

Dawson Lake Bretons

Kennel Policy

Effective January 1, 2027

Drive. Intelligence. Instinct.

This policy explains how I handle puppy reservations, selections, payments, registration, transportation, breeding rights, returns, stud services, and visits.

My goal is to communicate clearly from the beginning so buyers understand how I operate and what they can expect throughout the process.

PLEASE REVIEW BEFORE SUBMITTING A DEPOSIT. At pickup, the buyer must sign an acknowledgment confirming that they have read, understood, and accepted the policies that applied when the puppy was reserved.

If different written terms are provided for a particular litter or dog, those written terms will apply.

1. Deposits

A \$200 deposit is required to reserve a position for a Dawson Lake Bretons puppy.

Deposits are nonrefundable if the buyer backs out, changes their mind, or otherwise chooses not to complete the purchase.

If a puppy of the buyer's preferred sex is unavailable but a puppy of the opposite sex is available, the buyer may either:

- Accept the available puppy.
- Transfer the deposit to a future litter.

A refund will not be issued in that situation because a puppy was available.

If Dawson Lake Bretons cannot provide the buyer with a puppy of either sex for any reason, the full \$200 deposit will be refunded.

2. Waiting List

Prospective buyers are expected to have a short phone conversation with me before joining the waiting list.

This gives me an opportunity to learn more about the buyer, explain the type of dogs I produce, and make sure a Dawson dog is an appropriate fit for their expectations and lifestyle.

A buyer officially joins the waiting list once the \$200 deposit has been received. Confirmation of payment will be provided the same day, and the buyer will be secured in their designated position within the puppy-picking order.

Picking positions are determined by the order in which deposits are received. Male and female picking orders are maintained separately.

If someone sends a deposit before speaking with me, I will contact them directly. During that conversation, I will explain who I am, how I operate, and the drive, intelligence, and instinct I breed for.

If I determine that the buyer is not the right fit for a Dawson dog, any deposit sent before that conversation will be refunded in full.

3. Puppy Selection

Buyers select their puppies according to their designated position within the male or female pick order.

Updated photos of the litter will be provided each week. Beginning when the puppies are approximately two weeks old, buyers will also receive access to the puppy camera so they can follow the litter as it develops.

Throughout the process, I will share honest observations about each puppy's personality, confidence, activity level, and early development. Buyers are encouraged to ask questions and discuss the puppies with me before making their selection.

Selection Day

When more than one buyer is waiting to select a puppy of the same sex, all selections will be made on the day the puppies turn six weeks old.

I begin contacting buyers early that morning in pick order so all selections can be completed by the end of the day. Once contacted, each buyer will have up to two hours to review the available puppies and make a decision.

If a buyer cannot decide within that period, I will temporarily move to the next person in line. After that buyer makes a selection, I will return to the buyer who was skipped and ask whether they are ready to choose from the puppies still available.

If the buyer remains undecided, I will continue through the pick order in the same manner.

A buyer who is temporarily skipped does not lose their deposit, but each completed selection may reduce the puppies available to them.

Early Selections

A buyer may select a puppy before the six-week selection day when they are confident in their decision.

Once a puppy has been selected, that decision is final. The puppy is then reserved for that buyer, and the buyer may not switch to another puppy later.

When No Other Buyer Is Waiting

A selection is only required at six weeks when another buyer is waiting for their turn.

For example, if two male puppies are available and only one male buyer is on the waiting list, that buyer is not required to choose on the six-week date. They may continue evaluating the available males because their delay is not holding up another buyer.

Once a selection is made, however, the decision is final.

4. Vaccinations and Puppy Health Care

Going-Home Age

Puppies leave for their new homes at eight weeks of age or later.

The exact pickup date will be arranged between the buyer and Dawson Lake Bretons.

Veterinary Examination

Each puppy receives an initial veterinary examination at approximately three days old before having its tail docked.

After that examination, puppies are closely observed throughout their development. Additional veterinary care is sought whenever I notice a concern or believe an examination is needed.

Puppies do not routinely receive another veterinary examination immediately before pickup unless there is a reason to do so.

Vaccinations

Puppies receive a Spectra 5-way vaccination at six weeks of age.

