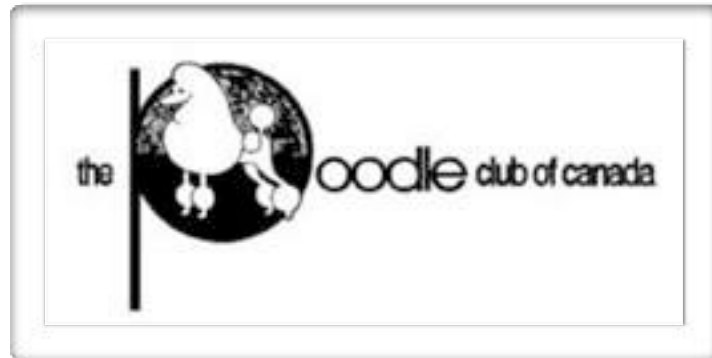


THE POODLE SCENE



SPECIAL ISSUE: BREEDERS & BREEDING

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

PLEASE SEND BRAGS, PHOTOS, STORIES, ADS, RECIPES, WHATEVER IS POODLEY! NEXT NEWSLETTER - SPECIAL ISSUE -FOCUS ON HEALTH. DEADLINE MAY 31, 2012. EN FRANCAIS AUSSI! MERCI !

THANK YOU FROM YOUR EDITOR, LISA KIMBERLY GLICKMAN

LKGLICKMAN@VIDEOTRON.CA

Poodle Club of Canada: list of Officers and Committee Chairs

September 2011 - August 2013

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1st Vice-President	Teresa Myrfield
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Library	Carolyn Savage
Newsletter	Lisa Kimberly Glickman

CALENDAR - UPCOMING EVENTS - Premium Lists - some MAY dates

P.C.A. National Specialty:, April 2012 Salisbury, Maryland [http://
www.poodleclubofamerica.org/entries.htm](http://www.poodleclubofamerica.org/entries.htm)

[Ottawa Kennel Club - Friday, May 25](#) - Conformation

[Peterborough & District Kennel Club - Saturday, May 05](#) - Obedience

[GUELPH & DISTRICT KENNEL CLUB](#) [MONCTON KENNEL CLUB](#)

[VANCOUVER ISLAND DOG FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION](#)

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P.C.C Regional and National Specialty coming up June 1st& 2nd, 2012

When pups are born they are little more than blobs. Muscles and their nerve connections are only in the process of forming so coordination is poor, and that's overstated. The pup can crawl. The direction is toward its mom and her nipples. Olfaction, the sense of smell, leads the pup in the right direction and the lips, nose, mouth area in general, touch a nipple and lips, tongue and their associated musculature react reflexively to produce the sucking response. Not a lot of brain work going on there. Sucking is a reflex with no conscious effort or thought involved in it. It is an involuntary act, which functions with only rudimentary neural development and little or no brain involvement.

Gradually muscles and nerves become better organized, coordination improving concomitantly. With practice the sucking reflex improves, becomes more efficient, the pup's crawling becomes more directed even though front and hind feet are not usually in synch. By three to four weeks the synchrony improves to the point that the pup can walk.

At first there are mistakes, pup may stumble, trip over nothing, get one foot or two moving at the wrong time, a klutz. Nothing like the elegant bird finder one would hope for. Even at four months, many pups are still gawky, ungainly, and foot plopping clumsy. The road from the four week old stumbler to finished elegance is paved with practice, pushing the muscles and their associated nerves to never fail myoneural connections and strengthened muscles with lightning speed and totally smooth contractions. But the pup can't do this all alone; it needs help from its dam. It needs even more help from the breeder because only the breeder can control the environment in which the pup grows up.

Borrowing the adage- if you don't use it you lose it- and paraphrasing it to make it applicable to developing pups, we can say- if you don't use it, you won't ever have it to lose. More than forty years ago physiological psychologists, the only people working on

behavior of animals in North America at the time and that only for application to human behavior, performed all sorts of experiments on rats, cats and to a small extent on dogs, to demonstrate both the old adage and the revamped version. These experiments ran the gamut from immobilizing a limb of a young animal from weaning to adulthood, patching an eye from birth, to single muscle denervation, to partial brain ablation. The effect on muscle development in all these experiments, and there were hundreds of them, was the atrophy you would expect but the effect on nerve and brain development was not predicted. Immobilization of a limb also prevented the formation of neural connections and the portion of the brain that dealt with the limb that was immobilized was smaller and had far fewer nerve cells present than the normal contra lateral leg. Animals that had visual input to one eye eliminated by a patch or by sewing the lid shut

and patching it, failed to develop the ability to focus, developed strabismus and other visual impairments in that eye. Optic nerves connecting visual projection areas of the brain with visual cortex had no or far less than normal myelinization than in intact animals. The eye itself was complete in all respects and was normal size, but because of the effects on the nerve development, vision in the covered, unused eye was always drastically impaired. The implication for the "use or lose" or, "use or it will never develop" on pups is that the more physically challenged the pup is the better the coordination. Environmental enrichment, to borrow a term from the animal care and welfare dictionary, means adding things to the rearing pen to provide objects that the pups (in our case) can manipulate, chew on, carry, climb onto, or over or around. These objects



A detour problem is solved by one pup and pondered by the other who will also solve it in a day or so. (Photo by: Dr. Ed Bailey)

of enrichment provide the physical and mental challenges needed for young developing dog bodies and dog minds. The wild canids—wolves, coyotes, foxes all provide pups with these challenges by selecting den sites with rocks, tree roots, down tree limbs, hilly and uneven ground around the entrance, or they move the pups at four or five weeks of age to a secondary den site that does provide it.

For five years running there was an active fox den nearby that I could see each day as I drove to and from work. Each year the dog and vixen appeared in March. In April and May the dog fox brought food to the vixen in the den. The den was an old renovated woodchuck burrow on a south-facing slope with weeds and grass typical of an old field in this part of the country. In late May the pups emerged from the

den and could be seen playing or sunning at the mouth. Within a week the vixen moved everybody, troop and baggage, to a den about 100 yards south of the natal den. This rearing den was at the base of a fallen down rock fence with a few split rails lying on it. From then on until the pups were weaned and out hunting on their own, each day was play time games in the rock pile. They used the rocks and split rails the way our kids use all the constructed apparatus we build for them in the playground. There in the rocks they developed the skills, strength, agility and coordination to catch a mouse or a rabbit or a ruffed grouse. The pups we raise need a similar physically and mentally challenging play ground to develop their muscle and brain power.

In the sterile four walls, wire or wood or cement block rearing kennels we use with only mom and the siblings, pups have nothing to use except each other to crawl over and hide behind. They still learn the stalk and pounce and the social amenities. But they are doing it in an aggressive, unimaginative way and, an aggressive, unimaginative dog is not what I want for a hunting dog. Pups need the physically challenging environment where they can develop muscle coordination, agility and strength. At least equally, or even more so, they need the mentally challenging environment. They need to develop problem solving ability, mental agility and mental coordination. They are not going to get it unless the breeder provides the opportunity. The restricted brain and neuron development that results from limb restriction and from visual input deprivation will occur in other parts of the brain if the pup is not mentally stimulated. Totally deprived of stimulation, pups either cannot learn or are poor learners at best. Specific areas of the brain are responsible for controlling specific aspects of behavior and physiology. For example, the area of the brain known as the visual cortex serves to integrate the mass of light signals that enter the eye. We know that lack of

visual stimulation in a young animal will limit development of the nerve cells, neurons and transmission of impulses along the nerve fibers and so impair the function of the visual cortex and vision. Emotion is controlled by parts of the midbrain, primarily the limbic system. A pup never experiencing and coping with frustrating situations has limited chance to develop the checks and balances of emotion controlled by nerve cells in the septum and the amygdala, both parts of the limbic system. Impaired emotional control interferes with problem solving ability and with temperament.

True, genetics plays a role. The pup must inherit the potential for development of all areas of the brain just as it must inherit the potential for muscle mass, development, reaction speed and so on. Without the inherited potential all the physical and mental challenges in the world won't help. But conversely, with no physical and mental challenging, a pup's potential will not be realized, no matter how much it starts with. Inherited potential



Climbing a see through ramp to a see through bridge in an environment enriched with a variety of play ground apparatus. (Photo by: Dr. Ed Bailey)

and learning in the form of physical and mental exercise are so interdigitated that saying where one starts and the other stops is just not possible. But we do know that the more that is learned, the more challenged the mental and physical capacities are within reasonable limits, the more that can be learned and the more that can be achieved physically and mentally. Mind challenging problems are exercise for the brain and will enhance its development, and similarly, physically challenging pups is exercise for the muscles and will promote their development.

