

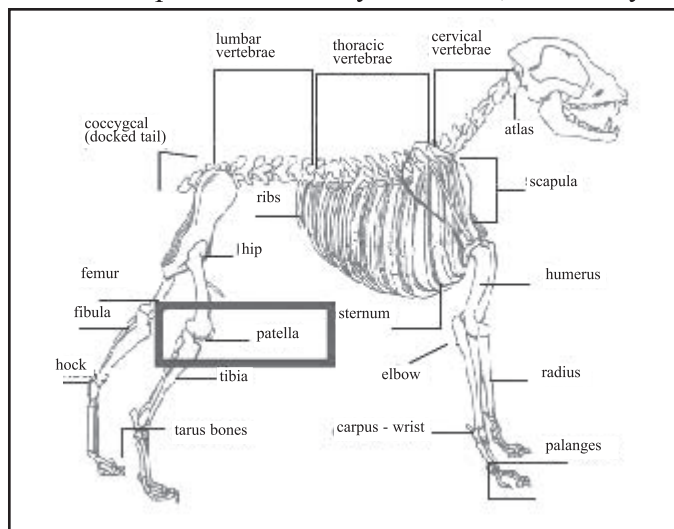
Healthwise

Patella Luxation can cause pain and lameness. Some advanced cases cause the dog to "lock" the joint and avoid using the affected limb(s) by carrying it above the ground or shifting their weight onto their front limbs if possible.

The patella, or kneecap, is part of the stifle joint (knee). In patellar luxation, the kneecap luxates, or pops out of place, either in a medial or lateral position. Affected dog often stand knock-knee (genu valgum). The foot can be seen to twist laterally as weight is placed on the limb. The patella is usually reducible, and laxity of the medial collateral ligament may be seen on examination.

Patellar luxations fall into several categories:

1. Medial luxation; toy, miniature, and large breeds
2. Lateral luxation; toy and miniature breeds
3. Lateral luxation; large and giant breeds.
4. Luxation resulting from trauma; various breeds, of no importance to the certification process.



Numbers 1, 2 and 3 are either known to be heritable or strongly suspected.

OFA database records for Boykin Spaniels currently show 4 individuals who have sent in their examination findings (Oct. 2005). 1 of those 4 had grade 1 patella luxation. While the actual percentage is 25% affected this is misleading due to the small number of exams in the database.

Breeders and owners are encouraged to have their dog examined by their vet and submit the results to OFA for their database. These examinations do not require sedation and are easily performed by the dog's regular veterinarian during their yearly exam. The veterinarian will need to complete the application form indicating the the results of the dog's patella evaluation and send it to OFA with the appropriate fees.

The current fee (2005) is \$15.00 for individual dogs with normal readings. Reduced fees are available for litters or kennels when submitting multiple report applications forms at the same time. There is no OFA fee for entering an abnormal evaluation of the patella in the data bank.

The OFA breed database number will contain the age at evaluation and it is recommended that dogs be periodically reexamined as some luxations will not be evident until later in life. An OFA number will be issued to all dogs found to be normal at 12 months of age or older; preliminary evaluations may be done as 6-8 weeks of age prior to the puppy's release to the new owner.

(Note: See Counterpoint Comments for the Boykin Breed.)

Article from www.boykinspaniel.us Copyright © 2005 BSIS



Why the AKC?



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUBSM

AKC Affiliation

The AKC provides a host of venues in which the Boykin Spaniel may participate. As a result of efforts of having the AKC recognize the Boykin Spaniel, you and any AKC FSS registered Boykin Spaniel are entitled to participate in companion and performance events. The Boykin Spaniel Club & Breeders Association of America (BSCBAA) is now recognized as the AKC Parent Club for the Boykin Spaniel breed.

SO...WHAT IS THE AKC?

The American Kennel Club was founded in 1884. AKC has long been the nation's leading not-for-profit organization devoted to the study, breeding, exhibiting, and advancement of purebred dogs. Internationally recognized, the AKC operates the world's largest purebred-dog registry, and is affiliated with more than 4,300 U.S. dog clubs and approves and regulates over 15,000 conformation,

companion and performance events annually. The AKC is a strong advocate and supporter of purebred dogs, responsible dog ownership, canine good health, and advances the integrity of the breeding and sport of purebred dogs.

The AKC's Mission Statement is:

- Maintain a registry for purebred dogs and preserve its integrity.
- Sanction dog events that promote interest in, and sustain the process of, breeding for type and function of purebred dogs.
- Take whatever actions necessary to protect and assume the continuation of the sport of purebred dogs.

The AKC's principal focus is to serve **YOU** - the dedicated breeders, exhibitors, judges, handlers, and other participants and enthusiasts who make the sport of purebred dogs so rewarding and enjoyable.

Registration and entry fees in AKC events fund the operations of:

- Kennel inspections
- AKC Canine Health Foundation
- Canine Legislation
- DNA Profiling
- Public Education
- Canine Good Citizen Program
- Canine Search & Rescue

.... to name a few.



"Just-In, out of HRCH King's Curlee Gurlee x HR UH Sydney of Woodbine, is the author's number one hunter, UKC Total Dog (Conformation & Performance titles on the same day), 2003 UKC TOP TEN Total Dog, and Grand Champion Show dog".

Continued on pg. 9