

The English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc.

Parent Club of the Breed ~ Established 1936

AKC Health Statement for English Cockers

Recommended Guidelines for Health Testing of English Cocker Spaniels by the

ECSCA H&RO Health Committee

Approved by the ECSCA and the ECSCA Health & Rescue Org.

The following is a guide for genetically identifiable breed related health concerns. These screening tools ensure effectiveness in maintaining a healthy breed pool. All English Cockers should be checked for breeding soundness before they are bred. Those acquiring a puppy should ask the breeder/owner for printed copies of all health clearances on both parents either on paper and/or referred to the OFA database.

- Familial Nephropathy (FN) – DNA test done one time at any age
- Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA) – DNA test done one time at any age
- Adult Onset Neuropathy (AON) – DNA test done one time at any age
- Hip Dysplasia – Xray done at two years of age or later, or a preliminary xray if under 2 yrs
- OFA Patellar Luxation – Examination at 1 yr or older for OFA certification
- Autoimmune Hashimoto's hypothyroidism - OFA Thyroid panel
- ACVO eye exam - OFA Companion Animal Eye Registry (CAER), exam good for one year
- BAER testing— identifies congenital heredity deafness (required for parti-colored dogs only) from age 35 days and older

Field Bred English Cockers should additionally be tested for:

- Acral Mutilation Syndrome (AMS) – DNA test done one time at any age
- Exercise Induced Collapse (EIC) – DNA test done one time at any age

Visit the ECSCA parent club for more information: <https://englishcocker.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Understanding-Health-Clearances-Recommended-For-An-ECS.pdf>

And the ECSCA Health & Rescue Organization for more details on all health-related diseases in the breed: <http://www.ecscahealthandrescue.org/>

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Signed: *Shannon Loritz 2-10-21*