

TANGLEWOOD PUPPY SELECTION PROCESS

What is our puppy selection process? This is a question we repeatedly get and so felt we needed to clarify our process of matching puppies with potential families.

Puppy behaviors and personalities do not really emerge until around 5 - 7 weeks of age. We take extra care each day to observe pups in their “pack” environment and also remove them from their littermates daily to see and observe their behaviors (we take extensive notes). Then, based on our conversations with potential puppy families, we assess your needs and desires in getting a pup from us. At approximately 7.5 - 8 weeks we bring in trained puppy evaluators who administer the www.Volhard.com puppy evaluation test – of course we modify it to meet the needs of a typical golden retriever puppy. At that point, puppies are matched to families. It does not matter if you are the first or last reservation on the list. Selection is primarily based on temperament testing, my close observations and each family's lifestyle.

The hallmark of our breeding program is biddable temperament then proper structure and health. We realize that most people are very specific as to what personality and activity level they desire. This is all taken into consideration prior to selecting a pup that best fits the lifestyle of their forever family.

What is Temperament testing? We test all pups for the following at approximately 7.5 weeks of age:

- Degree of social attraction, confidence or dependence.
- Degree of dominant or submissive tendency.
- How the pup accepts stress when socially/physically dominated.
- Degree of acceptance of social dominance.
- Degree of accepting dominance while in a position of no control.
- Degree of willingness to work with a human.
- Degree of sensitivity to touch and sound.
- Degree of intelligent response to strange object
- Prey drive and the ability to think and solve a problem

We hope this helps you understand our philosophy. We have done this for over 25 years and have had wonderful success matching the right pup with the right home.