The vaccination schedule I follow calls for the next vaccination at approximately nine weeks of age. Because the puppy will normally be living with its new owner by then, the buyer is responsible for arranging that vaccination with their veterinarian and continuing the recommended vaccination schedule.

Deworming

Puppies are dewormed at two, four, six, and eight weeks of age.

Each treatment is administered for three consecutive days.

For the eight-week treatment, the first dose is given two days before pickup, the second dose is given the following day, and the final dose is administered on pickup day.

Microchipping

Each puppy is microchipped before leaving Dawson Lake Bretons. Microchip information will be included with the puppy's records.

Going-Home Information

Each puppy leaves with:

- A supply of the food it has been eating.
- Information sheets.
- Vaccination records and vaccine labels.
- Deworming information.
- Microchip information.
- Any additional records or information relevant to that puppy.

5. Registration

Dawson Lake Bretons puppies may be eligible for registration with:

- The United Kennel Club (UKC).
- The American Kennel Club (AKC).
- The North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association (NAVHDA).

Eligibility depends on the litter and the registrations held by the parents.

Registered Names

Every puppy's registered name must:

- Include Dawson Lake Bretons.
- Begin with the letter assigned to that birth year under the French naming tradition.

Buyers may choose their puppy's registered name as long as it follows these requirements.

If a buyer is unable to choose an appropriate registered name by the required deadline, I will select and register a name on the buyer's behalf.

Maintaining the Dawson Lake Bretons name and annual naming letter allows me to identify and track the dogs I produce, particularly when they later compete in field trials, hunt tests, or other performance events.

UKC Registration

I preregister every puppy with UKC and pay the UKC registration expense.

Final UKC registration is completed after all puppies have left for their new homes and all purchase balances have been collected.

Because I handle UKC registration directly, buyers do not need to submit UKC paperwork themselves. Processing times are controlled by UKC, and completed registration may take several weeks or months.

AKC and NAVHDA Registration

When applicable, AKC registration paperwork will be included in the puppy's going-home information. The buyer may complete and pay for AKC registration independently.

NAVHDA registration information or paperwork will also be provided when applicable. The buyer is responsible for completing any registration they wish to pursue through NAVHDA.

Registration Rights

Puppies are sold with full registration rights unless different terms are clearly explained before a deposit is accepted.

Any future change to registration or breeding rights will apply only to future litters. Restrictions will not be added after a puppy has already been reserved under different written terms.

6. Breeding Rights

Beginning with puppies produced from 2027 litters, full registration does not mean a Dawson dog may be bred without prior approval.

Before any Dawson Lake Bretons dog covered by this policy - male or female - is used for breeding, the owner must contact me and receive approval for the proposed pairing.

Health Testing for Both Dogs

Before a breeding can be approved, both the Dawson dog and the proposed outside mate must have:

- Hip evaluation results.
- Embark genetic testing.
- Any additional testing required under the purchase agreement for the Dawson dog.

This applies whether a Dawson male is being bred to an outside female or a Dawson female is being bred to an outside stud.

The owner must provide the identity, pedigree, health-testing results, and any other relevant information requested for the proposed mate.

Dawson Males Used at Stud

Before a Dawson male is advertised, offered, or used as a stud, the owner must provide information about the proposed female and receive approval for the pairing.

The outside female must have completed hip testing and Embark genetic testing before the breeding can be approved.

Dawson Females Used for Breeding

Before a Dawson female is bred, the owner must provide information about the proposed stud and receive approval for the pairing.

The outside stud must have completed hip testing and Embark genetic testing before the breeding can be approved.

Dawson females must be at least two years old before being bred.

An earlier breeding may be considered only under exceptional circumstances, such as the limited remaining availability of an aging stud with declining fertility. Any exception must be discussed with and approved by Dawson Lake Bretons before the breeding occurs.

Purpose of the Policy

This is a firm requirement intended to help me track the dogs I produce, evaluate proposed pairings, protect the direction of my breeding program, and prevent breedings that may be a poor fit based on health, pedigree, structure, performance, or long-term breeding goals.

7. Returns and Rehoming

A Dawson dog may be returned to Dawson Lake Bretons at any point in its life if the owner is no longer able or willing to keep it.

The owner must contact me before selling, giving away, surrendering, or otherwise rehoming the dog.

