New Puppy Information Packet

**VACCINES**

Your new puppy will have had the age appropriate vaccines, in most cases this is the initial DHPP . You will receive a record of de-wormings and vaccinations given to supply your veterinarian for the booster visits. It is imperative that your puppy see the vet for all boosters to have complete protection against communicable and potentially life threatening diseases. Your puppy is NOT fully protected after the initial vaccines given here.

The vaccine protocol we adhere to is as follows

5 weeks Neopar (Parvo Only)

7 weeks Nobivac (DHPP) #1

Then we recommend the following to be done by your veterinarian

10weeks DHPP #2

13 weeks DHPP #3 Lepto #1

16 weeks DHPP Final Lepto #2 Rabies 1 year, optional Bordatella Intranasal

After the 16 week vaccines your puppy is protected and safe for socializing in public settings, boosters are done annually after this point following your veterinarians recommendations.

Attached below is good information on the recommended vaccines their significance

Your puppy MUST be on Parasite prevention all year long for the life of the dog no matter what area you live in. We recommend oral parasite preventions over topicals. We use Trifexis , Simaparico Trio, Sentinel or Interceptor and Heartgard as options but also like Nexguard, Bravecto and Seresto collars for added flea and tick control in warm months or bad flea/tick areas.

**Bordetella Bronchiseptica**
This highly communicable bacterium causes severe fits of coughing, whooping, vomiting, and, in rare cases, seizures and death. It is the primary cause of [kennel cough](https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/common-conditions/kennel-cough-symptoms-treatment-and-prevention/). There are injectable and nasal spray vaccines available.

**Canine Distemper**
A serious and contagious disease caused by a virus that attacks the respiratory, gastrointestinal (GI), and nervous systems of dogs, raccoons, skunks, and other animals, [distemper](https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/common-conditions/distemper-in-dogs/) spreads through airborne exposure (through sneezing or coughing) from an infected animal. The virus can also be transmitted by shared food and water bowls and equipment. It causes discharges from the eyes and nose, fever, coughing, vomiting, diarrhea, seizures, twitching, paralysis, and, often, death. This disease used to be known as “hardpad” because it causes the footpad to thicken and harden.

There is no cure for distemper. Treatment consists of supportive care and efforts to prevent secondary infections, control symptoms of vomiting, seizures and more. If the animal survives the symptoms it is hoped that the dog’s immune system will have a chance to fight it off. Infected dogs can shed the virus for months.

**Canine Hepatitis**
Infectious canine hepatitis is a highly contagious viral infection that affects the liver, kidneys, spleen, lungs, and the eyes of the affected dog. This disease of the liver is caused by a virus that is unrelated to the human form of hepatitis. Symptoms range from a slight fever and congestion of the mucous membranes to vomiting, jaundice, stomach enlargement, and pain around the liver. Many dogs can overcome the mild form of the disease, but the severe form can kill. There is no cure, but doctors can treat the symptoms.

**Canine Parainfluenza**
One of several viruses that can contribute to kennel cough (see above).

**Corona Virus**
This is a virus that usually affects dogs’ gastrointestinal systems, though it can also cause respiratory infections. Signs include most GI symptoms, including loss of appetite, vomiting, and diarrhea. Doctors can keep a dog hydrated, warm, and comfortable, and help alleviate nausea, but there is no drug that kills coronaviruses.

**Heartworm**
When your puppy is around 12-to-16 weeks, talk to your vet about starting her on a [heartworm](https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/common-conditions/heartworm-in-dogs-symptoms-diagnosis-treatment/) preventative. Though there is no vaccine for this condition, it is preventable with regular medication. The name is descriptive—these worms lodge in the right side of the heart and the pulmonary arteries (that send blood to the lungs), though they can travel through the rest of the body and sometimes invade the liver and kidneys. The worms can grow to 14 inches long (ick!) and, if clumped together, block and injure organs. A new infection often causes no symptoms, though dogs in later stages of the disease may cough, become lethargic, lose their appetite or have difficulty breathing. Infected dogs may tire after mild exercise. Unlike most of the diseases listed here, which are passed by urine, feces, and other body fluids, heartworms are transmitted by mosquitoes. Therefore, diagnosis is made via a blood test and not a fecal exam. The FDA has more information about heartworm.

