

## Code Of Ethics

The Tampa Bay Area Shetland Sheepdog Club, Inc. sets forth the following Ethical Guidelines for its members.

Because I have love and admiration for the Shetland Sheepdog; because my desire is to aid in the preservation and betterment of this very special breed; and because I realize the responsibility with which I am entrusted as a breeder and/or promoter of the Shetland Sheepdog, I shall endeavor to abide by the following:

- To familiarize myself with the American Kennel Club Official Standard and to use it as a guide in my evaluation of and breeding of Shelties; always striving toward the improvement of the breed. To acquaint myself with the history of the breed.
- To offer at stud only structurally and temperamentally sound dogs which are eligible to be shown in the breed ring and to charge a \$300 minimum stud fee for a proven sire.
- To represent an unproven stud as such and obtain a written agreement as to the conditions of the stud fee for an unproven stud.
- To sign a clear contract with the owner of the bitch to be bred and to be sure the contract is understood before the service is performed. To require proof of a negative Brucellosis and vaginal culture on the bitch prior to breeding.
- To refuse stud service to unregistered or structurally and temperamentally unsound bitches.
- To not breed to a bitch if there is any reason to believe it may have been bred by another stud in the same season. Nor sign a Litter Registration form if there is knowledge that more than one stud has bred the bitch during the season which produced the litter.
- To the best interest of the breed, to recommend for stud service only the dog considered best suited for the bitch. To further make every effort to see the bitch prior to making a recommendation.
- To refrain from offering at stud any dog or accepting any bitch for breeding purposes having any faults for which it would be severely penalized or disqualified in the breed ring according to the AKC standard.

To breed only from quality stock, and not to breed without reasonable expectation that the puppies produced will improve the stock and the breed as a whole.

To maintain a minimum sale price of \$400.00, except in the case of a dog possessing a marked temperamental or structural defect.

To use limited registration papers on any dog having recognizable disqualifications according to AKC Standard at the time of sale, until such time as the dog is altered to prevent its use in breeding.

To become educated and abide by city, county and state laws.

To do my best to educate the buyer of breeding stock the importance of selective breeding for quality puppies.

To not sell to commercial dog wholesalers or retailers.

To recommend to people looking for Shelties, to club members first, and who abide by this code and then to other responsible Sheltie breeders.

To maintain high standards of health and care for my dogs. To offer for sale only healthy stock, and allow the buyer a maximum of three days to have the dog examined by a veterinarian. After which time if the dog is pronounced "unhealthy at the time of sale", upon request from the buyer, to take back the dog and refund the full amount of the original purchase price or a replacement puppy.

To not make false or misleading statements concerning pedigree, quality, or show wins. Match wins will be clearly identified as such.

To at no time present a misleading, untruthful, or unfair impression of another's dog(s) to benefit one's self.

To exhibit good sportsmanship and conduct myself in a manner befitting the club and to not let personalities influence my relationship with other members.

Revised 5/16/2006

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