



## Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka News

Volume 9 – March 20, 2024

"Did you know there has always been a short-coated Bolonka? In most breeds, you will find a short coat and long-coated variety. The perfect example of this is the smooth and rough-coated collie.

While researching this article, it was a surprise to find that short coats in dogs are dominant and the gene for long coats is a recessive gene. I have always thought it was the other way around, with long coats being dominant and short coats recessive.

The breed's standard determines the correct coat length for the breed. In our breed standard, the coat is described as long, dense, thick, soft, and supple with a well-developed undercoat. The coat forms large curls (preferred) or may be very wavy. The head has a well-developed beard and mustache. Lack of a beard and mustache is a disqualification.

I have sent an excerpt article from the Embark website to our Newsletter editor explaining the genetic combinations that make up coat length in dogs. It's a long article but well worth reading, especially for our breeders.

Although as far as health goes, these dogs do not seem to have any more health problems than a Bolonka with a correct coat. These dogs should not be bred. They should be sold as pets and spayed or neutered. The sire and dam of a litter producing short-coat Bolonkas should not be bred to each other again.

Fun fact: Havanese also carry for short coats, as do the Bolognese and Shih Tzu. Some of the Havanese breeders have adopted the name Shavanese to describe the short-coated Havanese.

One last word on the issue: if you DNA test your dogs, you will not have surprises.

I hope everyone has a wonderful and healthy summer."



*Candace Mogavero*  
President RTBCA

## Is long hair dominant or recessive in dogs?

### A recessive gene

Both the furnishings gene and the curly gene are dominant and only require one copy to give you a curly coat or a coat with furnishings. But the long hair gene is a recessive gene, so you need both copies in order to get long hair.

In most dogs, coat length is controlled by a single gene, called FGF5. Long hair is a recessive trait, which means that a dog must inherit a long-hair gene from each parent in order to have long hair. What denotes this long hair gene as a “T” allele. A dog must have “TT” to have long hair.

### What causes dogs to have long fur?

The L Locus (Long Hair/Fluffy) trait test evaluates the L Locus for the Lh<sup>1</sup>, Lh<sup>2</sup>, Lh<sup>3</sup>, and Lh<sup>4</sup> Mutations that have been associated with long hair. Long hair is also referred to as a fluffy coat in some breeds. This test will reliably determine if a dog has one of the following genotypes at the L locus:

**Sh/Sh** This dog carries two copies of Sh which results in short hair. This dog will pass on Sh to 100% of its offspring.

Interpretation: **Shorthaired (does not carry long hair)**

**Sh/Lh**<sup>1</sup> This dog carries one copy of the Sh and one copy of the Lh<sup>1</sup> Mutation which results in short hair. This dog will pass one copy of Sh to 50% of its offspring and one copy of Lh<sup>1</sup> to 50% of its offspring. This dog can produce Lh/Lh offspring if bred to a dog that is also a Carrier of an Lh mutation (Sh/Lh or Lh/Lh).

Interpretation: **Shorthaired (carries one copy of long hair)**

**Sh/Lh**<sup>2</sup> This dog carries one copy of the Sh and one copy of the Lh<sup>2</sup> mutation which results in short hair. This dog will pass one copy of Sh to 50% of its offspring and one copy of Lh<sup>2</sup> to 50% of its offspring. This dog can produce Lh/Lh offspring if bred to a dog that is also a Carrier of an Lh mutation (Sh/Lh or Lh/Lh).

Interpretation: **Shorthaired (carries one copy of long hair)**

**Sh/Lh**<sup>3</sup> This dog carries one copy of the Sh and one copy of the Lh<sup>3</sup> mutation which results in short hair. This dog will pass one copy of Sh to 50% of its offspring and one copy of Lh<sup>3</sup> to 50% of its offspring. This dog can produce Lh/Lh offspring if bred to a dog that is also a Carrier of an Lh mutation (Sh/Lh or Lh/Lh).

Interpretation: **Shorthaired (carries one copy of long hair)**

**Sh/Lh<sup>4</sup>** This dog carries one copy of the Sh and one copy of the Lh<sup>4</sup> mutation which results in short hair. This dog will pass one copy of Sh to 50% of its offspring and one copy of Lh<sup>4</sup> to 50% of its offspring. This dog can produce Lh/Lh offspring if bred to a dog that is also a Carrier of an Lh mutation (Sh/Lh or Lh/Lh).

