



# SHURBEEZ SHIH TZU

P.O. BOX 1461, Moses Lake, WA 98837

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## *APPENDIX A: GUARDIAN DOG CONTRACTUAL GUIDELINES*

All requirements are considered contractual obligations.

### **Nutritional Guidelines:**

- Dog must be fed NuVet Plus Vitamins daily. Call 1-800-474-7000 Order Code 195797. (Can be ordered in bulk and costs about .30 per day, approximately \$119 per year)
- Approved Probiotics Daily. [Amazon Brand Wags Probiotic Chews](#) ½ chew per day. OR [Doc Roy's GI Synbiotics](#) - 1 scoop daily on food.
- Only feed food from the approved list. Avoid foods with soy, flaxseed, peas, and legumes. (This includes peanut butter)
- NO GRAIN FREE FOODS

Use dry dog food. Wet food hastens dental problems in Shih Tzu.

### **Preferred Food for Breeding Dogs:**

Scientific studies have proven that breeding dogs should be consuming a diet that is at least 29% protein and 18% fat. Most dog foods are formulated to sustain life only. Because breeding is not a necessity of life, breeding dogs should be fed food and supplements that will provide enough nutrition for themselves and a little extra to help prepare their bodies for breeding.

**Life's Abundance All Life Stages** or **Life's Abundance Small & Medium Breed Puppy**

These two premium foods are my preferred foods, your guardian dog will do well on either one.

### **Approved Medications:**

1. **Dewormers**-Safeguard(fenbendazole), Pyrantel Pamoate, Praziquantel, Toltrazuril, (Heartguard Plus, Ivermectin- if prescribed)
2. **Flea & Tick** - Advantix II - never while pregnant (ask if vet suggests different med.)
3. **Skin irritations** - Chlorhexidine rinse, Mupirocin, Animax ointment



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### **REQUIRED FOR ALL GUARDIAN DOGS:**

- Your dog must take Nuvet Plus vitamins daily, which can protect their system from some allergens and provide optimum vitamins and nutrients. \*\*Pregnant females will only consume one Nuvet Plus per week.
- Your dog must be fed a daily probiotic. All dogs can benefit from probiotics, which aid digestion and modulate the immune system. Probiotics produce short-chain fatty acids (SCFAs), which inhibit the growth and activity of harmful bacteria, such as E. coli, Salmonella, and Clostridium perfringens, as well as providing other benefits to the intestines.

### **Approved Treats:**

- Minties
- Nutro Mini Bites
- Zukes Mini Naturals, any flavor
- Bully Sticks, Bully Gullet Sticks (supervise as they get small)
- Dehydrated Beef Liver
- Earth Animal No-Hide Chews (made from pineapple core)- with supervision

### **Food, Treats, & Ingredients to AVOID:**

- Foods or treats containing:  
BHA  
BHT  
Ethoxyquin  
Food dye  
Titanium Dioxide
- The term ANIMAL PRODUCT or ANIMAL MEAL is too vague -If it doesn't specify the kind of animal (chicken, lamb, beef, trout) it could be anything (opossum, horse, road kill, etc).
- **ALL Rawhide products**- these items have no nutritional value, cannot be easily digested, are processed with terrible chemicals, and commonly cause blockages that have to be surgically repaired. DO NOT GIVE YOUR DOG ANY RAWHIDE PRODUCTS!
- Stay away from foods claiming to be Grain Free. Grains are essential for heart health. Cooked Bones, Pig Ears, any Nylabone products - all of these are unhealthy.
- Soy, flaxseed, and legumes (including peas) should be avoided, as they contain phytoestrogens that interfere with hormones essential for healthy development and breeding.



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### **Storing Dog Food:**

- How you store your food is just as important as what you feed. Any food you buy will begin to deteriorate after 1 week of opening the bag. It is essential to protect your guardian dog from rancidity and toxicity. Dog food can reach toxic levels of rancidity at the 4 week mark. (4 weeks after opening a bag)
- Purchase the smallest bags you can, or protect the remaining food in the bag if you purchase food in bulk.
- After opening any sized bag it should be stored in a cold, dry, air-tight, dark environment. I repackage my dog food into air tight mylar bags. The best ways I've found to help preserve food from becoming rancid or tainted include:
  - FoodSaver type bag-vacuum sealed & stored in the dark
  - Mylar bag-vacuum sealed
  - Glass jar with a lid in the fridge or freezer
  - Stainless steel container in the fridge
- If you choose not to keep dog food in the freezer or vacuum sealed, air-tight containers - all food should be consumed within the first four weeks of opening. Dog food bags should be stored in the house, never in an environment that isn't climate controlled, and the top of the bag should be rolled down to keep as much light and air as possible out of the bag. Likewise, don't open a bag and dump it into a plastic container - plastic can harbor toxins (even if washed frequently), rancidity, bacteria, mold, and can be made from non food-safe plastic.

