

Dear Veterinary Professional, Thank you for being the veterinary care provider for _____! We would appreciate your inclusion of this letter in the puppy's health record file as it contains parental health clearance information as well as information about risks in our lines.

Health Certificate Your client's puppy should arrive at its first vet visit with a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection that includes the puppy's prior veterinarian-performed vaccinations, deworming(s), microchip number, and any observations made by our examining veterinarian.

Socialization Risk Because you know the local epidemiological landscape better than we possibly can, we have recommended to our puppy family that they consult you on the safety of socializing their puppy in your locale prior to completion of their puppy vaccination series. I have gone over the risk of parvo and the ways to help prevent parvo. Thank you for taking the time to help stress the importance of prevention .

Parental Health Clearances and Line Histories We only breed dogs that are from health tested parents , and from lines of multiple generations of health tested parents . Most of our Golden Retrievers and Irish Setters are from multiple generations of champions with testing including hips and elbows , eyes, cardiac, and full breed-specific DNA panels. We are happy to share parental health testing results on request. We also qualify our breeding dogs for temperament as well as proper structure. That's why it is so important that if a disorder in this pup shows up , I am notified. We do not breed dogs that have been known to pass on hereditary conditions.

Therefore, your client has signed a puppy agreement that includes permission for you to disclose to us any heritable or potentially heritable conditions in the puppy that we should be aware of. We appreciate your assistance in helping us continue to produce the healthiest puppies possible!

Maintaining Proper Weight and Body Condition We find it important for puppy families to maintain proper weight in their puppies. We send our puppy parents home with a body condition score chart and instructions on how to use it. We request that body condition score (BCS) be noted on annual exams and any other time you feel appropriate. The portion of our health guarantee that covers orthopedic issues requires that families keep their puppy at ideal body condition score¹ , so your exam with BCS will assist us in evaluating our program and will enable your client to utilize the warranty, if ever needed. Please note that in 15 years of breeding Golden Retrievers , Irish setters and doodles. I have had 3 warranty claims for hip or elbow dysplasia and would very much like you help in improving . The families that had issues with the hips and elbows were feeding a substandard food. That is why I include the pawTree food part of the warranty. **Pups must stay on the pawTree brand of food or the warranty is voided.**

Feeding and Nutrition Your client's puppy has been sent home on an all-stages formula of PawTree brand food. We have found this to be the best food on the market for our puppies. The brand is preservative free, has never had a recall, manufactured under a quality program that includes a HACCP plan, with most ingredients sourced in the USA and was developed by PhD nutritionists and Veterinary specialists. Meat is the first ingredient, it is AAFCO, WSAVA, and FDA compliant, and has undergone digestibility studies and palatability tests. Palatability can be an issue with our breed, so this is an important factor in selecting a food.

We have also found the high digestibility produces smaller volume and less odorous stools. On average, the digestibility studies show PawTree recipes have a minimum digestibility of 83%. They also show that both protein and fat are highly digestible (on average, 87% and 94% respectively). In addition, the dogs are digesting most of the calories for energy (on average 89%). We are happy to share additional nutritional information on request. We recommend our puppy families rotate grain free/grain inclusive recipes and proteins to help prevent potential nutritional deficiencies and we provide instructions for them on how to accomplish this with minimal to no gastric upset. If you have any questions about prior veterinary care, parental health history, feeding, or other issues, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Melissa Gromley
724-541-7548

If you would like to learn more about the pawTree products please feel free to contact me. My link is www.pawtree.com/plumcreek

Smith, GK, ER Paster, MY Powers, DF Lawler, DN Biery, FS Shofer, PJ McKellvie & RD Kealy. 2006. Lifelong diet restriction and radiographic evidence of osteoarthritis of the hip joint in dogs. JAVMA 229: 690-693. 2 *PawTree sourcing statement: "The majority of our ingredients (proteins, vitamins, minerals, etc.) are sourced in the U.S. However, occasionally we will source some vitamins or minerals outside the U.S. for specific reasons as appropriate. For example, we source our vitamin A in several European countries (France, Germany and Switzerland) because a high concentration of Vitamin A is found in fish, and these countries are known for their plentiful fish population. Another example is our Riboflavin (Vitamin B2), which is sourced out of Germany as some of the best sources of Riboflavin is brewer's yeast, whole grains and wheat germ. All of these ingredients are also used to produce beer and are readily available in Germany. In addition, we often source our duck from France, as it is in plentiful supply there. All of our nutrition products are proudly made in the U.S.A. and meet all of the AAFCO standards to make that important claim."