How do you exercise the brain? Just give the pups problems to solve. You can treat the pups singly or as a group, but at least part of the time it should be singly to be sure each pup is acting as an individual and not just following his brother or sister.



Trips to the field are most important where investigation of everything by all possible modalities makes pup a brilliant dog. (Photo by Vikki Kauffmann, Alchmy Poodles, Seattle Washington, USA)

As I pointed out in a previous article in Gun Dog, pups have developmental mile posts based on the kicking in of the various sensory modalities. Solving a problem based on visual or auditory perception or on mobility is unrealistic if the pups have not yet attained these perceptual modalities or have not yet gained sufficient mobility and manipulatory skills. So the problems we pose for a pup to improve his smarts will depend on where he is developmentally. The time when that particular modality or combination of modalities and mobility skill should be challenged for maximum benefit should begin just as the pups pass that particular developmental milepost. The challenges should start easy and simple and become more difficult and complex. What challenging "think" situations you present to the pups will depend on what problems the dog will

be expected to face during the rest of his life and on your own inventive genius. An example of a problem every dog must face, and hopefully solve, many times in his life is that the best route from point A to point B is not necessarily a straight line- say retrieving a bird that fell on the far side of a hog wire fence with 4 or 5 strands of barbed wire on top when there is a gate opening 50 yards to the left. The dog that was challenged with detour problems, also known as "um weg" problems (literally "around road" problems), as a pup will have the smarts to size up the situation and make the detour, and save a lot of money in vet bills by not needing to have the wire cuts stitched up.

If we want to challenge a pup physically to improve muscle coordination, we put up a barrier that he can see over but not through and can crawl over. To mentally challenge the pup in a detour problem, the barrier must be too high to crawl over or see over but one he can see through. The object the pup wants, such as food, a chew toy, another pup, is visible but attainable only if he goes around the barrier. Creating this situation requires only a wire barrier such as a refrigerator shelf or a shelf from your wife's new electric stove, you know the one you bought to offset the new shotgun you have on order. Set up the barrier so it reaches part way across a corridor or hallway. The goal can be made accessible by going around one end or both ends. If accessible around just one end, change the open end frequently. Gradually the barrier will be widened and angled so pup solves the problem of going away from the goal object in order to get to it instead of standing in front of the fence barking like a stupid idiot. You really want a dog whose actions speak louder than his words. I certainly do.

A few detour problems will enable the pup to later solve a variety of problems, even those only vaguely related to the original detour problems. He can solve other spatial problems that come up years later without need of a whole new learning regimen. He can also solve temporal problems like how long is 10 minutes. No, it doesn't

teach him how to tell time, but he learns patience, waiting for something he wants is not much different from going away from something in order to get it, even going out of sight of it and approaching from a different angle. Mentally exercising a pup gives him the smarts to figure it out.

Self confidence in puppies can be increased by letting them learn how easy it is to go up a see through ramp and walk on an elevated see through bridge. It also improves perception of depth by challenging them with these visual cliffs. New experiences are most important. The more pups hear, smell, touch, chew on, investigate by all the means available, the better off they are for it. From 5 to 6 weeks onward, exposure to the world in the form of walks with mom and the littermates is easy experience to give them, weather conditions permitting. Every experience pups have will stimulate neural development and so brain development. As the brain develops, so does the learning ability, insight into problems and so problem solving ability, which in turn stimulates more neural development. The pup will then keep right on self-improving.

Therefore, besides the specifically related, distantly related, and even unrelated learning relationships, there is the overall general improvement in learning ability. A criterion of intelligence is elevated learning ability. By exercising the brain with mental challenges we improve the total brain function, not just one area of it. The breeder has the power to improve nerve conductivity in both speed and accuracy, recovery time of the neural synapses is shortened as the chemical and electrical signals react faster, and the nerves can fire repeatedly quicker. The brain mass increases dramatically as nerve cell density increases. Overall brain efficiency markedly improves. Just as the effect of physically challenging the muscular system, the whole body benefits, not just one part, so the whole brain and nervous system with all its neural and neurosecretory functions benefits from the challenges of mental exercise.

Most dogs are born with more "brains" than we give them credit for. Whether the potential is realized, even beyond our fondest dreams, is in the hands of the breeder and in the environment he sets up for the pups. A sterile, coddling, do nothing environment produces sterile minded dogs. A challenging, stimulating environment that exercises both muscles and neurons produces pups that approach or even surpass their potential. The message to the breeders is to make the pups work for a living mentally and physically during the 10 or so weeks you have them and everyone will be amazed at your well balanced, super smart product. To the potential buyer, the message is to make sure the breeder that is producing your puppy works them up to their physical and mental capabilities.

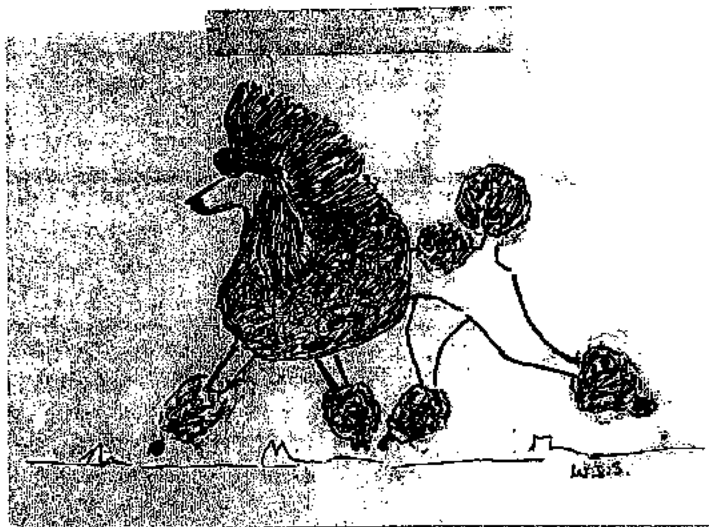
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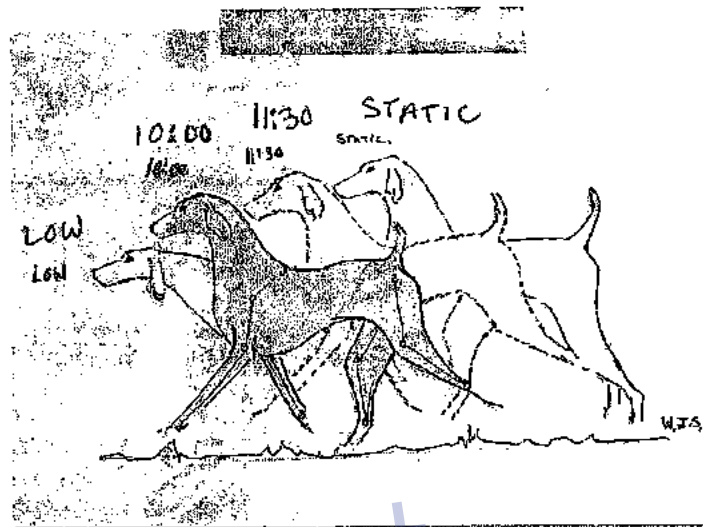


POODLE CARRIAGE & MOVEMENT

By Wendell J. Sammet • Ale Kai Poodles



The correct Poodle, "carrying himself proudly" with a stylish lift and efficient reach.



From a static position the dog begins to move; head carriage in motion may be at the 11:30 position, the 10:00 position or lower.

When discussing dogs, one of the most misused terms is "breed type." Webster's definition of type: "an animal that is representative of, or has distinctive characteristics of, a group or individual." To define breed type, one must refer to that particular breed's standard. The standard of each breed was written on appearance, conformation, attitude, performance and individual breed characteristics. The head and neck carriage of the Poodle is a distinctive characteristic.

CARRIAGE IN MOTION

Without condemning the importance of evaluating the dog in a static position, it is most important to view the side motion at a normal trot, not at an accelerated speed. Observing the side motion at a normal trot reveals conformation and characteristics of that breed's type, both desirable and undesirable. One can observe head and neck carriage, tail set and topline, the reach of the front legs, the drive of the hindquarters, and the timing of the feet. The normal trot viewed from the side is the gait used to evaluate the dog in motion in the show ring. It is a rhythmic two-beat diagonal gait; the rear leg on one side is brought forward as it meets the front leg on the same side coming back. The front leg must raise off the ground a fraction of a second before the rear foot touches the ground. This trot asks for the diagonal paws to move in cadence, a sequence that is repeated on the opposite side.

Coordination or good foot timing is of great importance to avoid a faulty gait, such as overreaching, crossing or a high-stepping hackney. None of these illustrate the smooth effortless

movement of the Poodle.

