

The Jalerran Manual

JALERRAN SIBERIANS



Jalerran Siberians

Clarion, Pennsylvania, USA

For our prospective homes who want to thoroughly research and do your homework prior to getting your next companion of 10-16 years, we have developed this document entitled, ***The Jalerran Manual***, in the hopes that it will be of assistance as you work towards your goal of finding a puppy who comes from the best starting point possible. It's lengthy – be advised. Much of this content can be found on our website at: www.SiberianHuskyPups.com, only with *less* explanation than what can be found here.

General Information:

Jalerran Siberians is a small hobby conformation-based program, located in Clarion, Pennsylvania, who has specialized in AKC Champion Siberian Huskies since 1996. Jess & John Moore, along with the the three kids, all play a role in the socialization of any puppies born at Jalerran. See also the 'about us' page on the website.

Fortunately, for those *not* seeking a show dog; but, rather a family companion/pet, there are still companion/pet puppies in every litter, as well. If it was that easy to produce top-winning show dogs in every litter, anyone could do it ☺. What's the difference between pet and show prospects? If you don't actively show, you wouldn't know the difference; but, you're encouraged to read over the AKC breed standard, and attempt to apply the descriptions to those adults/puppies you may see, with the understanding that it takes training and mentoring to actually learn to do it correctly. Either way, even those inquirers seeking a pet puppy also get the benefit of obtaining a puppy who descends from multiple generations of dogs with the following very important attributes:

- ❖ Superior Temperament,
- ❖ Superior Breed-Type,
- ❖ Superior Structure,
- ❖ and Superior Health.

Further explanation is as follows:

✚ **Superior Temperaments –**

✓ **Temperament –**

The Jalerran Manual

Any dog who is aggressive or excessively afraid to a degree that he/she cannot 'hold it together' in the ring will be excused, or at the very least, not awarded a win by a judge. Because it takes multiple wins, some in large-entry competition, under multiple judges in order to complete an AKC Championship title, typically dogs who meet this standard have very good dispositions. Of course, as with anything, you will still a wide range of other temperament considerations, including intelligence, energy-levels, trainability, dominance/submissiveness, food-drive, possessiveness/coveting, etc. in each individual dog. But, taken as a whole, the completion of an American Championship suggests that these guys have been 'temperament tested'.

Furthermore, here at Jalerran Siberians, we presently have three kids (now older), three spayed herding dogs, a horse, two devil-kitties, and our Siberians are 'generally' good with everyone. We have @ five acres securely (usually... they ARE Siberians, after all) for our animals, and all of our intact males can exercise together without altercation. Our dogs all rotate in and out of our home throughout a given day... and the poor little Roomba gets quite a workout. Our puppies are raised in our home with us. We are there when they're born, they're fed in our kitchen, and they're exposed to the sounds of dishwasher, vacuum cleaners, and teenagers' squeals during their extensive amounts of socialization and handling. We also take a ton of photos, which get loaded onto an album on social media for routine viewing. There will be more information about that process further ahead in this document.

When I read information provided by back-yard breeders and puppy mills, who say their dogs have excellent temperaments because they are also their 'pets' – just our dogs are also treated here, I often wonder what might become more apparent if the dogs' temperament was actually tested formally. I almost never see dogs owned by back-yard breeders and puppy-mills with even a simple Canine Good Citizen certificate. I rarely see a back-yard breeder or a puppy mill who has a dog with an easy UKC title, let alone an AKC obedience or conformation title. Some dogs can behave differently when they are taken out of their comfort zones. Wouldn't it be nice to have some confidence on the temperament backgrounds BEFORE pumping out multiple litters?

Superior Breed Type –

AKC Breed Standard –

So, there is this little thing called the AKC Breed Standard. There is a Breed Standard for every recognized purebred dog breed. This is what keeps Siberians looking like Siberians... and not Malamutes, or Samoyeds, or Shepherds, or Collies, or Greyhounds, or Chinese Cresteds, for that matter. It bothers me when I see advertisements online for "Giant Siberians" or "Miniature Siberians" (not to be confused with an Alaskan Klee Kai, in the UKC). If someone is breeding with a goal of ANYTHING other than to produce puppies with good health/temperaments, who most closely meet the breed standard, then they're doing it on a whim, and will likely encounter all of the possible negative physical effects of an INDISCRIMINATE breeding program. I don't care how well-intended he/she think they're being... if the breeding is done to suit some skewed vision of what the person thinks is cute or pretty or to meet some sort of a supply/demand market, then it's simply wrong. In many cases, the person in question couldn't quote anything out of the AKC Breed Standard, if asked. Or, if they knew, for example, the height standards, they could explain to you why they felt they were 'improving' on it, which is not acceptable. It's no wonder any mixed breed dog out there gets lumped in to the category of being called a 'husky', and when there are problems with those dogs coming from poor-breeding practices,

The Jalerran Manual

the entire breed is given a bad name. Now, as a result, some home-owners insurance companies list these guys as being in a higher risk category. Sure, they're high maintenance (see our 'Breed Traits section); but, they aren't inherently 'bad dogs'. 'Bad Dogs' are the product of poor-breeding practices and poor ownership practices. This also goes back to # 1, above (temperament).

