

PYRENEAN MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

GENERAL CODE OF ETHICS

All members of the PYRENEAN MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN undertake to abide by its general Code of Ethics. Items 1 – 14 are also mandated by The Kennel Club.

Clubmembers:

- 1) Will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
- 2) Will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, or who carries out a caesarean section on a bitch, may report such operation to the Kennel Club.
- 3) Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
- 4) Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
- 5) Will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
- 6) Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.
- 7) Will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
- 8) Will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
- 9) Will clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
- 10) Will only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and will help with the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change.
- 11) Will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
- 12) Will ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents at the earliest opportunity, if not immediately available.
- 13) Will not sell any dog to commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. Will not sell by sale or auction Kennel Club registration certificates as stand alone items (not accompanying a dog).
- 14) Will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise dogs nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog.

Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.

Section 2 all Club members MUST follow these procedures ;-(This to include partnerships where both signatures are applicable in canine affairs

15. Each member/breeder shall plan each mating with the paramount intention of maintaining the standard of the Breed and shall breed only when he/she is in a position to give proper care to both bitch and offspring
16. Breeders shall only breed from stock which is free from known defects such as monorchidism, cryptochidism, entropion ectropian etc. As black pigmentation is a requirement of the breed only animals with apparently good pigmentation should be used in breeding
17. No puppy shall leave the breeder until it is 8 weeks old and exports must comply with DEFRA regulations. Upon releasing the puppy, the breeder shall follow these guidelines.
 - A) He/she shall supply a pedigree of at least four generations.
 - B) He/she shall provide written instructions on the future care of the puppy , along with a diet sheet giving details of how the puppy has been reared and fed and must provide a “Club Puppy Pack” which consists of a copy of The Pyrenean Mountain Dog Handbook together with current information sheets on the use of anaesthetics, owning a Pyrenean puppy. It is advised that additional information would be gained by reading the book entitled “The Pyrenean Mountain Dog” which gives full information on all aspects of Pyrenean ownership. *
 - C) He/she must stress the importance of worming and inoculations and shall provide records from the attending veterinary surgeon detailing inoculations given, including their dates and type of vaccine used and the date on which any future inoculations are due.
18. In all their activities within the breed, members should have uppermost in their minds that the Club exists to maintain the standard of breeding, and conduct of members.
19. The more experienced owners and breeders shall be ready to give advice and assistance to members who seek it and shall make their knowledge and experience available for the good of the breed.
20. Members must recognise their responsibility to protect the reputation of the Breed and shall not allow their dogs to roam at large unsupervised, or to become a public nuisance, or to be a charge upon an Animal Rescue Society or Dogs Home.
21. In all questions of ethics relating to the Breed, whether covered by this Code or not, each member shall act solely in the best interests of the Breed and shall willingly help any Pyrenean owner to uphold those interests
22. No owner shall actively encourage, advertise or assist in any way the use of the Breed in Great Britain as stock guardians for commercial purposes or the use as a guard dog for commercial premises..
23. All members must ensure that registration of their puppies is accurate and any information reported to the Committee which casts doubt upon any registration or pedigree shall be reported to the Kennel Club.
24. No bitch shall be mated before it is twenty four months old, nor should a stud dog owner allow his/her dog to be used on a bitch that is less than twenty four months old. In addition, a bitch should not be mated after its seventh birthday.
25. No bitch shall be mated if the puppies will be born within twelve months of its last litter, and similarly no stud dog owner should allow their dog to be used for such a mating without first ascertaining the date of any previous whelping from the bitch involved.

SECTION Three All members are recommended to abide by the following.

26. Each member who breeds from his/her bitch or uses his/her dog at stud shall keep accurate records of stock, matings and pedigrees.
27. Each breeder shall select sire and dam with an eye to conformation and temperament after a careful study of the Breed Standard, the relevant pedigrees and the basic principles of genetics. Each stud dog owner will satisfy him/herself as to the suitability of the bitch and acknowledge their joint responsibility for the resultant litter.

28. It is strongly recommended that all potential breeding stock be examined under the BVA/KC scheme for the control of Hip-Dysplasia whilst taking into account of the advice of the Club's information leaflet on anaesthetics available from the Secretary.

29. For his/her own protection and that of his/her buyers, the breeder should provide proof of sale and of any guarantees given. Further, it is recommended that breeders obtain individual Certificates of Health of their puppies as near as possible to the date the puppies are due to leave.

30. Breeders are recommended to have all puppies tattooed, or microchipped, or any other acceptable means of identification to help reduce the possibility of Pyreneans being abandoned without any means of their owner/breeder being identified.

31. It is strongly recommended that breeders selling puppies primarily to pet homes should consider, when registering their puppies, using the Kennel Club endorsement R with a view to controlling the perpetuation of serious faults in our breed.

32. A puppy may be sold without registration papers provided it is understood and agreed to in writing by both parties.

33. Each breeder should safeguard his/her bitches from matings which are not carefully planned.

34. A maiden bitch should not be mated after her fifth birthday without veterinary advice being sought.

35. Members will, when breeding dogs, adopt as a minimum standard the principles, requirements and recommendations as embodied in the Kennel Club's Assured Breeder Scheme. It is strongly recommended that members who breed apply to join the scheme.

IMPLEMENTATION.

36. Any member wishing to report an infraction of this Code shall do so in writing to the Secretary and shall include supporting evidence in writing.

37. On receiving such report the Secretary shall submit it to the Committee. If the Committee decides that it is of sufficient substance to warrant investigation the Secretary shall communicate its content to the alleged offender, inviting his/her comments in writing, to be received by the Secretary within one month. This shall be communicated to the Committee as soon as possible. If no such reply is received then the matter will be brought before the next A.G.M for their decision as to what further actions the Committee should take. The alleged offender, whether a Committee member or not may apply to attend the relevant part of a Committee meeting to support their written response. Following each attendance neither the alleged offender nor the complainant shall be present during the Committee's discussion on the alleged complaint and shall only receive the Committee's decision. If the alleged offender or the complainant is an Officer or Committee member he/she will be required to retire from the Committee meeting for the duration of the discussion. If a complaint is upheld under Section Two the member shall be informed in writing that the infringement has been proven and the letter constitutes and contains a severe reprimand and warning to future behaviour. This action will be retained in the Club's records and if any subsequent complaint is also upheld then the Committee shall use its discretion in deciding what action to take and in appropriate cases initiate action in accordance with Rule 9 of the Club Rules.

38. Any complaint must refer to infringements that occurred during the previous two years.

NOTE:- Puppy packs are available from the Club Secretary and shall comprise A Pyrenean Mountain Dog Handbook, current leaflets on Anaesthetics advice and owning a Pyrenean Puppy, and Items related to the Club.