Starting into motion from the static position, the brain must send out coordinated impulses to all muscles in the body. The head is raised to assist in lifting the front paw. The head and neck move down and slightly forward over the extended limb to maintain kinetic balance. The rear leg is thrust forward by a strong highquarter to its maximum position, putting weight on the forequarter to create stability. The topline will drop slightly, although almost unnoticeably. This sequence is repeated on the opposite diagonal.

As the dog extends his head and neck forward, he accelerates his trot, creating the action of leg lift and reach. Acceleration controls the head and neck's front reach. The faster the acceleration, the more the head and body will lower.

The epitome of breed type in the Poodle is demonstrated during side motion at a normal trot. His head, the hallmark of the breed, joins the arched neck rising from strong, smooth shoulders, establishing the correct head and neck carriage within the range of 10:00 to 11:30. This carriage illustrates the Poodle's elegant appearance, "carrying himself proudly" with a stylish lift and efficient reach.

His "strong and long" neck permits him to carry his head "high and with dignity." It rises from smooth muscular shoulders, assisting in the momentum for the front legs to reach out freely. His angulation governs the length of stride; muscular development

Continued on page 16

thick muscles and ligaments, causing the dog to drop his head low to achieve reach, resulting in a loss of style.

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FAULTY CARRIAGE

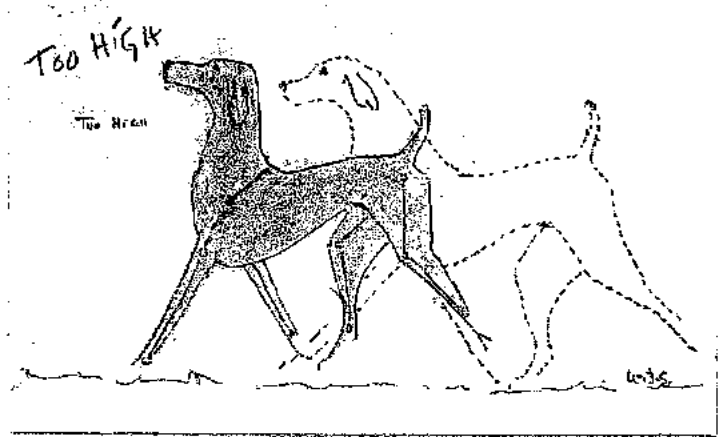
Faulty head and neck carriage can be caused by structural imperfection, poor handling and/or too much acceleration. Too low, too high, carried too far back over the withers, and high-stepping action are incorrect for the Poodle's preferred head and neck carriage. These faulty carriages take away from the proper reach, and detract from the elegant appearance of the "straightforward trot with light springy action and smooth effortless movement."

Too low head and neck carriage causes the Poodle to lose his inimitable style, even if the reach is acceptable. This side picture takes away from the Poodle's elegance and ability to carry himself proudly with his head and tail up.

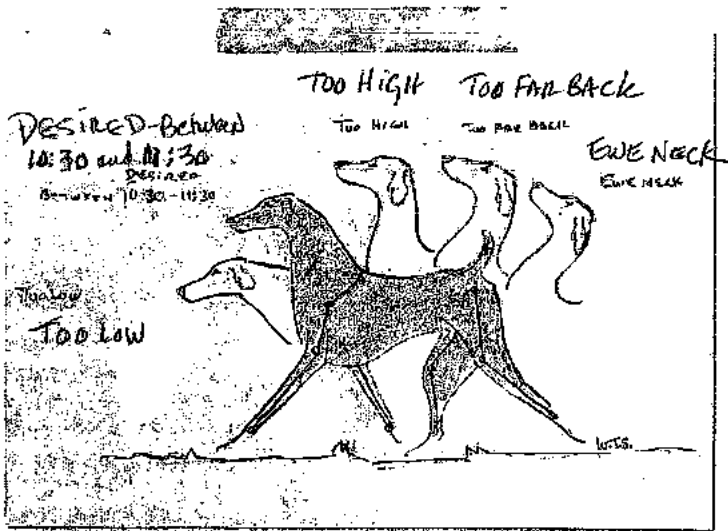
Poor structure, a short neck, and/or excessive acceleration will cause the head, neck and body to lower in order to maintain reach and the drive from behind. It also can give the appearance of an elongated body.

Owners and handlers are under the impression that speed covers faults and that it makes the dog look dramatic.

The faulty 12 to 12:30 head and neck carriage exhibits very high lift with effective reach, with limited drive from the rear. It inhibits the straightforward trot with light springy action and strong hindquarters drive preferred for the Poodle. This faulty carriage



When the head is carried too high, reach of the front legs is restricted.



Variations of head and neck carriage; the shaded figure exhibits the ideal carriage.

Poodle Carriage, Cont'd from page 102

aids in springiness. Neither one will do without the other — we must have both for the Poodle to step smartly with that inimitable style, "a straightforward trot with light springy action and strong hindquarters drive."

The Poodle's back is level, ending with a straight tail set on high and carried up. With a strong push from the hindquarters he establishes efficient reach with "sound effortless movement," possessing the style which characterizes the Poodle's breed type, without exaggeration.

The head and neck carriage in relation to the lift and reach of the front leg:

- 12:30 to 11:30 — high lift, with effective reach
- 11:30 to 10:30 — stylish lift, with fair reach
- 10:30 to 10:00 — nice style, with good reach
- 10:00 to 9:30 — loss of style, with acceptable reach

There are many variations of head and neck carriage associated with different breeds. The preferred carriage for the Poodle is within the range of 10:30 to 11:30. That is illustrated by the Poodle carrying himself proudly with dignity.

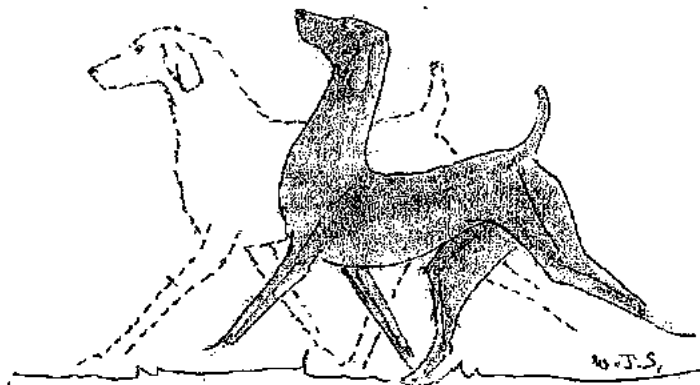
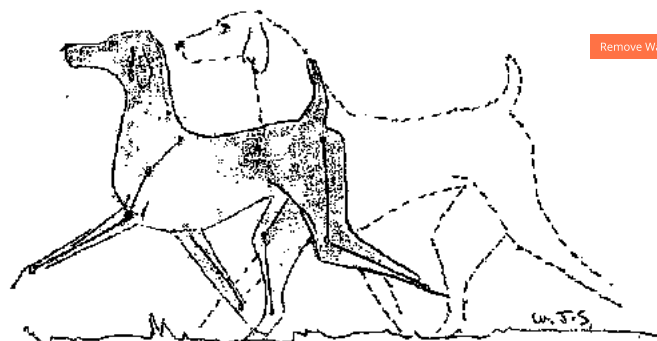
IMPORTANCE OF THE NECK

The description of the neck in many breed standards is similar, but added descriptions are used to illustrate that breed's specific type. The Poodle neck is "well proportioned, strong and long enough to permit the head to be carried high." The skin is snug at the throat and "the neck rises from strong, smoothly muscled shoulders," descriptions that fulfill the demand that the dog carry himself proudly and with dignity.

The dictum for the head to be carried high is not really a head directive at all. It is rightly the neck that constitutes the support column whose length and strength determines where and how the head shall be carried. The neck must be fairly long for the Poodle in static position to be in balance and appear up off the ground.

Head and neck carriage is closely related to the lift and reach of the front legs. The neck is supported by muscles and suspensory ligaments; lack of support will affect lift and reach.

The exaggerated too-long neck has long ligaments and long, thin muscles, taking away the support. The short neck has short and



The topline of the ewe neck is concave instead of having the correct arch.

lacks the arch in the neckline, therefore showing the lack of strength. The neck joins the withers abruptly, taking away from the strong, smooth shoulders. Faulty structure reduces the forward reach and creates a choppy up-and-down motion at the withers.

The higher the head is held, the higher the front leg will be lifted. A muscle extends from the upper arm along the neck to the head; when the head is carried high, this neck muscle is stretched and the leg is lifted higher than normal.

The head carried too far over the withers is dramatic, but it takes away from the desired squarely-built Poodle outline with its neck rising from strong smoothly muscled shoulders.