### **TRAINING REQUIREMENTS:**

Dog/puppy must be trained by Guardian or professional trainer to:

- Sit
- Stay
- Down
- Willingly allow human touch on any part of the body
- Allow willing grooming such as baths, toe nail clipping, scissor trimming, clipper trimming, anal gland expression, etc.
- Not allow food/toy guarding behaviors
- Enter the crate on command
- NOT jump up on people to greet them
- Walk on a leash



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### **TRAINING REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED:**

- Potty Trained within the first year
- Crate train the dog to be comfortable for periods of time including sleeping, while you are away from home, and travel in the car. \*\*You may substitute a Canine Safety Harness instead of a crate for car travel if you'd prefer.
- Proper Socialization is key to an emotionally, mentally, and socially healthy dog. Please expose your dog (after full vaccination) to new and interesting situations, places, and experiences. If you need a list of possible experiences let me know. One bad experience can affect your pet for life! Be careful and mindful of situations. All new interactions should be positive and comfortable. Life-long habits are developed within the first 15 months - 2 years of life.
- We use and prefer Puppy Culture training and have an incentive if you purchase the videos to continue the training in your home.
- It is possible to have the dog disqualified from the program for social, emotional, or training reasons. This means if the guardian has not properly trained and socialized their dog and it displays qualities that we do not want to pass on to the next generation, we will discuss that with the guardian home. If the reasons we will not use the dog in our program are due to guardian negligence or lack of training they will be required to seek professional training, forfeit the dog to us, or pay the full pet price of the dog and terminate the contract.

### **VETERINARY CARE:**

- We recommend and prefer the use of our Reproduction Specialist Veterinarian, Dr. Sheena Sorensen, DVM at Sagehills Veterinary Services, 330 N. Broadway Ave, Othello, WA 99344, 509-488-6206
- If you would like to use another vet they must be approved by us.
- You must keep the dog up to date with all vaccines including rabies, Distemper (DHPP), and bordetella. Canine Influenza & Canine Corona Virus shots are up to you. Ask Dr. Sorensen if your dog needs it. All booster vaccines must be given no closer than a month before expected heat cycles (for females) or wait until after weaning.\*\* Female dogs will be titered by Shurbeez annually - we can provide a copy of this report to your vet if you're not using our vet.
- If you have been approved to use another vet and we feel there is any conflict of interest, we can and will revoke use of the previously approved vet.



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### **VETERINARY CARE CONTINUED:**

- Do not give the dog a leptospirosis vaccine. If you camp regularly and or will take the guardian dog on hikes in the woods, then get approval, (after 1 year of age), to get the vaccine to protect the guardian dog. You can also discuss this with Dr. Sorensen.
- Please stagger vaccines and do not give multiple vaccinations in one day. The vet will give you an appropriate timeline for spacing multiple vaccines.
- Ask Dr Sorensen, or your own vet if the dog needs flea and heartworm prevention.
- We recommend you carry dog insurance for the dog for the duration of the contract. It is not mandatory, but very wise considering the value of the dog. Trupanion is a good comprehensive insurance provider. We can offer a free 30 day Trupanion coverage.
- Please deworm the dog every 3 months for the first year. After that deworm every 6 months for males, and every 6 months for females who are not currently being bred. You can purchase this from the vet, online, or from Shurbeez Shih Tzu. We have a different protocol for dogs who will be bred soon.
- 1 month before the expected heat cycle she must be given three days of Safeguard and one day of Pyrantal (provided by Shurbeez Shih Tzu), please contact Sheri to get the dewormers, they are free from Shurbeez when they are being used as our pre-breeding protocol for females.
- As Soon as your girl begins to swell before her heat cycle begins, call Sheri to get Folic Acid tablets and Wheatgerm Oil. She should be fed one 5 mg Folic Acid tablet per day, and 1/2 tsp wheatgerm oil daily for three weeks.
- Pregnant girls will also be given dewormer on days 50-52 after being bred, and then on the same schedule as their puppies. Sheri will provide this as well.
- I do not allow my dogs to touch the floor, scale or table at the vet's office (I bring a towel or blanket I can bleach or a disposable potty pad that can be thrown away at the vet's office.) Please take every precaution to protect your guardian dog and future litters from Parvo and other diseases, \*your own guardian dog may be immune, but future generations depend on our vigilance. If too relaxed about this, your pet could carry diseases into your home or mine on their feet or bum.

### **Miscellaneous:**

- License the dog within the county you reside within 30 days, and keep the license current.
- Please keep the dog's hair cut in an approved Shih Tzu cut or long coat, well groomed and clean, and free of mats. Do not shave the dog's head, ears, or face.



