



Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics is set forth to protect and advance the interests of Rottweilers and to encourage all members to strive to develop and maintain a standard of excellence in the ownership, breeding and sale of the Rottweiler. Members of the Associated Rottweiler Fanciers of Northern California should always conduct themselves in such a manner as to reflect credit on our breed, and shall do everything to protect and advance the interest of the breed. In applying for and maintaining membership, applicants agree to further the Club's objectives and conduct all their activities in connection with the breed as set forth in this Code of Ethics.

BREEDING

1. Breeding shall be done only with the intention of improving the breed.
2. Only those Rottweilers who have been certified as being free of Canine Hip Dysplasia by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals; and who meet the official AKC Standard for the Rottweiler breed and have none of the disqualifying faults expressed therein, shall be bred. Thyroid testing and Elbow X-rays are to be encouraged. No imported Rottweiler which has been denied breeding approval and/or has had its breeding privilege or approval revoked within its own country of origin shall be bred.
3. Only Rottweilers which have been tested to be free of Canine Brucellosis shall be bred.
4. All dogs offered at stud shall be at least two years of age, in good health and temperamentally sound. A written stud contract is required.
5. Any bitch that is accepted for stud service shall be at least two years of age, in good health, temperamentally sound, and free from disqualifying faults and/or genetic faults.

HEALTH AND REGISTRATION

1. Each member shall agree to maintain good standards of health and care for their Rottweiler(s), including veterinary care.
2. All sales of puppies or adults must include AKC registration papers, an accurate four (4) generation pedigree, a leaflet or copy of the Standard for the Breed, and health records as well as diet and care information. Registration papers may be withheld at the time of sale in such cases of prior agreement in writing.
3. Other than tail docking and removal of dewclaws, corrective cosmetic surgery shall not be performed on Rottweilers. If and when such corrective surgery becomes a necessity, the Rottweiler will no longer be exhibited if such alteration is not considered acceptable by the AKC.

SALES

1. Members shall refuse to sell to or recommend dog wholesalers, retailers, or breeders who do not conform to the obligations expressed in this Code of Ethics, or to sell or buy in litter lots.
2. Misleading or untruthful statements must not be used in the selling or advertising of puppies. No club member shall use the name of this Club in their personal advertising for sale of puppies or adult dogs.
3. Owners/breeders shall not breed, sell, or consign puppies or adults to pet shops, commercial dog wholesalers, retailers, dealers or researchers.
4. Puppy purchasers should be urged to spay or neuter all pets.
5. Breeders should honestly represent the quality of all Rottweilers sold with reference to the Standard. Substandard or inferior quality animals may be sold or placed, but only with a written agreement to have the animal altered or papers withheld pending alteration. This shall not exclude Limited Registration of the animal pursuant to AKC Rules and Regulations.
6. Stud service contracts and bills of sale must be clear and complete with any and all conditions stated. A signed copy must be provided to each party involved.
7. During the life of any puppy or dog sold, the breeder should endeavor to help the owner in every reasonable way.
8. Breeders shall supply a complete history of the animal's health and medical care and a suggested schedule of inoculation and worming to be taken to one's veterinarian.
9. Prospective buyers should be screened as thoroughly as possible to determine the desire and ultimate intent for each puppy or dog, and also for their interest and ability to provide a safe, adequate and loving home for each individual Rottweiler concerned. Fence, yard and crates should be strongly recommended.
10. Any advertising, whether oral or written, shall be factual and not designed to attract undesirable buyers or to encourage the raising of purebred Rottweilers for any undesirable reason.

ENFORCEMENT

Each member agrees that upon receipt of proof of violation of this Code of Ethics, the Board of Directors shall proceed in accordance with Article VI of the By-Laws of the Associated Rottweiler Fanciers of Northern California, and impose any discipline up to and including revocation of membership in the club.