

# Kernowbears Newfoundlands



## PUPPY INFORMATION PACK

### Part 1 – About us & the Newfoundland Breed

Kernowbears is a small family and home based kennels based in Troon in Cornwall. Our dog all live with us as part of our family and get to hang out in the house - mainly in the kitchen – usually directly behind me or in front of a cupboard door that I need to open. They share every aspect of our lives, in fact the household pretty much revolves around them.

This information pack is given to any person who enquires in to purchasing a Newfoundland puppy from me. As a breeder, I feel that the more information that a prospective purchaser can gain before getting the puppy, the more aware they will be of the responsibilities of owning a Newfoundland puppy and that this is a decision not to be taken lightly without research of the breed.

If you go on to purchase a puppy from me you will receive a detailed breed information, care and diet sheet and all the information on your puppy including a full pedigree and registration documents, together with a substantial puppy starter pack to get you on your way as a new owner.

Although I would always like to have a puppy for everyone who wishes one, I cannot guarantee that at the time of asking or even from the next litter that there will be a puppy available. Puppies can be booked many months in advance, I operate a strict puppy suitability screening process and once we know that there is a litter expected we announce it and the people who have stayed in contact with us after filling in our enquiry form (mainly through following our social media) usually get in touch with us and we start to build our waiting list. I always stress to prospective families that we have no control over how many puppies that the mums will have and even with my scanning skills we only have a best guess when they are pregnant of how many they are carrying. The more specific your requirements are on the puppy questionnaire, the longer you usually have to wait to get your puppy.

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Newfoundlands About this breed

'This gentle giant of a dog takes his name from Northeast Canada where he was developed. If any dog deserves the working dog label it is the Newfoundland. His versatility has served man well: trawling fishermen's carts; pulling logs from the forest for lumberjacks; hauling in fishermen's nets; jumping from boats to retrieve lost equipment; and in more recent times, jumping out of low flying planes and helicopters to rescue swimmers in distress.

It is thought that the breed was not indigenous to Newfoundland but the ancestors of the breed arrived there with fishermen from Europe. They were selectively bred for barrel ribs, oily waterproof coat and webbed feet to aid them in their water work. Nowadays the Newfoundland is very popular as a gentle, patient and loyal family companion.'

This description whilst in the large part is true also gives the impression that Newfoundlands need to be working, I can honestly say in my experience that nothing could be further from the truth. The average Newfoundland will ( with sufficient encouragement) rouse themselves from their mid morning nap (Newfies view naps the way that Hobbits view meals, in fact they also view meals the way that Hobbits view meals) and join in with a bit of training or go for a walk. But primarily as adults they like to snooze frequently with brief periods of activity. They are quite lazy by nature, and stubborn, they suffer from selective hearing and view commands as advisories. They are a lifestyle, not a dog.

SO YOU THINK YOU WANT A NEWFOUNDLAND...

There are a number of questions I have been asked about my dogs over the years by people thinking of getting themselves a Newfoundland puppy, I thought I would tackle some of them here.

### **Do they take up much room?**

Well, that is all relative, we are lucky enough to live in quite a large house, and they are known for their lion-like sleeping capacity which means that they aren't thundering around all the time. I have to point out though that I have seen smaller Shetland ponies. If you live in a house that has a 10 foot by 10-foot lounge you are going to be aware of them, but you will save on your heating bills, boy can they kick out some heat... When the doorbell rings if you are unfortunate enough to be stood in the doorway between them and the hall you will get to experience Newf Surfing, which is like crowd surfing only with more hair and gloober. They do also, much to my husband's frustration, have a knack for lifting their heads just as you go to step over them whilst carrying your plate full of dinner. Much as I point out to him that it is purely coincidental he does on occasion feel that they have the timing of Ninja assassins.

### **Have you got any that don't slobber?**

No, they are called poodles.

All Newfoundlands slobber. True Newfoundland lovers have contests for the longest gloober strand and the furthest distances reached whilst head shaking.... distances of up to 20 feet have been recorded. The area around the water bowls can take on the properties of a super greased ice rink, as not only do they drink loads, they are enthusiastic about it. Newfs love water, some of mine try to paddle in the bowl whilst drinking and drooling into it.

If you are house proud or hate gloober, **DO NOT** get a Newfoundland.

### **Have you got any that don't shed hair?**

No, they also are called poodles.

All Newfoundlands shed, for most of the year they just shed handfuls of fur a day, but twice a year you get to experience them blowing their coats, which can when you are grooming them, result in a whole other dog of fur left in the utility room. Dog hair is considered to be a condiment in our house.

### **Are they easy to look after?**

The main workload with your Newf is grooming. That double coat takes some work to keep matt free and in good condition. If you don't keep on top of it you will end up with a very matted, very smelly, very unhappy dog. They only take about 10 minutes a day to give a good brush over and then either you or a professional groomer can give them a good bath and blast once a month to keep them in top condition. Unless of course, it is raining, or muddy, or you have allowed them to get bored in the back garden and they have started digging... then you will encounter the Newfoundland 'velcro for mud and debris' phenomenon.....We have been known to have waist-high mud tide marks around our walls, where they have come in and flopped sideways, leaving something that looks like the aftermath of floodwaters in a line around the room. The good news is that Dulux Diamond Hard paint is fully scrubbable.

If you think you can live with the periodic redecoration..... get a blaster it will be your new best friend.

### **Do they eat a lot? I bet they cost a fortune to feed!**

Surprisingly not. As Newfs are bears of very little energy output as a general rule, they eat maybe 30/50% more kibbles a day than the Labradors do. This is not to say that they would not welcome a diet that fed them twice as much, but that would just result in them getting fat.

They are, however, notorious for their 'counter surfing' capabilities... after all, when your head is level with the worktops it almost seems rude not to.....

### **Are they easy to train?**

Newfoundlands are notorious for selective hearing. Shouts of "dinner!!" "walkies" and "lets play" can be met with a tsunami of canine enthusiasm and gloober - as can the opening of a packet of crisps to be fair- whereas simple commands such as "sit" "stay" and my personal favourite "**DOWN!!**", are greeted with a nonchalant glance or just totally ignored.

Recall is the subject of much tearing of hair and wailing on many of the Newfoundland lovers Facebook pages. I have found that pockets full of wonderful tasty things are the key, combined with enthusiastic shouting and arm-waving, but it's 50/50 if there is a suitably interesting distraction whether they will even slow down. If you want to train your Newf, start early, always use positive reinforcement (and treats, lots of treats), and bear in mind that Newfs do not like to be shouted at and will sulk or just walk off.

The key lessons we have always tried to drum into them are "sit" and "down". Seriously guys, that cute little 8kg bear cub that looks totally adorable and you can carry around, will in 12 months time, weigh about 60kg and totally flatten you if you don't teach them not to jump up. You have to get that one in early.....

### **Are they expensive to keep?**

They are not the cheapest breed. Their food we have discussed before, but there are other things that I would advise a new owner that have to be factored in.

Insurance for a Newfoundland is something that is mandatory. If you have chosen your breeder carefully and they have done all of the relevant health tests, it doesn't mean that your Newfoundland will **NOT** get hip dysplasia or any of the other problems that the breed is known for, it just means that it is a lot less likely. Breeders aren't God, all we can do is stack the odds in the puppies favour using all the tools we have available at the moment.

When things go wrong with a Newfoundland, it gets really expensive really quickly. Insurance is an absolute must. There are some fantastic deals around and you should be able to get full coverage for up to £12000 per condition per year for around £30 per month.

If you want to use an outside groomer you are looking at about £50 for a full groom. You have the cost of their vaccinations and all of the other routine medical checks. Most surgeries offer an annual deal that you can sign up to that gives you a discount on the vets fees and all of their jabs etc....My vets plan works out at about £16 per month per dog. You need to add all of it up **BEFORE** you fall for that cute little bear cub, not panic after.

If after all of this you still want to take the leap and get that adorable bundle of fluff, then congratulations, you will be rewarded with a companion like no other!

### **Health Tests:**

There are several illnesses/ disorders that are common to the Newfoundland Breed. Because of this there are health tests that are specific to the breed.

Newfoundland's can be prone to hip dysplasia, Cystinuria, Subvalvular Aortic stenosis and other heart related diseases. Newfoundlands are mainly affected by two types of heart disease;

Dilated Myopathy - Dilated myopathy is a disease of the heart muscle that causes a general weakening and a decreased pumping ability.

Aortic Stenosis - Abnormal tissue causes an obstruction within the heart that creates an obstacle reducing blood flow that makes the heart work harder than normal.

### **Hip Score:**

This is a measure of the angle of the hip given with each hip given a scoring range out of 53. Scores for each hip are added together which will give an overall hip score for a dog out of 106.

The Kennel Club will advise breeders to only breed from dogs with a below the breed average score.

However, this "average", is only determined from those people who submit or score their dogs hip x-rays results so it can become a rather manufactured average.

### **Cystinuria:**

A hereditary disorder affecting the kidneys and its ability to transport Cystine (an amino acid). This causes a build up of crystals in the kidneys and can cause severe pain and recurring infections.

This disorder can be completely avoided through a simple genetic test by taking a swab of the saliva and testing the DNA.