This Poodle's neck lacks the correct arch, indicating a weakness in ligaments and supporting muscles. Because the neck is thrown too far back and joins the shoulders abruptly, there is a tendency for a slight hollow of the back with a slightly high rear; the topline is not flat. With extensive reach and drive the body lowers slightly and overreaching can appear.


This carriage will give the appearance of a "ewe neck" (a major fault), which can be caused by excess acceleration, forcing the neck and head back, and poor handling. A ewe neck can only be determined when examined. The topline of the ewe neck is concave instead of having an arch, showing weakness without the ability to control, offering very little support. The base of the neck is set forward on the shoulders.

Seen too often in the Poodle ring is the faulty high-stepping hackney action. This action is incorrect for the desired front reach of the

Poodle. While it may appear stylish, a lifting hackney-like movement is not correct for the Poodle.

Motion of the front leg must come from the shoulder and reach out, not as a bouncing, high-stepping gait with wasted motion and energy. True, this gait may be eye catching and stylish, but it does not illustrate the straightforward trot with light springy action.

High head and neck carriage bring about too much lift and the hackney action. It can be caused by exaggerated angulation and drive from the hindquarters. Instead of overreaching, the dog resorts to quick, extra high lift of the front leg, suspended in the air for a fraction of a second before he drops it into place on the ground. This keeps the front paw out of the way of the oncoming rear foot.

The dog's front foot does not bend under, as it does on the horse. The dog tends to hold his foot in a horizontal position, while in the true hackney gait of a horse, the foot is held high, pointed down and inward. In certain small dogs a hackney-like gait is called for, and the leg joints are conformed to achieve flexion at the knees in this specific way. It must not be mistaken for the normal high-stepping action of the Poodle. 

SOURCES:

The Dynamics of Canine Gait, Leon Hollenbeck
The Dog in Action, McDowell Lyon
Structure and Terminology, Gilbert and Brown
The Illustrated Standard of the Poodle
Dogsteps, Rachel Page Elliott
Dogs, a Profession or a Hobby (Vols 1 and 2), by Catherine (Casey) Gardine and E.S. Gibson, 1975 Canine Consultants Publishing

Wendell Sammett is the author/owner of this article originally printed in *Dogs in Review*, May 2009. Mr. Sammett has given us permission to reprint. Apologies for the quality of the copy.

Everyone says it: "Buy from a responsible breeder!" But what does that really mean? What exactly is a responsible breeder of purebred dogs?

To start, it's not something that can be defined in a sentence or two, but rather it's a combination of factors that sets a good breeder apart from the rest of the pack. And finding a breeder who stands out from that pack is about knowing what makes them good, what makes them bad, and what makes them downright ugly.

So how do you sort the good from the bad? Start with the following list of what defines a responsible breeder, and when it comes time to select a breeder for your puppy, make sure they meet all the ✓ marks!

✓ **Good Breeders Know Their Breed**

They strive to produce dogs that are healthy and sound, that conform to accepted standards for the breed in respect to look, characteristics, temperament, and breed type. They place health and temperament at the top of their list when selecting dogs for breeding.

They "breed to the standard", knowing the choices they make will help preserve and protect the integrity and characteristics of the breed as a whole.

✓ **Good Breeders Know about Genetics and Inheritance**

They know how certain traits are inherited and understand about dominant and recessive genes and autosomal and multi-factored inheritance.

They know their pedigrees and what may lay hidden in the gene pool. They know about calculating coefficient rates to determine the percentage of common ancestors in a pedigree.

They know about, and make use of the genetic tests available for the breed and get health clearances on their dogs. They provide new puppy owners with copies of these clearances.

✓ **Good Breeders Care About Their Dogs**

They breed only those dogs that are physically and mentally mature. Often this means waiting till the dogs are two or three years old. It also means NOT breeding older dogs well past their prime.

They belong to and associate themselves with dog clubs that are devoted to promoting, protecting, and improving the breed. Most dog clubs, including the Canadian Kennel Club, have a code of ethics regarding breeding practices and the selling of dogs.

They are involved in activities such as conformation dog shows, obedience, hunting, herding, and more. They take their dogs to classes, teach classes, organize dog shows and trials, attend seminars and continuing education events, and are involved in breed rescue. They help educate the public about dogs and their breed. They are advocates for their breed.

✓ **Good Breeders Breed The Best**

They select the best stud dogs for their females, even if that dog is on the other side of the country! If using a local stud dog or one of their own, there's a reason other than convenience. They are selective of which females are used with their stud dogs, accepting only those that are genetically sound with good temperaments. They don't stud their dogs for the local pet market.

✓ **Good Breeders Care About the Puppies They Raise**

They raise their puppies in an environment that is conducive to them growing up to be loving family companions, typically in their homes, often in their kitchens. They take the time to get to know their puppies individually before they are sold to new homes. This enables them to match the right puppy to

the right family.

They have the welfare of the puppies at heart and carefully screen buyers to make sure the puppies are going to the best possible homes.

They register their puppies with the Canadian Kennel Club or other recognized registries appropriate to the breed, as well as provide microchip or tattoo identification on each of the puppies they sell. They don't charge "extra" for papers.

They don't sell or otherwise dispose of dogs or puppies to pet stores, brokers, puppy mills, or other wholesale avenues, or shelters or humane societies.

✓ **Good Breeders Follow Through**

They offer written contracts, guarantees and after sales support. They help puppy owners through the transition of becoming responsible owners, answer their questions, help them with training and grooming and anything else they might need.

They make sure the puppies are fully evaluated by a veterinarian before they go to their new homes.

They make sure puppies are current on vaccinations appropriate to their age and free of parasites or worms. They discuss any potential health issues with prospective buyers.

They encourage, some enforce, mandatory spay and neuter contracts to ensure the puppies they have sold are not ever bred indiscriminately, or thorough accidental breedings, or worse, end up in a puppy mill through some twist of fate. They sell their puppies on CKC non-breeding agreements.

They offer assistance rehoming the puppy/dog should the need ever arise. Some even take the dog back. They care that the puppies they help bring into the world will not ever end up in rescue or shelters.

No good breeder EVER wants to see one of their dogs homeless. Breeding dogs, and breeding them well, is NOT about breeding them to supply market demand and making money on puppy sales.

A good breeder makes conscientious decisions about which dogs they breed and why. They make sure their dogs are a good representative of the breed, exhibit proper breed temperament, and are free of health and genetic problems. They care about their breed, and just as importantly, they care about the FUTURE of their breed, knowing that the dogs they breed today may have an influence on the look, health, and temperament of generations of dogs to come.

Now, isn't that the kind of breeder you want to buy your puppy from?

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Original artwork by
[Karen Dupre](#)

Potential Causes of Reproduction Problems

By Stacey Amirov, member of Chihuahua Club of America's Health Related Issues Committee

Canine reproduction, Fertility and neonatal challenges group on Facebook, reprinted here with permission.

Please note that the author is not a Veterinarian; simply an experienced breeder sharing helpful advice and tips.

Things to look into if you are having trouble with any of the following: infertility, reabsorption of fetuses, weak/sick puppies, birth defects, etc.

- 1) Water- especially well water can be high in nitrates, copper, lead and other toxic substances. Have water tested or try using bottled water instead.
 - 2) Infections such as brucellosis, beta strep, mycoplasma, toxoplasmosis, herpes, parvovirus etc. Not all are susceptible to Clavamox or other common antibiotics so don't rule out infection based only on an unsuccessful trial of one antibiotic. (For example, Clavamox is effective against beta strep, but not against Mycoplasma.) ANY infection (tooth infection, upper respiratory infection, etc) in the dam that causes a fever in the first trimester may cause birth defects or loss of the litter.
 - 3) Diet- lack of folic acid, excess vitamin A (found in high amounts in liver), copper and other dietary imbalances. Flaxseed has been indicated by some (may act as an estrogen antagonist). Phytoestrogens in soy can also impact reproductive health. Some mushrooms and plants may be toxic, moldy foods that can be found in the yard, some nuts, etc. Tomato pomace may contain higher amounts of pesticide residue than other fiber sources.
 - 4) Pesticides- Nearby farms may be spraying crops/ your neighbors might be spraying pesticides in the yard which the wind is carrying over, the park you walk your dog in might be treated with pesticides.
 - 5) Lack of sunlight
 - 6) Cleaning chemicals- One person had trouble with infertility and puppies dying from using Tide laundry detergent in water to clean wood enclosures. Pinesol has been implicated by some. There are many more that could potentially cause issues if absorbed through the paw pads or licked. Vinegar and water or diluted bleach tend to be safe for cleaning.
 - 7) Flea, tick, ear mite and mange chemicals
 - 8) Medications- steroids are one example. Also, topical retin A preparations used for acne on owner's skin may cause birth defects in pups if pregnant bitch comes in contact with it. Be careful with any topical medications used (especially if containing retin A/ retinol- also included in some over-the-counter anti-aging creams) as well as birth control patches, menopause estrogen therapy patches, use of insulin, etc.
 - 9) Metabolic imbalance in dam- hypothyroid, diabetes, etc.
 - 10) Mould- in food or wood that is chewed on, nutshells, etc.
 - 11) Vaccinating close to or during pregnancy
 - 12) Paint or wood protector that is ingested from wood fencing or enclosures. Also compressed wood used to make cheap furniture.
 - 13) Second hand smoke (implicated in premature birth and low birth weight of puppies)
- <http://www.cyberpet.com/dogs/articles/health/practical.htm> by Marina Zacharias about bringing a bitch into heat and what products to buy holistically.
- 14) <http://www.schultzvetclinic.com/>

The Whelping Pause

By Terri Taylor Easterbrooks & Myra Savant Harris in Canine reproduction, Fertility and neonatal challenges
Facebook Group. Reprinted here with the express written permission of the authors. Please note that the authors are NOT veterinarians; they are experienced breeders sharing their opinions based on their experiences.

