVCO test will not be eligible for registration in the Norwegian Kennel Club.

10. Grandparent OR parents MUST be genetically tested and registered tested for CEA and PLL in the Norwegian Kennel Club OR in another Kennel Club. If it is not possible to register DNA data in the animal's homeland, papers must be shown before mating. For both diseases a carrier of one or both may be mated with a dog that is DNA tested not being a carrier. If grandparents are tested the dog is considered hereditary free. Is one of the parental animals a carrier it is strongly recommended that all pups are DNA tested. All breeding animals after a carrier MUST be tested before mating. Every third generation must be tested for both diseases and the proof of test must be shown at mating.
11. Pups must be EVCO tested and checked by a veterinarian before being adopted. Papers on health check and EVCO test must be send with the new owner
12. The inbreeding coefficient should not be higher than 6,25. In the international system that coefficient is less than 10%
13. Dogs used for breeding should have a minimum of GOOD at exhibitions. As an option in periods with pandemics or other situations where the animal cannot be shown, a veterinarian can sign for i) general good health and ii) two testicles in scrotum, only applicable for males
14. It is highly recommended that both parental animals have undergone a mental health description. Of tests available today both MH and BPH are valid and good tools to use for a breeder.

Explanation to breeding criteria :

1. Mentally and physically healthy is without major birth defects. Major in this category is defects that are detrimental to overall health. Lesser defects that do not involve surgery or rectifying measures to improve health are not a concern.
2. Male dogs use quite long time to mature into adulthood. Secondary sex characteristics are usually not developed before the dog is 18 – 24 months of age and it is not uncommon that the dog is not fully developed until 3 years of age. Exceptions occur in both end of the scale, but the Club wishes that all animals should be mentally and physically adult before being bred to ensure that only healthy and well-adjusted animals are used for breeding.
3. Lancashire Heeler is a vulnerable breed and there is a very real danger of loss of genetic diversity in a very small gene pool. One way to ensure some genetic variation is to encourage more male dogs to breed. It is highly recommended to be stringent in not allowing any dog to represent more than 20 individuals in the gene pool. This is easy to verify by calculating number of offspring recommended in population genetics
4. All female dogs should be adult before being bred. It is possible to apply for exceptions if the dog in question is more than 18 months of age.

5. See point 3. One individual's contribution to the gene pool must be limited if genetic diversity is to be maintained worldwide
6. Lack of testicles are not wanted
7. Scissor bite is breed typical and wanted. Lack of some teeth should not be considered if the dog in every other way is good.
8. Patella lux with clinical symptoms is not wanted for breeding.
9. Both parental animals must have a valid EVCO test prior to mating.
10. Every third generation must be tested and registered OR papers on testing must be presented on mating day. The term heritable free is not valid for many generations and we do not want any diseases to be prevalent in the breed.
11. EVCO test of puppies are mandatory and necessary
12. Inbreeding coefficient should be as low as possible.
13. Show results is only necessary to prove that the dog is typical for the breed and can be handled.
14. A mental health description is not mandatory, but highly recommended. For countries where such tests are available, the use of the tests as a breeding tool is recommended. Testing puppies has not shown correlation to adult behaviour, but both MH and BPH at approximately one year of age show correlation to adult behaviour and thus allows a breeder to choose mates that weigh up each other's weaknesses.