A dog can be either be affected (have the disorder), be a carrier (have the recessive gene) or be clear where they don't carry any genes for the disorder at all.

It is an easy test and can be carried out at any age.

### **Eco Doppler Heart Test:**

An ultrasound procedure to examine the heart and vessels. An ECG or Echocardiogram, uses high frequency sound waves to create an image of the heart.

The doppler technology allows the examiner to determine the speed and direction of blood flow.

This is a non-invasive procedure and can be done from a year old but will be performed by a specialist in order to ascertain if there's any evidence of the genetic disorders SAS (sub valvular-aortic stenosis) and DCM (dilated cardiomyopathy). We do this to ensure that all of the girls, who may go on to have puppies, show no sign of carrying this disease. In our opinion, it is the most important of all the health tests as both these disorders are killers.

Here at **Kernowbears**, we strictly follow the Newfoundland breed club guidelines and will always breed from dogs with normal hearts, below average hip scores and ensure that we know the CU status of our dogs and plan matings accordingly.

Please have a look at the Northern Newfoundland Club website who will tell you everything you need to know to ensure you have a happy and healthy Newf!

[www.northernnewfoundlandclub.org.uk/healthgeneralinfo.html](http://www.northernnewfoundlandclub.org.uk/healthgeneralinfo.html)

#### Common Health Problems

Just like any breed of dog, the Newfoundland breed is prone to health issues.

Some of the health issues seen in the Newfoundland dog are common and are breed-specific, others are big dog specific.

It's a long list and may look scary at first but keep in mind that just because a health issue is listed here doesn't mean that your Newfie will experience it.

There are also many health problems not listed here that a Newfie could have.

Many Newfie's will live long healthy lives without any major health issues, others may experience quite a few.

This is why being cautious in your search for a Newfoundland is critical.

Steps such as genetic testing and health clearances should be mandatory in your search.

It doesn't stop there. A healthy diet, proper weight management, and routine medical care throughout the Newfie's life are also needed.

The more health issues that you can stay clear of the better chances you'll have of enjoying a long healthy life with your Newfoundland.

*Note- Breed risks are not scientifically based. They are based on the popularity mentioned in the Newfie community.*

## Common Health Problems Seen In The Newfoundland Dog

### Eye Conditions

#### **Entropion**

Entropion is an inversion of all or part of the lid margins that may involve one or both eyelids. The eyelids roll in causing irritation to the eye. It is the most frequent inherited eyelid defect in many dogs.

The eyelids roll in causing irritation to the eye and can be painful.

A procedure called "tacking" can be done to treat entropion in puppies.

Older dogs may need surgical correction.

Risk: Moderate

#### **Ectropion**

Ectropion is loose, everted eyelids. It is a common defect in a number of dog breeds where the eyelids roll out.

The loose lids can lead to chronic eye infections and surgery is often needed.

Risk: Moderate

### Skin Conditions

#### **Allergies/Dermatitis**

Newfoundland dogs are notorious for getting skin infections due to improper grooming or allergies

These allergies can be due to food, environmental or seasonal reactions and often be severe leading to high veterinarian bills.

They can also make a Newfie smell pretty bad.

Risk: High

#### **Hot Spots**

Hot spots are a type of skin dermatitis that can spread quickly and be difficult to care for.

They can be due to allergies, parasites, bacterial infections, unkempt coat or self-inflicted due to anxiety.

Risk: High. Proper diet and regular grooming may lower the risk.



## **Ear Infections**

Newfies have ginormous, heavy ears with narrow canals and their love for all things water are a perfect breeding ground for yeast and bacteria.

This makes them prone to ear infections which can be difficult to treat.

Main causes of ear infections in Newfoundlands are allergies, either food, seasonal or environmental and improper care of ears.

Risk: High. Proper maintenance of the ears may lower the risk

## **Heart Problems Seen In The Newfoundland**

### **Dilated Cardio-Myopathy (DCM)**

DCM is a disease of the heart muscle that results in weakened contractions and poor pumping ability. As the disease progresses the heart chambers become enlarged, one or more valves may leak, and signs of congestive heart failure develop.

In Newfoundlands, this may be caused by a lack of taurine in their diet or it could be genetic

Risk: High. Health checks performed by a responsible breeder may lower the risk.

### **Sub-Valvular Aortic Stenosis (SAS)**

Also referred to as subaortic stenosis or SAS, is a common heart defect in dogs, especially Newfoundlands.

The heart is divided into 4 chambers separated by 4 valves.

The valves ensure that blood only flows in one direction through the heart. The aortic valve separates the main pumping chamber (left ventricle) from the aorta, a large blood vessel that carries blood from the heart to the body.

In dogs with SAS, there is added tissue below the aortic valve. This abnormal tissue creates an obstruction that the heart has to overcome to pump blood to the body. This stenosis makes the heart work harder than normal.

A heart murmur is created by blood being pumped across the stenosis into the aorta.

Risk: High. SAS is a hereditary condition. Heart clearances done by a responsible breeder lowers the risk.

## **Skeletal Issues Seen In The Newfoundland Dog**

### **Hip Dysplasia**

Hip dysplasia is a congenital disease that affects the hip joints.

The joints become loose and begin to rub on the hip socket causing the socket to lose it's shape. This condition leads to a form of arthritis called degenerative joint disease.

Risk: High. Proper hip evaluation of breeding stock may lower the risk. Improper exercise, weight and diet raises the risk

### **Elbow Dysplasia**

The term elbow dysplasia refers to several conditions that can affect the elbow joint.

These conditions include osteochondrosis of the medial humeral condyle, fragmented medial coronoid process, ununited anconeal process, and incongruent elbow.

More than one of these conditions may be present, and this disease often affects both front legs.

An affected dog may show forelimb lameness and elbow pain.

Risk: High. Proper elbow evaluation of breeding stock may lower the risk. Improper exercise, weight and diet raises the risk.

### **Osteochondritis dissecans (OCD)**

OCD is the abnormal maturation of cartilage. It can affect shoulders, elbows, and knees

While this can be an inherited defect, environmental factors such as diet, activity, and trauma also have a role in the development and progression of the disease.

Risk: High. Proper exercise and care when the dog is young and throughout their life may lower the risk

### **Torn Cruciate Ligament (ACL tear)**

An ACL tear is one of the most common issues seen the Newfoundland

There are two cruciate ligaments that cross inside the knee joint: the cranial cruciate and the caudal cruciate.

They connect from one side of the femur on top to the opposite side of the tibia on the bottom, the two ligaments forming an X.

The cranial cruciate attaches to the front of the tibia and the caudal cruciate attaches to the back of the tibia.

The anterior/cranial cruciate ligament prevents the tibia from slipping forward out from under the femur.

The ligament can tear while the dog is running, jumping or if they slip.

Risk: High. The jury is still out if this condition is hereditary or not, though as my orthopaedic vet remarked its almost inevitable that with their size and propensity to goof around that at some point they may rupture them.

Weight maintenance and waiting until the growth plates close to neuter may lower the risk.

### **Luxating Patella**

A luxating patella is when the kneecap pops out of place. It is mostly seen in small dogs but can be seen in the giant breeds also.

The luxating patella is usually given a grade of 1-4 to determine the severity. A grade 1 is hardly noticeable while a grade 4 is when the patella is out of place all of the time and normally requires surgery.

Risk: Moderate

### **Panosteitis (Pano)**

Pano is a painful inflammatory bone disease of large breed puppies usually between the age of 6-18 months.

The inflammation can affect one or more of the dog's limbs and makes it challenging and painful to move around.

With treatment, the inflammation can be reduced and the dog can regain full function and activity.

Risk: High. Slow and steady growth may lower the risk.

### **Arthritis**

Arthritis is a common health issue seen in many Newfoundland dogs. They can experience arthritis in their joints, spine, and neck.

Arthritis is inflammation in a dog's joints.

It gets worse over time, and symptoms may begin as simple morning stiffness and progress to lameness and swollen, painful joints.

Risk: High. Giant breed dogs are prone to arthritis. Keeping them at a healthy weight may lower the risk.

### **Newfie Neck**

Newfie neck is a general term given to issues such as a pinched nerve, slipped disc or arthritis in the neck area.

Given the Newfies large head, the neck is often strained either to the collar being used or strenuous activities.

Risk: Moderate. Using a walking harness over a lower may put less strain on the neck and lower the risk.

## **Intestinal/Digestive Problems Seen In The Newfoundland**

### **Bloat**

Bloat in dogs is the combination of 2 conditions-gastric dilatation where the stomach fills with gas and fluid, and volvulus, which is where the gas-filled stomach twists (GDV).

Once the stomach twists, the blood supply to the stomach is cut off and the stomach begins to die which can lead to shock and death of the dog.

Risk: High

### **Megaesophagus**

Megaesophagus is a disorder in which the esophagus dilates and loses the ability to move food into the stomach.

When esophageal motility is decreased or absent, food and liquid accumulate in the esophagus

There are two types of megaesophagus.

Congenital megaesophagus is seen in puppies when they are beginning to eat solid food and acquired megaesophagus occurs later in the dog's life.

Dogs with megaesophagus normally regurgitate food and water.