Interpretation: **Shorthaired (carries one copy of long hair)**

**Lh<sup>1</sup>/Lh<sup>1</sup>** This dog carries two copies of Lh<sup>1</sup> which results in long hair. This dog will pass one copy of Lh<sup>1</sup> to 100% of its offspring.

Interpretation: **Longhaired (carries two copies of long hair)**

**Lh<sup>2</sup>/Lh<sup>2</sup>** This dog carries two copies of Lh<sup>2</sup> which results in long hair. This dog will pass one copy of Lh<sup>2</sup> to 100% of its offspring.

Interpretation: **Longhaired (carries two copies of long hair)**

**Lh<sup>3</sup>/Lh<sup>3</sup>** This dog carries two copies of Lh<sup>3</sup> which results in long hair. This dog will pass one copy of Lh<sup>3</sup> to 100% of its offspring.

Interpretation: **Longhaired (carries two copies of long hair)**

**Lh<sup>4</sup>/Lh<sup>4</sup>** This dog carries two copies of Lh<sup>4</sup> which results in long hair. This dog will pass one copy of Lh<sup>4</sup> to 100% of its offspring.

Interpretation: **Longhaired (carries two copies of long hair)**

**Lh<sup>1</sup>/Lh<sup>2</sup>** This dog carries one copy of the Lh<sup>1</sup> and one copy of the Lh<sup>2</sup> mutation which results in long hair. This dog will pass one copy of Lh<sup>1</sup> to 50% of its offspring and one copy of Lh<sup>2</sup> to 50% of its offspring.

Interpretation: **Longhaired (carries two copies of long hair)**

**Lh<sup>1</sup>/Lh<sup>3</sup>** This dog carries one copy of the Lh<sup>1</sup> and one copy of the Lh<sup>3</sup> mutation which results in long hair. This dog will pass one copy of Lh<sup>1</sup> to 50% of its offspring and one copy of Lh<sup>3</sup> to 50% of its offspring.

Interpretation: **Longhaired (carries two copies of long hair)**

**Lh<sup>1</sup>/Lh<sup>4</sup>** This dog carries one copy of the Lh<sup>1</sup> and one copy of the Lh<sup>4</sup> mutation which results in long hair. This dog will pass one copy of Lh<sup>1</sup> to 50% of its offspring and one copy of Lh<sup>4</sup> to 50% of its offspring.

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**Lh<sup>2</sup>/Lh<sup>4</sup>** This dog carries one copy of the Lh<sup>2</sup> and one copy of the Lh<sup>4</sup> mutation which results in long hair. This dog will pass one copy of Lh<sup>2</sup> to 50% of its offspring and one copy of Lh<sup>4</sup> to 50% of its offspring.

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Interpretation: **Longhaired (carries two copies of long hair)**

**Detailed Summary** The L Locus impacts canine hair length as a result of DNA variants in the *FGF5* gene that prevents *FGF5* from functioning as a hair growth termination signal in the hair follicle.

*Information on the genetics of dog coat length and the L Locus was sourced from Embark, a leading provider of canine DNA testing and research.*

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## **What is new with the Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka Club of America.**

Due to a resignation for personal reasons the RTBCA Board has had some changes as of January 1, 2024. The list of officers has changed to the following:

- President, Candace Mogavero
- Vice President, Natalie Armitage
- Secretary, Denise Dang
- Treasurer, Debby Buse
- Board Member Deborah Howington
- Board Member Kathleen Gilbert

**Good news!** We have met another piece of the criteria before we can apply for full recognition. The second judge's education was a success. It was held in Phoenix Arizona Feb 2, 2024. 20 judges were in attendance. Coming from several parts of the country including Florida, New York, Michigan, California, and many other states. The club has another session scheduled in the near future which will complete that requirement.

**Currently the largest hurdle for the club is membership.** AKC requires approximately 100 households in membership across the US. We currently have about 60 so we are almost there. It was voted upon and decided by the Board in October 2023, the fee for applications will be waived for the first year of membership. The only rule is that the person must own or co-own a Bolonka within the US. A registration number must be provided. To help the club reach our goal, the Board asks that if you are breeding and placing puppies/dogs in new homes the application for membership will be part of your packet of documents to sign when they purchase a pup/dog. There is no cost to join, and it is as simple as signing their name. It is our hope that this will assist in building our membership to the necessary numbers to meet our goal.

**The Membership Committee voted to** begin issuing each membership card to each member beginning 2024. Each member should have received it in the mail. The packet consisted of a laminated membership card, a club logo bumper sticker for your car, a hard copy of the Constitution and Bylaws, Code of Ethics, and the breed standard.