I am titling this document: "The Whelping Pause" because this is actually what is happening with bitches who experience the following symptoms:

1. The bitch has whelped one or more puppies but has other puppies still in utero.
2. She has stopped contracting completely, is comfortable, sleeping, nursing her babies and snacking.
3. Calls to the vet result in instructions that if puppies are not delivered every 2-3 hours it is an emergency situation requiring a c-section.
4. Often breeders or vets inject oxytocin in an effort to re-start the contractions but the oxytocin does not appear to be doing anything.
5. Usually a c-section is done and oftentimes puppies are dead. The most common comment heard is that the breeder has "waited too long" and that is the reason that puppies have died.
6. Sometimes the bitch dies during the c-section.

So, if any of that sounds familiar to you, this document may be of interest. My opinions will not agree with those of your vet and many dog breeders panic and simply will not let nature take its course....which it always does, given some time.

Lately at my seminars I've been asking the breeders who are attending if the situation outlined above has ever happened to them and by a show of hands, 60-75% of all of them have experienced it. So the first thing I'd like to present to you is that anything that happens 60-75% of the time is not an abnormal event. Something that happens 10% of the time is abnormal; 60-75%, (even 40%) of the time is considered to be a normal event, with predictable consequences: the eventual delivery of viable puppies.

Bitches and other mammals that deliver in litters often take "Pauses" in the process. It happened often to my parents (who bred cockers and chihuahuas) and it has happened to me often as well. In my parents case, they ignored it, accepted it and often woke up to new puppies the next morning. In my case I ran off to the vet, expecting and getting a c-section with often disastrous results. The best way to know if there is a problem with your bitch is to WATCH YOUR BITCH AND THROW AWAY THE CLOCK! If a bitch is sleeping and nursing her puppies, comfortable and willing to eat something, she is perfectly fine. LEAVE HER ALONE, to do the work that she has to do. Uterine inertia does not occur in human women who are in the process of delivering their single baby. It occurs following delivery if the uterine muscle fails to contract and the vaginal bleeding is heavy. This often dangerous event is most frequently caused by a full bladder. At that point in time oxytocin or methergine can be administered along with uterine massage. But, for some reason, vets have started referring to this perfectly normal whelping event as "uterine inertia" and we breeders have hopped all over it and are having c-sections more and more frequently. The end result 100 years from now is that we will have created a species that is incapable of free whelping.

So here is a brief primer on how a bitch whelps. It might help you to be more accepting of this if you also knew that back in the day when we used to let human moms delivery twins vaginally, the same thing happened to them with a pause of as much as 4-6 hours before the second twin was delivered.

The bitch may take as long as two full days before she actually kicks into labor. She may be alternating digging, sleeping, pacing, just generally acting uncomfortable for as long as 48 hours before she is actually in labor. Her behaviors are usually due to "Braxton Hicks" contractions, a normal part of gestation. The key things for you to observe are: A) Does she sleep? B) Does she eat something offered to her? and C) Does she consume fluids? If the answer to these questions are yes...she is not in labor. Once she starts into labor, she will usually (not always but usually) refuse food, often refuse to drink and until her "whelping pause" she will be awake, clingy and panting. Active labor may last easily as long as 12 hours before she pushes out a puppy. This is normal. She may have to urinate and even defecate frequently due to pressure on her bladder and bowel. She will often present with an amniotic sac becoming visible, sometimes what appear to be 2 or more sacs will be visible at her vulva. (Remember each puppy is in its own amniotic sac) She may not be having frequent or intense contractions at that point in time. You can feel these contractions by putting your hands on her abdomen, along the left and right sides until you feel the tightening of the uterine horns. You time them from the beginning of one

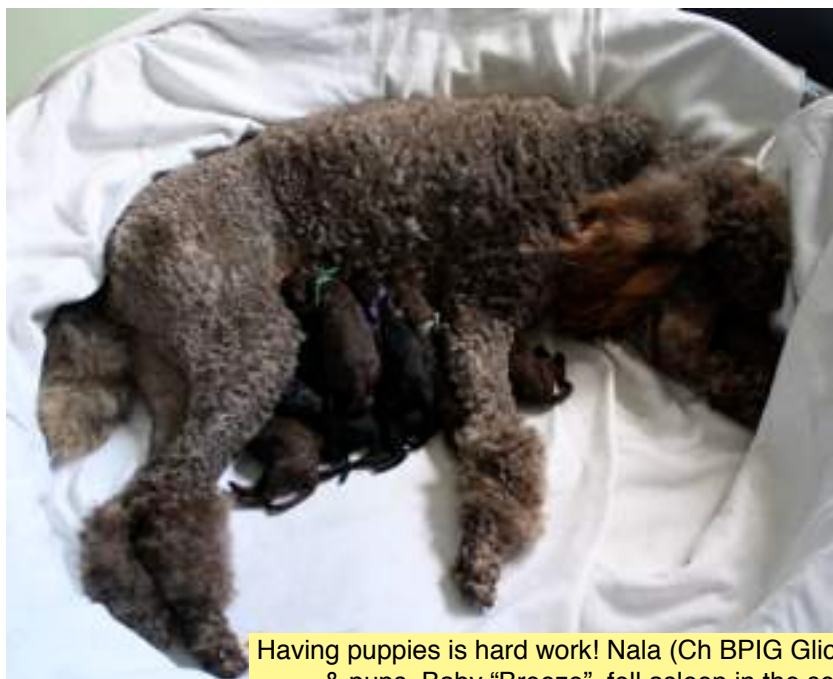
contraction until the beginning of the next one. The sacs may come in and out and may remain at her vulva for a number of hours.....watch her to get an idea as to what is happening. **If she is biting at her rear end, squatting frequently like she has to urinate, pacing, crying, whining or pushing for an hour without results** that is the time you need to consult your vet, but do not allow him to administer oxytocin. It will separate the placentas from the wall of the uterus and you will be at risk for losing puppies. If, as is most frequently the case, she is just having regular contractions, panting and **acting normal between contractions**, this is just a normal whelping. The fluid in the visible sac/sacs may be clear or it may be any shade of green from light to dark. This too is normal, not a sign of anything but a whelping. It is not meconium, it is not anything but the normal color of the interior portion of the placenta as the puppies begin to loosen from their placentas and get into position for delivery. Canine meconium is mustard yellow and puppies who are born alive with that mustard yellow color surrounding them should be watched carefully for the first few days of their lives in case they have aspirated the meconium.

After she has delivered one or more puppies, she may stop contracting altogether, nap, nurse her baby/babies, snack and want to go outside to void. (Take her out on a leash, with a flashlight and washclothes. Once the bladder has emptied, she may suddenly be able to pass the puppy that she has been working to whelp. This is common. Be prepared.)

Her whelping pause may last....hang onto your hat....as long as 12-24 hours. Her behavior is going to tell you everything you need to know. Watch her. Give her small amounts of vanilla ice cream during the whelping process to replace fluids lost while panting, glucose to jump start the babies and as a bonus, it gives the mom calcium which is used to strengthen contractions. If one of the puppies has died in utero, it will often take a good long while for that dead puppy to be delivered. As long as your bitch is not showing the signs of distress that I listed above she is fine. Bitches very, very rarely die in free whelps but they die with some regularity in c-sections. **C-sections ARE NOT SAFER than a free whelp for mom nor babies.**

Only in the canine world is a patient who is asleep, comfortable, caring for her infant/infants and snacking considered to be a patient who requires a major surgery.

