

## **CODE OF ETHICS**

The purpose of this CODE OF ETHICS is to protect and advance the interests of Boxers and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, and performance events, including a respect for people and dogs. Members of the Dogwood Boxer Club will conduct themselves in accordance with this Code when breeding, buying, selling or competing and exhibiting their Boxers and in such a manner as to reflect credit on the sport of purebred dogs and on Boxers in particular, regardless of the location or circumstances. Members are expected to know and adhere to the CKC Rules and Regulations and the Dogwood Boxer Club by-laws at all times. It is important to know the current Standard of the Breed.

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

This Code of Ethics forms part of the application for membership. The applicant is prepared to honour the Code.

### **2. GENERAL - all members will:**

- (a) Provide their Boxers with appropriate housing, food and health care, striving to maintain their Boxers' condition, health and quarters in a manner in which is above reproach in every respect.
- (b) Endeavor to enhance the role of the Boxer in society as an essential member of its community where it functions primarily as a companion and a guardian and above all, 'A person's best friend.
- (c) Participate, whether they be exhibitors, handlers, judges or assistants, in dog shows, trials and other events with honesty, fairness and integrity ever mindful of the practice of good sportsmanship.
- (d) Undertake the task of educating and encouraging all newcomers to the world of purebred Boxers no matter their interest: pet-owner, exhibitor, trialer, or breeder.
- (e) Not participate in any act or acts, which may bring the name of the Club or any of its members into disrepute.

### **3. HEALTH AND MAINTAINANCE**

- (a) Breeders should encourage testing for hips, heart and thyroid clearances, and other determinable conditions which would affect the health of their dogs or the offspring of same
- (b) Tail docking, removal of dewclaws and ear cropping are appropriate for the well-being of the Breed. Corrective cosmetic surgery will not be performed on Boxers. If and when such corrective surgery becomes a necessity, the dog will no longer be exhibited, if such alteration is not acceptable to stated CKC policies.

### **4. BREEDING - all breeders will:**

- (a) Breed with the main criterion to improve the breed.
- (b) Breed only for sound and valid reasons and not solely as a commercial venture.
- (c) Breed only healthy and sound Boxers, who display good temperament.
- (d) Breed only Boxers, who are free of the following disqualifying faults: monorchids and/or having a white background or entirely white or any other colour other than fawn or two types of brindle and Boxers with white markings that exceed one-third of the ground colour (hereinafter referred to a "White Boxer").
- (e) Breed only bitches between the ages of eighteen months and six years and not more than once a year.
- (f) Keep accurate breeding records, papers, pedigrees and contracts.
- (g) Include in their programs, only Canadian Kennel Club registered (or registerable) stock, which will strengthen the genetic pool and thus, guarantee further progression towards the ideals of the standard.
- (h) Accept responsibility for those animals that are the result of their breedings which are abandoned or found in shelters.

## **5. STUD DOGS - all members will:**

- (a) Ensure their stud dog is free from Canine Brucellosis and any other communicable diseases.
- (b) Not knowingly offer at stud a Boxer, who has a disqualifying or genetic fault.
- (c) Be selective in the bitches which are bred to the stud dog.
- (d) Not breed their stud dogs to a White Boxer bitch.
- (e) Properly provide for all visiting bitches' safety and security.
- (f) Not breed their stud dog to a bitch owned by a pet store, chain or commercial kennel.
- (g) Complete a stud dog contract to be signed by both parties before the mating takes place. The contract shall include the following special conditions:
  - if the breeding produces White boxers, they must be identified by a tattoo or microchip and be spayed or neutered as evidenced by a certificate duly completed by a D.V.M.
  - Each bitch must be bred only to the stud dog specified by her owner. A change of stud dog is only permitted with the express consent of the owner of the bitch and should be included as an amendment to the Stud Contract.

## **6. SALES - all members will:**

- (a) Arrange to identify each Boxer by a tattoo or microchip.
- (b) Ensure that tail docking and ear cropping (latter is optional), is done under the most humane circumstances (The exhibiting of Boxers with cropped ears is not given preference solely by virtue of being ear cropped).
- (c) Only sell White boxers with non-breeding registration and if they are identified by a tattoo or microchip and if they are spayed or neutered as evidenced by a certificate duly completed by a D.V.M. White boxers shall not be sold with an open(breeding) registration
- (d) Screen buyers on their desire and ultimate intent for each Boxer. Their interest and ability to provide a safe adequate and loving home should be determined. Fenced yards and crates should be recommended.
- (e) Ensure that all relevant Canadian Kennel Club registration papers are provided to the new owner within a reasonable period of time.
- (f) Strive to be accurate and honest to the best of their ability in appraising the quality of Boxers being offered for sale or placement with reference to the standard of the breed.
- (g) Recommend to the new owners to spay or neuter all pets.
- (h) Endeavor to help the new owners in every reasonable way.
- (i) Help educate the public on the standard of the breed and care of the Boxer in areas where they are qualified.
- (j) Not sell Boxers to, nor act as an agent for sales to: pet stores; wholesale or commercial outlets; mail order houses; institutions involved in research. Nor shall they supply dogs for raffles, prizes, auctions or other such projects.
- (k) If possible, keep puppies in their litter environment until at least 7 weeks of age.
- (l) Refrain from using misleading or untruthful statements in the selling or advertising of puppies. Misrepresentation of C.K.C. and/or foreign titles must be carefully avoided.
- (m) Provide a signed copy of a contract, complete and clear, with any and all stated conditions to each party involved.
- (n) During the life of any Boxer sold or placed, endeavor to help the owner in every reasonable way.
- (o) Ensure that all sales of puppies and adults shall include:
  - CKC registration papers.
  - Signed Bill of Sale
  - An accurate three generation pedigree
  - Health record including shots given, diet and care information

Note: Registration papers may be withheld at the time of the sale in such cases of prior agreement in writing.

Example: Spay/neuter agreement; Breeding/Lease agreement or other similar contracted agreement, which would delay transfer of ownership until completion of contract.

## **7. REGISTRATION**

There are two ways to register puppies/dogs:

### **(a) NON-BREEDING REGISTRATION**

Dogwood Boxer Club Members are encouraged to indicate application for non-breeding registration for the following:

- Boxers being purchased only as registered companion pets.
- Boxers that are not considered sound, or not of breeding quality including monorchids.
- White boxers shall not be sold with an open (breeding) registration.

Note: The non-breeding registration registers the puppy/dog; it does not allow the registration of any offspring from the mature dog. The breeder of the dog can cancel the non-breeding registration should the puppy at maturity be considered of breeding quality.

### **(b) FULL REGISTRATION**

- Register Boxers who are sound, healthy, typey, considered to be of breeding quality and are free of disqualifying faults under the Standard of the Breed.

## **8. RESCUE**

(a) “Rescue” shall mean - seeking out and relocating lost, abandoned or owner surrender dogs into new homes, or useful places in society.

(b) Members involved in Rescue, shall be exempt registering and/or identifying by tattoo or microchip, the animals which they have “Rescued”

Supplementary notes :

THIS CODE OF ETHICS CONSTITUTES THE REQUIRED STANDARD OF BEHAVIOUR EXPECTED OF MEMBERS. ANY MEMBER FOUND IN BREACH OF THESE RECOMMENDATIONS COULD BE CALLED UPON TO EXPLAIN THEIR ACTIONS TO THE DOGWOOD BOXER CLUB. REFER DISCIPLINE SECTION OF THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE DOGWOOD BOXER CLUB.

---