Since their food does not make it to the stomach to be digested, these puppies do not grow well and they will lose weight if they develop acquired megaesophagus as adults.

Risk: Moderate

### **Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)**

IBD is a condition where a dog's stomach and/or intestine becomes home to an unusually high number of inflammatory cells.

These cells cause changes in the lining of the digestive tract, which inhibit the normal absorption and passage of food.

The cause of inflammatory bowel disease is not well understood.

Veterinarians don't know if it's a disease or the body's defensive response to other conditions.

Any number of things may contribute to IBD in dogs, including genetics, food allergies, parasites, bacteria or an abnormal immune system.

Risk: Moderate. Often misdiagnosed as another, less sinister GI condition.

### **Neurologic Disorders**

#### **Epilepsy**

A disease characterized by convulsions that results in disturbances of consciousness.

Idiopathic epilepsy, the most common cause of seizures in the dog, is an inherited disorder, but the exact cause is unknown.

Some causes may include liver disease, kidney failure, brain tumors, brain trauma, or toxins.

Risk: Low

### **Degenerative Myelopathy (DM)**

DM is a slow-moving disease that causes progressive loss of coordination and weakness of the hind legs that eventually results in paralysis.

A dog will often start to exhibit paw knuckling due to loss of feeling in that leg and then gradually lose mobility all together.

Risk: Moderate

Cancers Common In The Newfoundland Dog

### **Lymphoma**

Lymphoma is a type of cancer that originates in the lymphocyte cells of the immune system.

A type of white blood cell, lymphocytes play an important and integral role in the body's defenses.

Risk: Moderate

### **Osteosarcoma**

Osteosarcoma in dogs is an aggressive cancerous tumor that develops in the bone cells of a dog and rapidly spreads throughout the body.

Osteosarcoma is linked to rapid growth and it is more common in large and giant breed dogs.

There is currently no cure for this type of cancer.

Risk: High. Giant breed dogs are prone to Osteosarcoma.

Early detection may prolong the dog's life and there is the hope of a new vaccine.

Blood Disorders Seen In The Newfoundland Dog

### **Thrombopathia**

Thrombopathia is an inherited blood clotting disorder affecting the Newfoundland dog breed.

The disorder is characterized by blood clotting malfunction, and as such causes increased bleeding.

Risk: Low

### **Von Willebrand's Disease**

Von Willebrand's disease (vWD) is an inherited bleeding disorder in dogs.

It is caused by a lack of von Willebrand factor (vWF), which plays an important role in the blood clotting process.

Normally the body responds to an injury causing bleeding through a complex defense system.

A loss in von Willebrand factor leads to abnormal platelet function and prolonged bleeding times.

Affected dogs are prone to bleeding episodes such as nose bleeds, and may experience increased bleeding with trauma or a surgical procedure.

Risk: Low

### **Immune System Health Issues Seen In The Newfoundland Dog**

#### **Hypothyroidism**

Hypothyroidism is a common medical condition in the Newfoundland breed where the dog's body is deficient in thyroid hormone.

This deficiency is produced by immune-mediated destruction of the thyroid gland, by natural atrophy of the gland, by dietary iodine deficiency, or as a congenital problem.

Too little hormone and the dog becomes listless, overweight, and even bald in spots.

Risk: High

#### **Myasthenia Gravis**

Myasthenia Gravis is a condition where there is a lack of acetylcholine receptors that result in muscle weakness. This keeps the muscles from contracting, causing affected dogs to become weak.

This health issue in Newfoundland dogs can be congenital or acquired.

Risk: Low

### **Kidney Issues Seen In The Newfoundland**

#### **Cystinuria**

Cystinuria is a genetic kidney defect.

Newfoundlands appear to be affected by a more severe form of the disease than other breeds.

Normally, cystine that is filtered in the kidney is reabsorbed within the tubules, resulting in little cystine in the urine.

Dogs with cystinuria do not properly reabsorb cystine (and a few other amino acids) in the kidney tubules, causing the urine to contain abnormally high levels of cystine.

Cystine is insoluble in neutral pH or acidic urine, so excess urinary cystine results in the formation of cystine crystals, which in turn can lead to the formation of cystine calculi (stones) in the kidney and/or bladder.

Risk: High. Cystinuria is an inherited disorder. Proper screening done by a responsible breeder lowers the risk of passing this condition on.

Respiratory Issues

### **Laryngeal Paralysis**

[Laryngeal Paralysis in dogs](#) is the degeneration of nerves that control the muscles that move the laryngeal cartilages, located in the throat.

These cartilages control airflow into and out of the trachea (windpipe) during breathing.

During swallowing, normal laryngeal function protects the airway by closing the opening to the trachea and preventing aspiration of food or water.

In laryngeal paralysis, respiratory obstruction occurs because the cartilages remain in a central position causing airway resistance, instead of opening up the airway during inspiration.

How To Avoid Common Health Problems In The Newfoundland Dog

At some point in time, most dogs will experience some health problems but there are things that you can do to help lessen some of the problems.

Familiarize yourself with bloat and make sure you have a plan in place.

Be aware of environmental issues that could affect your Newfoundland such as feeding them a balanced diet keeping in mind joint and heart health.

Maintain a healthy body weight, provide low-impact exercises, spay or neuter them at the correct age, maintain a good grooming schedule for coat health and make sure to have annual visits with your veterinarian.

Newfies CAN live long, healthy lives.

BREED STANDARD FOR NEWFOUNDLANDS

## General appearance

Well balanced, impresses with strength and great activity. Substantial bone throughout, but not giving heavy inactive appearance. Noble, majestic and powerful.

## Characteristics

Large draught and water dog, with natural life-saving instinct, and devoted companion.

## Temperament

Exceptionally gentle, docile nature.

## Head and skull

Head broad and relatively large, occipital bone well developed, no decided stop, muzzle short, clean cut and rather square, covered with short fine hair.

## Eyes

Relatively small, dark brown, not showing haw, set rather wide apart. Free from obvious eye problems.

## Ears

Small, set well back, square with skull, lying close to head, covered with short hair without fringe.

## Mouth

Soft and well covered by lips. Scissor bite preferred, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws, but pincer tolerated.

## Neck

Strong, well set on to shoulders.

## Forequarters

Legs perfectly straight, well muscled, elbows fitting close to sides, well let down.

## Body

Well ribbed, back broad with level topline, strong muscular loins. Chest deep, fairly broad.

## Hindquarters

Very well built and strong. Slackness of loins and cow-hocks most undesirable.

## Feet

Large, webbed, and well shaped. Splayed or turned out feet most undesirable.



## Tail

Moderate length, reaching a little below hock. Fair thickness well covered with hair, but not forming a flag. When standing hangs downwards with slight curve at end; when moving, carried slightly up, and when excited, straight out with only a slight curve at end. Tails with a kink or curled over back are most undesirable.

## Gait/movement

Free, slightly rolling gait. When in motion slight toe-ing in at front acceptable.

## Coat

Double, flat and dense, of coarse texture and oily nature, water-resistant. When brushed wrong way it falls back into place naturally. Forelegs well feathered. Body well covered but chest hair not forming a frill. Hindlegs slightly feathered.

## Size

Average height at shoulder: dogs: 71 cms (28 ins); bitches: 66 cms (26 ins). Average weight: dogs: 64-69 kgs (141-152 lbs); bitches: 50-54.5 kgs (110-120 lbs). While size and weight are important it is essential that symmetry is maintained.

## Priority health schemes and tests

The Kennel Club's Assured Breeders must use the following (or equivalent) schemes, tests and advice. All other breeders are strongly advised to also use these.

### Hip dysplasia screening scheme (BVA/KC)

DNA test – CU - part of The Kennel Club's CombiBreed package\* (see below). Find lists of clear, carrier or affected dogs

### Elbow dysplasia screening scheme (BVA/KC)

## Important health schemes and tests

We strongly recommend that all breeders, both assured breeders (ABs) and non ABs, use the following (or equivalent) schemes, tests and advice.

### Breed club - Heart testing

## Part 2 - CONTENTS PAGE

Your Puppy Information Pack includes the following:

Socialisation advice & chart

Exercise advice

Training advice

Feeding advice & puppy's diet information

Grooming advice

Worming advice & puppy's worming record

Immunisation advice, including advice specific to your puppy

Information on features and characteristics of the breed

NOTE: Contract of sale is provided separately on puppy collection

## SOCIALISATION ADVICE

Socialisation is a term that is often used in dog training books, in dog magazines and by breeders and trainers. But what does it actually mean and how will it affect you as a new puppy owner?

Like human children, puppies are not born with the social skills that they require to live with their family, be that a canine family or a human one. The term "socialisation" in simple terms means the learning process that a puppy must undergo in order to learn key life skills to ensure that it is happy and confident in its environment, and can communicate effectively within its social group. We ask a huge amount from our dogs in their role as a companion animal, as not only do they need to understand humans and the human world, they also need to become fluent in the language of dog.

This involves having pleasant social interactions with adults, children, vets, adult dogs and other animals, as well as careful exposure to different situations in the environment like traffic, crowds, travelling in the car, vacuum cleaners and any sights and sounds it will have to cope with in life. It is so important that this is done thoroughly and correctly when your puppy is still young, and he is young enough to happily accept new things.

