



THE SCOTTISH NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB

CODE OF ETHICS

This Code of Conduct shall form part of the Application for Membership of the Scottish Newfoundland Club. All members will be asked to read it carefully and only submit the Application for Membership if they are prepared to honour the Code.

1. GENERAL

- a) The health and welfare of the Newfoundland are of extreme importance.
- b) The Newfoundland should primarily be considered as a companion and a member of the family.
- c) It is the responsibility of members to ensure that the dogs in their care are not permitted to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
- d) Members will ensure that their dogs bear some recognised means of identification and be kept fully leashed or under effective control when they are away from home, as required by law.
- e) Members will clean up after their dogs in public places, or anywhere where their dogs are exhibited.

2. HEALTH AND WELFARE

- a) Members will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care.
- b) Preventative inoculations and/or alternative medications against all infectious diseases should be administered.
- c) Veterinary advice will be sought if and when required.
- d) The boarding of dogs should be investigated carefully and only reputable licensed boarding kennels selected.

3. DOG EXHIBITING

- a) Members will when engaged in competitive events with their dogs, conduct themselves in such a way as not to bring discredit to the breed of Club and will demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.
- b) Members will abide by Kennel Club Regulations when participating in the exhibition of any of their Stock.

4. BREEDING

- a) The principal criterion to be considered in breeding will be to maintain and improve the breed in accordance with the standard.
- b) Puppies will only be bred for sound and valid reasons, and not solely as a commercial venture.
- c) Members will only use dogs and bitches of good type, sound temperament and construction which have been tested satisfactorily for hereditary defects.
- d) Members will only use dogs and bitches which are registered with the Kennel Club.
- e) All breeding stock should be hip scored and under the BVA/KC Scheme and heart tested by a cardiologist both with satisfactory results.
- f) Members will keep accurate breeding records, registration papers and pedigrees.

5. BROOD BITCHES

- a) Breeding should not be undertaken unless puppies can be accommodated and cared for properly.
- b) It is a mistaken belief that litters are essential to a bitch's well-being.
- c) It is desirable that a bitch have no more than three (3) litters and a bitch shall not be bred from on consecutive seasons without due regard to her well-being. It is also desirable that no bitch shall be bred from before she is two (2) years old or after her seventh (7th) birthday.
- d) Members will ensure that a reliable person is near at hand at whelping.
- e) Veterinary advice should be sought regarding the further mating of any bitch which has had difficulty in whelping.
- f) All breeding stock should be hip scored under the BVA/KC Scheme and heart tested by a cardiologist both with satisfactory results.

6. STUD DOGS

- a) The stud dog owner will ensure that there are sound and valid reasons for any bitch being mated and for establishing, as far as possible, that the owner of the bitch can whelp and care for her and her puppies.
- b) Commercial consideration will not be the reason for providing stud services.
- c) The owner of the stud dog will be selective in the bitches accepted for mating.
- d) All breeding stock should be hip scored under the BVA/KC Scheme and heart tested by a cardiologist both with satisfactory results.

7. PUPPIES

- a) Any abnormal puppies should be humanely put down at birth, but please note mis-marked or brown and white puppies are not abnormal. They may be sold with the appropriate endorsements on their pedigrees.
- b) All puppies will normally have rear dew claws removed by four days old or in accordance with current legislation.
- c) Puppies will never be removed from the litter to go to their new homes until they are weaned (approximately eight (8) weeks old).

8. SALES

- a) Members will never knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed, or falsely advertise dogs or puppies, nor mislead any person regarding the quality of a dog or puppy.
- b) The breeder will carefully screen prospective buyers regarding their suitability as owners and advise on the characteristics of the breed.
- c) Members will never sell a dog or puppy to commercial pet dealers, nor allow a dog or puppy to be given as a prize or donation in a contest of any kind.
- d) The sale of puppies on breeding terms is undesirable. However, where this should occur, it will be done using the K.C. Form for the Registration of Loan or Use of a Bitch for Breeding.
- e) Each purchaser of a puppy will be provided, at the time of purchase, with its pedigree, a diet sheet, and information about grooming, insurance, worming and inoculations. They will also be provided with The Scottish Newfoundland Club Code of Ethics and encouraged to join a Breed Club.
- f) When selling or transferring a dog or puppy to another person, members will ensure that all the relevant K.C. documents are provided to the new owner at the time, or, when unavoidable, within a reasonable time of the sale or transfer.
- g) As breeders, members will take an interest in the welfare of their stock and will assure any new owner that they will always be available to help with any problems and assist with rehousing, if and when necessary.

The Newfoundland Rescue Scheme should only be used as a last resort.

9. IDENTIFICATION OF STOCK

All stock will be identifiable according to current legal requirements.

10. ABNORMALITIES

- a) Members will agree, without reservation, that any Veterinary Surgeon may report to the Kennel Club:-
 - i) All operations carried out on dogs, owned or bred by them, to correct any hereditary defects.
 - ii) All suspected or recognised hereditary defects in any dogs owned or bred by them.
 - iii) Breeders will report all cases of known or suspected hereditary defects to the Health and Longevity Committee of the Newfoundland Club.

The Code of Ethics constitutes the required standard of behaviour expected of Club Members, and any Members found in breach of these recommendations could be called upon to explain their action to the Breed Club.