



Health Statement for the Dachshund Club of America Inc. (DCA)


Health Guidelines for purchasing a Dachshund
Approved by the DCA Board of Directors on May 18, 2022

The Dachshund Club of America Inc. supports and encourages health testing by Dachshund breeders in an attempt to reduce or eliminate diseases which may be inherited. The Dachshund Club of America Inc. encourages breeders to participate in the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) program. CHIC is a database of consolidated health screening results from multiple sources and is sponsored by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA).

The Dachshund Club of America Inc. recommends the following health screening tests.

1. Patella Luxation. Dogs should be evaluated at 12 months of age or older. It is recommended that dogs be periodically reevaluated, as some luxations will not be evident until later in life. Patients that are evaluated and found to have patella luxation should be reevaluated by a Diplomat of the College of Veterinary Surgeons for confirmation.
2. Eye examination by a Board Certified Ophthalmologist of the ACVO (America College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists).
Results should be registered with the Companion Animal Eye Registry (CAER). Dogs can be evaluated when their eyes are open. Males and females should be evaluated within 2 years prior to breeding.
3. Basic Cardiac Examination which involves auscultation with a stethoscope by any licensed veterinarian. The minimum age recognized by the OFA for CHIC certification in the Basic Cardiac Database is 12 months of age. Earlier examinations are encouraged as most of congenital diseases can be detected at a much earlier age. Adult males and females should be evaluated again within 2 years prior to breeding.

Other diseases such as LaFlora Disease, IVDD (Intervertebral Disk Disease), and PRA (Progressive Retinal Atrophy) should be considered by breeders and will potentially be addressed as reliable, meaningful tests become available.


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