

## **REGISTRATION PAPERS OR PEDIGREE PAPERS - WHAT DO THEY REALLY MEAN?**

### **AND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MAIN REGISTERED AND LIMITED REGISTERED PUPPIES.**

#### **At Baqilodge**

**Baqilodge only sells puppies with papers. However there are two types of Registration Papers – Main Register and Limited Register. Puppies that are sold to “show homes” or to breeders, as breeding stock, will be registered on the Main Register. All other puppies are sold on a Limited Register registration.**

#### **What do Registration Papers mean?**

The first thing to understand is that registration/pedigree papers do not have any bearing on the quality, health or temperament of your dog. All they can tell you is that your dog and their ancestors were registered with an appropriate animal registry and these details have been recorded.

Simply, registration papers are a pedigree or family tree that has been validated by a recognized animal registry. In Tasmania this is the Tasmanian Canine Association (TCA). A pedigree is a record of your dog's ancestors: sire (father), dam (mother), grandsire, granddam, great-grandsire and so on.

The TCA will record your dog's pedigree. This information is kept on file at the TCA's office. Recorded will be your dog's registered name, breed, colour, sex, parentage, date of birth, microchip number and breeder. This information will also show on your pedigree registration papers, as well as any titles your dog's ancestors have won at sanctioned shows, obedience or performance trials. It will also record if any of your dog's ancestors have come to Australia from another country in the last three generations.

If you are looking for a pet or companion, you may or may not be interested in knowing more about their family. However, if you intend to breed or show your dog getting accurate information about their background is absolutely critical. The pedigree will be your keystone to a lot of research that you will need to do before you continue with a breeding plan.

#### **What does it mean to be a Main Registered Baqilodge Collie?**

At Baqilodge, Main Registered puppies only differ from Limited Registered puppies in that I have deemed them as having show or breeding potential.

Main Registered Baqilodge Collie puppies are more expensive than puppies placed on the Limited Register. Prices of our Main Registered puppies are determined by their bloodlines and what those bloodlines can offer to other breeders.

#### **What does it mean to be a Limited Registered Baqilodge Collie?**

Limited Registered puppies are issued with TCA validated pedigrees stating all the information contained on a Main Registered pedigree. They have the same health checks and vaccinations, and are microchipped. They are given the exact same

socialization, general care, attention and love as any Main Registered puppies before going to their new homes.

There are only three differences - these being:

1. Should any offspring be born of a Limited Registered dog at a future date they will not be recognized by any of the Canine Control Clubs or Associations and therefore cannot be registered. This vastly decreases the value the dog as a breeding animal and also the value of any offspring. This makes them unattractive to agents or backyard breeders.

2. Limited Registered dogs are not eligible for entry into conformation showing. However they are still eligible for all other sanctioned events, including obedience, trialling, herding, agility, therapy dogs, lure coursing, etc., and are definitely recognised as registered purebred dogs.

3. At Baqilodge these puppies, in respect of the above limitations, are priced lower than Main Registered listed puppies.

### **Why are there two different Registers – The Main Register and the Limited Register?**

In Australia all live puppies bred by registered breeders must be recorded with their state canine control association. Not every purebred, pedigree puppy has all the attributes required by the breed Standard. These puppies are usually referred to as “pet puppies” by the breeders and removed from entering any breeding program. It can be just a simple thing like colour or markings that makes the difference between a show/breeding puppy and a pet puppy. Sometimes there is no specific reason other than one or two of their siblings show a better aptitude for exhibition and kennel life. This is where the danger lies. Regardless of how well a dog has been bred and how well they represent the Standard they only represent 50% of genes passed on in any following generation. So if these dogs get into the hands of uninformed, or sometimes even unscrupulous breeders and are mated to the “wrong” mate, they are at risk of producing puppies way below the quality of themselves. (This is at odds to what dog breeding is all about. Breeders try hard to improve upon each new generation of puppies). If or when this happens it only brings problems to the breed as a whole and disrepute and heartache to the original breeder. That is why two registers have been created.

The Limited Register was introduced to facilitate professional breeders - allowing them to sell their purebred stock as healthy companions in the same way that applies to Main Registered puppies.

The Limited Registration restriction is aimed to:-

- a) curtail agents buying puppies for the export market to places like Asia
- b) stop our precious dogs being used as breeding factories by unscrupulous people posing as breeders and being sold to unwary buyers as show or breeding candidates, and
- c) both protect and uphold the value of the bloodlines of professional breeders - a number of whom have spent tens of thousands of dollars acquiring stock from the best bloodlines of their breed in the world, including importing from other countries.

You may remember back in the '50 when Lassie was a popular TV show. This encouraged many people to want collies of their own – they wanted the beautiful, faithful

and loving and intelligent temperament of Lassie. Of course, as always, there were people who saw a quick way to “make a buck” and to supply this market. You also might remember that collies at this time gained a reputation of being “snappy and unreliable with children”. THIS IS NOT THE TRUE COLLIE PERSONAILITY. This is a result of poor breeding practices. When the goal of breeding is just to "supply a market" the emphasis is placed on "money". So things like proper care (diet, veterinary care, housing, health checks, temperament tests, research into health, structure and temperament of canine family members, etc.) all take a back seat as this eats into any profits. We had people breeding collies who did not even care enough for the breed to research and find the right gene combinations to produce happy, kind collies – let alone anything else. Our lovely breed paid dearly for a selfish human act. It has taken dedicated collie lovers some time to mend the reputation of our gentle breed. Unfortunately the collie is not the only breed to have suffered in this way due to media popularity and unprincipled people calling themselves breeders.

However today, responsible breeders can now choose which puppies may continue in their own breeding programs or go into show homes, and other breeding programs. These puppies are placed on the Main Register. All other puppies are placed on the Limited Register. (There is a provision for Limited Registered puppies to be upgraded to the Main Register but that is at the discretion of the original breeder).

I would hate for anyone to think that I am suggesting every person wanting a purebred dog has poor intentions - that would be so wrong and totally ludicrous. I am just trying to answer any questions as to why there are two forms of registration.

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If you are looking for a well bred dog, that reliably represents the breed you have chosen, it is your job to find a professional, ethical and skilled breeder. This can involve a lot of research and ultimately trust. However these breeders DO exist.

**If you are thinking of showing or breeding it is imperative that you relay your plans/ideas to the breeders you are hoping to buy from. They can help you make knowledgeable decisions.** If they feel you are the right person to continue with their line of dogs, they will make sure your puppy is registered on the Main Register.

Regardless of whether your dog is to be a pet or show dog, I would suggest you look for the high profile breeders who are involved with their breed on a number of levels, e.g. clubs, showing, obedience, rescue, training, education, judging etc.; breeders who have national and international contacts; breeders who are successful in their chosen canine disciplines. These are the breeders who have reputations to protect. They got to their position through hard work, dedication and love of their breed. Don't hesitate to ask them for references from other breeders, owners of their stock and their veterinarian. Mind you, don't be shocked if they ask you for specific references before they consider you a prospective owner of one of their puppies.

By: Mim Bester