

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 finding suitable homes for the resulting puppies. I understand 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. I agree NOT to use for breeding monorchid or cryptorchid dogs, or Dogs/Bitches with any of the following: undershot or overshot bites, more than one non-eruptive or missing adult tooth (unless the Dog/Bitch has an OFA Dentition certification at the time of breeding); ectropion or entropion; long or curly coats; unsound temperament 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.

A. Dogs/Bitches Born in the United States

1. HIPS

Hip evaluations are to be done at 24 months of age or older. Dogs/Bitches used for breeding must have an OFA Normal certification number or, if utilizing PennHip, be in the 60th percentile or better (for both hips), for the current calendar (Jan 1-Dec 31) year. Breeders are required to keep PennHip assessments and produce the documents upon request.

CARDIAC

a. Dogs/Bitches to be used for breeding and born after January 1, 2016 must be OFA Cardiac Normal at 24 months of age or older with the evaluation performed by a Board Certified Cardiologist.

b. Dogs/Bitches to be used for breeding and born between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2015 must be cardiac "normal" at 24 months of age or older with the evaluation performed by a Board Certified Cardiologist.

c. Dogs/Bitches to be used for breeding and born prior to January 1, 2009 must be cardiac "normal". This does not apply to Dogs that have passed away and were collected prior to January 1, 2009.

d. Any Dog/Bitch born prior to December 31, 2015 that has had cardiac screening, must have an OFA Cardiac Normal at 24 months of age or older with the evaluation performed by a Board Certified Cardiologist prior to being bred. This does not apply to Dogs that have passed away and were collected prior to January 1, 2009.

It is strongly recommended that Dogs/Bitches to be used for breeding be screened via Echocardiogram by a Board Certified Cardiologist.

B. Dogs/Bitches Not Born in the United States

1. Imported Dogs/Bitches may be used for breeding for the first six months they are in the United States if they meet the following criteria.

a. Hips: Hips have been x-rayed and certified HD Free by the appropriate Certifying Organization in the country of origin at 24 months of age or older AND

b. Cardiac: Have a cardiac "clear" reading from a Board Certified Cardiologist in their country of origin. After six months in the United States the Dog/Bitch must meet the same Hip and Cardiac requirements as Dogs/Bitches born in the United States.

2. Dogs/Bitches residing outside the United States and being used for breeding via natural, fresh or frozen semen must have certified Hips and Hearts at 24 months of age or older, with said certifications performed by the appropriate Certifying Organizations in their country of residence.

C. **CHIC:** It is strongly recommended that Dogs/Bitches to be used for breeding have an OFA CHIC certificate which

provides a source of health information for owners, breeders and scientists that will assist in breeding healthy dogs. CHIC is intended to encourage health testing and sharing of all results, normal and abnormal, so that more informed breeding decisions can be made.

D. **BITCH OWNERS:** As the owner of a Bitch, I will breed only to normal, healthy, mature dogs which have met the required health certifications. I will not permit my Bitch to produce litters in more than three consecutive seasons. I will place on limited AKC registration any puppy with a non-life-threatening medical deformity or other substantial deviation from the AKC Rottweiler Standard, and require spay/neuter of said puppy at an appropriate age.

E. **STUD DOG OWNERS:** As the owner of a Stud Dog, I will breed only to normal, healthy, mature bitches which have met the required health certifications. I will refuse stud service to any Bitch that does not meet the required 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 my Stud Dog, 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 condition.

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 receive proper care.

I will use a written sales contract 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. Full AKC Registration papers may be withheld on a dog which is suspected of carrying a serious fault that would make it unsuitable for breeding purposes, until the dog has been proven otherwise or rendered incapable of reproducing. Proof required with a veterinarian's letter.

I will adhere to the terms of my written sales contract with the buyer(s), 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 recognize that I have a lifetime responsibility to ensure that every dog I place has a safe home and will be provided proper care for life. Unless required by law, no CRC member will allow their puppies or dogs to be disposed of in an animal shelter or allowed to remain in or be rehomed by a rescue organization

VI. **ADVERTISING:** I agree that my advertising, both 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 shall 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, circumstances or medium, 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 60 days from receipt of the charges and may recommend any or all of the following levels of discipline. Following receipt of the Committee's report and recommendation, the Board of Directors (BOD) will proceed as described in the CRC By-Laws:

A. **Warning:** A member may not receive more than one warning in a year's period without incurring further disciplinary action.

B. **Fine:** A monetary fine which shall be awarded to either the Rottweiler Rescue Foundation or Rottweiler Health Foundation at the discretion of the BOD

C. **Action:** As described in the CRC By-Laws, Article VII.

A fifty 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

If, after charges have been filed and a decision has been made, either of the parties discloses the information regarding the charges and discusses same with the general public including any form of social media, the BOD reserves the right to publish the charges, information garnered, and reason(s) for the decision(s)

Revised August 2015