Berkshire Goldendoodles FAQ About Our Kennel:

-Q: When will you have puppies? Can I be put on the waiting list?

-A: We are a small kennel and we will only have 3 litters per year at most. Please note that dogs, like humans, sometimes don't conceive as planned. It happens. We don't have a waiting list. See next question.

-Q: Why no waiting list? Lots of other breeders use them!

-A: As previously mentioned, we have a very small breeding program, and we don't want to hold onto people's money if we cannot promise they'll get a puppy within a short period of time. With our process, chosen applicants will only have to wait 8-10 weeks after applying before bringing home their pup. We have maintained this process for almost 20 years and it hasn't failed us yet!

-Q: If there's no wait list, how do I make sure I'm able to get a puppy in the next litter?

-A: Stay updated by joining our <u>mailing list</u> and following our posts in our Facebook group: Berkshire Goldendoodles Community. We review applications and arrange to collect a deposit if puppies are still available.

-Q: What is our adoption process?

-A: Here's how it works:

- 1. We confirm that we have a litter expected, verified by ultrasound. At this time, interested parties should begin to watch our social media closely.
- 2. When the litter is born, we immediately make the announcement and disclose the amount of puppies we have available. Sometimes we begin to take applications prior to a litter being born if we are confident that we are expecting a decent sized litter.

Note: Applications are to be filled out only for the litter specified in the description of the application. At this time, deposits are not transferable to future litters and we do not hold applications for future review. Only fill out an application if you're interested in the described litter.

3. Once we review applications, we plan to interview applicants via phone call. We will confirm that you've been chosen to purchase a puppy from the litter. At that point, you

would need to send a deposit in order to hold your puppy. The order of pick will be done in the order in which we receive deposits. Please note this deposit is nonrefundable.

- 4. Prior to pick day, we will email you the details regarding puppy picks and let you know of your appointment time. It is crucial that everyone is punctual for their appointment, as the appointments are scheduled in order of pick. We schedule pick days typically around 6 week after puppies are born.
- 5. Then all that's left is to wait! Puppy pick day up information will be emailed out to families prior to the scheduled date for pick up. This will include some directions, reminders, and helpful training tips. Final payment is due at pick up.

-Q: Why do we not share our price for puppies publicly?

-A: We have a few reasons for this. Many social media platforms flag posts regarding the selling of animals. Putting a price in a post often results in the post being removed. Also, our prices are not set; they are determined at the time the breeding occurs based on specifications of the litter as well as supply and demand.

We will always disclose the price for puppies when asked about a specific litter, and the price is included at the top of the application form.

-Q: Can we come and visit your facility?

-A: Yes and no. We love to have people come for Puppy Pick Day and we can occasionally arrange meetings outside of that but typical we do not for the following reasons:

1. Visitors coming in and out can stress out the mama. The other girls would love to see you but their excitement can make the new mom uneasy. We limit visits as much as possible and we **do not allow visitors to interact with puppies under 5 weeks old.**

2. We live in a house, just like you. We have other responsibilities and cannot accommodate the schedules of the diverse population we engage with. We are asked for home visits almost daily and it wouldn't be fair to allow private visits for some and not all. We're normal people and we must have boundaries, just like anybody else.

3. There is a severely anxious family member with special needs living in the house and visitors can make his daily life very uncomfortable. We try to respect his wishes to limit the amount of people coming into his living space. We appreciate your understanding of this.

In lieu of physical visits, we offer live tours via video calling/broadcast on our page. We try to post at least one picture a week of a litter up until pick up day.

-Q: Why is my refund non refundable?

-A: Since we do not have waiting lists, by placing a deposit, you are placing a hold on a puppy in the specified litter. We ask that you not place a deposit if you are not 100% ready to commit to bringing home a puppy. For this same reason, deposits are also non-transferrable. When you change your mind about getting the pup, it could mean that it's left with us long after its litter mates are gone and we may not be able to readily find a new home for it.

However, if you take a puppy home and find that it's not right for you, we ask that you return the puppy to us. This is in the contract that all owners will sign. This agreement extends for the life of the dog should you not be able to take care of it, we will take it back. Reimbursement can be discussed based on specific circumstances.

-Q: Do you have any retired dogs you can give away?

-A: We typically do not rehome dogs unless they have been returned to us by previous customers. Our dogs are our family pets and we do not rehome them unless we believe it would be beneficial for them to be homed elsewhere.

-Q: Do we do Guardian Homes?

-A: Yes, we do! We only contract guardians that live within 1 hour distance from us in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. When we are looking for guardians, we will announce it on our platforms. More specific information is available for those who live in the specified range.

-Q: Do we do health testing on our breeding dogs?

-A: We do! All of our breeding dogs have a DNA panel done, as well as testing for hips, eyes, heart, patella, and elbows. The only exception to this is when one of our dogs has strong familiar health testing-such as mom, dad, and multiple siblings. We do not provide the records to individual customers, however, we can show them upon request.

-Q: Are puppies AKC registered?

-A: Our purebred golden retrievers and the poodle studs we use are AKC registered, but goldendoodles cannot be registered with AKC, as they are not considered purebred.

-Q: What are multi-gen doodles?

-A: Multi-gen, short for multigenerational, is a term we use to describe puppies who have varying degrees of poodle and golden retrievers. For example, breeding an F1 goldendoodle with another F1 goldendoodle would result in what is called an F2 goldendoodle. If we bred that F2 doodle with an F1 goldendoodle, we would call the offspring multi-gen. Any doodle that is not an F1, F1b, or F2 is referred to as a multi-gen doodle in our breeding program.

We breed selectively for specific traits and can disclose the lineage and rationale behind the breeding for specific litters. Unless otherwise specified, our multi-gen doodles are guaranteed to have at least one out of the two possible curly hair genes.

This document was updated May 12, 2022. Any changes to our process and procedures will be announced on all platforms.