

Penobscot Valley Kennel Club, Inc.

Code of Ethics

The Penobscot Valley Kennel Club, Inc, is dedicated to the advancement, improvement and protection of purebred dogs, and to the practice of ethical kennel management and practices. This Code of Ethics has been set forth and adopted by the membership of this club, and when prospective new members make application to join the Penobscot Valley Kennel Club, Inc, they will be required to sign an agreement to abide by the principles outlined in this Code of Ethics.

HEALTH AND SAFETY OF DOGS

1. All dogs are provided with adequate, sanitary quarters; regular nutritious diet, proper exercise and regular grooming.
2. Maximum health protection, including preventive inoculations in accordance with approved veterinary practices, is provided
3. Humane disciplinary training is given to insure the dog's safety and prevent them from jeopardizing the safety and welfare.

BREEDING:

1. AKC registered dogs and bitches will be bred only to other AKC registered dogs and bitches of the same breed. Bitches must have had their first heat, or if bred on the first heat, must be 15 months of age, or if contrary to the above, bred within the accepted guidelines of the National Breed Club. Dogs must be at least 8 months of age. Both dogs and bitches must be of sound temperament, be free from disease and be free of congenital disqualifying faults.
2. Healthful spacing between the stud services and between litters is observed.
3. All agreements between the bitch owner and stud owner must be in writing and signed prior to services

REGISTRATION:

1. All breeding stock and litters will be registered with their appropriate nationally recognized breed registry, preferably the American Kennel Club. All AKC rules and regulations will be followed. Accurate records of matings, litters, pedigrees, sale or transfers will be kept.
2. The breeder will not knowingly be a party to any false registration.
3. Registration of an individual puppy may be withheld by mutual consent of the parties concerned at the time a puppy is sold but reasons for this must be in writing and copies kept by the seller and given to the buyer at the time of the sale.

SALES:

1. All dogs sold or transferred must be at least 8 weeks old. Dogs will not be sold in litter lots or in groups.
2. Dogs will be sold and stud service permitted only to responsible individuals who will provide proper and humane care to the dogs.
3. No sales, consignments or transfers of puppies or adult dogs will be made to pet shops, dog wholesale dealers, contest sponsors or to any individual or kennel known to breed for, or sell to, any of these. A kennel club member will not be employed by, and have no major business dealing with, such pet shops or dog wholesalers, and will not use pet shop premises for advertising purposes.
4. At time of sale seller will provide, at no additional cost, a four generation pedigree, forms for AKC registration (unless otherwise agreed to in writing prior to sale), record of inoculations and working, veterinarian signed health certificate, or written agreement for return privileges if the dog proves unsatisfactory upon examination by buyer's veterinarian within 48 hours of the time buyer took possession of the dog, written instructions on feeding and care.
5. All advertising of dogs or puppies for sale will be complete and factual.

EXHIBITION:

1. In conformation and obedience judging competition only dogs in good health, of sound temperament, clean and groomed for the show ring will be shown.
2. At all times when handling and exhibiting dogs, good sportsmanship, proper regard for the integrity of the breed and respect for the other exhibitors will be shown.
3. The Official Breed Standard, as recognized by the American Kennel Club, will be supported as the only standard for conformation judging.

This revised Code of Ethics which has been officially adopted by the membership of the Penobscot Valley Kennel Club, Inc. on November 7, 1978, may only be revised or amended after it has been in effect for one year. Thereafter the Code may be revised and amended once a year at the November meeting by a majority vote of members attending the October meeting. Whenever changes are contemplated and are to be discussed at the November meeting, members will be notified through the Club's Newsletter or directly by mail ten days prior to the November meeting.