



Text: Carol Immelman | Photography: Supplied

Understanding your puppy's registration

Choosing your perfect purebred companion requires time, effort, and research, which should include establishing that you are buying a puppy with paperwork that lives up to your expectations. Last month, we discussed the value of a KUSA registration. In this issue, we examine the different KUSA registers and what to look out for when investing in a new family member.

First and foremost, it is extremely important to note that not all KUSA registrations are the same!

While most registrations are on the Primary Breed Register, KUSA does have other different

registers intended to suit diverse purposes. To avoid disappointment, you should make sure your puppy has a registration that fits in with your future plans.

Going for gold

The **Primary Breed Register** is the gold standard of KUSA registrations. If a breeder is advertising KUSA registered puppies, this is the type of registration you should expect.

These registration certificates are headed **Certificate Of Registration And Certified Pedigree** and they may be accompanied by an annexure, which lists the results of DNA

or health screening tests done on the puppy and his parents.

While a KUSA registration cannot guarantee quality, in most cases, it indicates that the breeder has taken steps to ensure that the puppies meet the breed standard – in other words, that they look and act like the breed they are identified to be.

If accompanied by an annexure, you'll also know the health background of the puppy's parents and be able to assess whether the puppy you buy will have a lower chance of developing a genetically linked disorder.

What to look out for on a Registration Certificate

THE KENNEL UNION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA EST 1891
1 CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION AND CERTIFIED PEDIGREE

Breeder/s: MR GC SCHULTZ **Member No:** 146907

BREED: AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD

Owner/s: MR GC SCHULTZ
PO BOX 7356, PETIT SOUTH AFRICA, 1515

REGISTERED NAME: CHARISMA RED ALERT **146907**

NOTATIONS: NONE

Date of Birth: 09-07-2018
Sex: BITCH
Colour: RED WHITE MARKINGS TAN POINTS
Microchip No: 953010002491357
Alt Reg/Tattoo:
DNA ID No:
DNA Profile No:
Registration No: ZA013635B18

1 SIRE: CH, CH (USA), GR.CH (BREED), SP.CH. CH STONE RIDGE LONG LIVE COWBOYS AT CHARISMA CGC(Br), (IMP USA)HD
ZA001036C18 DN41616002
RED WHITE MARKINGS TAN POINTS

2 DAM: CH VAALTHORN ILLICIT LIAISON WITH CHARISMA
ZA045702B14
BLUE MERLE

DATE OF REGISTRATION: 14-11-2018 **DATE OF TRANSFER:**

THIS CERTIFICATE SHOULD BE PRESERVED AND HANDED OVER WITH THE DOG ON CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP

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DID YOU KNOW?

The notion that KUSA registers breeders is a misconception. KUSA registers dogs and kennel names but does not actually register breeders. KUSA requires breeders to be KUSA members and to abide by the stringent KUSA code of ethics, in order to register dogs.

Puppies registered on the Primary Breed Register are eligible to compete in all KUSA competitions, giving their families the opportunity to enter the exciting world of KUSA dog events, which offers something for everybody, ranging from 'Beauty' Shows to Obedience and Field Trials, Agility, Tracking, Dog Dancing and more.

Appendix Registers

In addition to the Primary Breed Register, KUSA also has three levels of Appendix Registers and the Dogsport Record.

The Appendix Registers record purebred dogs of unknown ancestry and dogs with incomplete pedigrees. The registration certificates are headed **Certificate Of Registration -**

Appendix Register Only. Dogs registered on the Appendix Registers are restricted as to which breed shows they may enter and are not eligible for Breed Champion status.

The Dogsport Record is open to dogs of any ancestry (including crossbreeds) and the registration certificates are headed **Certificate Of Registration Dogsport Record.**

Dogs with Appendix or Dogsport registrations can compete in most of the KUSA Dogsport events, such as Agility, Obedience, Carting or Dog Dancing.

Making sure

Since litters may be registered with KUSA at any time until their first birthday, it is quite possible that your potential puppy may not yet be registered when he's ready to leave his breeder. If that is the case, request the breeder's KUSA membership number, as well as copies of the puppy's parents' registration certificates, or a copy of the litter registration application form, if already submitted to KUSA. If the puppy's parents are not registered on the Primary Breed Register, the breeder will not be able to register the litter on the Primary Breed Register.

If the puppy is already registered, request a copy of the registration certificate in advance, and check it carefully.

What's on a Registration Certificate?