Puppies that have been socialised effectively in these early weeks are far less likely to react negatively to new situations, noises, people, dogs and animals than their counterparts, who have not had these important early experiences. A well socialised puppy is far more likely to integrate easily into your life, therefore making your life together much more enjoyable and rewarding.

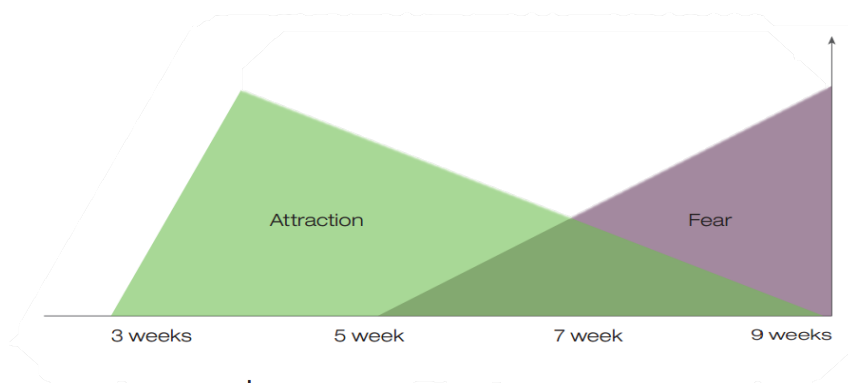
There are two parts to socialisation, and both are equally important. The first is teaching the puppy to be social with people and other dogs, while the other (called habituation) is about teaching all the things we want the puppy to ignore and not be worried about (noises, traffic, household objects etc.).

Being a companion is the hardest job we ever ask a dog to do as our expectations are so high. We want dogs to get on with everybody and everything, and to go everywhere with us when we want, but be happy to be left alone without complaint when we don't, to be accepting of loud noises, strangers, other dogs... The list is endless. It is a sad fact that one of the major causes of death in dogs under two years old is euthanasia, as a result of behaviour problems. Most of these behaviour problems arise from fear (fear of strange noises, fear of being left alone – and indeed aggression nearly always arises from fear – fear of strange dogs, fear of strange people or fear of strange situations). In addition, far too many dogs are ending up in rescue centres. Behaviourists and trainers up and down the country are seeing dogs with problems that could so easily have been prevented if the first 16 weeks of that dog's life had been properly managed, and they had been prepared for the life they were going to lead.

Some breeds need far more socialisation and habituation than others – with more reactive breeds (such as those bred to guard, some terriers etc.) needing more – and earlier – socialisation than others. Therefore, it is important for breeders and new owners to know how reactive their chosen breed is so they can focus their socialisation accordingly.

On the breeders' part, socialising their litter can start as early as when the puppies are a few days old. Gentle handling and checking the progress of the litter are all important steps in the first few days of a puppy's life. Over the course of the following weeks the breeder can introduce noises, different surfaces, different play items as well as different play and feeding locations around the house – all of this habituation and novelty contributes to the puppies' early development. The early ground work that the breeder puts into their litters' social and emotional wellbeing has a direct impact on their puppies' ability to be fit for function as a family dog.

It is imperative that the puppy's new owner continues this when their new puppy comes home. From around 5 weeks and continuing at the time the puppy goes to his or her new home, an important transition takes place in the puppy's ability to take in new situations as his natural fearfulness increases.



It is therefore so important that new owners don't miss this valuable window of opportunity for their puppy to experience new things – which will close at around 14-16 weeks. This time also coincides with the puppy's vaccinations, so a balance must be struck so not to miss out on this important learning opportunity. This can be achieved by taking your puppy out and about in your arms, while not allowing them to come into direct contact with other dogs until their vaccinations have taken place. Getting out and about with your puppy is key to them accepting everyday things, such as traffic and busy places, as part of normal life. It is important that you think about what life as part of your family will entail for a puppy – for

instance, if you live in the inner city spending a significant amount of time socialising your puppy to farm animals may not be of great benefit, as it is unlikely they will encounter them in their day to day life:

Rural Lifestyle	City Lifestyle
Farm animals	Heavy traffic
Farm machinery	Crowds of people
Horses with/without riders	Emergency sirens
Road walking	Public transport

The same also goes for all the different people your puppy is likely to meet such as: people with beards, people wearing hats, people wearing high visibility clothing, babies, children, people with pushchairs/prams, elderly people, people with walking sticks and people in wheelchairs to name but a few, or anyone else you are likely to meet.

### Puppy parties

We are registered at Rosemullion Vets, Helston and they often hold 'puppy parties' for their new clients, but these should be treated with some caution to ensure they are well managed as I have not attended one and therefore cannot give feedback specifically. Well managed puppy parties can be great social interaction for puppies of all ages and sizes. Well managed parties should:

Match puppies up according to their size so that the bolder puppies don't intimidate the more nervous or smaller ones, and thereby create negative experiences for the smaller puppies, and make the bolder ones 'social bullies'.

Manage any off-lead play carefully and if necessary, separate puppies that get a bit too boisterous so that they can calm down and re-join the party once they are calmer.

Discourage any kind of anti-social behaviour, such as biting that gets out of hand, very rough play and also show the owners how to discourage this.

Show owners how to handle and groom their puppies – and have others do this too.

Be fun positive experiences for puppies and owners.

### The Puppy Socialisation Plan

Until now there was no definitive plan for effectively socialising your puppy, which was resulting in rescue centres seeing increasing numbers of dogs coming to them with behavioural issues that could have been avoided with proper socialisation. In order to counteract this, the Kennel Club and Dogs Trust have jointly devised a socialisation plan for both breeders and new owners to follow as a step by step guide - it is called the Puppy Socialisation Plan and I have started this process from a very early age in our home rearing of your puppy. Both the Kennel Club and Dogs Trust recommend the Puppy Socialisation Plan as an effective plan for breeders and new owners to prepare their puppies as best they can for life as family pets. It is simple to complete, and can be tailored to suit you and your lifestyle, so it is highly recommended that novice breeders and new owners follow the Plan.

It is critical that this is done from birth up to 16 weeks of age, otherwise important learning and development phases have passed. The Plan covers everything from getting used to household noises, to

getting out and about and meeting new people and other dogs. Therefore, you need to plan and incorporate some extremely important life lessons during the early stages of your puppy's development, so that you end up with a well-balanced and sociable dog. **Please complete your chart below to ensure that socialising continues.**

You can find The Puppy Socialisation Plan located at - <http://www.thepuppyplan.com/>

SOCIALISATION CHART	Tick a box for each encounter						
PEOPLE							
Men							
Women							
Babies							
Young children							
Teenagers							
Elderly people							
Disabled people							
Loud, confident people							
Shy, timid people							
People in uniform							
People wearing hats, crash helmets etc.							
People with beards							
People wearing glasses, sunglasses etc.							
Delivery people e.g. postman, milkman							
Visitors							
Joggers							
AROUND THE HOME							
Washing machine/tumble dryer							
Vacuum cleaner							
Lawn mower							
Kitchen noise							

TV/Radio									
<b>ANIMALS</b>									
Friendly large dogs									
Friendly small dogs									
Domestic pets e.g. rabbits									
Livestock									
Cats									
Horses									
<b>OUTSIDE THE HOME</b>									
Traffic									
Motorbikes									
Bicycles									
Buses									
Trains									
Crowds									
Fireworks									
Umbrellas									
Car travel									
Different surfaces (gravel, slippery floors, grass etc.)									
<b>GENTLE HANDLING</b>									
Head									
Ears									
Mouth									
Tail									
Paws and legs									
Grooming (short periods)									
Gentle restraint									

By family and friends							
By strangers							

## EXERCISE ADVICE

An important part of a dog's life is exercise, not only for fitness, but also for mental stimulation. Indeed exercise times and feeding times are often the most exciting parts of a dog's day, and your puppy will grow to keenly anticipate them.

### Small beginnings

Puppies need much less exercise than fully-grown dogs. If you over-exercise a growing puppy, you can quickly overtire it, and more importantly damage its developing joints, which may cause early arthritis. A good rule of thumb is a ratio of one minutes exercise per week of age (up to twice a day maximum. ), until the puppy is fully grown, i.e. 12 minutes when twelve weeks old, 20 minutes when 20 weeks old etc.

### Exercise Requirements

As a giant breed your Newfoundland needs to be exercised with a great deal of caution. He is growing at a phenomenal rate and as such his joints, ligaments and tendons are under a huge amount of strain.

We advise all our owners to stick rigidly to the rule of one minute on the lead for every week they have been alive rule.

A recent study by the BVA concluded that while weight was the biggest risk factor that contributed to giant breeds needing orthopaedic surgery, inappropriate exercise in the form of excessive lead walking and not enough free play was a massively contributing factor also. If you watch puppies playing together you will see them darting to the side, play crouching, zig zagging, rolling around on their backs etc etc, in essence a puppy yoga session. What you won't see is them marching at a set pace in a straight line using the same set of muscles and ligaments over and over again. If there is a walk that you want to take them on that is on the lead, we advise that you walk it by yourself first at your usual walking pace and time how long it takes you. If it takes you 12 minutes to walk it, when your puppy is 12 weeks old, then it is safe to take them. If when you are on the walk it takes over an hour, because puppy is stopping and sniffing everything, or everybody that passes wants to stop and say hello to your puppy (oh trust me they will, a simple trip to the shops will involve you needing to add an hour to the trip if you take puppy) then that's ok. You know that walk is really a 15 minute walk, because you timed it.