✓ **COAT LENGTH** –

○ **'Wooly Gene'** –

This is considered a fault in the AKC breed standard for multiple reasons. Although there are some dogs in show lines who may carry this gene, and it may pop up from time to time, nobody who is reputable is out **purposely attempting** to produce this inappropriate genetic fault. So, when I see advertisements for 'rare woolies', *it kinda turns my stomach, I'm not gonna lie*. Again – indiscriminate breeding for the wrong reasons.

○ **Other Lengths of Coat** –

Ranges from shorter/tighter to longer/fuller; but needs to have both a coarse guard coat and a softer undercoat. See AKC Breed Standard.

✓ **COAT & EYE COLOR** –

○ **Variety**

Siberians come in all kinds of different colors of coats/eyes, with different markings/patterns, which are all deemed acceptable, according to the breed standard ... and let me begin by saying that I do not begrudge anyone having 'preferences'. Maybe you really like dark red/whites with the pretty light-brown or amber eyes. Or maybe the picture in your mind of the ideal Siberian is one who is all white with blue eyes. But... although *ALL SIBERIANS MATTER*, here at Jalerran, their colors/patterns matter not! When we plan a given breeding, we don't discriminate against any coat/eye color. But, more importantly, we are first looking at their health, structure/background, and temperaments... usually in that order. Sure, I know the color-genetics behind my dogs; but, that has no bearing on the decision regarding whether or not to go with a certain combination. So, when I see advertisements where people say things like, "Specializes in producing blue-eyed beauties" or "Come up to the drive-thru window so we can hand you out the puppy you just ordered meeting your laundry-list of criteria", it's clear that these folks are likely over-breeding to ensure they get the color you want and probably breeding only for color. What about the temperament? What about the structural integrity? What about the health testing of the parents for multiple generations? Those things are far more important.

○ **When is Color Actually Important?**

- **Pigment** – regardless of whether or not the Siberian has black points or liver/brown points, which is dictated by their coat colors (genetically, red/whites, for example, can only have liver/brown noses and eye/lip liner, and gray/whites, for example, can only have black noses and eye lip/liner), you should want to see good pigment. A 'snow nose', however, is the only exception to this. This is acceptable.

The Jalerran Manual

- **Registration** – if I had a dime for every time I saw a basic gray/white Siberian labeled as a ‘rare sable’, or a ‘rare agouti’, by someone who either didn’t do his/her homework, or who knew better and was lying... I could’ve covered the massive financial loss that often comes from breeding reputedly. Although in some cases, (more often in racing lines), you might encounter a puppy who is actually difficult to assess with a high level of certainty the actual color he/she will be, there is genetic testing out there, obtained by a cheek swab, which can tell a person the true genetic color. Silly me – I just think that if you’re going to breed a litter, the expectation should be that it’s done right.
- **Genetics** – I’ve heard lots of hearsay and theories over the years, suggesting that certain coat/eye colors are more or less prone to different types of problems. To date, I’ve never been privy to any such formal or generally accepted research. My understanding was that, back in @ the 1980’s, the breed saw some increase in popularity, and a surge in INDISCRIMINATE breeding... where every back-yard breeder started pumping out the traditional black/white or gray/white blue-eyed puppies, without consideration for health testing. So, naturally, you saw an increase in Siberians with eye defects, hip dysplasia, and other problems. However, if one of those awesome research colleges/facilities out there could ever identify a common health issue tied to a genetic color, then the true genetic color and carrier pattern of the dogs’ pedigree would become of increased importance. You can see this in other breeds of dogs where there is a variety of colors... same breed; but, one color or pattern is more predisposed to a certain issue.

So, for Siberians, for example, if you breed a red to a red, all of the puppies will be red. I have a few gray/black Siberians who are not ‘red factored’; meaning, no matter what color they’re bred to, they will only produce black or gray. Black coat to Black coat – you will get no dilutes (grays or light reds)... only black/white or dark red/white ... unless of course, either dog is not red factored, in which case you would only get black/white puppies. Then, you can start to look at whites and agoutis and sables; but, this is just for illustration purposes. Again, none of this matters to me when we are doing a breeding. But, if people can’t take the time to properly identify the coat color on their puppies, that’s pretty sad to me.

Note: Further information will be provided about Jalerran Siberians’ deposit/selection process in another section. Our advice to any prospective Siberian owner is to first consider the health, temperament and structure/background of any purebred dog you intend to purchase, before restricting yourself to certain coat/eye color combinations... or to be prepared to wait for a puppy meeting your preferences, if you intend to go to a reputable breeder.

Helpful Websites: www.huskycolors.com and www.akc.org

✓ **Superior Structure** –

Siberians are bred to move effectively and efficiently. They’re supposed to be athletic, with purposeful movement. You don’t need to become an expert on bone structure, foot placement, and proportion to admit that, when any animal, including humans, are put together properly, then the risks for future injuries and physical impairments is reduced. When you really think about this topic, it should be of

The Jalerran Manual

equal importance to the dogs' general health background. Most people want to know if the hips were OFA'd and the eyes were ACVO cleared and whether or not there are trends for other issues, such as thyroid, epilepsy, autoimmune disorders, etc.; but, a weak body can result in dogs who have orthopedic problems, especially if the dog is poorly maintained (overweight, exercised improperly, bad habits, etc.).