A KUSA Breed Registration Certificate records the KUSA registration number, breed, the dog's unique registered name (this includes the breeder's kennel name, followed by the dog's official name), colour, date of birth, sex, microchip number, plus the breeder's name, address and KUSA membership number. The front of the certificate also includes a certified pedigree, listing three generations of the dog's ancestors. On the reverse of the certificate, you'll find the 'Application to Transfer Ownership' form – this should be signed by the breeder in order for you to transfer ownership of the puppy.

Health tests and DNA screening

These results are recorded on a separate certificate (see example below), which is issued with the registration certificate. Responsible breeders want to produce the healthiest dogs possible and should be able to explain what all the results mean. Breeders should be acutely aware of the genetic diseases common in their breed and should have specialised health testing performed on their dogs before breeding them, so that they can avoid breeding dogs who might pass on faulty genes. 🐾

If you're looking for a top-of-the-line registration, here are the three most important items to check on the registration certificate of the puppy or his parents.

- 1 HEADING** The top of the certificate should say Certificate Of Registration And Certified Pedigree
- 2 PEDIGREE** All the dog's ancestors should be named on the certificate. If any are listed as 'unknown' or 'not verified', the dog is not registered on the Primary Breed Register.
- 3 NOTATIONS** On the top right-hand side of the puppy's registration certificate is a 'notations' box, which contains details of any restrictions that apply to the dog. Many breeders place restrictions on their puppies and these are noted here.

For example, 'Progeny NE for Registration' means the breeder has placed a restriction on the dog and you will not be able to register puppies from the dog unless the breeder agrees to lift the restrictions. The breeder should draw your attention to the restriction and explain under which circumstances it can be lifted, if at all.

Always ask the breeder to explain the meaning of any notations and, if in doubt, check with the KUSA office.

THE KENNEL UNION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
ANNEXURE to the CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION and CERTIFIED PEDIGREE
P.O. BOX 2659, CAPE TOWN, 8000 WWW.KUSA.CO.ZA

REGISTERED NAME: CHARISMA RED ALERT
REGISTRATION NO: ZA013635B18 **DATE OF BIRTH:** 09-07-2018 **SEX:** BITCH
BREED: AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD

TITLE/S:
IMPORTED FROM:
MICROCHIP: 953010002491357
Alt Reg/Tattoo:
DNA ID NO:
DNA PROFILE NO:

Health Screening:
Hip Score: CEA - INHERITED CLEAR
CMR 1 - INHERITED CLEAR ***** PRA - prod - INHERITED CLEAR ***** DNA Test MDR1 (ZooOmics) - CLEAR
HERITABLE CATARACTS (HC) - INHERITED CLEAR

SIRE **DAM**
NAME: CH STONE RIDGE LONG LIVE COWBOYS AT CHARISMA **NAME:** VAALTHORN ILLICIT LIAISON WITH CHARISMA
REG NO: ZA001036C18 **REG NO:** ZA045702B14
MICROCHIP: 982000407588307 **MICROCHIP:** 985170030080085
TATTOO:
DNA ID NO: **DNA ID NO:**
DNA PROFILE NO: DN41616002 **DNA PROFILE NO:**
TITLE/S: CH, CH (USA), GR.CH (BREED), SP.CH, CGC(Br), (IMP USA) **TITLE/S:** CH,

Health Screening: **Health Screening:**
ED: ED - NORMAL **ED:** ED - N/A
Health Screen Tests: **Health Screen Tests:**
DNA Test CEA & CD (PPG USA) - NORMAL DNA Test CEA (Inqaba) - NORMAL (CLEAR)
DNA Test MDR 1 & CMR 1 (PPG USA) - NORMAL ***** DNA Test DM (PPG USA) - NORMAL ***** DNA Test CMR 1 (Inqaba) - CLEAR ***** DNA Test MDR1 (Inqaba) - CARRIER ***** DNA PRA - prod (Inqaba) - CLEAR
DNA Test NCL 6 (PPG USA) - NORMAL ***** DNA Test HUU (PPG USA) - NORMAL DNA Test NCL 6 (Inqaba) - CLEAR
DNA Test PRA & PRC& HSF4 (PPG USA) - NORMAL DNA Test HC (Inqaba) - NORMAL (CLEAR)

DATE OF ISSUE: 19 August 2020 **REGISTRATION DATE:** 14-11-2018

The issue of this Certificate does not imply or guarantee that the dog and its subsequent progeny are free from any inheritable congenital defects, nor does it guarantee any standard of performance of the named dog. The Kennel Union merely records health test results supplied.

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