

2010 GRCA National Specialty CANINE DNA COLLECTION DRIVE

The Golden Retriever Foundation needs Canine and Human volunteers at the National Specialty to help with the DNA collection and paperwork.

The Golden Retriever Foundation, GRCA, The Broad Institute, and OFA need Canine volunteers for the National Specialty Canine DNA Drive. Cheek Swab and/or blood samples are needed to populate OFA's DNA database. Blood samples submitted to The Broad Institute will be used for research in cancer and hereditary diseases.

The Golden Retriever Foundation has authorized funding to pay for the OFA submission fee for Golden Retriever samples collected at "mass collection clinics". Through this grant from GRF, there will be **no** fee to the owners for submitting blood or cheek swab samples. There is **no** charge to donate blood to The Broad Institute.

A booth will be set up in the main show site, vendor area, on Tuesday, September 28, from noon to 4PM, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 29-30 from 9AM to 4PM. In addition, we will be setting up during some of the Field events to encourage dogs entered in the those events to participate.

Veterinarians, Technicians, dog holders, paperwork specialists and people to label samples are all needed for this continuing effort. We will be teaming up with the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals and volunteers from the Broad Institute for this effort. We will also be collecting samples for Optigen's PRA testing.

**** Special requests **** The Broad Institute would like to update any dogs that have previously submitted samples. **They also need samples from any dog with cancer and/or hereditary disease. Their help is of the utmost importance, as well as healthy dogs over 5 years of age without cancer or hereditary disease.**

Anyone able to help or willing to donate blood or cheek swabs from their dogs, is urged to contact Mike Lappin at anidoc@intercape.com to let him know. You may download and print consent forms, to bring with you, from the National Specialty web site.

Even if you can donate one hour of your time you will be assisting with this valuable research tool.

You and your dog can make a difference.