Give your bitches all the time they need to whelp. Stop putting the puppies and their safety first. You wouldn't want that to be done if you were the one delivering your babies. The bitches are our treasure and we owe it to them to first of all....learn how to whelp them and help them and second of all, put their value, safety and lives at the top of our list of priorities above all else.



Having puppies is hard work! Nala (Ch BPIG Glicks Midsummer Night Nala RN TPOC) & pups. Baby "Breeze" fell asleep in the scale - makes her easier to weigh!

Each of us evaluate our dogs in our own fashion, weighing one point more heavily for or against the dog, often quite differently than the next person would do. This is perfectly natural as we all have different likes and dislikes, from what we want for lunch to what we think is essential in a Poodle. Being a breeder of over thirty years, when I evaluate a litter of puppies or an individual, I also evaluate the pedigree. Of course you do not do this when judging, (although perhaps we should). I start with the pedigree, because most of us do not just want a show dog, of course we want the puppy to become an excellent example of the breed that we can win with, but we almost always expect to be able to breed this dog and sell or show the puppies, hoping they will win at least as much as their parent. It is also nice if the dog becomes a Top Producer, for although most of us are not dog breeders for the money! (What money? Oh, the money pit of course.) It is still easier to continue with our hobby if we can at least sell some of the puppies for a decent amount of money.

So I evaluate the pedigree behind any litter or dog first. I used to like a line bred pedigree. Over the years I have modified my thinking due to the many discoveries regarding autoimmune disease, coefficients of inbreeding (COI), major histocompatibility complexes (MHC) and heterozygosity. I now find that in the Standard Poodle I prefer to do breedings between dogs which are not closely related but are of a similar look and type. In addition, I like the pedigree to be as clear of known genetic problems as possible. Usually the affected and carrier dogs that we know about in any pedigree is less than a quarter of the number that are really there. This is especially important with regard to devastating health problems such as sebaceous adenitis, juvenile renal disease, Addison's and epilepsy to name a few. Linebreeding still seems to be possible in the Miniature Poodle without adversely affecting the health of the resulting puppies.

When evaluating a litter of puppies for a breeder, I ask them why they did the breeding and what qualities they hoped to gain in the offspring that the dam did not have. I often find that a breeder who has done an outcross breeding to a dog because they admired some aspect of that dog, are disappointed when the litter does not look to be as good quality overall as they expected. They must realise that if they really wish to incorporate for example a better front into their line of dogs, they may have to keep a puppy with a good front, even if they do not really like it (as long as it has no disqualifications or major faults). Usually when they breed that puppy back into their own line, they then incorporate the improvement they originally wanted to obtain. I find that many people tend to keep the puppy from the outcross breeding that looks most like what they usually produce, even if it does not have the better front, then are disappointed with the puppies it later produces. I have fallen into this trap myself on occasion.

Then I evaluate the individual or the litter. Evaluating a whole litter gives more perspective on the future breeding worth of the individual, as a puppy from a litter where there were several puppies of almost as good quality, and no others with a disqualification or major fault, is much more likely not to produce these faults than is a puppy with mediocre littermates. I like to look at puppies when they are between seven and eight weeks of age. I find that usually the puppies are consistent at this age, that is any puppies which had a slower start in life (low birth weight, competition while nursing, etc.) have caught up to the other puppies. It is essential that the puppies have been fed and wormed correctly to give them the necessary start as a show and breeding animal. It is of course also very important for those which become pets. As a veterinarian, I tend to evaluate the puppies medically at the same time. In any case the puppies should be thoroughly checked out by a veterinarian before final decisions are made. It is important that any puppy be healthy, but doubly so for an animal kept to show or breed.

I prefer to start by letting the puppies run around on the floor, or allowing an older dog to move freely in a fenced area, or on a flexi-lead if such an area is not available. The most important quality is the temperament. The dog should be happy, confident and outgoing. I look for natural head-up head carriage and a straightforward springy trot (not a pace). I watch for natural drive, and of course mark an individual down for over-reaching and hackney-type movement. It is usually not possible to watch an eight week old puppy coming and going, but with an older puppy, if they are leash trained I like to see them moving with parallel movement, tending toward a single track at a fast trot. I don't want to see paddling, weaving or moving wide in front, nor do I want to see them moving close, cow-hocked or bow-hocked behind. Many puppies side wind when young due to high spirits, so I do not penalise them heavily for that unless it is because they are too short-backed or unbalanced.

Next I look at each puppy separately while they are standing on a table (easier on my back). First I evaluate overall proportions. I like a squarely built dog, (height at withers equal to length from breastbone to point of rump. I will forgive a slightly longer backed dog, if the same dog has excellent angulation in both front and rear and covers ground well (no side winding or overreaching). I do not like a dog which is taller than it is long. I have recently seen more of these puppies than in the past, which I find disturbing. These dogs invariably cannot move properly. Their backs are not long enough for them to get their front legs out of the way of their rear legs when they try to trot. They all do something incorrect when they move, either side winding (earlier comment), moving wide in the front or rear, and/or close in the opposite end, and often showing either hackney movement or mincing along in the rear. Occasionally if they are quite straight in angulation in both ends, they actually appear to move quite well, but show little reach or drive. I like a puppy with medium bone, fine boned dogs tend to finish up either small or narrow, while heavy boned animals are often coarse (too much dog for me) as adults.

Next are the teeth. A correct bite (scissors or level) is essential and I prefer a full compliment of teeth. A small (oval) dark eye is preferred, but I will forgive a slightly rounder eye if it is dark. I have found that parallel planes on the head with a correct stop is essential to poodle expression. I can forgive a slightly heavier head, a even a narrower head if the cheeks are clean (flat) in a Standard, but I find that a narrow head on a Miniature puppy often ends up snipey with either missing teeth, or with bite problems as an adult. Clean cheeks seem to be harder to find in Miniatures. I like low-set long ears, with a long leather but I will forgive a shorter ear leather if the set is correct. It is harder to find low set ears on Miniatures, so I usually feel a moderately set ear is good, but I penalise ear set more heavily on a Standard. Muzzle length should equal skull length. I penalise a snipey chin, but also find that especially in Standards, a puppy with too strong a chin may end up with a reverse scissors bite (technically undershot) when its adult teeth come in. In my experience this happens more rarely in Miniatures. I do not like a roman nose, and I prefer chiselling under the eyes, but can forgive a lack of it. I will also forgive a slightly heavier head more easily than one which is too fine -especially in puppies as heads tend to refine more with age and growth. I want a clean throat, but again find it not as important as the length of neck. It is very important that the neck be long and fit into the withers properly -no ewe necks allowed. Necks do not fit properly unless the front assembly is correctly proportioned. The upper arm must be approximately the same length as the shoulder blade, and the front assembly should be set on the rib cage such that you can feel the breastbone at least even with (in front of in Standards) the two shoulder points. The deepest portion of the chest should be at the elbows and there should be some fill to the chest at this point (not slab-sided or without forechest). The chest should not be so wide or round so that the elbows are forced out and the toes turned in, nor should it be so narrow that the toes can turn out. Feet should be tight, thick pads are preferred. In Miniatures I find it necessary to check the shape of the radius (leg bone) -it should be as straight as

possible, without a curve between the pastern and the elbow. I have not noticed this tendency in Standards. The neck should blend into a level topline with a strong short loin.

Tails are very important. While I prefer a straight tail, set high and of course carried up, I do not penalise a tail with a small curl at the end. I do not like a tail carried flat on the back, or a low tailset. I also feel that the pelvis should be long, approximately the same length as the femur (bone from hip to stifle), thus avoiding the "apple-bum" look that some dogs have when in continental trim. A longer pelvis appears to be easier to find in Standards than in Miniatures. I also like the femur to be approximately the same length as the tibia (bone from stifle to hock). If these bones are about the same length, you usually find that the dog is not over angulated in the rear. Of course if all these bones are short in proportion to the dog, the angulation can be very straight. I like adult angulation to allow the hind toenails to be directly beneath the point of the rump. Hocks should be short. I can forgive a slightly long hock if the rest of the rear assembly is correct, but too long a hock tend to result in a sickle hocks or cow hocks. I usually find that a puppy must be slightly over angulated in both front and rear to grow to be a well angulated adult. Overall I find that puppies straighten up more in the rear than in the front.

Colour should be checked. Bad blacks or blues should not be kept if the breeder is trying to breed only for good black coloured dogs; unless that is the colour you wish to breed. In general, except in the case of mismarks, I do not penalise colour, I just inform the owner of what adult colour I feel the dog will become.

In the final evaluation, I prefer a well angulated squarely built dog, with a pretty head. In practice however, none of them are perfect. A dog must be balanced overall, and I will choose a dog with less angulation that is balanced front and rear over any dog with more angulation in the rear than in the front. I hope you find these comments useful, but I understand that many of you will have a different opinion - such is the spice of life.

