The Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc. recommends that parents of all litters have hip certifications through the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (“OFA”) or PennHip. Parent should also have passed an OFA eye or CERF exam within the 12 months prior to breeding. In order to avoid puppies being produced that might be affected with Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinosis (“NCL”) or Primary Lens Luxation (“PLL”), parents of litters should also be DNA tested for NCL and PLL (or “clear by parentage” as per OFA). Prospective owners are encouraged to ask for copies of the results of these tests, or links to the results in the online OFA database.

There are many other tests available to breeders of Tibetan Terriers which breeders may choose to do. BAER testing for deafness can be done on puppies as young as 35 days old. Parents can be DNA tested for a number of different forms of Progressive Retinal Atrophy (including rcd4 PRA and PRA3). Other DNA tests are also available, and more and more tests are expected to be developed in the future. Parents may also be certified through OFA for number of other health conditions including, but not limited to, patellar luxation, and autoimmune thyroiditis. Prospective owners are encouraged to talk with breeders about the testing that they have done, results, and general health concerns in their dogs.

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