Important Note:

Before I make the next statement, I want to qualify it by saying that I am a 110% supporter of anyone who wants to go adopt a dog from a reputable foster, shelter or rescue. And I am also a 100% supporter of anyone who wants to purchase a purebred dog from a REPUTABLE breeder. So, my question for you is this.... Do you know anyone who has a dog who, at a very young age, started to develop structural or orthopedic problems? Granted, some larger breeds of dogs especially can be prone to "falling apart" at younger ages. And good nutrition/weight/exercise management is crucial in this category. So, I am talking about a smaller or medium-sized dog who have been properly maintained; but, starting at age 5, the dog needs his/her owner to assist with getting up and down stairs, takes an anti-inflammatory for arthritis, or worse. My guess is that this dog was the product of indiscriminate breeding practices.

Our geriatrics run around here like puppies! It doesn't mean that we have never produced a dog who was reported to have experienced any sort of problem whatsoever; but, it definitely does mean that the odds of this occurring are significantly reduced, when generation upon generation, dogs are being selectively bred for structure, according to the breed standard.

So, again – why would anyone want to go to a puppy-mill, back-yard breeder, or indiscriminate breeder, when you can get a good quality pet puppy from any reputable breeder?

Health and Our Contract –

- ✓ Please see our contract/health-guarantee on our website.

- **Health Screenings –**

We perform OFA hip checks, ACVO/CERF eye checks, and tests for any other possible suspected health issue, at/around the appropriate ages on all of our dogs, and have done so for multiple generations. This, in and of itself, does not guarantee that an issue will never surface; but, it does reduce the risk significantly.

- **Data –**

Just like with the temperament, structure, and breed-type examples listed above, when someone applies these practices this for generation upon generation, and if common-sense prevails, then you can easily see how the likelihood is that the risk for encountering problems in any of these areas is reduced, even without data. **But, we still want the data....**

Annual Update: If you actually take the time to thoroughly read the contract, you will find wording in there which basically states that the words 'health guarantee' doesn't mean that we are saying no puppy/dog of ours will NEVER have any health issues whatsoever. This is nature, and I can humbly

The Jalerran Manual

admit that nobody has that kind of control. But, here's where we differ from many breeders... we collect data on every litter and every puppy we produce. In order to maintain your health guarantee, owners are required to provide, at minimum, an annual update on their Siberians health and temperament. We don't think once a year is too much to ask! So, some folks send us a Christmas card once a year with some pictures and a note. Others will drop us a quick email after their annual vet check-up. And some, I kid you not, tag us on social media posts multiple times a day ☺! We are good with whatever mode of communication you're most comfortable with; but, that information is important to us. We rely on that to know, with certainty, that dogs who originate here are happy and healthy. They're still Siberians at the end of the day... so there is some level of subjectivity when it comes to assessing behavior, considering you only get out of ANY dog what you put into it. But, taken as a whole, we are extremely pleased with the reports we receive.

Replacement: Another important thing to note about our contract/health guarantee is that, again, if you actually take the time to read it, and really compare it to other health guarantees out there, one thing that may set us apart from others is that, in the unlikely event that you would encounter one of the qualifying diagnoses, you do NOT need to return said dog in order to get your replacement dog or puppy. Listen, we only sell dogs to people who are going to treat these guys like true family companions (see the 'common sense' list of owner responsibilities in the contract) ... why would we ever require you to give that dog back to us in order to access a puppy that we feel you'd be entitled to?! So, when people put that kind of caveat into their contracts, is it worth the paper it's printed upon? Are you really ever going to bring your two year old dog back because he/she was diagnosed with progressive hereditary cataracts that are going to affect his/her vision, just so you can get a new one? I would certainly hope not! And why should you be expected to?!

However, on the other hand, we aren't going to give you another puppy for something minor, or that doesn't affect the dog's quality of life (see contract). There are just some things that you may encounter in a dog's life which are, as a good dog owner, your responsibility to take care of. If your dog needs a tooth pulled during a cleaning, get the dog's tooth pulled! If your dog doesn't do well with treats containing red-dye # 9.... Don't use those treats! If your dog is prone to hang-nails, get them trimmed ☺. If your dog blows out his/her ACL trying to tree a squirrel, he/she is going to need surgery. Any dog can have an allergic reaction to any vaccine at any time; it doesn't automatically mean that it's hereditary. I want people to keep us posted, and if I was seeing any type of a trend in the data, I'd be coming back to all of the owners of a given litter for additional information. With all that social media has to offer, many of our owners chose to keep up with the owners of siblings, which automatically makes my job so much easier, as well. So yes, I track all of that kind of information, as well; but, to be completely honest, we're most concerned about hereditary defects that could be eliminated from the breeding program, and so if we encounter one which will affect the dog's quality of life, then it would likely be listed as part of your health guarantee (provided you'd spay/neutered your pet no later than the designated age limit, and provided us with your annual update in the interim).