## PUPPY TRAINING ADVICE

All puppies are hard work no matter what their breed. They require teaching how to live in a human pack, how to be alone, how to sleep alone, how to share, how to walk on a lead, where to poop, the list is endless.

The absolute key with Newfoundlands is CONSISTENCY. They have very very long memories for the one time that you allowed them to do something. If you do not want them to sleep on your bed (and I've got to be honest, much as we love ours, there's no way that the bogsnorkellers are adding their special element to my nice cosy bed) then never ever let them. If you don't want them to beg for food whilst you are eating, then never ever feed them from your plate – here at Kernowbears I can spot the weak links in our friends by the sea of Newfoundlands sat around them whenever they start eating. Their protests of innocence are outweighed by the collective 400kg of fur and gloober looking hopeful beside them....

CONSISTENCY is the key. Just in case I didn't labour the point enough.. Oh and FIRM BOUNDARIES, give them an inch and they will gloober over a mile. See my previous comments in the "So you think you want a Newfoundland" section

## Newfie Lifestages



0-6 months



6-24 months



24+ months

Newfoundlands go through three distinct stages of development.

There is the adorable fluffy bundle that you collect from our home. That puppy is cuteness personified with a vague interest in pleasing you and a definite desire to join in most of your activities. They are open to being trained, respond really well to reward based training and will lull you into a false sense of security. "what are all these stories of stubbornness and ignoring even the most basic of commands?" you may ask yourself.



This stage lasts until they are around 5-6 months old.

You will then enter THE TEENAGE STAGE.

Rather like childbirth, nothing can truly prepare you for this stage. You will think that you have familiarised yourself with the potential pit falls, you may have a more elderly Newf that you are sat looking at, thinking back with a gentle smile to their younger days.....none of that will be anywhere near the reality. You forget how awful they are once they are past the stage, (I think it's a protective mechanism that the brain applies, rather like those of us who have experienced childbirth more than once are always surprised that we forgot exactly how much it hurt) but while you are living it, it is hard. They will push you to your absolute limit, they will forget virtually everything you have taught them, whilst learning new skills like "the peace protestor manouver" which consists of just lying down and refusing to move. They will raid your bins, countertops, tables and plates if you aren't quick enough. They will landscape huge tracts of your garden – actually in the spirit of openness and honesty the adults are quite keen gardeners too.... They will drag you like a dishcloth down the road when they spot something interesting, which can be anything from a cat to a passing leaf. They will suddenly decide that things they weren't scared of before, are now not to be trusted. The car, your lawnmower, the ramp for the car.. There is no rhyme or reason sometimes, but often it will be something that they haven't done for a few weeks. Which leads back to CONSISTENCY. If there is something that it is important to you as a family that they can do with you, then make sure that you do it regularly. Recall will be a distant memory (if you ever got them to master it in the first place) as the whole world becomes more interesting and they feel the need to investigate it. Selective deafness is rampant at this stage, I actually think they deliberately forget their own names, yet strangely never forget what "dinner" 'walkies' or the sound of a packet of biscuits being opened by a small child is.

Here at Kernowbears we are always there for you as a shoulder to cry on during this phase. We can offer advice (which is sometimes just 'buy some wine and sit in the garden with it', obviously we don't offer that advice if they have just dug up an entire flower bed and eaten your bay tree... \*\*\*Nu, you know what you did...\*\*) and will always encourage you to join the owners Facebook group so at least you know you aren't suffering alone.

Sleep – The first few nights when you bring your puppy home are an important part of building your bond and setting down your guidelines for your relationship. I cannot tell you the best method for settling them in as everyone will have different behaviours that they are comfortable with. Some of you may be quite happy to have puppy on your bed or in your bedroom (please bear in mind that stairs are not advisable for newfy puppies, quite aside the strain on their developing joints, they are unbelievably clumsy and will almost inevitably take a tumble down the stairs) and others may feel that leaving them alone is the best thing so that they get used to it.

What I would ask you to bear in mind is that up until the day you collect them, your puppy has been sleeping in a huge pile of siblings and interacting with its mum all the time. You will have taken it away

from all of that, and its first night will, in the puppies mind, be absolutely terrifying. It will be in a strange place with strange smells and sounds and away from everything it knows.

We advise that you take it slowly with your puppy, perhaps set up an air bed or sleep in the lounge with it for the first few nights as it settles, you will be waking up frequently in the night to allow the puppy outside to go to the toilet anyway as it has no control at 8 weeks old and has a bladder the size of an acorn.

Establish when quiet/sleep time is and try to get the puppy feeling safe and secure in your home. Once the puppy feels safe and secure it will inevitably sleep for a good chunk of the night thus allowing you to return to your bed and the puppy not notice that you have gone. You will still have to set an alarm clock to take them out to the toilet though unless you want to walk into a catastrophe in the morning.

Important training tips:

Start as you mean to go on. If you are always consistent you will avoid confusing your puppy. Puppies have a very short attention span so train for short spells on a regular basis

Keep it short and keep it simple, but most of all keep it fun. Puppies respond better to cheerful voice tones rather than to threatening orders. Gentle play builds trust and a strong bond between you and your puppy as well as making training fun. Patience is the KEY ingredient in dog training. If you try to rush things you will only get frustrated and confuse your puppy. Keep it interesting: cultivate a range of different rewards incorporating play, fuss, praise, treats and toys. This will stop both of you from getting bored.

**Toileting Training** – House training a any puppy is not an easy task. I have been very lucky with all of mine and I think that is down to patience and correct training from an early age. From a very early age (even at my house within the litter) try and try and try to get them clean. We operate a system in their pen from them being 2-3 weeks old where we create a toilet area filled with woodshavings for them to use to go to the toilet in. You can see videos on our Instagram and Facebook of the puppies even breaking off from eating (when they are still toddling rather than walking steadily) and going to the toilet area when they need to wee or poo.

Once you get your puppy home he, just like any baby, generally needs to 'go' when they wake up and after they have eaten,

As soon as they have done either of these things, scamper into the back garden calling them using a key word like "WEEE WEEES" in a ridiculous voice and hope that they will follow you to their toilet area. As soon as they have done their business (which may take some time, so make sure you have a waterproof jacket) reward them with a tiny treat and/or loads of praise and ear rubs. Positive reinforcement is the key to any training with a Newfoundland. Then wait 20-30 minutes and rinse and repeat....

If they have an accident in the house and you discover it (usually by stepping in it..) DO NOT punish the puppy. They will have absolutely no idea why you are angry with them. Just clean it up and chalk it down to you not taking them out often enough. If you catch them in the act of squatting or peeing, then a firm NO and moving them outside to the toilet area is the way to go, reward them when they go in the right area with lots of praise as you usually do. By catching them in the act and reprimanding them they will know which behaviour it was that they got in trouble for. It is only appropriate in that instance.

Punishing your puppy for accidents indoors may make it scared of going to the toilet in front of you – even outside, so avoid this and promote encouragement by celebrating success with them. Expecting your puppy to tell you when it needs to go to the toilet is unrealistic. It is far better to go outside at regular intervals. Do not leave your puppy too long on its own so that it is forced to go indoors. Leaving your puppy alone in the garden means that you are not there to praise and reward, or to reinforce the idea that the garden is the correct place to go. Try to avoid using the words “good boy/girl” when your puppy is going to the toilet - you don't want your puppy going to the toilet every time it is praised. Puppies can exhibit submissive or excitable urination when greeting you on your return home. Toning down greetings can help prevent your puppy from becoming overexcited. Young puppies will not be able to go through the night without needing to go to the toilet. If they do wake you up, it really is worth getting up to let them out.

Chewing and Teething – Puppies chew, fact of life. You can buy them all the toys in the world but I can guarantee that at some point those pearly whites will clamp on to a piece of your house or furniture for a little gnaw. There is no way to prevent this apart from close supervision, so it is wise to move anything that is precious to you out of the rooms in which your puppy will frequent. We find antler and tree root chews to be readily accepted, along with gel/rubber like toys that they can really sink those gnashers into, but usually they will prefer to chew on a skirting board. Newfoundlands don't tend to be as prone to chewing as a lot of other breeds but we have found that walls and skirting boards are firm favourites when they do.

Mouthing – This is something that all Newfoundland puppies do. It is one of their favourite things to do in fact. They are known as a mouthy breed.

We have found that they tend to do it when they are either playing, or trying to get your attention.

There are a few reasons for mouthing.

The first being as a way to ask for food, naturally a puppy will lick and nip at the mouth of its mother to stimulate regurgitation which is how a wolf or wild dog would carry food to the litter, this instinct is still very active within domesticated dogs.

