

AKC Purebred Preservation Bank

Update June 2022 – What should a Parent Club be doing right now?

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There is basic introductory information and FAQs about the developing AKC Purebred Preservation Bank (PPB) in separate documents that are also on the delegate portal in the Presentations to the Delegate Body September 2021 section and at the bottom of the main portal page under Delegate Information. This document focuses on the basic question of “What should a parent club be doing right now?” There are five basic steps:

1. First, a club needs to indicate interest in participating in the project. This is not a commitment at this time, but will help us in framing and focusing our communications. So far, some 67 clubs and club members have indicated interest in the project.
2. Determine a decision-making entity for the club. We know there will be some important decisions that need to be made, particularly in determining criteria and there may also be some disputes and controversies that will occur. The best way to focus on these issues will vary from club to club. The club board of directors may be appropriate, depending on how many other important topics they need to deal with. There may be an existing committee, such as the health committee or breeders committee, that may be even better. Many clubs are naming a new committee or new subcommittee of an existing committee. It would be possible to designate a single person to make the decisions, but this is definitely not recommended.

One could think of such a decision-making entity similar to naming an event committee prior to an adverse episode. An instructive “playbook” of dispute resolution mechanisms will be provided by the Purebred Preservation Bank, like the *Dealing with Misconduct* booklet that is so important to bench committee deliberations.

3. Designate an individual representative that will be empowered to literally sign the registration forms when necessary, and to communicate with the PPB. This person will need to be renewed or reappointed each year, as regimes change in parent clubs, and we want to make sure the appropriate person is currently authorized.

4. Discuss recommended criteria for acceptance and distribution of frozen semen. Note at this time only discussions are needed, not final decisions. There will be generic criteria provided by PPB, such as that donated frozen semen must be from an AKC registered dog or acceptable foreign registry and that no other semen from that sire is available from the owner or other sources. Perhaps a CHIC number will be required, although some special considerations for legacy semen frozen prior to that availability may be necessary. The important discussions will be breed specific criteria - what is critically important for your breed? There may be specific diseases that are especially important for which you will want to consider requiring testing or clearance. You may want to avoid especially deleterious conformation attributes such as significant disqualifications or non-standard colors. There likely will be different criteria for accepting semen versus distributing the semen. The former requires information about the sire

while the latter will involve ensuring both the dam and the prospective breeder are appropriately qualified to welp and raise the planned litter.

We recommend that criteria be much more lenient for acceptance, as it is better to have more semen acquired than necessary, and if need be, it can be sorted out or culled later. It is also important to note that any criteria that are developed now could be changed in the future if circumstances dictate. For example, there may be new diseases that arise in the future that need to be accounted for, or there may be changing regulations so that what is important now may not be important in the future, or vice versa.

5. Discuss what information should be available on the website for your breed's section. As the database is currently under development, we do not know what its final capabilities will be. However, it is important for us to know what is important for your breed. Basic pedigree information, breeding record and results, and photographs will be important data. Perhaps videos or other information it can be included as well.

There is currently a great deal of work being done behind the scenes to develop the structure, organization, policies, and procedures of the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank. Individual clubs can assist in this development by following the steps outlined above, as well as initiating discussions among the membership.

You can forward your club's information, or any questions, concerns, or comments to [contact@akcppb.org](mailto:contact@akcppb.org) or to me at [charles.garvin@akcppb.org](mailto:charles.garvin@akcppb.org).