

## FLCA Health Committee

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**Purpose.** Provide reliable current information on health related issues as they may affect Finnish Lapphunds.

**Goal.** Encourage participation in health testing, and support research toward the health of both current, and future generations of Finnish Lapphunds. Testing is not a guarantee for a healthy puppy, but it will certainly increase the chances of producing puppies free of inherited problems.

**Function.**

Education of the public and members of the club on the importance of health testing. Make breeders aware of the importance of all health tests prior to the breeding of a litter. Tests are, and not limited to, hip, knee and elbow dysplasia, eyes-PRA, Hereditary Cataracts and other Ocular disorders, DNA, Thyroid, Heart, Pompe, Brucellosis, Heart Worm, and other internal and external parasites.

1. Participate in the AKC CHIC program by having a Health Committee and a Health Committee CHIC liaison to work with the club's membership in determining what health tests should be considered for participation in the CHIC program. CHIC will tailor specific test requirements to the health issues facing our breed.
2. Place articles in the Finnish Line Newsletter, and on the club website, [www.finnishlapphund.org](http://www.finnishlapphund.org) to stress the importance of health testing. Encourage the members to use what open registries are available for their test results.
3. Inform the members of the club of any and all potential health threats to the breed.
4. Monitor the website Health section to keep the data up to date and current.
5. Encourage all FLCA members to participate in discussions and comments on health topics.
6. Provide resources and research papers to help in the education of our members.
7. Provide the links to the various testing agencies.
8. Provide information on inoculation protocols for both puppies and adults, and parasite protocols, as well as seasonal health care protocols.
9. Provide information on reproduction, testing prior to breeding, agencies and services available.
10. Be part of the international community by working with the Finnish Lapphund Clubs around the world in regard to the health of our breed and the open exchange of information.

**Disclaimer.**

The Finnish Lapphund Club of America and the Health Committee does not endorse nor recommend, but just provides information so you may be better informed when making health decisions for your Finnish Lapphund. Always keep your Veterinarian in mind as your dog's health care partner.