The second is during play. Naturally when a litter plays and a puppy is hurt it will squeal. When your puppy is using you as a chew toy we suggest that you mimic with a high pitched yelp, this noise to tell the puppy that you are not happy, and stop all play and attention to show your displeasure. I also follow this up immediately with a ‘here's your TOY’ and give them a toy. Eventually they will learn the word toy and if you are lucky will run to get one themselves when excited. During this rough stage you may find that the puppy responds to different family members in different ways. so the method in dealing with the issue may have to be altered, essentially by removing all attention away from the miniature shark your puppy will be resembling. But it is very important that ALL family members and humans involved in your pups daily routine are reading from the same page, that this behaviour is not acceptable. With especially hyper/rough pups we recommend that all rough and tug games are ceased until it is nipped in the bud. As

with any training, behaviours that you require should be rewarded. So, if your baby is playing nicely tell them so.

With Newfoundlands you will find that this behaviour extends beyond the puppy stage when they are excited or wish to show you something, Getting hold of clothing or your hand/arm to lead you somewhere is a common attribute. They are very dexterous with their paws but don't have thumbs (though Nu and Winnie wish they did so they could open jam jars) so if they want to grab you they will use their mouths. Whilst we know that they are just taking us somewhere, or trying to show us something, unsuspecting members of the public don't, and can be alarmed. It can be misread as aggressive behaviour, so you need to find a strategy to stop it that works for you and your newf. Many can be seen with cuddly toys in their mouths which seems to satisfy their need to hold onto something.

### **Environment**

Being surrounded by lots of absorbent or grass-like surfaces, such as rugs and carpets, may confuse your puppy. Ammonia based cleaning products used around the house can smell like urine to your puppy, and lead to unwanted accidents. If your puppy does have an accident inside, the scent will still be apparent to the puppy for a long time afterwards, even if you have thoroughly disinfected the area. Specialist cleaning products specifically designed to mask the odour are available.

Beyond the garden, many owners can be disappointed that their young puppy does not initially toilet when first venturing out on walks. Often, your puppy will only relieve itself the second you get home. This is because the puppy has not yet associated going out for a walk as an opportunity to go to the toilet, so will wait until they return home to their garden, which they know is a good place to go. To break this habit, get up a little earlier in the morning (when you have plenty of time) and take your puppy out on a walk before it has had a chance to visit its usual spot. Stay out with your puppy for a reasonable length of time until it has been to the toilet, and then give plenty of praise. If you are not successful, make sure the puppy is whisked into the garden to relieve itself or you will run the risk of a large puddle indoors!

Remember, patience and consistency is key. All puppies take different amounts of time to learn, so don't worry if your puppy seems to be taking longer to get the hang of things. Your patience will pay off and you will both get there in the end.

Resource Guarding and Food Aggression – This is rarely a problem for Newfoundlands, though they can view all kinds of things (including your time and love) as a resource. You must teach a puppy to willingly give up their treasures, so give them opportunities to practice this for reward (ie give up the toy they are playing with for a treat). An adult family member can help this process by approaching the puppy whilst he is eating and playing, stroking, touching the toy/food, taking it away and praising when the pup is patient to have it given back, just simple fun games to promote sharing. The expression of 'don't bite the hand that feed you' is very true in dog behaviour, so hand feeding your new puppy is great way for him to learn that

humans are a food source not a threat and great for kids to help with. When removing items from your dog, chose a command like 'drop' or 'leave it' and be consistent, when you would like your dog to give up their resource use the command so he will learn what is required of him. When he willingly gives up his treasure praise, fuss, give him a treat, before returning the item.

A trained dog is a happy dog

Housetraining aside, every puppy also needs to be taught good manners and have constructive lessons in basic control and social interaction. This includes:

Responding to its name.

Learning how to greet and behave politely around other people and dogs.

To come back when called.

To walk nicely on the lead.

To sit down and stay on command.

To allow itself to be groomed and examined by you and your vet.

Dog training classes

Most owners can benefit from attending good training classes, and training in the company of other dogs is very useful, because of the realistic distractions it involves. Ideally, you should start your classes as soon as your puppy's vaccinations are complete, but classes can be invaluable for older dogs too, and continue throughout the dog's life.

There are lots of schools of thought on dog training and it is naturally important that you find a class and training instructors with the right approach for you and your puppy. Dog training can be lots of fun and very rewarding. After all, a trained dog is a happy dog, and a happy dog makes for a happy owner too.

Finding the best dog training club

Before enrolling with a dog training club it can be beneficial to go and visit several classes first (without your puppy) to make sure you have made the right choice. Things you may wish to consider include:

Do you like what you see – are the trainers friendly, are people happy and enjoying training their dogs?

Are the dogs happily focused on their human family?

Are the instructors giving lots of encouragement and information to all attendees?

Are the instructors maintaining a controlled, safe environment for all?

Are instructors treating everyone fairly and meeting the needs of the whole group?

You can find training classes by using the Kennel Club's Find a Club service – visit [www.findaclub.org.uk](http://www.findaclub.org.uk) to find a club near you running training classes, or call the Kennel Club on 01269 318540. You can also ask your vet and other dog owners for recommendations.

#### The Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme

The Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme is the UK's largest dog training programme, and has been introduced to assist owners in training their dogs to be obedient in every day situations. Its simple but effective dog training techniques encompass all the skills necessary for a happy and rewarding partnership with your dog. There are four levels of the Scheme, namely Puppy Foundation, Silver, Bronze and Gold. Each level is designed to further develop an owner's understanding of training, while building a dog's confidence and levels of obedience. All dogs are eligible to take part, whether they are young or old, pedigree or crossbreed. Over 2000 dog training schools throughout the UK offer Scheme training courses.

#### The Kennel Club Accreditation Scheme for Instructors in Dog Training and Canine Behaviour

The Kennel Club Accreditation Scheme for Instructors in Dog Training and Canine Behaviour (KCAI) is the UK's first and only national and verified qualification in dog training and canine behaviour, recognised by City & Guilds. Representing the 'gold standard' in teaching, advice and service, members of the Scheme abide by a strict Code of Practice designed to ensure that dog owners are provided with the best advice and service. Look for the badge of quality when you are choosing a trainer. You can see which clubs have KCAI Accredited instructors on the Kennel Club's Find a Club service.

Neutering – All dog owners, breeders and indeed vets have differing opinions on neutering, for me unless you plan to breed from your dog then neutering has huge benefits to both health and behaviour. I would recommend that a bitch is allowed to have her first season before spaying and that a dog is at least 8-10 months of age. But please do your own research on this and speak with your vet.

#### DIET ADVICE

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU DO NOT OVERFEED YOUR NEWFOUNDLAND PUPPY.

Newfoundlands have a big enough risk of joint problems without adding in extra weight. Over a 6 year period in a study by the BVA over 90% of giant breed dogs in for orthopaedic surgery were overweight!

All of the latest studies point to genetics only accounting for 20-30% of the skeletal problems the giant breeds have. 70-80% is environmental. What you feed your puppy, how much you feed your puppy and what type of food will play a large part in his future skeletal health.

When there is a weight guide on a bag it is the amount for the weight that he should be at that age. NOT the weight that you have made him. If you keep upping his food every time you make him fatter you will end up in an ever decreasing circle.

Newfoundland puppies should gain between 1-2kg a week. No more. I don't care how 'big boned' they are or how 'tall' they are, a slim puppy is a healthy puppy. Run your hands down your puppy's sides. You should be able to feel his ribs without putting pressure on. LEARN TO BE HONEST ABOUT HIS BODY CONDITON. I have refused to sell another puppy to a previous owner because they allowed their first to become obese and caused no end of health problems. Be warned, t is one of the few things that I will put my foot down with owners over.

#### CALCIUM IN YOUR NEWFOUNDLAND PUPPY'S FOOD

It is essential that you feed a food with a calcium content under 1.6% numerous studies have shown that a high calcium diet is damaging for Newfoundlands skeletons.

We send our puppies with a 12kg sack of the food that they have been weaned on. We have carefully chosen that food to ensure that it fits of all the needs of your puppy. Please do not change their food without talking to us first.

#### Your Puppy's Current Diet

Number of Meals (per day)	Current Meal Times	Type of Food Given	Quantity (per meal)
3	7-8am 2-3pm 8-9pm	ARDEN GRANGE LARGE PUPPY/JUNIOR Chicken and Rice	110 grammes

#### Little and often

Like all infants, puppies grow very rapidly (up to twenty times faster than an adult dog), and so require a specially formulated diet to aid their physical development. A high energy growth food is recommended and needs to be fed at evenly spaced intervals to avoid over stretching your puppy's small stomach.

Meals should be split during the course of the day and ideally a young puppy should go approximately 6 hours between meals.

It is better not to leave food down (so throw away any uneaten food after 20 minutes) and not to change your puppy's food as this could cause havoc with its digestion and toilet training regime. Make sure that water is always available to your puppy, so never take its water bowl away.

Newfoundlands are a breed that are a high risk for bloat. It is an absolutely awful and terrifying thing to witness. Although there are many theories about what causes bloat and how to avoid it, the general consensus is to avoid large meals and avoid exercise immediately after a meal. Bloat is a killer, it can come on suddenly and you have got to act quickly to avoid torsion and death. There is more information about this below the diet section. Please read it, it could save your puppy/dogs life.