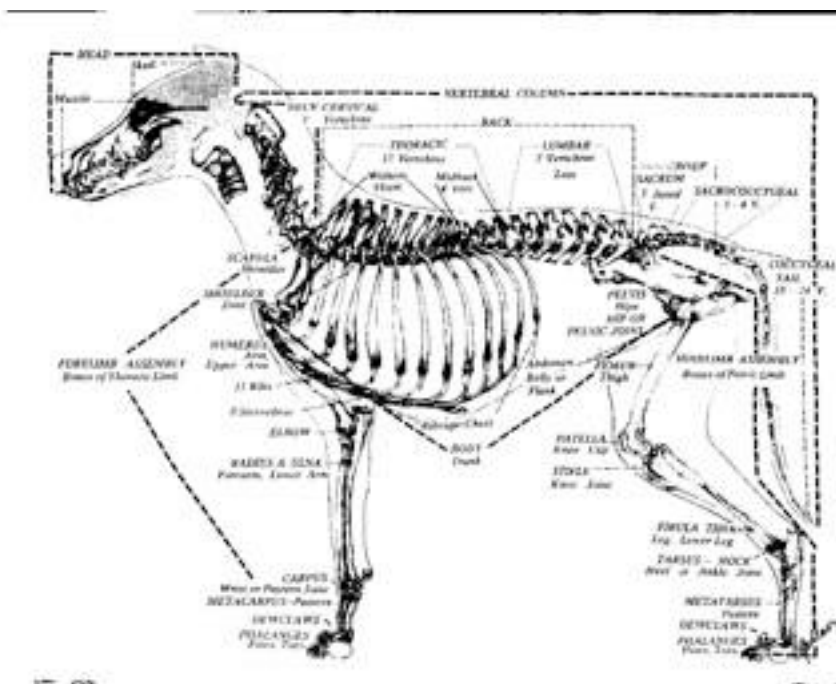
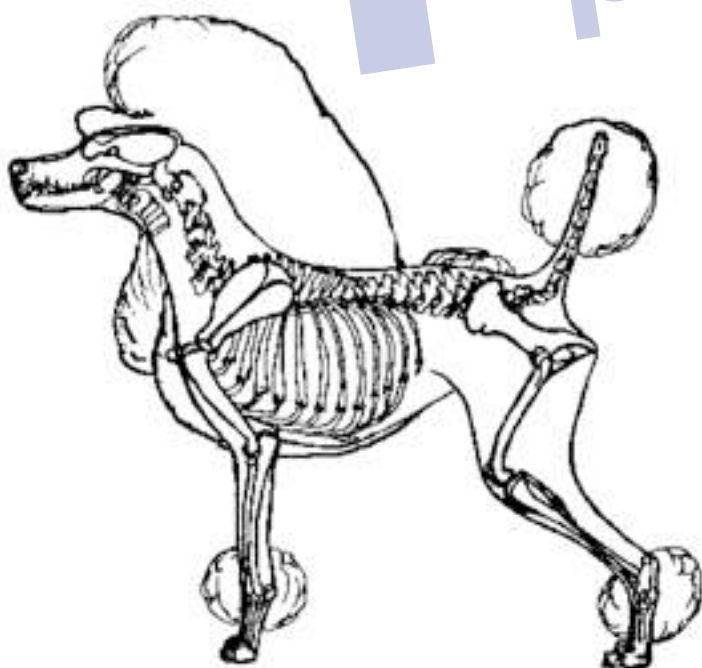


Illustration (left) from the Poodle Club of Canada Illustrated Breed Standard by Joanne Reichertz DVM & MaryJane Weir; measured skeleton with the anatomical terms used in the School of Canine Science (Casey Gardiner) from measured dogs.

CONGRATULATIONS NEW CHAMPIONS

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Sookie is our 15th Homebred Canadian Champion. Congratulations to Co-Owner Tory Tomblin of Epique Standard Poodles of Alberta!!! Tory has done a fabulous job with Sookie making me very proud as are many of those around her!!!!

New Canadian Champion Violet's Epique True Blood

Sire is Santos - Am.Can.Ch.Violet Sky Above CGC HIT

Dam is Opal - Can.Ch.Marechal Opal Violet (Imp Aus)

submitted by Deborah L. Foster

Violet Standard Poodles

Breeder/Owner/Handler

violetstpoodles@hotmail.com

violetstandardpoodles@gmail.com

www.violetstandardpoodles.com

February and March have been extremely good to the Kids of KushNivas. Jessie finished (with 4 majors) her American Championship in fine form with a four point major at the International Kennel Club in Chicago under esteemed Judge Mr R. Manaker. She is now **Am/Can Ch KushNivas Don't Just Wink**. Next stop for Jessie is motherhood.

submitted by Rod & Jane Beaudry

KushNivas@yahoo.ca

ph 613-268-9991

www.KushNivasStandardPoodles.com



CONGRATULATIONS NEW CHAMPIONS

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LEFT: Our 13th homebred Canadian Champion at Violet Standard Poodles.

Can.Ch.Violet Skies Of Galewind's, Vernon, B.C. July 2011. Breeder/Owner/Handled & Groomed minus Dexter's personal touch to his own ears LOL

Sire is Santos - Am.Can.Ch.Violet Sky Above CGC HIT

Dam is Opal - Can.Ch.Marechal Opal Violet (Imp Aus)

RIGHT: Our 14th homebred Canadian Champion Breeder/Owner/Handled and Groomed.

Can.Ch.Violet Sky Night Moves. Seger being 2 weeks shy of a year old, took Winners Dog over an adult for one point then went back in to compete for the chance for Best in Breed against two Specials (Canadian Champions). The judge loved him enough to give him Best of Breed over the two Specials for another point to finish his Canadian Championship Title!! We then went back for the Non-Sporting Group where he was awarded a Group Second for a total of 5 points today!!! Seger also finished off his day with a Best Puppy in Group! He is now BPIG Can.Ch.Violet Sky Night Moves and is my 14th Homebred Champion.

This also made him # 12 Standard Poodle in Canada with a Group 4th and Group 2nd to his credit as a puppy over Specials! A special thank you to Toy & Miniature Poodle Breeder Judge Donna Conod from Ontario.

submitted by: **Deborah L. Foster**

Violet Standard Poodles - Breeder/Owner/Handler/Groomer

All our dreams can come true-if we have the courage to pursue them! 🌹

violetstpoodles@hotmail.com

<http://www.violetstandardpoodles.com> <http://violetstandardpoodles.blogspot.com/>



CONGRATULATIONS TO TOP PRODUCER

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CAN.CH. SANVAR BELLEFLEET DELTA FORCE CGN



black Miniature Group winner
Top Producer of 11 Canadian Champions – 2 US Champions
and also granddam of 10 Champions at present.
Three more offspring will be shown this year.

Born May 25, 2005

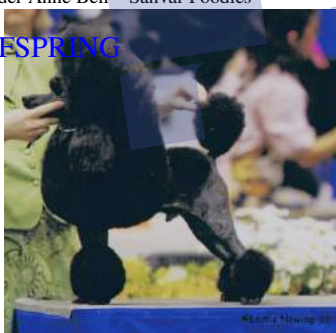
Owner Alysia Reichertz – Bellefleet Poodles

Breeder Anne Bell – Sanvar Poodles

(by Can.Am.Ch.Sanvar's Timbit)

- 1) Can.Am.Ch.SANVAR BELLEFLEET DIMARNIQUES
(ex Am.Ch.Dimarnique's Small Change by Pearl)
 - A) Can.Am.GCh.Dimarnique's Louis Vuitton Edition at Reminna
 - B) Can.Am.Ch.Dimarnique's Limited Edition
(by Can.Am.UKC.Ch.Bellefleet Dynamic Force)
 - C) Can.Am.Ch.Dimarnique Bellefleet Edition
 - D) Can.Ch.Bellefleet Dimarnique Dynamite
 - E) Can.Ch.Bellefleet's Dynamic Addition
(by Pearls Cappuccino at Dimarniques)
 - i) Am.Ch.Dimarnique's Special Edition
- (by Can.Am.Ch.Warming Brown Surprise)
- 2) Can.Am.UKC.Ch.BELLEFLEET DYNAMIC FORCE
(ex Can.Am.Ch. Dimarnique's Limited Edition)
 - C) Can.Am.Ch.Dimarnique Bellefleet Edition
 - D) Can.Ch.Bellefleet Dimarnique Dynamite
 - E) Can.Ch.Bellefleet's Dynamic Addition
(ex Sanvar Bellefleet Brooks)
 - F) Can.Ch.Bellefleet Back To Basics
- 3) Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET COMMAND FORCE CGN
(by Can.Ch.Kasalland Charlie Brown)
 - G) Can.Ch.Bellefleet's Immortal Force CGN
- 4) Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET'S POLICE FORCE CGN
- 5) Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET'S MAGICAL FORCE
(by Can.Ch.Sanvar's Air Jordan)
- 6) Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET SANVAR M AND M
(by Can.Am.Ch.Karadale No Way)
 - H) Can.Ch.Sanvar's White Knight
- (by Can.Am.UKC.Ch.Bellefleet Jetstream CGN TP)
- 7) Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET'S GALE FORCE CGN
(by Can.Am.Ch.Karadale No Way)
 - I) Can.Ch.Bellefleet Adanac's On My Way
 - J) Can.Ch.Bellefleet's I Did It My Way
- 8) Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET SPECIAL FORCES CGN
- 9) Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET SANVAR AIRSTREAM
(by Can.Ch.Minaret's Royal Ambassador)
- 10) Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET'S SECRET FORCE
- 11) Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET'S CELESTIAL FORCE