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#### **MISCELLANEOUS CONTINUED:**

- If the dog is brought to us with a matted coat, or a coat that is in bad shape, we have the right to take them in to a groomer of our choosing and have them shaved down or worked on, but you will be responsible to reimburse us for that expense before the dog returns to you. Mats in the hair trap dirt, debris and dead skin cells which can cause skin rashes and sores. Guardian dogs are ambassadors of our program, so it is important that they are maintained and not matted or in bad shape.
- If you are going on a vacation and leaving the dog in the care of a trusted friend or neighbor, or boarding facility -the contact information for said caregiver or facility must be given to Sheri just in case she needs to access the dog while you are gone. (Likewise, please inform the friend, neighbor, or facility that Sheri can make decisions for the dog, and the dog can be released into her care as well) If you plan to take your dog with you, please let Sheri know so she can be aware of your schedule. If she has a breeding planned for a stud, she should know at least 2 weeks beforehand. If your female will come into heat during a planned vacation time you can plan to leave her with Sheri. \*\* We will watch any guardian dog while you're gone, at no charge.
- If you have a female dog in heat we require that you take her out to go potty **ONLY** on a leash, even if she is in your own fenced back yard. Too many accidental breedings happen if we are not extremely careful during this time. Every dog within a 3-5 mile radius will know she is in heat, and her instincts will drive her to be looking for a mate.
- Any medications and supplements must first be approved by Shurbeez Shih Tzu.

#### **Guardian Visits:**

- In an effort to keep guardian dogs familiar with our home and family, they will be brought to us monthly, (every 4-6 weeks). This can be as easy as dropping your dog off while you go grocery shopping for an hour, or longer. Arrangements will be made that accommodate our schedules. For the first few visits you will remain with your dog and the visit will be of a shorter duration.
- Stud dogs will be brought to us for breeding approved females. He can be dropped off for up to four days, or taken home nightly, (if we need to make other arrangements for longer stays we will let you know ahead of time.) You will bring him to us freshly groomed (within 3 days), and bring his crate, food for 4 days, his harness and leash.



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### **GUARDIAN VISITS CONTINUED:**

- Stud Dog continued: We will give as much notice as we can, but no later than three days before needed. Periodically he will need to be taken in for updating his Brucellosis testing. We will inform you well before we plan to do this test again.
- **Females** will be brought to us for breeding to approved males. They can be left with us for up to four days or be taken home nightly, if desired by the guardian. You will bring her to us freshly groomed (within 3 days), with her crate, enough food for 4 days, collar or harness, and leash. For the remainder of her heat cycle she will be kept away from all other intact male dogs.
- Females will be brought back to us on day 48-50 of her cycle. Sheri will inform you what day that is before you take her home from being bred. She will remain with us until she is finished whelping and raising her pups. Pups go home at 9-12 weeks of age. She will leave our home at the same time, or a few days before the scheduled go-home day.
- Guardian home will be visited prior to the signing of any contract. We like to see where our puppies and dogs will live. An in-person visit by the Breeder will happen up to two times annually. We will call to schedule at least one visit, and another may be a drop in.
- At about 6 months of age and again at a year old Sheri will arrange a visit for pictures to be taken. Please do not cut your puppy's hair short before this first photo shoot. The exception to this can be the hair over the bridge of the nose, sanitary clip around privates and male prepuce, and between the pads of their feet, if desired.

### **Heat cycles & Pregnancy Care:**

- Contact Sheri on day one of your female's heat cycle. You will notice (the first day is considered the first blood observed). Her vulva begins to swell (and any other dogs in your home will be interested in her smell) up to two+ weeks before she goes into heat. She may begin to lick and clean herself obsessively during this time. When she begins to swell contact Sheri to get Wheatgerm oil & Folic Acid tablets.
- When you contact Sheri she will let you know if she plans a breeding. If a breeding is planned, she will have NuVet vitamins, wheatgerm oil, and folic acid pills for you to start giving her from day 1 of her visible swelling.
- Any dog in heat should not swim or have a soaking bath. During the heat cycle the cervix is wide open and can allow bacteria in, causing a uterine infection. Uterine infections, also known as open pyometra, can be life threatening within hours.



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#### **HEAT CYCLES & PREGNANCY CARE CONTINUED:**

- Sheri will send home an information packet after she has been bred.
- Canine pregnancy is 9 weeks long, 63-69 days from the day she is bred.
- She may experience morning sickness and not want to eat much around week 5 of her pregnancy. If this happens she may be enticed to eat by adding a bit of warm water, canned Purina Pro Plan added to the dry kibble, or Satin Balls. If she still will not eat contact Sheri for help.
- She will eat normal amounts until about week 5. She may have morning sickness, including vomiting, and not eat much for that week, or begin to eat increasing amounts. It is very unlikely for Shih Tzu to overeat. Increase her food up to double (sometimes triple) amounts by week 8. Pregnant Shih Tzu are grazers, food should be available to them all day.
- Regular exercise is great for pregnancy. Continue walks and regular play sessions. However, she should not be allowed to jump up onto or down from anything starting at about 6-7 weeks, and vigorous running during this period should be cut out as well. Going up and down the stairs should be ok as long as her belly isn't getting in the way. Regular exercise helps our girls have easy healthy pregnancies and deliveries.
- At week 9 (day 48-50) she will be brought back to Shurbeez and remain with us until her pups are weaned and ready to go to new homes (9-12 weeks old).

You may visit her after her puppies are two weeks old. Make arrangements with Sheri for appointments to see her. You will not be allowed to touch or play with puppies before they are vaccinated.

Thank you for being a part of the Shurbeez Shih Tzu family. We love all of our guardian families. Don't hesitate to ask any questions and share ideas. We want all of our guardian families to be happy and successful.

Sheri Stevens  
Shurbeez Shih Tzu