#### Quantities

The quantity of food should be approximately the same for each meal. Young puppies, particularly those of a large or fast growing breed, can sometimes need more food as puppies than they require as adults. Increases of food should always be gradual and a good idea is to increase the amount on a weekly basis from 8 weeks until the puppy is 16 weeks old. Typically, by the time a puppy reaches 16 weeks, it will need roughly the same amount as when it is an adult.

Puppies can be greedy or picky with their food so it can sometimes be difficult to gauge how much to give them. Care should be taken not to over or underfeed your puppy. Puppies can often appear 'chubby', particularly after they have eaten, but under normal circumstances they should have a defined 'waist'. If in any doubt about your puppy's weight or diet, consult your vet when you next visit for a puppy check-up.

Below is some information about feeding your puppy in the future:

Future Feeding Recommendations – please follow the Arden Grange guidelines below

Age of Puppy	Number of Meals (per day)	Type of Food	Quantity (per meal)
8 weeks	3		100-120g
12 weeks	3		140 – 160g
6 Months	2		Depends on weight, but should be no more than 350g per meal
See chart below:			



weight (kg)	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55
<b>8-11 weeks</b>	80-175	175-250	250-400	400-520	520-645	-	-	-	-
<b>12-20 weeks</b>	55-125	125-180	180-305	305-415	415-515	515-610	610-785	-	-
<b>21-32 weeks</b>	-	-	-	150-250	250-340	340-425	425-500	500-650	650-780
<b>33-48 weeks</b>	-	-	-	-	280-350	350-415	415-535	535-640	640-745
<b>+48 weeks</b>	-	-	-	-	-	300-360	360-460	460-560	560-650

PLEASE WEIGH your puppy and their food regularly to ensure accuracy of feeding amount.

Always make sure that they have access to fresh water.

Bloat is a problem in all giant breeds and if not treated quickly is often fatal, because of this we are including this guide after the feeding section.

## BLOAT SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

### What It Means If Your Dog's Stomach Is Bloated

In the most general sense, dog "bloat" refers to an enlargement or swelling of the abdomen. If your dog's stomach is bloated, it could be due to a number of underlying causes, ranging from mild to severe, including pregnancy, heart failure or liver dysfunction, uterine infection ("pyometra"), internal bleeding, GDV, and several others. Many of these are very serious and concerning conditions, including GDV. Because of this, it's fair to say that, across the board, a dog that "looks bloated" should always be taken to the vet ASAP.

### What GDV Means for Dogs

In GDV, a dog's stomach spins around itself and becomes twisted (this is the "volvulus") at both ends. We frequently don't know why or how the twisting happens, but when it does it completely blocks the escape of gas, liquid, and other stomach contents from the stomach. This build-up of gas and liquid causes the stomach to expand like a balloon ("dilatation"), hence the bloated stomach. This is Gastric Dilatation and Volvulus, or GDV.

It's not just the passage of gas and liquid from the stomach that's altered in GDV, it's also the blood flow to and from the stomach, as well as throughout the rest of the body (including to and from the heart), that's severely compromised. The severely bloated stomach can also cause breathing issues and a host of serious metabolic problems — such as acid-base and electrolyte imbalances, blood clotting abnormalities, and widespread inflammation — for the dog, which lead to some of the symptoms described below and can be fatal.

**Bloat/GDV will not resolve itself. If a dog with GDV is not brought for prompt veterinary care and surgery, the dog will not survive.**

## Symptoms of Bloat in Dogs

It is important to note that not all dogs with GDV/Bloat will exhibit all of the following signs and symptoms. Even some of the most common symptoms of bloat aren't always easy to see.

**Hard, distended, or bloated abdomen:** This may not be obvious if your dog is very large or deep chested. In these dogs, the area of the abdomen where a distended stomach resides may be up behind the ribcage. This may be even less obvious if your dog is especially furry or overweight. Therefore, the absence of visible bloat does NOT rule out the condition! To see an example of a bloated dog, check the video above.

**Unproductive retching:** A dog suffering from GDV/Bloat may try to vomit without anything (or very little) coming out. You may see small amounts of water or, more often, large volumes of thick, stringy saliva. This is still considered "unproductive retching" and unproductive retching is almost always an urgent sign of GDV/Bloat in dogs.

**Pacing and restlessness:** Dogs affected by GDV/Bloat will have a difficult time getting comfortable and lying down. This is because they are in true physiologic (physical, mental, and metabolic) distress and, sadly, are in the process of dying. Pacing and restlessness is often one of the most obvious and early signs, so pay attention to it! In the later stages, your dog's pacing and restlessness will deteriorate to staggering, collapse, and decreased responsiveness.

**Excessive saliva:** The amount of saliva in dogs suffering from GDV/Bloat is sometimes quite profuse. This excess saliva *may* be accompanied by "lip smacking." Both signs are partially the result of the nausea that affected dogs experience with this condition.

**Standing with elbows pointed outward and neck extended:** This is your dog's attempt to improve their ability to breathe. This is necessary as the rapidly distending stomach makes it difficult for the lungs to expand. Your dog may instinctively move their elbows away from their chest and point the elbows outward to help (albeit minimally) enlarge the space available for the lungs to expand within the chest cavity.

**Fast, heavy, or otherwise difficult breathing:** This isn't just a result of the decreased space in the chest that's available for the lungs to expand; it's also because of the acid/base and other metabolic abnormalities that are occurring in your dog's body as a result of GDV/Bloat. The pain and distress caused by the condition also contributes to these breathing changes.

**Rapid heart and pulse rate:** This can be an early sign due to the pain and distress associated with this condition. However, it's also typical as the condition progresses, due primarily to the compromised blood flow throughout your dog's body, as they are in a true state of shock. In the later stages of shock, the pulse rate will actually drop — this is a very bad sign! For this reason, as well as many others, you should know how to check your dog's pulse rate, and know what your dog's normal resting pulse rate is. (See the video

below)

**Pale mucus membranes and prolonged capillary refill time (CRT):** The color of the tissues above your dog's teeth *can* be an indication of the health and function of their circulatory system (heart and blood vessels). I've emphasized "can" because multiple other, non-circulatory factors (pain, dental disease, anemia, liver disease, and others) can also influence this color. If you notice that these tissues have lost their typical pink color and have become pale, or if it takes more than 2 seconds (or less than 1 second) for that pink color to return after applying gentle pressure with your finger, this may indicate a problem — especially if accompanied by any of the other symptoms in this list. The return to color — whether it's too slow or too quick — can vary based on how far the condition has progressed.

**Collapse:** This, as you might imagine, is a very obvious sign — so long as someone is around to witness it. Sadly though, collapse is typically a very late sign of GDV. Often, by the time an affected dog collapses, the condition is advanced and dire. At this point the prognosis for survival is getting significantly worse by the second. Many conditions in dogs can result in collapse, and collapse is always a sign of a serious problem that warrants immediate evaluation by a veterinarian. If your dog collapses, for any reason, bring them to a veterinarian immediately.

Potential Toxins/Poisons (this list is by no means complete and always consult your vet if you puppy ingests anything it shouldn't)

Alcohol.

Chocolate.

Coffee/Caffeine.

Grapes/Raisins/Currants/Sultanas.

Artificial sweeteners containing xylitol.

Some human vitamins and supplements.

Mouldy food.

Onions, chives and garlic.

Slug pellets and other pesticides.

Yeast/Dough.

Some garden/household plants.

Macadamia nuts.

Brassica plants (cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, swede, turnip)

Information reviewed by PFMA Veterinary and Nutrition Committee. For more information on poisons please visit [www.thekennelclub.org.uk/health/pet-health-information/common-canine-poisons/](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/health/pet-health-information/common-canine-poisons/)

#### GROOMING ADVICE

Please see this link for a simple explanation on grooming.

<http://barktime.co.uk/2014/01/23/priceless-tips-on-how-to-groom-and-trim-your-newfoundland/>

Grooming your Newfoundland will become part of your life on a weekly if not daily basis.

If you aren't actually grooming them you are looking at them thinking "is that the next door neighbour's cat I can see buried in her fur??" "is that fox poo I can smell???" "why do you always run through the brambles??" You get the picture...

They are swamp monsters, bog-snorkellers extraordinaire, they can find the only bit of fox poo in a 10 mile radius and they WILL roll in it.

They have a thick, dense double coat. That means that they have the guard hair (shiny topcoat) and a dense soft warm undercoat.

They shed ALL THE TIME. Get used to casually removing Newf hair from your mouth and picking it out of your food. My daughter found a Newf hair in the butter at an expensive restaurant in France, it had obviously hitched a ride...

Twice a year they blow their undercoats, in a manner not unlike the sandstorms that descend on the Sahara. Huge handfuls of fur will float around your kitchen, you are frightened to stroke them without wearing breathing apparatus, you know you have to do the dreaded coat blow groom. This involves either ringing your local groomer – apologising in advance – booking them in and handing over your cash with a wry smile and running gleefully away. Or, arming yourself with a variety of grooming paraphernalia, a bin bag, a face mask, possibly goggles to protect your eyes from the hair (don't laugh it helps!) and a blaster,

setting aside 4-5 hours of your day. It's totally up to you which way you deal with it, but deal with it you must.

Get your puppy used to being groomed from day one. We start the ball rolling for you here at Kernowbears, we give each puppy at least two full grooms while they are here, with a bath, blast and brush, but it is up to you to build on that.