Another good **example** of this health-related information that we can provide from personal experience is as follows:

As mentioned in our intro, we also have a few spayed herding dogs. These guys all came from good, reputable breeders. One, who has since passed away at around age 10 years, was diagnosed with something called *diabetes insipidus* at age 4. This is not 'blood-sugar' diabetes mellitus... this is

The Jalerran Manual

insipidus, where she lacked a chemical in her body that told it to condense her urine. The treatment for this was a daily eye drop in order to put that chemical back into her body. It did not affect her quality of life... she wasn't blind as a result, she didn't require hip surgery as a result, she still ran around here like a mad-woman all day long.... And it was our responsibility to manage as a good dog-owner. This particular health issue was a fluke. It's not 'known to be' in that breed, and I trusted that the breeder was not seeing this as a trend in any of her lines or relatives of this dog. So, in the end, if anything, it affected our quality of life, because we had to remember to give her the dang drops every day; but, big deal! If I had expected to *never* have a dog who had any health issues whatsoever, I would've been setting myself up for disappointment – again, this is nature. Her particular health issue would not have been something for which you would have been entitled to a replacement Siberian, had it applied to one you'd gotten from us.

Safety-Planning:

Reputable/ethical breeders will take their dogs back, if necessary. It is our expectation, however, that you also work on avoiding that unfortunate event, through the creation of a safety-plan, found on the last page of the contract. The intent of this section is to set the stage for emergency preparation, before the emergency occurs, because at that time, it's too late to start planning. You must identify a friend or family member who does not live with you, with whom you've had an actual conversation about being your back-up on a short-term or a long-term basis, along with his/her phone #, your relationship to them, and the return accommodations – meaning, how is your back-up person going to get the dog back to us, if they can't fulfill their end of the back-up commitment. We do not ever want them dumped off in a human society or shelter. Not only is that completely unfair to the dog, it's also completely unfair to the shelters and foster homes who are already overrun with rescues and disposable dogs. Although we will take the dogs back if all else fails, it is NOT a reasonable expectation that we need to drop everything and go retrieve the dog, simply because of a failure to plan on your part. We have FT jobs, kids, and our own dogs to manage. It is YOUR responsibility to have a plan in place, should that ever need to occur. So, is your cousin Joey or your next door neighbor going to drive your dog to Clarion, PA, if you're tragically in a car accident and they can no longer take over on your behalf? Some folks will go so far as to include language in their legal will and testaments which will speak to a small trust being set aside for a transport, in the event that their identified back-up person is unwilling or unable to fulfill the expectations of keeping the dog permanently. This is a very wise decision. A dog purchased from us CANNOT be given away or resold without our permission, though. We should be involved in the transfer.

Definitions:

In case you're unfamiliar with terminology like, "back-yard breeder" or "puppy mill" or "broker" or "reputable/ethical breeder", there are a number of websites which have pretty charts and more elaborate explanations that what I will provide here, for you, today. Unfortunately, these terms can be 'thrown around' rather loosely, even in professional circles. It's not uncommon for someone to refer to someone else as a puppy mill, simply because they're angry that they lost at a recent dog show <insert eye-roll>. But, our musings about the politics of the dog-world can be found on the website, if you're so inclined to relive your high-school drama days.

The Jalerran Manual

This is the 'Jalerran Definition' of a reputable/ethical breeder, meaning that these are the things that we look for when we are getting a dog/puppy. We will also use section as a summary of all of the information you've just read through, above:

1. **Performs the Breed-Specific Health Testing** – if someone tells you they don't perform the health checks because they just don't have those problems in their lines, they're ignorant or lying. It's the right thing to do – no excuses.
2. **Participation in Formally Recognized/Sanctioned Events** – this is the only way to ensure that dogs being considered for use in a reputable breeding program are being formally assessed for good temperament/trainability and structure (if showing in conformation, or participating in field-trials or competitive physical sports). Just saying, "my dogs are my pets" doesn't cut it in our book that they've been challenged and were successful.
3. **Breeds Selectively/Discriminately** – adheres to the AKC breed standard, does NOT breed on the basis of color or marking or whim, and seeks to improve upon the parents/grandparents in every subsequent generation. Anyone breeding for other reasons is likely producing subpar puppies, plain and simple.
4. **Written Health/Temperament Guarantee** – look at the length of time, what it covers, the buyer's responsibilities, and whether or not you have to return the dog/puppy. And if you're not going to become a reputable breeder, and *earn the right*, through education and training, to safely and ethically breed dogs, you absolutely should be expected to spay/neuter. Below, in the description of our application process, we will speak to this in more detail.
5. **Screening Procedures** – below, we will outline our application process in a bit more detail; but, suffice it to say that I would run, not walk, away from someone who was in a big hurry to sell me a dog.
6. **Experience** – I was a good breeder in my first 10 years in the fancy. I am way better now at 20+. It doesn't mean that I will *only* get a dog with someone who's had 20 years of experience; but, in most cases, it definitely doesn't hurt.
7. **General Care/Maintenance** – The only true way to assess this is to go there yourself, in person. In our case, you can also go on social media and see a bazillion pictures of puppies and dogs in albums over the years. And you can read the posts and testimonials from all of the wonderful families who've gotten dogs from us. But, if you really want to know what/who you're dealing with, when getting a family member who will be with you for the next 10-16 years, it's just safest to make the trip, if you have any reservations about sending a deposit to someone. And with all of the scams out there nowadays, why gamble? We are just a small breeder in comparison to most – so it's not some elaborate kennel facility here. We do have some safe, shaded runs, used mostly for the purpose of management when girls come in season, and care has to be taken to avoid accidental breedings, in addition to the @ 5 acres of fenced paddocks for exercise. But, we don't generally have any more than 10-12 intact adult Siberians at any one given time. Most 'big-name' show and racing kennels have 50 or more at all times, in order to maintain their programs. Ours go to the groomer every 1-2 months, at minimum (more when prepping for shows). Our vet comes out every 1-2 months to do routine health checks, update vaccines, drop off frontline and heartguard, etc. And then we take them into the vet for OFA/CERF exams or any testing/checks which

