



Swedish Vallhund Club of America, Inc

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Swedish Vallhund Health Statement

Approved by the Swedish Vallhund Club of America
Board of Directors, May 21, 2017

The Swedish Vallhund is overall a healthy breed, commonly living until 15 years old. However, there are conditions that reputable breeders will test for. Canine hip dysplasia, a malformation of the hip joint that causes arthritis, may be found in Swedish Vallhunds. The breed also carries a genetic form of Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA), also referred to as Swedish Vallhund Retinopathy. This is an adult onset condition, usually later in life (8-10 years) that can cause reduced vision, particularly at night. It also causes increased cataracts as the disease progresses. Reputable breeders will DNA test their breeding stock and puppies to determine whether they are affected, carrier or clear of the disease. Even affected dogs can live a normal life with very few symptoms.

Recommended Health Tests from the National Breed Club:

Hip Evaluation

Ophthalmologist Evaluation

SV Retinopathy DNA Test

Breed Contacts:

Health and Genetics: Michelle Fromm, (520) 686-0320

Breeder Referral: Anna Williamson, (813) 695-4804