**Kennel Cough**
Also known as infectious tracheobronchitis, kennel cough results from inflammation of the upper airways. It can be caused by bacterial, viral, or other infections, such as Bordetella and canine parainfluenza, and often involves multiple infections simultaneously. Usually, the disease is mild, causing bouts of harsh, dry coughing; sometimes it’s severe enough to spur retching and gagging, along with a loss of appetite. In rare cases it can be deadly. It is easily spread between dogs kept close together, which is why it passes quickly through kennels. Antibiotics are usually not necessary, except in severe, chronic cases. Cough suppressants can make a dog more comfortable.

**Leptospirosis**
Unlike most diseases on this list, [Leptospirosis](https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/common-conditions/what-is-leptospirosis-and-should-you-be-concerned/) is caused by bacteria, and some dogs may show no symptoms at all. Leptospirosis can be found worldwide in soil and water. It is a zoonotic disease, meaning that it can be spread from animals to people. When symptoms do appear, they can include fever, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea, loss of appetite, severe weakness and lethargy, stiffness, jaundice, muscle pain, infertility, kidney failure (with or without liver failure). Antibiotics are effective, and the sooner they are given, the better.

**Parvovirus**
[Parvo](https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/common-conditions/parvo-in-dogs/) is a highly contagious virus that affects all dogs, but unvaccinated dogs and puppies less than four months of age are at the most risk to contract it. The virus attacks the gastrointestinal system and creates the loss of appetite, vomiting, fever, and often severe, bloody diarrhea. Extreme dehydration can come on rapidly and kill a dog within 48-to-72 hours, so prompt veterinary attention is crucial. There is no cure, so keeping the dog hydrated and controlling the secondary symptoms can keep him going until his immune system beats the illness.

**Rabies**
Rabies is a viral disease of mammals that invades the central nervous system, causing headache, anxiety, hallucinations, excessive drooling, fear of water, paralysis, and death. It is most often transmitted through the bite of a rabid animal. Treatment within hours of infection is essential, otherwise, death is highly likely. Most states require rabies vaccination. Check with your vet about rabies vaccination laws in your area.

**New puppy feeding guidelines**

Here at Cimar we wean our puppies to a Raw diet. We primarily feed the product “Blue Ridge Beef” and recommend the Puppy Mix Formula or Breeders Choice half and half mixed with Chicken with Bone (\* You MUST combine the products it is not either or\*) . Raw food is fed at 10% of the puppies body weight daily split over the course of it’s meals until 4 months of age where the daily percentage decreases to 5% of the body weight until 1 year old where it decreases again to 3%. This is TOTAL for the day not per feeding. The website for Blue Ridge is [www.blueridgebeef.com](http://www.blueridgebeef.com) you can see if there are retailers in your area. If there are not Blue Ridge retailers in your area we recommend finding Instinct, Primal, Answers or Stella and Chewy’s Raw or freeze dried raw for your transition period. You can also call around to your local specialty pet stores and see if there is a local brand or farmer that they sell for. We stick to a beef and chicken based diet. It is recommended that you continue the raw diet for at least the first week after receiving your puppy so there are not too many changes at one time which could cause stress diarrhea.

Raw feeding has many benefits, steady growth rate, no preservatives or fillers, minimal stool output with little to no odor, decreased water consumption. The puppy drinking and defecating less makes house training quicker and easier. If there is an accident in the house the clean up is so much less. You are in control of knowing what exactly your dog is eating. Home made raw is also an excellent option and there are numerous facebook groups for raw feeders as well as online blogs and websites to offers tips and tools you can be as little or as much hands on as you wish.

If you wish to switch to a kibble diet we totally understand and recommend the following diets and then the following weaning guideline.

