

# THE CANE CORSO



***Congratulations! You have just become the proud owner of one of the most noble and majestic breeds in the world today. We at the Cane Corso Association of America (CCAA) would like to welcome you to our family and take a few brief moments to help you on this wonderful new journey.***

## *Who We Are*

The CCAA is the AKC Parent Breed Club for the Cane Corso. We are the largest, most progressive Cane Corso club in North America. We promote the Corso and educate the public in a positive way. Every member is encouraged to get involved in Corso activities and CCAA functions.



## *Brief Look into History*

For centuries, the Cane Corso (pronounced Kha- Nay Korso) type dog has served the rural inhabitants of Sicily and Southern Italy. References to the Corso type dog can be found in art and literature throughout the renaissance supporting their use as big game hunters, cart pullers, cattle catchers, the guardians of livestock and property and as devoted companions.

In the late 1970's, with the breed on the verge of extinction, an effort to recover the breed began. In the 1980's, specimens from the regions of Foggia, Bari and Puglia were selected for the beginning of



the Italian recovery. In 1988, the first Cane Corso was imported into the USA. Today the Cane Corso is growing in popularity and excelling in both working and conformation events across the USA.

## *Start Early! Stay Consistent!*

Early socialization and elementary obedience training is paramount to your puppy's future success. Early training will give you the proper tools to teach your cute little puppy proper manners. In a very short time, that little puppy will soon grow into a very large, powerful and strong-willed dog. Locating and enrolling in a puppy kindergarten or beginner obedience classes in your area is an excellent start to your journey.



It is important to remember the Corso is a large breed dog; forced exercise should be limited until at least 18 months old. Long runs and rough play on hard surfaces should be avoided to ensure your Corso's growth plates do not have undue stress put upon them. Many Corsos continue to mature until 3 years of age. While it may be difficult, you should never compare your dog's growth rate to another's as each puppy is different. The last thing any puppy owner wants to do is injure his dog due to excessive exercise or overfeeding.



## Socialize! Socialize! Socialize!

It is imperative you begin to socialize your puppy as soon as possible. The Corso is a highly intelligent, perceptive dog. He evaluates every situation he encounters. It's our job to make sure he has all the information he needs to evaluate a situation



properly and the instruction from us how to react. The Corso that has a broad reference base is extremely stable.

Think of it this way, if a Corso has met everyone, smelled everything normal, heard every common sound, been in hundreds of different situations, etc. he will quickly be able to discern if something is not normal and how he should react. If his experiences are limited, he will trifle with how he should react to basic events. A Corso with a massive experience base is confident with the knowledge he uses to judge the world. Those without much information will struggle to discern how to react in even simple situations; they could become fearful or aggressive, neither of which is acceptable.

## Things to Do with your Cane Corso

The CCAA and AKC offer a wide range of activities for you and your Corso. Dog shows can be a fun and exciting way to meet other Cane Corsos and their



owners. If your interests lay outside of the show ring, there is also a multitude of performance-oriented activities. The AKC offers Agility, Obedience and Rally competitions and there are many more beyond that, ranging from scent work to protection sports. These venues are excellent relationship-building and training tools for you and your dog. The CCAA also offers annual awards for a wide range of show and performance accomplishments, as well as regional specialties with fun Corso-oriented activities and, of course, our exciting National specialty where dogs and Corso



enthusiasts from all across the country gather.

## Breeding

Before you consider breeding your dog there are many factors to consider. Successful breeders have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars testing their Corsos to ensure the



advancement of the breed to where it is today. The first steps in responsible breeding involve knowledge of the breed standard, as well as the health and temperament of your dog. Health and temperament testing as well as competing for breed-worthy conformation titles and working capabilities is a commitment. A breeder is responsible for finding loving, dependable homes for every puppy. Most importantly, breeders have to be prepared to raise each and every puppy they have produced for the rest of the puppies' lives in the event no home is found or the need to rehome a puppy or adult Corso arises. Surrendering a Corso to a shelter is not an option!

## Find a Mentor

With the rise in popularity, it is imperative that each puppy owner seek out advice from his or her breeder



or the CCAA breed club. The Corso's future success depends upon educated owners of the breed. The CCAA website has a plethora of information available on subjects such as potty training, feeding,

exercising, crate training, vets, ear cropping and socialization, to name a few.

We would also be delighted to get to know you. We have passionate members in every state willing to help you or answer any questions you may have. Every Board member and Regional Vice President is ready and able to assist you with the future care of your Corso through education and mentoring.

## Join Today!

We are excited about this new journey you are embarking on with your Cane Corso. We would like to share in your excitement by providing a positive atmosphere of fellow enthusiasts to aid you in your raising of your puppy into a noble and majestic Cane Corso.



Visit us at:

[www.CaneCorso.org](http://www.CaneCorso.org)