

What's In a Name?

The unauthorized changing of a Boykin Spaniel's registered name has become an issue recently in pedigree research on private web sites. Accomplished Boykins whelped by experienced, well-known Boykin breeders and legally registered with nationally recognized organizations are now appearing on other kennel web sites identified with a name different than that of its breeding kennel and different from its registered name. The name of some of the Boykins in question have been altered so that the name reflects that of the "owner" and owner's kennel rather than the name given by the experienced, well-known Boykin breeder and registered with various registries.

So, what's the problem with this you might ask? Outside of being dishonest, false advertisement and an outright lie...changing a registered dog's name without proper permissions denies the dog's heritage and misrepresents the breeding accomplishments of the breeding kennel. The "owner" is guilty of misrepresentation and false disclosure of "bloodline" declaration to potential buyers.

Most experienced breeders -- those who have actually spent many years developing their bloodline -- name their pups after their kennel so as to identify the pup as coming from their kennel and the line of dogs they have spent years creating. Registering pups with their breeding kennel name helps the breeder to track their pups and gives breeding credit where credit is due. The breeder will specify such naming conditions at the time of purchase and it is so recorded on the pup's registration papers. While this might not seem of paramount importance to a non-breeder, to change a dog's name is a violation of the breeder's right, purchase agreement, registration papers, and the rules /regulations of National Registries.

Another greatly troublesome problem created by changing a dog's registered name is the confusion in pedigree research. It is very difficult to determine whether a stud dog is the correct match for your bitch if the name in the OFA/CERF database does not match names given or advertised by owners on their web sites. When the dog's identity is deliberately concealed the future offspring's lineage may be misconstrued and/or concealed.

An added element and truly sad result created by changing a dog's registered name is the actual denial of the breeder's role as the

engineer of the plan that brought two dogs together to create the litter or an exceptional/accomplished dog. When a breeder requests or requires that their kennel name be included as a prefix, a suffix or any other part of the dog's registered name, it is intended to permanently label the dog as being produced by a specific kennel/breeder. For someone other than the breeder, and particularly another kennel, to attempt to take credit for this act is unethical and dishonest. Discipline from the AKC and the UKC should be swift and severe...even to strip away the breeding privileges of the offending kennel/breeder.

While this editorial is directed specifically at accomplished dogs, the same questions apply were someone to deliberately misrepresent and conceal the true identity of a dog with many hip problems, eye problems, elbow problems or any other physical or perceived fault.

The AKC and the UKC do not allow a dog to have its name changed after it has produced offspring.

AKC has definite rules covering when and who may change a dog's name. The cover of the registration rule booklet reads:

"Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline

Also applies to Foundation Stock Service

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Chapter 3, Registration on pages 8&9 reads:

"SECTION 7. No change in the name of a dog registered with The American Kennel Club will be allowed to be made except for a one-time change for a dog whelped in the United States which the breeder(s) has registered with The American Kennel Club.

However, no change in the name will be recorded by The American Kennel Club after the dog has produced or sired an AKC registered litter or received an award at an AKC licensed or member event. Additionally, no change may be made to the dog's registered name unless the breeder(s) of record has consented in writing to the AKC approving the change.

Any change in name must comply with all AKC requirements."

UKC is less specific on who may change a dog's name, but they do require that the change can only be done before a dog has been bred or titled. The UKC rules for name changes on their web page "HOW TO REGISTER/LIST YOUR DOG" at <http://ukcdogs.com/Registration.htm> and

under the section of "Rules for Naming Dogs" states:

"The owner of a dog of any breed may change the dog's name as often as the owner likes until the dog receives a title from the United Kennel Club or has produced UKC registered offspring." Denying a dog its true and legal registered name and heritage is deceitful, is misleading, is dishonest information, is not truth-in-advertising and simply is not factual.

Misrepresenting a registered name, especially changing the kennel name to a different breeder's, is lying. It is also in violation of the Registry's rules and regulations. Regardless of where or how you alter a dogs registered name - whether it be on a web site or in a telephone call inquiry -- it is deceitful and dishonest. Any "owner" or owner kennel that alters a dogs name without permission misrepresents their own breeding accomplishments destroys any credibility they may have had.

So when considering buying a pup, do your pedigree research -- if everything does not add up or match - run very quickly the other way. If a breeder misrepresents any information to you online, telephone or any venue -- their credibility should be questioned. Unfortunately the world in which we live is full of unscrupulous people who would attempt such petty theft as that describe above. Caveat emptor is Latin for "let the buyer beware". Please beware.

- Patricia L. Watts, Editor



HEALTHWISE



Care of Your New Puppy Worming and Immunization Schedule

Here is a general schedule to follow to give your puppy a healthy start:

| | 3 to 4 days | 2 Weeks | 6 Weeks | 9 Weeks | 3 Months | 1 Year |
|--|--|---------|---------|---------|----------|--------|
| Examination (for general Health) | | | X | X | | |
| Tail Docking & Dew Claw removal | X | | | | | |
| Worming (for parasites) | | X | X | | | |
| DHP-PV-CV (1st for distemper parvo/ hepatitis/parainfluenza-parvo-carona) | | | X | | | |
| DHP-PV-CV (2nd) | | | | X | | |
| DHP-PV-CV (3rd) | | | | | X | |
| Bordetella (Kennel Cough) | | | | | X | |
| Rabies | | | | | | X |
| Heartworm Prevention | Monthly beginning the new owner | | | | | |
| Flea & Tick Prevention | Monthly beginning at one year of age | | | | | |
| Heartworm Test | Between 6 & 12 mos. depending on the time of year. | | | | | |

NOTES

Puppies can be spayed or neutered as early as 6 months old.
 Rabies booster shots are one year later and every three years after that.
 The DHP-PV-CV vaccination protects pups against upper respiratory and gastrointestinal viral diseases.



Texas Trace Sam, Roxy and Bon Bon
by Ginger Hurley