We have personally fed and recommend the following

Victor (Nutra Pro Plus or Ultra Pro), Purina Pro Plan, Royal Canin (Large breed puppy or adult). We do NOT recommend Science Diet, Blue Buffalo, Pedigree, Diamond or Iams. Most foods if not locally available to you are available on [www.chewy.com](http://www.chewy.com) with free shipping

To wean from raw to kibble we suggest the following schedule

Day 1-3 AM Meal Raw, Mid day Small Kibble meal, PM Meal Raw

Day 4-6 AM Meal Kibble PM Meal Raw

Day 7 You are kibble every meal we suggest 2 times a day feeding, follow the bag guidelines for amounts per feeding and adjust as needed based on your pets weight and condition

\*Do NOT mix kibble and raw in a singular feeding they are digested differently\*

**Crate Training**

We recommend introducing your puppy to a crate right away. A crate is a safe haven for a dog. Dogs are naturally den animals and a crate is a place to sleep where they can feel comfortable. The puppy may not initially appreciate the crate as they are not used to being alone but just like a crib for a baby they learn to adjust and eventually love their crate. I do not recommend wire crates as I feel they foster anxiety, a plastic crate is more den like and dark and cozy where a wire crate is open and more typical of a cage or trap. Most dogs that learn crate anxiety or separation anxiety do so in a wire crate. I suggest a plastic kennel and not oversized, they need enough room to get in turn around and lay down you are trying to mimic a den not give them a play yard. When you need somewhere to put your dog when you are away or have company or whatever the dog learns to love the crate and uses the opportunity to nap. Often times my dogs go to their crates just to rest or take a break they do this on their own. It’s their space. For puppies you can cover the crate at night with a blanket to make it dark and warm. If the puppy is crying when you initially put the puppy in the crate do not run to its every cry let the puppy soothe itself, if the puppy wakes up crying it needs to go out but then after a potty break put the puppy back in the crate and go back to bed. In the morning before anything else take the puppy out to potty. The crate is also a good place to feed your dog.

**Litter Box Training**

Yes it’s true all of our puppies are litter box trained! Now this is not a lifelong trait you want but will help in the early weeks while potty training or if you need to be away from your house for more than a couple hours. 8 week old puppies cannot go hours on end without using the bathroom.

At 4 weeks old we introduce our puppies to a litter box using feline pine litter, this is about the time that mom stops cleaning up after them. We do not want our puppies to ever learn to potty where they sleep and play. This early recognition of a separate bathroom area helps expedite later housetraining. When the puppies are old enough for outside time we put that same litter in their outdoor area directly on the ground this lets them know they can potty there. It is recommended that when you bring your puppy home you do the same, sprinkle some pine litter or shavings in the area of the yard you wish your puppy to use to encourage the outside area for potty time, heavily praise your puppy when they potty outside. If you have a reason to leave your puppy in those first few weeks for more than a couple hours you can use a litter box with the pine litter in a small area such as a puppy pen or laundry room or small bathroom this is also useful if you get your puppy in a time where there is heavy snow. A small baby pool in the garage with litter is also helpful as a place to take the puppy to potty is there is heavy snow while they are very small. The litter box should be alleviated by 12-16 weeks.

**Training**

ALL puppies need training, no matter how many dogs you have raised and trained in your lifetime all puppies need training and group class is always recommended. Many people can train basic commands at home there are huge benefits from attending a class or classes with your puppy, the bonding between owner and puppy as well as the socializing for your puppy and the puppy learning to behave with distractions that you cannot mimic at home. A well trained puppy is a lifelong friend. Owners that attended training classes and spend time educating their dog rarely have behavioral issues with their dog and almost never return a dog to me. My goal is for you to have a lifelong partner which takes commitment on your part. Please find a puppy class in your area and take it as far as you are able ! I am willing to help find classes in your area if needed. Local Kennel Clubs are always great resources and you can find local kennel clubs via the AKC website or of course google.