Returning a Dog

No refund will be provided when a dog is returned.

The owner is responsible for arranging and paying for transportation to return the dog to Dawson Lake Bretons.

Once ownership has been transferred back to me, Dawson Lake Bretons will have full authority to decide what is best for the dog. This may include keeping, training, breeding, selling, or placing the dog in another suitable home.

Rehoming With Approval

In some circumstances, I may approve the dog being placed directly with a trusted family member, close friend, or another suitable home.

For example, if an owner becomes seriously ill or passes away, it may be in the dog's best interest to remain with someone it already knows.

Any direct rehoming must be discussed with and approved by Dawson Lake Bretons before ownership is transferred. The new owner's information must also be provided so I can continue tracking and supporting the dog throughout its life.

My priority is making sure every Dawson dog remains safe, properly cared for, and placed in a home that understands the dog's needs.

8. Shipping and Transportation

Buyers are welcome to pick up their puppy in person, but transportation may also be arranged when distance makes pickup impractical.

Transportation Options

Transportation may be arranged through:

- Commercial air travel.
- A flight nanny.
- A professional ground transporter.
- Another reasonable method agreed upon by the buyer and Dawson Lake Bretons.

The buyer and I will work together to determine an appropriate transportation option. The buyer may choose the method they prefer, provided it can be arranged safely and responsibly.

Transportation Costs

The buyer is responsible for all costs associated with transportation.

These costs may include airfare, transporter charges, travel crates, veterinary documents, airport fees, fuel, lodging, or any other expense required to deliver the puppy.

Transportation arrangements and estimated costs should be agreed upon before travel is scheduled.

Personal Delivery or Meeting Partway

Depending on the distance and my availability, I may agree to deliver the puppy or meet the buyer at an agreed-upon location.

When I provide transportation, the buyer must reimburse me for fuel and the time spent driving. The location and reimbursement amount will be agreed upon before the trip.

Personal delivery or meeting partway is considered individually and is not guaranteed.

Payment Before Transportation

The puppy's full purchase price and all known transportation expenses must be paid before the puppy begins its trip.

Transfer of Responsibility

Dawson Lake Bretons remains responsible for the puppy until it is handed over to:

- The buyer.
- The buyer's authorized representative.
- The agreed-upon transportation provider.

Responsibility for the puppy transfers at the time of handoff.

Once the puppy has been released to the buyer or transportation provider, Dawson Lake Bretons is not responsible for delays, accidents, injuries, illness, escape, loss, or other events occurring during transportation.

9. Payment

The current puppy price will be communicated before a deposit is accepted.

The \$200 deposit is applied toward the total purchase price.

Final Payment

The remaining balance may be paid before pickup or on the day of pickup.

Accepted payment methods are:

- Cash.
- Venmo.
- Cash App.
- Check.

Personal checks are not accepted at pickup. A buyer paying by check must send it early enough for the payment to clear before the puppy is released.

Electronic-Payment Fees

Any transaction or processing fee charged by the selected payment provider will be added to the buyer's total.

The complete payment amount, including applicable fees, will be provided after the buyer selects a payment method and before payment is submitted.

Additional Expenses

The puppy price covers the puppy only.

Transportation, delivery, travel documents, crates, service fees, and any other agreed-upon expenses are additional and are the buyer's responsibility.

Missed Payment or Payment Problem

If a buyer cannot pay the remaining balance as agreed, they must contact me immediately. I will speak with them directly and determine whether a reasonable resolution is possible.

No puppy will be released until the full purchase price and all required additional expenses have been paid.

If payment is not completed and no resolution can be reached, the \$200 deposit will be retained, and the puppy may be made available to another home.

10. Stud Services

Stud fees are established individually for each Dawson Lake Bretons stud dog and are listed on that dog's Stud Services webpage.

Fees may vary by dog and may change over time.

Approval of the Female

Every proposed breeding is reviewed individually. Meeting the listed requirements does not automatically guarantee acceptance.

Dawson Lake Bretons reserves the right to refuse any breeding believed to be unsuitable based on health, pedigree, structure, performance, temperament, compatibility, or the long-term interests of the dogs and the breed.