OFFSPRING



Can.Am.UKC.Ch.BELLEFLEET DYNAMIC FORCE



Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET'S POLICE FORCE CGN



Can.Am.Ch.SANVAR BELLEFLEET DIMARNIQUES



Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET COMMAND FORCE CGN



Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET'S MAGICAL FORCE



Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET SANVAR M AND M



Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET'S GALE FORCE CGN



Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET SPECIAL FORCES CGN



Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET SANVAR AIRSTREAM



Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET'S SECRET FORCE



Can.Ch.BELLEFLEET'S CELESTIAL FORCE

continued, CONGRATULATIONS TO TOP PRODUCER

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GRANDCHILDREN



Can.Am.Ch.Dynamique's Limited Edition Can.Am.Ch.Dynamique's Love Vinton Edition at Remin



Can.Ch.Bellefleur's Immortal Force CGN



Can.Am.Ch.Dynamique Bellefleur Edition



Can.Ch.Bellefleur Dimarnique Dynamite



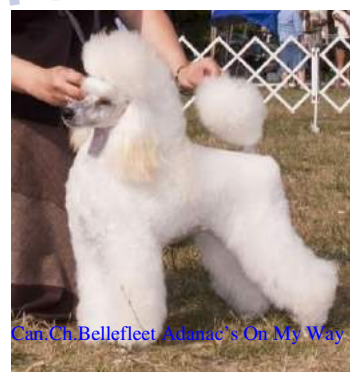
Can.Ch.Bellefleur's Dynamite Addition



Can.Ch.Bellefleur Back To Basics



Can.Ch.Sansar's White Knight



Can.Ch.Bellefleur Admire's On My Way



Can.Ch.Bellefleur's I Did It My Way

DELTA'S Pages submitted by
Joanne Reichertz DVM

LINK to Delta's Pedigree is <http://www.poodlepedigree.com/pedigree.asp?ID=338164>

CONGRATULATIONS NEW TITLE HOLDERS

Remove Watermark Now



Pandora earned her first leg towards her RAE. Pandora aka **KushNivas Fashionably Late RE** is handled by her devoted Dad, Anders and supported by one of her best friends, Mercedes.

submitted by Rod & Jane Beaudry

KushNivas@yahoo.ca

ph 613-268-9991

www.KushNivasStandardPoodles.com

Meanwhile out West, Jessie's sister Panache entered the Obedience ring for the first time. Day one she tied for High In Trial with a score of 198 (unfortunately she lost the HIT to a far more experienced dog in the run-off). On day two she took High in Class with 197, and on the final day, she repeated the High In Class with a 198.

Panache is Ch Alias Let's Just Do It TDI

CD. Not only is Panache a future force to be reckoned with in the Obedience world, she is also a certified Therapy Dog International.

Always accompanied and trained by her mom, Gale.

submitted by Rod & Jane Beaudry

KushNivas@yahoo.ca

ph 613-268-9991



CONGRATULATIONS

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Best Brace In Show in Vernon, B.C. July 2011
Our first time shown together as a brace!!!! Dexter - Can.Ch.Violet Skies
Of Galewind's and Seger - BPIG Can.Ch.Violet Sky Night Moves
*The fun we had not to mention the fun the Judges and Ring Stewards were
having along with the people around at ringside!!!

Thank you to Breeder Judge Carol Graham from Alberta, Canada

submitted by Deborah L. Foster

Violet Standard Poodles

Breeder/Owner/Handler

violetstpoodles@hotmail.com

violetstandardpoodles@gmail.com

www.violetstandardpoodles.com





DEPARTMENTS of RADIOLOGY

NEUROLOGY & PSYCHOLOGY

THOMPSON CENTER
FOR AUTISM & NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS**David Q. Beversdorf, MD**Departments of Radiology, Neurology, & Psychology
and the Thompson Center

University of Missouri

205 Portland Street, Room 130E

Columbia, MO 65211

573-882-6081 Fax 573-884-1151

beversdorfd@health.missouri.edu**Dear Miniature & Standard Poodle Breeders and Handlers:**

Dr. David Beversdorf, Shelley Green-Wooldridge, and Dr. Lisa Lit, at the University of Missouri and the University of California-Davis, would like to invite you to participate in a research study examining social interaction in miniature poodles. These findings will help gain insight into how dogs might help us understand human social behavior, and disorders such as autism. This disorder is characterized by deficits in both social interaction and communication and occurs in up to 1 in 100 individuals, making autism research increasingly important.

Shelley Green-Wooldridge, AKC handler and miniature poodle breeder, has advised the study investigators that autism-like behaviors have been observed in several miniature poodles. With thirty years of experience in working with miniature poodles, Green-Wooldridge believes that this variety seems to be most appropriate to study for social behavior.

This study is solely observational in nature and could potentially benefit both miniature poodles and humans. Participation in this study involves the completion of a Miniature Poodle Social Interaction Survey, developed by Dr. Lisa Lit. This survey, to be completed via breeder or handler observation, characterizes the general social behaviors of a miniature poodle, such as attention, gesturing, and eye contact. Other information collected by the survey includes general health and training information, by the observation of the breeder or handler.

Please join us in helping to conduct this study that will be useful to both dogs and humans. If you would like to participate, please follow the link below for the survey. If you currently have more than one miniature poodle, please complete one survey per dog.

Link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MiniaturePoodleSocialSurvey>

Once you complete the survey(s), please email Rachel Zamzow at rachel.zamzow@mail.missouri.edu to confirm your study participation and to indicate whether or not you would like to be contacted about future studies. If you would prefer paper surveys, or have any questions or concerns, please contact Rachel Zamzow or Shelley Green-Wooldridge at shelleyhamilton@hotmail.com.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Beversdorf, Shelley Green-Wooldridge, and Dr. Lisa Lit

Good News on Miniature Poodle Dwarfism – Healthy Poodle DNA Needed for Dwarfism

By Dr. Mark Neff, Director of the Program in Canine Health and Performance at the Van Andel and TGen Research Institutes:

"Progress: Since the first clinical case was reported in 1956 in Great Britain, breeders of Miniature Poodles have been aware of a crippling skeletal defect in the breed that is tied to a recessive gene. With the help of a select few breeders, we have recently mapped this defect to a deletion that knocks out an important gene. We are in the process of converting this discovery into a DNA test to help breeders eliminate the mutation (and thus the defect) from their bloodlines.

Support Needed: To validate the DNA test for Miniature Poodle dwarfism, we aim to collect simple cheek swabs from at least 1000 additional control Miniature Poodles. We also plan to survey the other two varieties (Toys and Standards) to assess whether the mutation has spread to these gene pools as well."

The researchers thank the hundreds of participants whom have made this project feasible and successful. To expedite availability of a DNA test, we call one final time for the support of the community to collect our goal of a thousand 'control/healthy' DNA samples. All that is needed are simple cheek swabs. The DNA kits are sent out at no cost to the owner. All varieties welcome.

Of particular interest are samples from dogs outside of the USA. Please help us reach our goal of 1000 poodle samples worldwide!

To request a free DNA Kit, simply visit the Poodle DNA Collection Website:

<http://www.vai.org/dogs/poodle> or email dogdna@tgen.org

Thank you for your continued support!

FYI...links of interest, submitted by MaryJane Weir

1] Stanley Coren on crates...

<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/canine-corner/201203/the-politics-pet-dogs-and-kennel-crates>

2] Dr Jerold S. Bell on Mixed breeds vs Purebred health

<http://www.naiaonline.org/articles/article/the-clinical-truths-about-pure-breeds-mixed-breeds-and-designer-breeds>