**Bite Inhibition**

Puppies bite and play with their mouths. This is not “My puppy is too mouthy is it the breed” NO. “Should I be concerned my puppy bites everything” No. This is how puppies play and interact, it is your job to teach the puppy what is and is not appropriate. If you let your puppy mouth you it will continue if you let the puppy mouth the kids it will continue. It is important to give the puppy toys and things to chew on, when the puppy is being mouthy your redirect to something that is appropriate for them to chew and bite such as toys and bones. Use your body language. If you screech and yank your hand the puppy doesn’t realize this is not a game you give a firm NO stand up and walk away from the puppy after offering a toy or bone. You ignoring the puppy and leaving is sending a clear message. You can use commands like NO BITE, be easy or Gentle and offer praise and pet the puppy when it complies, as soon as the puppy is too rough you use a firm NO BITE then do it all over again. This is the same if you have other pets or kids and they cannot correct the dog. You must do it for them. You can grab the puppy by the scruff as its mother would do and firm NO then redirect the puppy. Do this over and over until they understand we call this Proof Training. There is loads of good information out there on bite inhibition and as always use your trainer as a resource.

**Registration**

Your puppy will be registered by us and your registration documents will come to your email and in the post within a few weeks of receiving your puppy. All Cimar puppies will carry the prefix “Cimar” and typically the registered name will be assigned within the theme for the litter for my ease of record keeping. If you are adamant about a certain registered name please notify me so we can discuss. The call name which is what you call your dog has nothing to do with the registered name which is just for identification purposes. Companion puppies will be on Limited registration status.

**Ear Cropping After Care**

If your puppy was cropped there is some after care. Sutures will need to come out 14 days after the procedure, these can be removed by your veterinarian. There will be scabs and scabs are good that means the ears are healing. In the first week we do not apply anything to the ears as we don’t want to soften the edges but rather let the natural healing process do its job, after the first week we start trying to remove and loosen the scabs, we typically apply Neosporin or vitamin E oil or even Vaseline to soften the ears and loosen the scabs. After the sutures are removed if there are still lingering scabs you can massage the ears with oil until the edges are completely clean. Once the scabs are gone and stitches are out the ears may need to be taped or posted to straighten the ears and get them standing erect and straight, it is common for the ears to fold over, droop, wrinkle etc during the healing process this is OK. This is very normal. The taping procedure can be done by an experienced vet or I have a tutorial video on my website for you to try this at home. I can always be a resource for guidance should you need it during the taping process. Some puppies require 1-2 tapings some more, it depends on the individual dog and the cartilage.

**Natural Ears**

Natural Ears can Lay like hound ears, stick straight up like German Shepherd ears, one up one down, Rose prick or many other assorted ear varieties. How the ears look at 8 weeks is not always indicative of what you will have at a year the ears change a lot in the first year. If you want the natural ears to lay a certain way there may be some taping require to train the ear cartilage, if you need advice please reach out.

**SOCIALIZATION!!**

This may be the most important topic in this packet. It is important to socialize your dog from day 1. This means kids, cats, other dogs besides your own, strangers (big, small, all colors). Expose your dogs to loud noises, vacuum cleaners, umbrellas, honking horns you name it. A well socialized dog is a relaxed happy friendly dog. I realize that the first 16 weeks your puppy is not fully protected from communicable diseases so you are limited to outside exposure but let your puppy visit with friends and family, neighbors etc and their vaccinated healthy pets. If you have kids invite their friends over if you don’t visit friends with kids. As soon as your puppy has had all vaccines you are free to meet and greet. Many stores besides pet stores allow dogs. Some to mention are Home Depot, Saks, Old Navy, Hobby Lobby, Tractor Supply Co., Dicks Sporting Goods and more you can find many lists of pet friendly stores online. Take your dog, work on social skills bring treats to offer strangers to give your dog. Encourage the dog to sit politely for petting. This is great for the dog and for the public to interact with a breed they are sometimes fearful of. Go to the park meet other dogs of other breeds (keep your dog leashed so you can act quickly if another dog provokes an altercation), doggie daycare is great for the first 6 months I take my keeper puppies to daycare to interact with other breeds and sizes of dogs and strangers. If you can take your puppy do so!

**Resources**

ME !! We are here for you if you have questions or concerns please always reach out as needed, we can direct you to a source if we cannot help directly.

Your trainer….form a bond with a trainer you like and trust and that your dog likes

Lastly ENJOY your puppy!!! It goes by fast