The Jalerran Manual

require us to go to the clinic. We have a repro vet out in Cleveland where we get frozen semen collected/stored on important dogs, which allows us to maintain a smaller number of dogs. And we actively show the dogs towards their American Championship titles, through the use of a handful of select professional handlers who we love and trust. We could never make enough money to pay for all of that through puppy sales alone, since we do not have a huge breeding program; so, we do have to contribute funds from our 'day jobs' in order to do the right thing and properly maintain all of those aspects; but, we are passionate about it, so it's not a huge burden, per se.

- a. **AWA** – for many years, we had shipped pet puppies to homes all over the US. However, the new Animal Welfare act prohibits us from doing that now, unless we want to get a Commercial Kennel license or we have four, or fewer females. Right now, we have fewer than four females, so we could, technically ship. We are not a commercial kennel; so, we aren't going to go get one just so that we can ship a pet puppy with the prospective owner only having seen photos. Although we'd never had an issue with that in the past, apparently with all of the scams going on, this was the solution. Unfortunately, it doesn't really stop puppy mills from shipping out low quality pet puppies, via their kennel license. And it doesn't stop back-yard breeders who have no knowledge of conformation/structure/the breed standard from saying all of their puppies are 'show prospects being sold for the purpose of maintaining a blood line'... and so they can go ahead and ship without the kennel license. Those loopholes appear to defeat the purpose of the Act. But, at the end of the day, it is 'best practice' for you to come here and meet us/your puppy anyway. So, I'll try not to complain too much about how that law punishes the reputable, law-abiding people, and doesn't appear to do much to stop the people who were among those causing an issue in the past. Either way, it's ideal to come visit.
8. **Safety-Planning** – reputable/ethical breeders will take their dogs back, if necessary. It is our expectation, however, that you also work on avoiding that unfortunate event, through the creation of a safety-plan, found on the last page of the contract. (see also above)

The Breed Traits:

We review these during the phone interview, as well.

The Application Process:

1. Complete the online application:
2. Schedule and complete a phone call, which takes 45-65 minutes.
 - a. During the call, we go over the purchasing policies, contract, deposit/selection process & answer any questions you may have.
 - b. 814-229-9123 is the best # to call.
3. If, after the call, we are 'on the same page' with everything, a deposit can be accepted.
 - a. Deposit Form:
 - b. Deposit Form – must be printed, filled-out, and signed. Then, it could either be scanned/emailed, photographed/texted, or mailed.
 - c. We do not need the Pet Contract until pick-up!

The Jalerran Manual

- d. Deposit Itself – a personal check for \$100 can be mailed, or you can send the deposit via PayPal to jalerran@gmail.com. You'd log-into your PayPal account, click send money, and enter the email address. It is important to note that PayPal will charge a 3.9% fee, unless you're sending the funds from your bank account or your PayPal balance. So, if using any other source, you'll need to send \$103.90.
- e. Selection: After you've been asked to select and committed to a certain puppy, you'll be asked to send a \$900 deposit for that puppy. At that point, you'll have paid \$1,000 of the \$2,000 purchase price.
- f. Final Payment is \$1000.00, due at pick-up, **in cash** (unless other arrangements have been made) – please plan accordingly.
- g. Note: If you sent your deposit in back when the purchase prices were less, then the price you'll be expected to pay is the amount at that time.

The Deposit/Selection Process:

✓ Litter Announcement –

When a litter arrives, an email goes out to all deposit holders announcing the pertinent information, including pick-up date-ranges, genders/coat colors, parents, etc. Deposit holders get up to two weeks, typically, to reply with a simple 'yes', 'no', or 'maybe' regarding whether they're interested in being offered a selection from the given litter. Often, people send us deposits years in advance of when they actually plan to get a puppy; so, the number of 'yes' or 'maybe' responses varies from litter to litter. And, some people want something specific in terms of eye color, which cannot be determined with certainty at a young age; so those individuals may end up waiting for a future litter, if a puppy meeting their preferences does not end up being available to them.

We also post on social media that an email announcement has been sent, just in case the email would be missed, or go into your spam folder. If your email address changes, you would need to alert us.

✓ The 'SubList Document' –

So, we create a 'sublist document', which outlines the list of deposit holders who said 'yes' or 'maybe', their preferences, if any, and whether or not they're 'firm' about those preferences (meaning will wait if that's not available), or 'flexible' (meaning, they would like to take a puppy regardless of whether or not exact preferences are available), in the order that the initial deposit was received. In doing so, everyone knows where they stand in the selection order.