The female's owner must provide:

- Registered name and registration information.
- Pedigree.
- Age.
- Hunting or performance information.
- OFA hip results.
- Embark genetic-testing results.

The female must have completed OFA hip testing and Embark genetic testing before the breeding can be approved.

Payment

The full stud fee must be paid and cleared before the stud dog or semen is made available for use.

Accepted payment methods are:

- Cash.
- Check.
- Venmo.
- Cash App.

Checks must clear before natural breeding, semen collection, or semen shipment takes place.

Any transaction or processing fees charged by the selected payment service will be added to the stud fee.

The requester will be given the complete payment total after selecting a payment method and before submitting payment.

Breeding Options

Stud service may be provided through natural breeding or shipped semen.

The appropriate method will be determined based on the dogs, location, timing, and reproductive circumstances.

Additional Expenses

The female's owner is responsible for all expenses beyond the listed stud fee, including:

- Progesterone testing.
- Veterinary and reproductive services.
- Semen collection and preparation.
- Shipping and transportation.
- Storage or handling fees.
- Ultrasound and pregnancy confirmation.
- Any other expense associated with completing the breeding.

Successful Breeding and Pregnancy Confirmation

A breeding is considered successful once pregnancy has been confirmed by a licensed veterinarian through ultrasound.

The female's owner must have the ultrasound performed between 28 and 35 days after the final natural breeding or insemination.

A copy of the veterinary results must be provided to Dawson Lake Bretons within five days of the examination.

The number of puppies observed during the ultrasound does not determine whether the breeding is considered successful. Ultrasound is required to confirm pregnancy, not to guarantee or establish the final number of puppies in the litter.

If the ultrasound is not completed within the required period, or the results are not provided as required, eligibility for a repeat breeding will be determined at the discretion of Dawson Lake Bretons.

Repeat Breeding

If the female does not become pregnant, one repeat breeding will be provided without an additional stud fee.

The repeat breeding must:

- Involve the same female and the same Dawson Lake Bretons stud dog.
- Be used within three years of the original breeding.
- Remain subject to the health, availability, and breeding condition of both dogs.

The female's owner remains responsible for all testing, collection, veterinary, shipping, transportation, and related expenses for the repeat breeding.

No additional registration, sale, or breeding restrictions will be placed on puppies produced through the stud service unless different terms are agreed upon before the breeding.

11. Visiting Dawson Lake Bretons

Visits are by appointment only.

I encourage prospective buyers to visit, meet my adult dogs, and learn more about the type of dogs I produce before committing to a litter.

Visiting a Litter

Visits may begin when the puppies are four weeks old.

From four weeks until the puppies receive their first vaccination, visitors may observe the litter but may not handle the puppies.

Once the puppies are six weeks old and have received their first vaccination, visitors may handle and interact with them.

Children are welcome during scheduled visits.

Health Precautions

Visitors must postpone their appointment if any animal in their care has been sick within the previous 90 days.

This precaution is intended to reduce the risk of exposing young puppies to illness.

No additional clothing, footwear, or sanitation requirements are currently required unless I provide specific instructions before the visit.

Outside Dogs

Visitors may not bring outside dogs onto the property.

An outside dog may be brought only when visiting for an approved stud service or when Dawson Lake Bretons has specifically requested that the dog be present.

Visits are an opportunity to meet the dogs, ask questions, and better understand Dawson Lake Bretons before making a decision.

Policy Acknowledgment

This Kennel Policy is effective January 1, 2027.

A copy of the applicable policy must be signed at puppy pickup. By signing below, the buyer acknowledges that they have reviewed, understood, and accepted the policies that apply to the reservation, purchase, registration, transportation, ownership, breeding, return, and rehoming of their Dawson dog.

If different written terms are provided for a particular litter or dog, those written terms will apply.

By signing below, I acknowledge that:

- I received and reviewed the Dawson Lake Bretons Kennel Policy.
- I had an opportunity to ask questions before signing.
- I understand and accept the policies that apply to my puppy and ownership of my Dawson dog.
- I understand that this policy is effective January 1, 2027, unless different written terms were provided to me.

Buyer's printed name

Puppy's registered or identifying name

Puppy's sex

Puppy's date of birth

Buyer's signature

Date

Dawson Lake Bretons representative / Date

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