

Congratulations on Your New

Whippet

INTRODUCTION

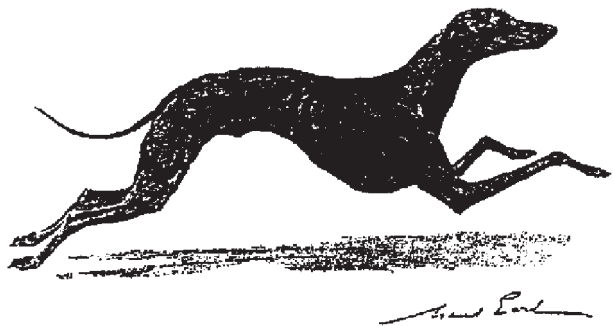
The American Whippet Club (AWC), a national organization dedicated to the Whippet, would like to provide you with some basic information. Included in this brochure is a bibliography of related reading materials and the address of the Club Secretary who can furnish you with further information concerning regional clubs and activities, as well as offer two detailed breed brochures.

HISTORY

Small Greyhound-type dogs have existed for centuries and can be found in art works of great antiquity. There are various theories about the recent development of today's Whippet, the most commonly held being that they originated roughly two hundred years ago in the industrial areas of Northern England and Wales from crosses of small Greyhounds and Terriers. They were used for poaching small game for the table and, on "off" days, for racing on flat straight courses, running to a rag being waved at the far end of the track by their owners—hence the nicknames "rag dog" and "poor man's race horse."

CHARACTER

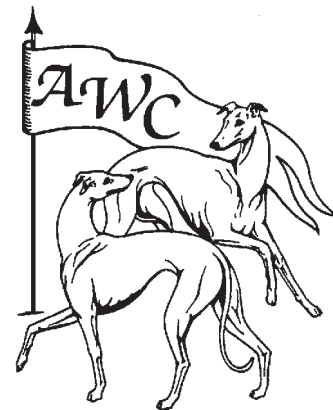
Your Whippet is a member of a most versatile breed—graceful, intelligent, eager to please, exceptionally



affectionate, and generally healthy. Whippets are particularly well adapted for human companionship and make excellent house dogs and devoted friends. They are natural athletes, enjoying regular exercise and excelling at a variety of field events, including lure coursing and racing. At the same time, the adults are quiet and relaxed at home, although puppies can be rambunctious for their first year of life.

CARE & HOUSING

Given proper nutrition, exercise, regular vaccinations and veterinary care, most Whippets live for 12 to 15 years, some longer. They do not adjust well to kennel life and do best when living as house dogs. A fenced area for exercise and play is very important, and being leashed otherwise when outdoors is recommended, as their chase instinct is strong. The judicious use of a covered pen or crate when leaving puppies alone keeps both the puppy and your house safe while you are out.



OBEDIENCE

One of the most important things you can do with your new Whippet is to take an obedience class. You and your dog will learn to understand each other and in the process create a permanent bond. Look for puppy kindergarten to advanced classes in your area. Often kennel clubs will offer them as a community service.

TO BREED OR NOT

Today, with an increased awareness of pet population issues, the question of whether or not to breed your pet has become a serious and complex one. Dedicated breeders spend years learning about their breed, studying pedigrees and genetics and striving to avoid breedings that may produce inherited health and temperament problems. They are prepared to feed, house, socialize and provide essential veterinary care for their puppies for months or even years, as well as cope with any unforeseen problems that may arise before, during or after the birth of the litter. They carefully screen potential homes, educate new owners, and are willing to be responsible for every dog of their breeding for its lifetime.

Breeders who utilize the AKC's limited registration, a spay/neuter non-breeding agreement, are expressing their concerns about pet population issues and their dedication to the successful future of the breed. Recent studies have concluded that companion animals are usually happier and more polite and stable when neutered. Males are less likely to exhibit territorial marking and aggression, and females often live longer with fewer health problems. Their temperaments remain the same.

THE OFFICIAL AKC STANDARD

The standard is a word picture describing appearance and behavior and provides a model of what breeders strive to produce. The Whippet standard in part calls for "A medium

size sighthound giving the appearance of elegance and fitness, denoting great speed, power, and balance without coarseness. Symmetry of outline, muscular development and powerful gait are the main considerations; the dog being built for speed and work, all forms of exaggeration should be avoided.

Temperament: Amiable, friendly, gentle, but capable of great intensity during sporting pursuits.

Disqualifications: more than one-half inch above or below stated height limits. Blue eye(s), any portion of blue in the eye(s), eyes not of the same color; undershot; overshot one-quarter inch or more; any coat other than short, smooth, and firm in texture.”

ACTIVITIES

There are a number of competitive events that offer titles to talented Whippets and their owners and they include dog shows, obedience, lure coursing, oval track and straight racing, junior showmanship, Rally and agility. With the exception of AKC licensed or sanctioned conformation shows that are aimed at the selection of breeding stock, all events are open to altered dogs.

If you have questions about the American Whippet Club or activities with your dog, please contact

Guin Borstel
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San Francisco CA 94114
Milescross@gmail.com

For more information, visit us at the American Whippet Club website:

www.AmericanWhippetClub.net

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Complete Dog Book

Official Publication of the American Kennel Club
Published by Howell Book House, Inc., 730 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10019

The Whippet, 2nd edition

by Bo Bengtson, available from American Whippet Club,
156 W. Cruikshank Rd., Butler PA 16002-8928.
Email: itsping@gmail.com

ORDER FORM

The Illustrated Standard....\$10.00

Information on National and Regional Whippet Specialties is available on the AWC website.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Prov _____ Postal Code _____ Country _____

The Whippet, 3rd edition

by Bo Bengtson, available at the Whippet Health Foundation website, www.whippethealth.org

Whippets Today

by Patsy Gilmour, Howell Book House, Inc.

The Complete Whippet

by Louis Pegram, Howell Book House, Inc.

The Whippet

by C. H. Douglas-Todd, Popular Dog Publishing Co., London, England

Gazebounds & Coursing

by Dutch Salmon, North Star Press

Lure Coursing

by Arthur S. Beaman, Howell Book House, Inc.

The English Whippet

by E.G. Walsh & Mary Lowe, The Boydell Press, Canterbury, England

Play Training Your Dog

by Patricia Gail Burnham, St. Martin's Press, New York

Whippets, Rearing and Racing

by Pauline Wilson, Faber & Faber, London and Boston

The Whippet News

awcwhippetnews@gmail.com

The Whippet News Annual

Published Yearly by the American Whippet Club, Wendy Clark, Editor, 5088 Breckenhurst Dr., Hilliard, OH 43026, dunberry@sbcglobal.net

The Sighthound Review

Bi-monthly, 81 Lafayette Ave., Sea Cliff, NY 11579
website, www.sighthoundreview.com

AKC Lure Coursing News

Published Quarterly by the American Kennel Club, 51 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10010

American Sighthound Field Association

website, www.ASFA.org

Mail Order Form to:

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