

gordon setter club
of America inc.



**BEAUTY
BRAINS
BIRD SENSE**

Health Statement for the Gordon Setter Club of America (GSCA)

Written by Nance Olson Skoglund, Delegate, and approved by the GSCA Board of Governors on March 7, 2015

The Gordon Setter Club of America recommends that all breeding stock be tested for each CHIC (Canine Health Information Center) requirement for the breed:

- 1) CHIC DNA: DNA samples in the CHIC databank facilitate future research testing aimed at reducing the incidence of inherited disease in dogs. Having samples banked allows researchers to obtain samples quickly and easily for studies specific to Gordon Setters.
- 2) Hip Dysplasia: evaluated using one of the following three evaluations – OFA, OVC or PennHIP. While it may be acceptable to breed animals with fair hips, it is preferred that breeding stock have good or excellent ratings.
- 3) Elbow Dysplasia: evaluated using OFA or OVA. As with hips, breeding dogs with elbow dysplasia is discouraged.
- 4) Eyes: should be examined for heritable eye disease by a boarded ACVO Ophthalmologist and results registered with OFA.
- 5) Progressive Retinal Atrophy-rcd4: This late onset atrophy affects the vision of Gordon Setters at about the age of 10. Gordon Setters should be tested for this gene, and, if a carrier, should be bred only to a dog with a clear test.

Additionally, all live breeding stock must carry a CHIC number (meaning that all of the above testing has been completed) to qualify to be an AKC Breeder of Merit.