

# Colonial Rottweiler Club Code of Ethics

**I PURPOSE** In Rottweiler breeding, the emphasis shall be placed on working ability and other outstanding qualities of character of this breed, as well as upon appearance. It is mandatory that a Code of Ethics be subscribed to by those who are concerned with the propagation of physically, mentally and temperamentally sound Rottweilers of proper breed type. Measures should be taken to acquaint the general public with the contents of this Code so that they might not become innocent partners in improper breeding practices.

Consistent with the above, I will agree to breed discriminately and only upon strong evidence of the possibility of finding suitable homes for the resulting puppies. I understand and agree that to breed inadvisably may lead to over-population and contribute to the deterioration of the Rottweiler breed.

**II RECORDS** If I breed my bitch or use my stud dog in service, I agree to keep accurate records of stock, matings and pedigrees and to register my breeding stock with the American Kennel Club.

**III BREEDING** I agree to use for breeding only those Rottweilers which have no disqualifying faults and no radical departures from the official AKC Rottweiler standard. They must have OFA Normal hip x-rays with a certification number or be in the 60<sup>th</sup> or better percentile, for both hips, for the current calendar year, utilizing PennHip. The calendar year being January 1 – December 31. Breeders are required to keep PennHip assessments and produce the documents upon request and/or publish the DI as part of any litter announcement. Hip evaluations are to be done at 24 months of age or older. A Rottweiler dog or bitch, x-rayed HD Free by Ultrecht, Gleszen or Gottingen at two years of age or older, may be used for the first six months that they are in this country. After that time, they must be certified as above. I agree to the following requirements regarding cardiac screening: Any dog or bitch to be bred, born after January 1, 2009, must be cardiac “normal” at 24 months of age or older. The evaluation must be performed by a Board Certified Cardiologist. Any dog or bitch used for breeding, born before January 1, 2009, must be cardiac “normal”. It is strongly recommended the evaluation be performed by a Board Certified Cardiologist. If a dog or bitch has had no prior cardiac screening it must be performed by a Board Certified Cardiologist. This does not apply to any dogs that have passed away and were collected prior to this date. It is strongly recommended that dogs and bitches used for breeding be screened via Echocardiogram by a Board Certified Cardiologist. I agree not to use for breeding, monorchid or cryptorchid dogs or Rottweilers with any of the following: undershot or overshot bites; more than one non-eruptive or missing adult tooth; ectropian or entropian; long or curly coats; unsound temperaments such as extreme shyness, nervousness or viciousness; excessive white markings as described in the Standard; incorrect or very pale markings.

Further, if, to the best of my knowledge, I should breed from lines in which any of the above occurs, I will disclose this to my buyers.

As owner of the bitch, I will breed only normal, healthy, mature dogs which have passed the above health certifications. I will not permit my bitch to produce litters in three consecutive seasons. I will cull deformed puppies and those who deviate substantially from the Rottweiler Standard.

As the owner of the stud dog, I will breed only normal, healthy, mature dogs which have passed the above health certifications. I will refuse stud service to any bitch that does not have the above health certifications, has disqualifying faults, or which I consider to be in poor health. When a bitch has failed to conceive after being bred to one of my stud dogs, I will allow one repeat service, at such time and place as are mutually agreed to by the owner of the bitch and myself provided that the stud dog is still in good health and available.

**IV HEALTH** I agree to maintain good standards of health and care for my dogs, including proper veterinary care. I further agree that proper health includes regular contact with people and exposure to the outside world.

**V SALES** I will refuse to recommend or sell to breeders who do not conform to this code or to dog wholesalers and retailers. I will not donate a Rottweiler for raffle purposes or sell to any home if I have reason to believe that the puppy or dog will not be properly cared for.

I will use a written sales contract or written agreement with any sale or purchase involving a dog. To the best of my ability, I will state clearly to a buyer whether the puppy or dog being sold is potentially a show or pet type.

I will not release puppies before they are seven weeks of age and only with full knowledge that they are healthy and have had the required medical inoculations and care.

I will give buyers of puppies or adult dogs accurate health, breeding and registration records and at least a four generation pedigree. Registration papers may be withheld on a dog which is suspected of carrying a serious fault that would make it detrimental for breeding purposes, until the dog has been proven otherwise or rendered in capable of reproducing. Proof required per a veterinarian’s letter.

I will adhere to the terms of my sales agreement or written contract with the buyer, following the general practice of breeders that any puppy sold as a show prospect, which subsequently develops hip dysplasia or a disqualifying defect shall be: (1) replaced by the breeder with another show prospect puppy or (2) returned to the breeder who will then refund the sales price or (3) retained by the buyer, with the buyer’s money being refunded by the breeder to the extent of the difference between price paid and the price of pet puppies sold from the same or similar litters, after the breeder has received veterinarian’s certification that the dog has been rendered incapable of reproducing or (4) any other mutually agreeable alternative made between the buyer and breeder.

I will urge my puppy purchasers to provide obedience training at the proper age.

I will recommend to my puppy purchasers that they render incapable of reproducing any dog which has developed disqualifying or serious faults.

As a breeder, I will make a serious effort to see that every dog will have an adequate home and will be properly cared for.

**VI ADVERTISING** I agree that my advertising, oral and written, shall be factual and not worded as to attract undesirable buyers or to encourage the raising of Rottweilers as any easy money scheme. No price should be given in public advertising of Rottweilers.

**VII GENERAL CONDUCT AND SPORTSMANSHIP** I shall conduct myself at all times in a manner which will reflect credit upon me and the breed, regardless of the location or circumstances, especially when attending dog shows or trials whether as an exhibitor or spectator.

I agree that I will not co-own a dog or participate in the breeding of said dog with a person who does not subscribe to and support this Code.

I agree that I will not have members of my household or immediate family participating in activities that are contradictory to the principles set forth in this Code.

If I should become aware of the mistreatment, misuse or need for relocation of any Rottweiler, I will notify any or all of the following for resolution to the problem: a member of the Board of Directors, the current authorities in my area, the breeder or Rottweiler Rescue.

## VIII VIOLATIONS AND RECOURSE COMMITTEE

The incoming Board of Directors shall appoint, at its first Board meeting, a three member Violations and Recourse Committee and one alternate member, for a two year term. Written charges of this Code by a member may be sent to any member of the Board of Directors. The Board member will send the allegations to the Committee within two weeks of receipt. The Committee will investigate and report its findings to the Board of Directors within two months of receipt of the charges and may recommend any or all of the following levels of discipline:

1. Warning. A member may not receive more than one warning in a year’s period without incurring further disciplinary action.
2. A monetary fine which shall be awarded to Rottweiler Rescue.
3. Action as described in the CRC By-Laws, Article VII.

Following receipt of the Committee’s report and recommendation, the Board of Directors will proceed as described in the CRC By-Laws.

A twenty-five dollar fee will be required from any person bringing charges. If the charges are upheld, the fee will be refunded. If the charges are dismissed, the money will be retained by the CRC.

If a member has special problems or circumstances or if through no fault of his own is in violation of any of the provisions of this Code, he may have the Committee review the matter and make recommendations.

I have read and agree to abide by the Colonial Rottweiler Code of Ethics      Signature of Applicant #1 \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and agree to abide by the Colonial Rottweiler Code of Ethics      Signature of Applicant #2 \_\_\_\_\_