That list gets updated each week, as sometimes people drop off the list, if something comes up. Once the picks have occurred, then it is expected that you are going to be taking that puppy, and if you later need to back out for any reason, then you'd be 'eating' your deposit. Your deposit can sit there, ready for your use, until which time as you're ready to get a puppy; however, once you've committed to taking one, the expectation is that you're going to follow through with that. We cannot have people telling us the week before pick-ups that you've changed your mind, or didn't plan properly for your new addition. So, please don't commit unless you're sure you're ready.

On the Sublist Document, we will also list each puppy's description, and temporary name. The puppies do not know their names! They're strictly for the purpose of differentiation. So, for example, a few years back around Thanksgiving-time, we had a litter containing 8 gray/white puppies – 6 males, 2

The Jalerran Manual

females. Rather than calling them, “Gray/White male # 1... Gray/White male # 2... “ and so on, they were given temporary names surrounding the litter theme of Thanksgiving. Gray/White Male # 1 was ‘Drumstick’... “Wishbone”... “Turkey”, etc.

If we are looking at keeping a puppy from a given litter, or have a puppy we are watching for show, it will also be noted on the document. Technically, they all start out as show prospects at birth, and are eliminated over time for traits which, unless you show and are an expert at the breed standard, you would not be able to identify yourself. Sometimes, people want to know why their puppy was eliminated from the running as a show prospect. Sometimes, I am okay with giving a quick 101 on the breed standard when people pick up their puppies, as long as I get the feeling that you won’t persevere over the fact that maybe your puppy doesn’t have the muzzle, eye, or ear shape most preferred ;).

✓ Selections:

If we are not going to be keeping a puppy from a given litter, and know this early on, then selections will begin for that litter as early as birth to two weeks, depending upon the timing of the Sublist and deposit holder responses. For these litters, people who are seeking a certain eye color will not be in contention to select.

If we are going to be evaluating a litter for show, then selections for those identified as being available to pet homes will be updated on the Sublist Document, and selections will *usually* occur starting around 5-6 weeks of age. At that point, eye color is more settled, identifiable; so, people with strict eye color preferences would be in a better position to identify whether or not a certain puppy is what they’re seeking.

General Clarifying Information for Inquirers:

Due to multiple puppy inquiries from individuals who were not prepared for getting a puppy, we have decided to put together a post about basic pre-requisites of what is expected of a prospective pet-parent who may be interested in buying our puppies.

1. Siberians are most successful in responsible, educated, dedicated, and loving (yet firm) homes. For people who already have experience with raising & training dogs from puppyhood, this can be helpful; but Siberians are independent, intelligent, strong-willed dogs that need adequate time and consistent training. All puppies are work, and you get out of any dog what you put into him/her; but, this is especially true of Siberians.
2. Before buying our puppy, please discuss with everyone in your family, go over your life plans for the future, including marriage, moving abroad etc. This is a 10-16 year commitment; so, if you are unsure of your ability to manage the dog, we don’t sell dogs on a ‘trial-basis’. Dogs from us cannot be resold. Dogs from us cannot be given away without our permission. And there are no refunds. So, if it ends up not working out for you, it will have been a very expensive lesson.
3. We do not place our pups through brokers, traders, pet shops or middlemen. If you have a friend interested in a pup, please get them directly in touch with us. They’ll be the ones responsible for signing the contract... not you.
4. Families are expected to provide appropriate housing and safety to the dog at all times. Although certainly dogs need to go outside, we don’t sell dogs to pet homes who intend on having the dog live

The Jalerran Manual

exclusively outside. So, if you are just going to leave the dog chained around a tree, or in a kennel run outside all day, this breed is not for you. All dogs need time and attention and interaction.

5. Dogs are expensive, especially in the beginning. Calculate monthly costs before making a decision. You will need to ensure proper vet care, vaccinations, monthly parasite prevention, and high quality food/supplements. It all adds up quickly.

6. Siberians shed. They are also high energy dogs. Regular mental and physical exercise is a must. Our pups are socialized from an early age to get them used to being groomed, having their teeth checked, new objects, noises etc. New families are expected to be fully committed with time & energy to continue socializing them to vehicles, water, busy places, other dogs, strangers etc., in a safe manner which limits exposure to danger and viruses.

7. Pups are placed into pet homes, or show homes, based on whether they have show potential or not (& priced accordingly). Pups are placed into pet homes on a strict no-breeding contract (which you are required to sign). If you are hoping to buy a pet dog and then randomly breed the dog or have "just one litter" so you can see babies, or because you think they have "urges", or to "recover the cost of the pup" ... or whatever your reasons may be, then this pup is **not** for you. We don't sell dogs to novice people who "just wanna give breeding dogs a try". **You're expected to either learn to do this correctly and safely, or not at all.** And, doing it correctly entails also showing the dog. If you're not willing to commit to being in it for the entirety of the experience, then please don't bother inquiring for a show puppy. If you are a breeder or a pet parent who wants a show potential pup (because you obviously want to show the dog), and learn to reputedly and safely breed dogs, then we can talk further. Ideally, if you want to show, you've actually taken the time to go watch a couple of dog shows before you bother inquiring (hint, hint). But, if not, we can certainly get you pointed in the right direction.