**The next goal and criteria** to be met is our second Open Show that is open to all FSS and Miscellaneous breeds. This has been approved by AKC and is scheduled to be held on Thursday September 19, 2024, in Prescott Valley, AZ at the Findlay Toyota Center. The Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka Classes will be our 2024 National Specialty and special Rosettes will be awarded. The judge will be Gary Andersen of Scottsdale, AZ. The Superintendent will be Onofrio. The closing date will be September 3, 2024.

All entries will be through Onofrio. This is a very nice venue indoors with air conditioning. The Show Committee has decided to add two special placements in 2024 which are Best Bred-by Adult and Best Bred-by puppy. The Show committee will be taking donations to provide gift bags for each class entry, and it is our hope to have a nice entry this year.

If all goes well the Board will be filing an application for full recognition to AKC the last week in September 2024. Let's work together and meet these goals.

# DENTAL HEALTH AND YOUR BOLONKA

Despite what some people believe, domestic dogs don't automatically instinctively take care of their teeth by chewing. Like humans, dogs can suffer periodontal disease, tooth decay, injured teeth and other oral health problems. Beyond discomfort and bad breath, these dental problems can lead to serious health issues including kidney disease, heart disease and more as well as costly dental care.

Over the years as a dog owner, I've learned that when it comes to dental hygiene, taking preventative steps at home along with annual vet visits are well worth the effort, not only for my dog's health and comfort, but for the overall cost in the long run. A dog's teeth cleaning by a veterinarian can be a costly medical treatment and sometimes requires the dog to be sedated, this can be harmful to some dogs' systems.

## What signs should I look for at home?

**Plaque** – The first buildup of material growing on the enamel of the tooth within hours of your dog eating. Plaque combines with dog saliva, builds up and hardens, resulting in damage causing tartar. This may not be overtly evident on regular examinations.

**Tartar** – A buildup of plaque, it is comprised of various materials such as bacteria, food particles and mineral salts. Tartar builds up can cause gum inflammation and disease, tooth decay, abscesses and other oral infections impacting a dog's overall health. In the early stages, tartar begins as soft matter on the tooth enamel, but will build-up and harden as time passes.

## Can different sized dogs have different teeth problems?

Smaller breeds such as toy breeds to include the Bolonka may have an increased risk for tartar formation, gum recession, and eventual loss of teeth.

## Brushing Your Bolonka's Teeth:

Start early. Adult teeth usually erupt around 6 months of age. Apply a small amount of canine toothpaste to either your finger or a dog toothbrush or finger brush and let him taste it.

- Dental wipes are intended for daily use to remove plaque.
- Dog toothbrushes come in all sizes and in general are soft and angled to easily reach the back teeth. Some dog owners prefer "finger brushes" which are soft silicone brushes you insert your finger into for brushing.
- NEVER use toothpaste intended for people. ONLY use toothpaste made for dogs. To be sure, always check the ingredient list to ensure there is no xylitol. Xylitol is potentially fatal to dogs.
- Have a regular schedule of brushing, maybe 3-4 times per week. This would be considered fine by most veterinarians. Working on the outside of the upper middle and upper teeth, work outwards to each side. Repeat on the bottom teeth. Make sure to get as far back as possible on all sides holding the brush at a 45-degree angle. This will ensure you are getting most of the teeth cleaned.

## Diet & Chews

There are many diets and chew toys and other products on the market to help with canine oral health. However, feeding your dog a well-balanced diet for his or age is an important step in oral health.

Chew toys and other products are not only created for play, but some are also intended for the purpose of dental health. It is advised to be cautious, not all chews are safe and healthy, there are several that can be too hard and can cause dental fractures or pose choking hazards for a Bolonka. - Contributed by Denise Dang



To end the year in 2023, the Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka were present at the AKC National Championship in December Sponsored by Royal Canin with a nice entry of 8 total exhibited. The judge was Mr. Desmond Murphy.

The Best of Breed was awarded to PLK I'm Here There And Everywhere, CM13. Bred by Denise & Cuong Dang [Pink Lotus Kennels] Owned by: Denise Dang, Victoria Umoh & Serena Umoh. We congratulate them on this achievement.

Best of Opposite Sex was awarded to, PLK The Devil Wears Prada @ Tovia. Bred By Denise & Cuong Dang [Pink Lotus Kennels]. Owned By: Denise Dang & Jay Simon. Congratulations to them on this achievement with a 7-month-old puppy.



