

## Shahayla Shiloh Shepherds Nutrition and Socialization Guidelines and Agreement

Anita Rados  
1650 Charlton Road,  
Victoria, B.C., V9E 2C9  
[Shiloh@farmerbranko.com](mailto:Shiloh@farmerbranko.com)  
Phone 250-727-3595

***The way your puppy matures both physically and mentally is a result of his/her diet and environment. With this in mind a great deal of study and research has been undertaken by Shiloh Shepherd Breeders to help the new owner insure their puppy will reach his/her full genetic potential. We encourage you to follow these guidelines in feeding and socializing your Shiloh shepherd.***

- Feed 3 times per day until he/she reaches 9 months of age, then feed him/her no less than 2 times per day for the rest of his/her life. Do not overfeed your puppy!
- If feeding kibble, NEVER use a chemically preserved Dog Food, and only feed naturally preserved kibble. Your pup has been started on Eukanuba Large Breed Puppy formula, as it has a lower calcium/phosphorus ratio, as low levels of these two nutrients is better for large breed pups' bones and joints, while growing. Keep your pup on this or similar food till he/she is at least 1 year old. When your pup is between 1 and 2 years of age, switch to grain-free to minimize the chances for bloat. Acana, Wild Prairie is the kibble recommended by our mentor, Laura Kathryn of Solace Shilohs. We both feel that grain free is best for Shilohs as the food swells less in the gut. If you switch to another food, do so slowly, and use a high quality or premium kibble, grain free.
- Laura Kathryn also recommends the supplement Missing Link, which helps build their developing immune system. She also recommends Flexicose Joint supplement. \*Make sure you have good solid stools prior to adding any supplement.
- Never give puppy tomatoes, grapes or raisins as they can cause kidney failure . Carrots or apples make a very natural and nutritious chew toy.
- Limit the fat in puppy's diet.** Fat is very detrimental to dogs and can lead to mild EPI And other problems.
- Never give puppy grease, small cut beef bones, cooked bones (which can become brittle when cooked and cause pup to choke), chocolate, or sugary or starchy foods.
- note that overfeeding can contribute to skeletal problems that would otherwise not occur, so please make sure that you keep your pup on the leaner side. Current research has shown that delayed growth (Leaner pups) have less skeletal issues occurring later in life. Excess calories and fat and too much calcium and phosphorus in a growing dog's diet leads to bone and joint problems. Protein has not been associated with these problems.
- Provide puppy with a supply of fresh water at all times, not just at meal times.
- take puppy to puppy obedience as soon as possible, after last vaccinations and try to get in as many classes as possible for the first year of his/her life. This can be a great bonding experience for the pup and the entire family if everyone attends together, if possible, Plus, it helps with consistency of teaching the pup when everyone in the family is using the same commands/techniques. It also helps with pup socialization.
- In addition to pup obedience and subsequent training classes, take the pup on frequent outings where he/she will be exposed to other people, animals, and situations. Begin as soon as possible after vaccinations. Please understand that failure to give the pup this exposure could result in shyness or damage his/her ability to socialize properly with people as well as other animals.
- Continue to socialize as the pup gets older. Participation in shows, obedience classes, and continued outings to parks, shopping, etc. can make him/her a well adjusted citizen.
- READ <http://www.playfulpupstraining.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Developmental-Stages.pdf>
- Bloat or Gastric Dilation-Volvulus is a very serious health risk for deep chested dogs, such as Shilohs. Be aware of the signs and symptoms of bloat. Check <http://www.globalspan.net/bloat.htm> for the best information on

the topic. You may want to print it out and keep it handy. Follow the suggestions listed to prevent bloat from ever happening to your Shilohs. It is the one emergency at a vet clinic that they will stop all other procedures to tend to. Bloating of the stomach is often related to swallowed air. It usually happens when there's an abnormal accumulation of air fluid and or foam in the stomach Stress can be a significant contributing factor also. Bloat can occur with or without twisting. As the stomach swells it may rotate 90 or 360 degrees twisting between its fixed attachments at the esophagus and at the upper intestine. Many people have told our mentor that they wish they had been more aware of Bloat, as they have previously lost dogs to it. It is helpful to allow adult dogs 1 hour rest before and after feeding.

I \_\_\_\_\_ agree to follow the guidelines for feeding and socialization for my puppy's entire life. I understand the importance of these guidelines for the proper development of my Shiloh Shepherd. I agree to keep my dog in the best condition possible through proper exercise, de-worming, vaccinations, and feeding.