8. Owners of puppies/dogs from us are expected to keep in touch with us, and keep us updated periodically on how the dog is doing. This not only helps us keep track of any issues with our dogs (which is important data for future breeding decisions); but, also to be there for our pups & their owners throughout their lives as first point of contact, for support and as friends for any basic queries/ issues you may have. This is in your contract, and tied to the extent of your health guarantee.

9. The words "Health Guarantee" do not mean we are saying your dog will NEVER have any health issues whatsoever. This is nature! As dogs grow older, they can certainly contract a sickness or have mishaps, and we prefer families who are committed to having their dog through everything, as a family member. Having said that, at any point, if your living situation changes (lost jobs, extreme financial distress, accidents, illness that severely limits care for the dog, etc.) and you are unable to manage the dog, in the best interest of the dog, you must return the dog to us and under no circumstance should the dog be surrendered to a shelter or resold. This also means that if you bought a pet dog; but still used him/her for breeding or, if the dog was abused or treated cruelly, we would have the right to seek legal action and reclaim the dog. In such situations, use your safety plans (see contract), or simply return the dog, and make everyone's lives easier.

11. Pricing for the pups is simple - \$2000 for a pet puppy and \$2000 + terms for a show puppy, leaving at 8 weeks of age. Show puppies may have 'terms' (see contract), such as puppies back. We also have an option for pet homes called a 'custodial agreement'. This type of agreement is reserved for puppies/dogs we might have otherwise kept, and usually applies to male puppies. Instead of spay/neuter by 9 months (pet contract), the dog remains intact until age 2-3, at which time the pet home is responsible for getting said dog to Pittsburgh for a frozen semen collection at our reproductive vet clinic. The collection and storage is at our expense. The trip is at your expense. You would still get

The Jalerran Manual

his hips/eyes done, at the appropriate ages – same as the regular pet contract. Then, you get him neutered, and ownership of the dog goes into your name. This is only an option in certain situations – not every litter or every puppy.

Pick Up Instructions:

1. *We will go over the attachment entitled “PET HEALTH” when you pick-up. It takes approximately 60 minutes to get through the entire outline.

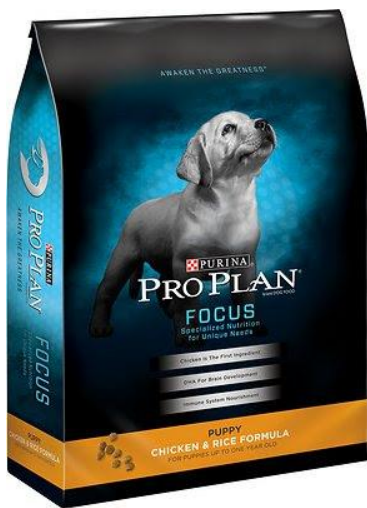
2. **Vitamins:**

We recommend NuVet brand for multiple reasons. See pamphlet. [1-800- 474-7044](tel:1-800-474-7044) **Order ID - 75858**

3. **Food:**

It's Pro Plan focus puppy, chicken & rice. Regular or large breed is fine - you'll be wetting it down at first anyway.

Here's a photo.



Here are the type of crates we typically use with Siberians (any color):

The Jalerran Manual



And, here is a photo of what a nylon choke collar looks like (order online).



4. Important Links to Review (from the website):

<http://siberianhuskypups.com/images/forms/jalerran%20instructions%20manual%205-16-14.pdf>

<http://siberianhuskypups.com/images/forms/preparations.pdf>

Attached you'll find a document entitled 'Pet Health' - this is an outline of the information we will review during pick up. Please allow for a full hour when you pick up your puppy (sometimes more, if you have lots of questions).

5. Additional 'pick-up' instructions:

The Jalerran Manual

It's never too early to begin your puppy preparations.

I've also included the links above to the 'Instructions Manual' and the 'Puppy Preparations' documents. You'll want to begin on your preparations by getting the correct food, ordering the vitamins, ordering a small nylon choke (not available in stores), stainless steel bowls, etc.

Again - the separate attachment entitled "PET HEALTH" is an outline of what we will discuss/cover during pick ups - please feel free to bring a copy along with you in case you decide to take any notes.

6. Vet-Checks

You'll get a vaccine booklet, and we give them their first doses of frontline and heartguard plus when you pick up (show you how to do it). Even though they'll have had their first round of shots, they will not have immunity yet, so plan on keeping them away from dog parks or places with lots of dogs until they've had more boosters. They'll need to go back for boosters 3-4 weeks from the date of the first shots, followed by another round 3-4 weeks after that.

We encourage everyone to schedule an initial vet visit shortly after pick up so that you're an established client at your vet. Some clinics don't offer emergency service, and others won't see new clients for an emergency... only existing/active clients. So, even though the puppy shouldn't 'need' anything, it's better to be safe and become a 'current/active' client.

7. Pick-Up

Get a good night's sleep. It's the last one you'll have for a while!!

Please allow @ 1 hour for us to go over information when you pick up. The attachment entitled "Pet Health" is the outline of some of the content we will go over. You'll want to bring another adult with you who can either drive, or hold the puppy. They will not be crate trained when they leave, and immediately crating them for the trip will do nothing to help mitigate their transition stress, nor save your ear drums during your return. Bringing along something to cover the seat, and paper-towels, should they get car sick, is advisable. Normally, they reportedly do fine... but better safe than sorry.