## NEW TITLE HOLDERS

PLK I'm Here There And Everywhere, CM13  
Showboat Bliss A Sky Full of Stars@Sfr, CM4  
Showboat Bliss Top Shelf Whiskey Macallan@Sfr, CM3  
Showboat Take Your Whiskey Home, CM9  
Showboat Up Rising ! Sfr, CM7  
Showboat Etched In Steele@ Sfr , CM12  
Tsvet Hibin Look At Me Now, CA BCAT

The RTBCA club would like to invite all members in good standing who would like to participate to join one of the committees. It is a good way to learn and have input on activities within the club.

The following committees still need members to volunteer:

Health ~ Contact Denise    pinklotuskennels@gmail.com  
Newsletter ~ Christine    blueridgepups@gmail.com  
Breeder Ed ~ Candace      faireland1@gmail.com

### **2024 – 2025 RTBCA Board**

President – Candace Mogavero            faireland1@gmail.com  
Vice President – Natalie Armitage  
Secretary – Denise Dang                  secretaryrtbca@gmail.com  
Treasurer – Debby Buse  
Board Member – Deborah Howington  
Board Member – Kathleen Gilbert

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# OPEN SHOW

All Miscellaneous & FSS Breeds

Thursday September 19, 2024

AKC Event# 2024741301

Entry Fee \$35.00

An Open Show is an informal American Kennel Club sanctioned conformation event where Championship points are not earned but rather Certificate of Merit (CM) points are awarded to this introductory AKC conformation suffix title. Judged by AKC Judges.

## Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka Club of America

### Officers

Candace Mogavero----President

Natalie Armitage-----Vice President

Debby Buse-----Treasurer

Denise Dang-----Secretary

1520 N Carol Ln, Oklahoma City, OK 73127 [405] 361-4237

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Deborah Howington Kathleen Gilbert

### SHOW COMMITTEE

Kathleen Gilbert -----Show Chairman

1135 E Plantation Dr, Mohave Valley AZ 86440 [928] 225-9160

Denise Dang-----Trophy Chairman

Natalie Armitage-----RTBCA Welcome Bags

### CLASSIFICATION

The following breed classes will be offered at all Open Shows

4-6 Month Puppy Class | 6-9 Month Puppy Class | 9-12 Month Puppy

Class | Bred-By-Exhibitor Class | Open Class

Miscellaneous AND Foundation Stock Service (FSS) breeds will be considered equivalent to a Group.

### JUDGE

Gary Andersen [6176] ---- 6250 Pershing Ave, Scottsdale, AZ 85254-3841

### PRIZES

#### BEST IN OPEN SHOW

Swarovski Crystal Vase & Large Rosette~ sponsored by Pink Lotus Kennels

## **BEST IN FSS**

Engraved Silver Plate & Small Rosette ~ sponsored by Russ & Natalie Armitage

## **BEST IN MISCELLANEOUS**

Engraved Silver Pate & Small Rosette ~ sponsored by Russ & Natalie Armitage

## **GROUP PLACEMENTS**

Sponsored by Debby's Bolonka & Showboat Kennels

FSS & Miscellaneous Group 2~ Large Flat ribbon & Dog Paw Acrylic Award

FSS & Miscellaneous Group 3 ~ Large Flat ribbon & Group 3 Printed Large Towel

FSS & Miscellaneous Group 4 ~ Large Flat ribbon & Set of 2 Engraved Granite Coasters

### FSS & Miscellaneous

**BEST OF BREED ~ Ring Squeaker Toy**

**FSS & Miscellaneous**

**BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX ~ Ring Squeaker Toy**

The Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka Classes will be considered their 2024 RTBCA National Specialty and special prizes will be awarded as follows:

### **BEST OF BREED**

Large Rosette | Club Logo 2024 Embroidered Chair [\$75] ~ sponsored by Sloan Services

### **BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX ADULT**

Large Rosette | Grooming kit [\$60] ~ sponsored by Sharon Jacobs

### **BEST OF BREED PUPPY**

Large Rosette | Plush dog bed w/blanket & toy [\$30] ~ sponsored by Andrew Dang

### **BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX PUPPY**

Large Rosette | Plush dog bed w/toy [\$25] ~ sponsored by Andrew Dang

### **BEST BRED BY ADULT**

Medium Rosette | Set of 4 club Logo Granite Coasters [\$20] ~ sponsored by Marci White

### **BEST BRED-BY PUPPY**

Medium Rosette | Set of 4 Club Logo Granite Coasters [\$20]~ sponsored by Sharon Bartlett