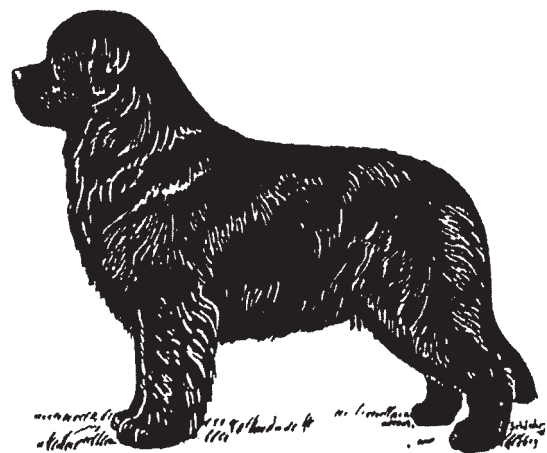


Congratulations on your Newfoundland



Welcome!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the wonderful world of Newfoundlands. The Newfoundland Club of America, Inc. (NCA) is a not-for-profit organization formed in 1930 to encourage and promote the quality of purebred Newfoundland dogs and do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection. NCA has many regional Newfoundland clubs that create a network of support to Newfoundland dog owners.

History

The Newfoundland is a large, strong, heavy-coated, active dog equally at home in the water and on land. He is a multipurpose dog, capable of heavy work. In Newfoundland he was used as a working dog to pull nets for the fishermen and to haul wood from the forest. Elsewhere he patiently did heavy labor of all kinds, powering the blacksmith's bellows and the turner's lathe. The oily nature of his double coat (which effectively keeps him from getting wet to the skin), his webbed feet, his deep, broad chest and well-sprung ribs make him a natural swimmer. He has true lifesaving instincts and is renowned in this role. There are many conflicting stories as to the origin of the Newfoundland. The breed as we know it today was developed largely in 19th century England and America. The Newfoundland is an ancestor of the present day Labrador and Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, which follow the Newfoundland in their natural swimming ability.

Care and Housing

While the Newf at first may appear somewhat placid, he is actually a fairly active dog. He enjoys and needs daily exercise. A Newf may find a small yard a good home, providing it is kept clean and he is given a good level of exercise. Do not leave a Newf in the sun, especially in a parked car, unattended. Grooming is essential. Brushing often means less bathing. Take care to see that growing puppies don't do a lot of jumping, running, or playing on slippery surfaces, or have their limbs pulled. Their fast-growing joints and bones are still soft and may be permanently damaged.

Obedience

An untrained dog, no matter what its size, is a liability in modern society. For their own safety and owner's sanity, all dogs require some form of obedience training.

Being intelligent canines, most Newfs are readily trained. The ideal time to begin the training is when the puppy is two months of age-which means you start the day you get the puppy. One person in the family, preferably an

adult, should assume the major responsibility for training, but all family members should know the commands, use them consistently, and know how to reward the puppy with praise and encouragement when it has responded to a command. In addition to early training at home, it is advisable to take your puppy to a training class.

Breeding

Before considering the breeding of a Newfoundland, you should carefully review the responsibilities you would be taking upon yourself.

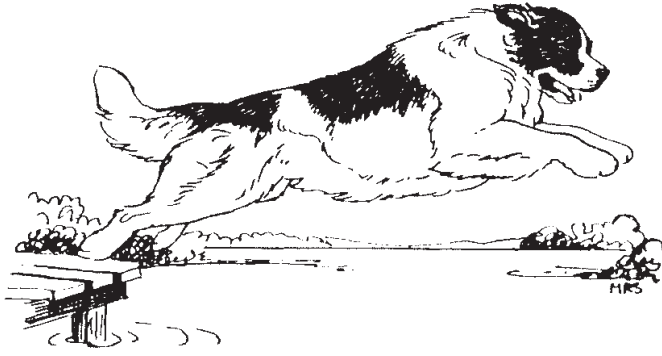
Any breeder of AKC registered dogs has a responsibility to the AKC to keep full and accurate records of all litters. Any breeder also has a responsibility to follow the litters to see that the dogs are in good homes and to evaluate the success of his breeding program. The only valid reason for breeding is to improve the breed. A study of both dogs' ancestries is essential as is a full evaluation of both dogs' littermates. It is important not to breed Newfs with serious hereditary faults such as hip dysplasia, heart abnormalities, etc., or with breed standard faults. All dogs should X-ray free of hip dysplasia and be cleared of heart defects before any breeding is considered. Newfoundlands of poor temperament should definitely not be bred, regardless of other characteristics.



Events

There are many different events for you and your Newfoundland to participate in and enjoy. Conformation, obedience, agility, junior showmanship, tracking, draft and water tests, backpacking, and specialty carting are among the various activities in which you can participate.

With the exception of AKC licensed or sanctioned dog show conformation classes that are aimed at the selection of breeding stock, all events are open to altered dogs. Various educational efforts of NCA, including the publication of Newf Tide (an award winning quarterly magazine), cover every aspect of Newfoundland ownership. The NCA and regional clubs actively support canine health research and provide adoption assistance for Newfoundlands.



The AKC Standard for Newfoundlands

The *breed standard* is a written guide maintained by the Newfoundland Club of America that describes the ideal Newfoundland in appearance and behavior. In part, the Newfoundland standard calls for:

“The Newfoundland is a sweet-dispositioned dog that acts neither dull nor ill-tempered. He is a devoted companion. A multipurpose dog, at home on land and in water, the Newfoundland is capable of draft work and possesses natural lifesaving abilities.

The Newfoundland is a large, heavily coated, well balanced dog that is deep-bodied, heavily boned, muscular, and strong. A good specimen of the breed has dignity and proud head carriage.

Average height for adult dogs is 28 inches, for adult bitches, 26 inches. Approximate weight of adult dogs ranges from 130 to 150 pounds, adult bitches from 100 to 120 pounds. The dog’s appearance is more massive throughout than the bitch’s. Large size is desirable, but never at the expense of balance, structure, and correct gait. The Newfoundland is slightly longer than tall when measured from the point of shoulder to point of buttocks and from withers to ground. He is a dog of considerable substance which is determined by spring of rib, strong muscle, and heavy bone.”

Temperament

Sweetness of temperament is the hallmark of the Newfoundland; this is the most important single characteristic of the breed.

Other Sources of Information

There are many local, national, and international sources of information about dogs in general and the Newfoundland in particular. You can obtain the address or phone numbers for many of these from the American Kennel Club (AKC) (1-919-233-9767 or www.akc.org). You may find clubs in your area such as all-breed, obedience, agility, tracking, herding, or other specialty organizations. They are excellent sources of information.

The Newfoundland Club of America, Inc. maintains a website that contains a tremendous amount of information, such as: a list of books on our breed; membership, regional clubs, ‘Newf Know How’ and rescue information; the downloadable booklet, *The Newf and You*; and much more. Point your browser to:

www.ncanewfs.org

or contact the NCA Corresponding Secretary:

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Gilroy, CA 95020

correspondence@newfdogclub.org

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