When you come, you'll bring **2 copies** of the pet contract (*unless of course, you are a show or custodial contract*) ...

THIS IS IMPORTANT! Please fill in the first page, initial each page, complete all four lines of the SAFETY PLAN, and sign the last page, of BOTH copies. Then, when you arrive, I fill in the rest while you play with the puppies :). One becomes yours, and the other becomes mine. If you

The Jalerran Manual

don't have everything filled out by the time you arrive, then your pick-up time frame will take longer, and you'll be doing paperwork instead of playing with puppies 😊.

8. AKC Paperwork

- a. **Bring a self-addressed envelope.** This will be what I use to mail you your registration papers, after I've gotten everyone's spay/neuter verifications. I wait until I've gotten them all, and then sit down to do a 'paperwork day', so please remember to have your spay/neuters completed by no later than 9 months of age, so that I can get them sent out as timely as possible, especially for the people who get their puppies spayed/neutered closer to 5 months of age.

9. Attire:

Do not wear shorts or dresses/skirts. These guys will make no bones about trying to climb on your lap. Furthermore, this is western PA, where we have two seasons - rain and snow. So, it will be muddy/crummy either way.

10. Seeing Parents/Parental Guidance:

Mommy dogs will not be with the puppies - they'll be weaned. After moms have puppies, they automatically blow coat and look like rangy coyotes. Daddy dogs will be none the worse for wear :). If it's not rainy or too muddy, we will let them out in the large ex-area, so you could see them through the fence.

If you're bringing small human children, please be advised that they'll need to sit up on the table, as we don't want a herd of puppies to accidentally scratch someone.

No, please do **not** bring your existing dogs - you will not be allowed to bring them inside, or expose the puppies in the litter to them, and it will be an added burden for your return trip. It's not that we do not want to see them... it's about safety.

11. Let me know if you have any questions about the following:

1. the food (can be purchased at a store or online), and even if you plan to switch the food eventually, you'll need at least a small bag to start.
2. vitamins (can be purchased online or by calling).
3. collar (cat sized) which you'll need to order online for a nylon choke. No, they will not be leash trained when you pick up.
4. stainless-steel bowls, etc.
5. do not bother getting a crate-pad or dog bed **yet**.

12. Transition:

When you pick-up, one of the topics we cover is the stress puppies go through when they go to a new home. Sometimes, after the first day or two, it is not uncommon for them to experience

The Jalerran Manual

a little bit of loose stool in response to the stress of crying all night. We encourage you to have on-hand some PLAIN non-flavored yogurt and some PLAIN non-flavored metamucil (or similar). Mixing in 1 tablespoon of the yogurt and 1 teaspoon of the metamucil along with their food (which will continue to be wet-down for a few days after you bring them home) will act as a probiotic, and settle their digestive systems more quickly, if they indeed have that type of a stress response. This is the protocol we use when we bring in a new puppy from elsewhere. Or, you can simply go to Nature's Farmacy online, and order a tub of probiotic paste, if you'd prefer.

13. Final Payment:

\$1000 **cash-only** upon pick-up for pets (*unless, of course, you sent your deposit in years ago before the price change*).

If you're a previous Jalerran owner, take \$100 off the total purchase price.

Let me know if you have any questions! And, as always, if you would be so kind as to confirm you've received this email, I'd appreciate it.

During Pick-Up:

- ✓ Outline of the information we cover during pick-up:

Pet Health

1. Transition
 - a. Stress Can = Diarrhea
 - b. Food quality / Food change
 - i. BLAND diet
 - ii. Gradual
 - iii. Probiotic
2. Viruses
 - a. Vaccines / Immunology
 - i. Law / Titer
 - ii. Allergic Reaction / Vaccine Reaction / Anemia
 - b. Signs / Types
 - i. Avoidance / Safety
 - c. Dog temperature
3. Parasites
 - a. Parasites (*internal/external*)
 - i. Bacterial/Protozoa
 - ii. Worms
 - iii. Treatments / Preventatives

The Jalerran Manual

4. Diet
 - a. Vitamins - Skin Conditions / Coat Quality
 - b. Feeding Instructions - Ideal weight
 - c. Treats/Food Allergies
5. Exercise / Socialization
 - a. Exercise - impacts behavior
 - b. When/where to socialize
6. Routine
 - a. Grooming/Nails
 - b. Bathing / Drying
 - c. Training
 - i. Leash
 - ii. House
 - iii. Crate
 - iv. Manners
7. Common Diseases / Injuries
 - a. Breed Specific
 - i. Siberians – hips/eyes
 - b. Thyroid/Diabetes/Epilepsy/Cushings/etc.
 - c. Joint Problems or Injuries –
 - i. Knee – TPLO
 - ii. Hip dysplasia
 - iii. Appropriate weight (*see above*)
8. See Also – Additional Handouts and Content on the Website!!
9. Contact Us if questions/issues arise!

After puppies leave, we try to avail ourselves to questions. Email is best, if non-urgent. If you call, however, and we aren't able to pick up, please do leave a message. I don't automatically call back any/all missed calls.

We will continue to add to this document as time permits, or as new questions arise. In the meantime, hopefully it was helpful!

Thanks!