

Congratulations on your new

BOYKIN SPANIEL!

An amazingly versatile and compact gundog.



The Boykin Spaniel Club and Breeders Association of America (BSCBAA) wishes you and your new Boykin Spaniel many, many years of companionship.

The Boykin Spaniel

The Boykin Spaniel is an amazingly versatile and compact gundog—tenacious, assertive and enthusiastic both flushing and retrieving, yet gentle and affectionate at home. They are truly an all-purpose dog. In the field, Boykin Spaniels steal the show. At home, Boykins capture hearts. Fiercely attached to their owners, they are remarkable companion gundogs for all seasons.

History

Every purebred animal has evolved into the specific form best suited to perform its particular job. The Boykin Spaniel is no exception. The story of the Boykin Spaniel is the story of the need for a capable hunting dog that fit into a very small boat as well as into the lives of families. Sometime between 1905-1910, a small dog was found wandering in Spartanburg, South Carolina. The dog was taken home as a pet. The dog displayed hunting instinct/aptitude and was sent to be trained by Whit Boykin of the Boykin community just outside of Camden, South Carolina. With this training, the little stray developed into a superb turkey dog (hence - docked tail) and then a waterfowl retriever. Whit Boykin provided dogs to vacationers to hunt the Wateree swamp areas using “section boats” similar in style and size to Pirogues used in Louisiana – a small, narrow flat-bottomed boat. The Boykin Spaniel became known as the dog that wouldn’t “rock the boat.”

Breed Characteristics

Boykin Spaniels are a medium sized, well-balanced, substantial, all-around hunting companion. They are built for activity and endurance in heavy cover and in water with moderate speed and agility. The Boykin coat can range from flat to wavy and short to medium in length. The Boykin Spaniel color is solid—rich liver, brown or dark chocolate.

The Boykin Spaniel has an intelligent expression, sturdy build and friendly wagging tail that proclaim him part of the spaniel family. But the Boykin Spaniel has a distinctive head its expression is alert, self-confident, attractive and intelligent. A true spaniel look that is soft, gentle, intelligent and

sometimes intense but never dull, hard, staring or fearful. He is a dog in which no single feature should stand out. It is the combination of his symmetry, gait, attitude and purpose that makes him a Boykin Spaniel.

Temperament

The Boykin’s strong desire to be with and a part of their person’s activities is a hallmark of the breed. Friendly, a willing worker, intelligent and easy to train—that is a Boykin Spaniel.

Boykins thrive on human companionship and get along well with other dogs and children. Boykin Spaniels show great eagerness and energy for the hunt yet are controllable in the field.



Health

Grooming Your Boykin Spaniel

Boykins are “wash and wear” dogs not requiring much grooming, but all dogs need some grooming. Boykins are a medium to short-coated dog and can develop mats or tangles if neglected.

Grooming during shedding helps move the process along, lessen the hairy tumbleweeds in the family room, and encourage the growth of new coat. If you groom your pup once a week while still a puppy, and the grooming sessions are kept short and pleasant, your pup will grow up to enjoy the time spent being groomed and not object to having his nails trimmed or having burrs or stickers removed after a day in the field.

Regular grooming of your Boykin Spaniel will not only enhance his appearance but help to keep him clean and more importantly can alert you to changes in his skin and coat.



Grooming the Boykin Spaniel for the show ring involves a certain amount of skill. Please consult with your dog's breeder, or experienced Boykin Spaniel exhibitors if you plan to show your dog in conformation events. Boykins are "wash and wear" dogs. Dedicated breeders strive to keep this a natural breed, therefore Boykins should not be sculpted and over



groomed. While Boykins may be trimmed to have a well groomed appearance and to enhance the dog's natural lines, trimming should be limited to that which enhances the natural appearance of the dog. The rule of thumb is that the Boykin should be able to go hunting one day and then into the show ring the next day with no more than a bath and some touch-ups here and there.

Other Health Issues

Boykin Spaniels can develop problems with the ears if neglected. Clean your Boykin's ears regularly especially after working in the water, swimming and after bathing. Please

consult your vet or your breeder for a good ear cleaner.



All dogs are predisposed to certain health abnormalities due to genetics inherited from its canine ancestors. Boykin Spaniels are no exception. However, conscientious

breeders of Boykin Spaniels are intent on improving the health of the breed and furthering its hunting instincts. They only carry out responsible and ethical breeding to ensure physical and mental soundness and adherence to the breed standard while preserving and improving the hunting/working instincts of the Boykin Spaniel. Please check with your vet and your breeder about testing and appropriate health clearances of the Boykin Spaniel's most common health problems which include hip dysplasia, juvenile cataracts and the most recently discovered EIC (Exercise Induced Collapse).

Activities

Boykin Spaniels are a true sporting dog for all seasons and all the things you want to do with your dog. Be it a hunting companion, a family companion, or a performance competitor, Boykins are fiercely attached to their owners. They can be trained to participate in and excel in most all AKC performance events including Spaniel Hunt Tests, Spaniel Field Trials, Working Ability Certifications, Tracking Tests, Obedience Trials, Rally Trials, and Agility Trials. Many Boykin Spaniels serve as Therapy and Service Dogs. Many more Boykin Spaniels compete successfully in Conformation Shows. For more information about AKC events and purebred dogs, visit www.akc.org.

Safeguarding Your Pet

- Proper nutrition, exercise, and regular veterinary care will help ensure that your pet lives a long and healthy life. Ask your veterinarian or breeder to show you how to trim your dog's nails, clean his ears, and brush his teeth.
- Permanent identification, such as a microchip, aids in reuniting lost pets with their owners. Register your pet's permanent identification with the AKC Companion Animal Recovery program (AKC CAR). Visit www.akccar.org or call 1-800-252-7894 for more information.



The Boykin Spaniel Community

Boykin Spaniel owners keep in touch with each other through email lists, dog events, and the Boykin Spaniel Club and Breeder's Association of America (BSCBAA). Please visit our website at <http://www.TheBoykinSpanielClub.com> or email at contact@TheBoykinSpanielClub.com

