



# Mobile Kennel Club, Inc.

## CODE OF ETHICS

This Code of Ethics is set forth with the realization that ethics cannot be legislated and that most individuals intend to do what is right. The purpose of the Code of Ethics is to set forth principles of practice the Mobile Kennel Club would have its members adhere to as they strive to preserve the quality of their breed. The Code presents the minimum in ethical practices, how best to conform to these practices is better left to the educational efforts of individuals and regional clubs. The Code sets forth guidelines, not rules or laws, and carries no sanctions other than the dictates of one's conscience as he or she strives to promote and protect purebred dogs.

### QUALITY ~ I shall...

- 1) Comply with all AKC and/or National breed clubs' rules and regulations and will breed dogs according to the approved national breed standard.
- 2) Use only physically and temperamentally sound dogs; I will screen for genetic defects using available resources such as OFA, GDC, and CERF testing, when appropriate. I shall permit breedings only between registered, healthy, quality animals, appropriately screened for inherited diseases/defects, which are owned by individuals who gave satisfactory evidence that they will give the dogs proper care and attention and who are in agreement with this Code of Ethics.
- 3) Measure the quality of my dogs by regular participation in events sponsored by AKC, national breed clubs or equivalently recognized organizations.

### ETHICS ~ I shall...

- 1) Not to sell dogs under false representation, nor misleading or untruthful statements in advertising or selling.
- 2) Not degrade any person, his or her breed or kennel, who meets the standards of the Mobile Kennel Club Referral Service.
- 3) Help educate the public in those areas of the dog fancy with which I am familiar.
- 4) Provide full disclosure on all dogs and puppies sold. (Full disclosure covers all medical records, information on the history, behavior, temperament, diseases, idiosyncrasies, and the care and feeding of the dog or puppy.)
- 5) Not breed a bitch until she is mature and not more than once a year and follow my national breed club recommendations on breeding age and frequency.
- 6) Not place a puppy in a new home until the puppy is at least eight (8) weeks old.

### RESPONSIBILITIES ~ I shall...

- 1) In the interest of improving the breed, maintain complete records on litters bred, puppies and dogs sold, medical and general records and comments on the behavior of my dogs.
- 2) Before breeding, consider the full responsibility of placing all the puppies I do not intend to keep. I shall accept full responsibility for every dog that I breed. I shall sell on a contract that ensures the breeder is contacted when even an owner can no longer keep a dog at any time in the dog's life. As the breeder I shall either assist in the placement of the dog or accept its return. As owner of a stud dog, I shall assist in the placement of or accept the return of any dog sired by my stud whose breeder of record is unable to fulfill his or her responsibility to the progeny.
- 3) Issue limited registration papers, subject to the rules of the AKC, or withhold registration papers until proof of spaying or neutering is presented on any dog sold or placed as a companion. If feasible, I shall provide spaying or neutering prior to selling or placing a dog, in order to prevent the overpopulation of my breed.
- 4) Not place at auction or sell or consign puppies or adult dogs to pet stores, brokers or other commercial dealers.
- 5) Ensure that my dogs are not a nuisance to my neighbors or my community.
- 6) Under no circumstances, surrender a purebred dog or puppy to a humane society or shelter. If the animal is not able to be placed, I shall take responsibility for the euthanizing of the dog.
- 7) If a dog of my breed is in need of being rescued, notify breed rescue or make the rescue myself, if feasible.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_