Make brushing your puppy part of your interactions, rub his ears gently at frequent intervals and give him loads of praise – Newfs love having their ears rubbed. Try to discourage him from eating the brush/your hand/his own fur/his tail/passing objects during the groom. Book him into a groomer even if you want to do the bulk of the grooming yourself just so puppy is used to it.

You have to keep on top of their coat. If you don't it WILL matt. Really quickly. And they will get sore. And smelly. And generally unpleasant to be around. We recommend that you don't leave more than 6 weeks between full grooming sessions. Brush at least 3 times a week though!

It also gives you chance to check your puppy over, your hands are the best tool you have. Check for lumps, bumps, parasites (unpleasant but part of the realities of dog ownership) and gets them used to being checked over – which your vet will thank you for when they weigh 55kg... Check puppy's teeth, eyes, ears etc.

Which leads us to ears, Newfies ears are huge great big wax and debris depositories. Because of their propensity to get them wet constantly, they are much more likely to develop ear infections than some other breeds. Give their ears a check and a quick clean out with a damp cotton pad at least once a week.

I've included a link to a really great grooming guide at the top in case you get the bug and decide that you want to start doing full grooms yourself. There are a number of tables, baths and blasters on the market if you want to get serious about it, and we are always here to offer advice and share hints and tips with our owners regarding any aspect of caring for their furballs.

#### WORMING ADVICE

Worming your dog throughout its lifetime is important, and you should talk to your vet about a suitable worming programme for your puppy at the earliest opportunity. Regular worming not only protects your dog's health, but helps to prevent the spread of infection and potentially hazardous health risks to other animals and humans too. Worm infections carried by your dog do not always display obvious symptoms, so an adequate treatment schedule is vital.

Some worming treatment has been carried out prior to you receiving your puppy and a record of this is provided in the chart below. Do discuss this further with your own veterinary surgeon.

Date Wormed	Product Used	Amount Given
Date next treatment due:		

Signs aren't always obvious

Dogs can appear healthy even when they have worm infections. Detecting an infection can be tricky, particularly as worm eggs are too small to be easily visible in your pet's faeces. In addition, your dog may be more at risk from some worm infections than others depending on where you live. It is therefore extremely important to keep your dog's treatment regular and up-to-date.

Specific signs will be described for each worm, but remember that not all worm infections will be obvious in your dog, so some more general signs to look for include:

The presence of visible worm segments that could stick to your dog's bottom and become itchy. This can cause dogs to "scoot", whereby they drag their bottoms along the ground with their back legs. Doing this also means that your dog will be rubbing its infected bottom on your floor or carpet, which is naturally unhygienic.

Weight loss.

Vomiting.

Diarrhoea.

A dull, lifeless coat.

A change in appetite (it may be either increased or decreased depending on the worms present).

A lack of energy.

A pot-bellied appearance (most commonly seen in puppies).

Breathing difficulties and coughing.

General changes in behaviour.

You should seek advice from your vet if you see any of the above signs in your dog. Many of these symptoms may be indicative of other illnesses. Your vet will be able to investigate the problem and provide appropriate advice and treatment.

### Worming Products

There are a wide variety of worming products available from a number of different sources and I have put the product information in your puppy bag. These products vary in activity spectrum (the worms they treat or prevent), how you administer the treatment (spot-on / injection / oral medication), dosage instructions and speed or duration of activity. Always check with your vet before initiating a worming regime. This way you can be confident that you are using the most appropriate products, and following the best treatment for the needs of your dog and family.

### How Often Should You Worm?

All animals are at risk from acquiring worm infections, until 12 weeks puppy needs worming fortnightly. However some animals will be at higher risk than others depending on factors such as their lifestyle and area in which you live. Children are at increased risk of disease from worms; if you have a young family or your dog often comes into contact with children, you should pay particular attention to regular worming. Again, ,always consult with your vet with regard to the most appropriate treatment schedule. TAKE ADVICE from your vet on your first appointment.

### Control Check List

As well as following a worming plan following consultation with your vet, there are also many other practical things you can do to help prevent the spread of worm infections among your pets and family. These are as follows:

'Poop scooping' - make sure you pick up your dog's faeces immediately on a walk and remove it from the lawn or surrounding outdoor environment daily - bag it, and put it in designated poop bins, double bag it, and put it in with the domestic waste, or check with you local council.

Ensure you and your children wash your hands after handling / stroking your dog.

Wash all food including fruit and vegetables before eating them.

Don't allow children to put dirt in their mouths.

Throw away any food dropped on the floor / ground rather than eating it.

Cover children's sandpits when not in use.

Vaccination Given	Age of Puppy	Date Administered
1 <sup>st</sup>	8 weeks	
2 <sup>nd</sup> DUE	10 weeks	
3 <sup>rd</sup> DUE	14 weeks	
Next Vaccination Due:		
Please seek the advice of your puppy's veterinary surgeon for information on future vaccination, details of our Rosemullion Vets is in your puppy pack.		

Travelling Pets

There are specific parasitic worms to which your pet may be exposed to on visiting countries outside the UK. Two

notable worms are Heartworm (*Dirofilaria immitis*), transmitted by a mosquito bite, which could be fatal if your dog is not protected, and one type of Tapeworm (*Echinococcus multilocularis*), which can cause serious and fatal disease in people.

If you are intending to travel with your dog, you should talk to your vet in plenty of time to establish the best worming regime to ensure the protection of both your dog's health and that of your family. For further information about what you need to do before, during, and after travel abroad with your dog, refer to the Pet Travel Scheme guidelines on the DEFRA website, [www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-pets/pets/travel](http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-pets/pets/travel).

Further reading and information

ESCCAP UK provides practical advice to dog owners to protect pets from parasitic infections and to minimise the risk of their transmission between animals and humans. To find out more, visit [www.esccapuk.org.uk](http://www.esccapuk.org.uk).

#### VACCINATION ADVICE

There are a number of common infectious diseases that dogs are susceptible to throughout their life. Some of these diseases are life threatening and young puppies are particularly vulnerable, so it is important that your puppy is vaccinated against them. Further vaccination as adult dogs may be required to ensure that **your dog continues to be healthy and happy throughout its entire life.**

Some vaccination may have been carried out prior to you receiving your puppy and a record of this is provided below. Please take this with you on your puppy's first visit to a veterinary surgeon.



### First vaccinations

Normally, your puppy can receive its first vaccination from approximately eight weeks of age although this can vary depending on the normal practice of the treating vet. The vet will most likely start your puppy on a course of vaccinations against the four main infectious diseases; canine distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus and leptospirosis. All of these diseases can be fatal, so after its first course of vaccinations, your puppy may need booster vaccinations according to your vet's advice.

### Keeping a record

Once a puppy is vaccinated, the vet will issue a vaccination certificate showing a record of exactly when the puppy was vaccinated and which product was used. This should be kept safe, as you may need to show them at boarding kennels, dog-training classes, or if you take your dog abroad. If you change vet, they may recommend a slightly different regime, and it will be useful to see what vaccination your puppy has had in the past.

### Vaccination and socialisation

Until your puppy is fully vaccinated you should prevent them from being exposed to dogs that could be infected or areas that infected dogs could have had access to. Puppies are most receptive to new environments and situations at this age, so keeping them confined to your house and garden may be counterproductive. During these important first weeks at home, you could take your puppy out to different places in your arms or the car to get them used to different situations and noises, as well as letting them meet new people. Further details on socialisation is available in the Kennel Club "Puppy Plan" which can be viewed at [www.thepuppyplan.com](http://www.thepuppyplan.com).

### Useful references

Guidelines for the vaccination of dogs and cats compiled by the vaccination guidelines group (VGG) of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA). Journal of Small Animal Practice. Vol 51. June 2010

[www.wsava.org/sites/default/files/VaccinationGuidelines2010.pdf](http://www.wsava.org/sites/default/files/VaccinationGuidelines2010.pdf)

Vaccination guidelines for new puppy owners World Small Animal Veterinary Association, Vaccination Guidelines Group (2013)

[www.wsava.org/sites/default/files/New%20Puppy%20Owner%20Vaccination%20Guidelines%20Updated%20July%2029%202013.pdf](http://www.wsava.org/sites/default/files/New%20Puppy%20Owner%20Vaccination%20Guidelines%20Updated%20July%2029%202013.pdf)

Read Part 1 to familiarise yourself with the information about NEWFOUNDLANDS

Contact me at anytime, you have a commitment of lifelong support from me, like my Facebook page; Kernowbears Newfoundlands and visit the Kernowbears website to receive updates and join into our local family meets. In addition, I will ask you to join our Kernowbears Owners private Facebook group.

Please post on the page feedback about this information you have received, and your feedback is really invaluable and used in my service development, also post an introduction picture of your new furbaby in the owners group.

I hope that you have as much pleasure in your new life with your Kernowbears baby as we did bringing them into the world and raising them for the first 8 weeks. May you have a lifetime of gloober filled kisses and giant squishy cuddles.

The Kennel Club aims to promote the health, happiness and general wellbeing of all dogs, and to provide you with an invaluable resource for every aspect of life with your dog.

To find out more, visit [www.thekennelclub.org.uk](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk)

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