

# **THE BULL TERRIER CLUB OF CANADA**

## **Code of Ethics**

This Code of Ethics exists to guide the conduct for members of the Bull Terrier Club of Canada (BTCC), and to promote the welfare and benefit of the breed.

The purpose of these guidelines is to set forth principles of practice to which the BTCC would have its members adhere, as they strive to accomplish the objectives set forth in the Constitution and By-laws of the BTCC.

Education and communication are the preferred methods of obtaining compliance to this code. When in doubt of any of the following points, a member is encouraged to consult with the Ethics Committee of the BTCC.

### **Care and Well being of the Bull Terrier**

All animals shall be kept in a clean, healthy and safe environment

Animals will be provided with proper nutrition, socialization, vaccinations and routine Veterinary care.

If the need exists for an animal to be euthanized, a qualified Veterinarian should do this humanely

### **Sales**

Members who engage in the selling of a Bull Terrier shall furnish the buyer with written details on feeding, dates of inoculation, worming, general care of the animal and non-official 3-generation pedigree and Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) or other registration paperwork within 6 months of the sale.

Responsibility of the breeder does not end with the sale of the puppy. The breeder has a life time commitment and responsibility to the Bull Terriers they have bred and their contract will reflect that the breeder is to be the first contact should the buyer be unable, for any reason, to keep the animal during it's lifetime.

All puppies should be sold with a contract. All contracts should include a minimal 72-hour cooling off period so that if for any reason the buyer wishes to return the puppy, the Breeder will take the puppy back for a full refund.

Breeders shall fully disclose, written into the contract, any known genetic or health disorders of the puppy to the purchasers.

No puppy shall leave the breeder's premises, without good reason, prior to 8 weeks of age.

No puppy shall be sold to a party who is directly or indirectly involved with any puppy broker, puppy mill or litter-lot sales.

Breeders shall make use of the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) non-breeding agreements where appropriate. Breeders shall register all animals with the CKC or affiliated foreign Clubs or the Official Registry of the Country of birth.

All members shall keep complete and accurate records of individual animals, breedings, litters, pedigrees and puppy sales as required by the CKC and abide by the CKC rules and regulations or the Official Registry of the Country of birth.

## **Members**

All members are considered to be ambassadors of the Breed.

Members shall do all within their power to uphold, promote and protect the interests of the Breed by conducting themselves in a manner reflecting credit on the Bull Terrier Club of Canada, its members, their dogs and the dog world in general. Any breach of this Code of Ethics must be brought to the attention of the Ethics Committee in writing, in a timely manner.

An Ethics Committee has been formed to protect the well being of the animals involved, not to mediate disputes between members.

Members shall abide by the rules and regulations of the CKC (or the rules of the Club under which the event is held) and exhibit in the spirit of good sportsmanship

Hotels and show grounds shall be treated with respect and left in a clean condition. Consideration of other guests in the hotel is imperative and animals creating a disturbance are to be attended to immediately. Precautions should be taken to see that it does not happen again.

Any member who is suspended from the CKC shall cease to be a member of the Bull Terrier Club of Canada.

## **Stud Dog Owner/Brood Bitch Owner**

Members will not knowingly breed to or offer at Stud, any Bull Terrier to any party who is directly or indirectly involved with any puppy broker, puppy mill or litter-lot sales.

The Stud Dog/Brood Bitch should be of sound temperament. The Stud Dog should not be bred less than 7 months of age. The Brood bitch should not be bred prior to her second heat cycle.

Members shall not knowingly breed or offer at stud or breed to any Bull Terrier which has any inheritable defect including but not limited to Deafness, Hereditary Nephritis, Renal Dysplasia, Polycystic Kidney Disease, Patella Luxation, Aortic or Mitral Valve Stenosis, Ventricular Septal Defects, Dilated Cardiomyopathy, Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy, Autoimmune Thyroiditis or any other genetic defect which can be harmful to the Bull Terrier.

## **Ethics Committee**

The Committee will be comprised of the current Executive Board and one non-executive member, in good standing, voted in by the Board.

## Procedure to Report a Grievance

1. Complaint should be submitted, in writing and signed, to the Committee through the Corresponding Secretary by Registered Mail.
2. Complaint must contain first hand knowledge with specific facts, including but not limited to, dates, times, names, locations and witnesses.
3. The Committee has two weeks to acknowledge receipt of the complaint
4. The Committee will conduct an initial investigation of the complaint and determine if further action is required.