

NORTHSTAR ROTTWEILER CLUB

CODE OF ETHICS

PURPOSE: Rottweilers shall be bred for working ability, qualities of character and appearance. The emphasis of breeding shall be upon working ability and qualities of character. I hereby agree to **BREED WITH DISCRIMINATION** consistent with this stated purpose. I further agree to breed only after a good faith determination that suitable homes will be obtained for the resultant litter of puppies. I agree that to breed unadvisedly or indiscriminately will lead to over population and contribute to the material deterioration of the Rottweiler breed.

RECORDS: In breeding my bitch or using my dog at service, I agree to: (a) keep accurate records of dogs, matings and pedigrees; and (b) to register all litters with the American Kennel Club (AKC).

BREEDING: I agree that any Rottweiler used for breeding by me **must** meet the following criteria: (a) be certified by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), or be certified by the foreign counterpart of the OFA within six months of arrival in the United States; (b) does not exhibit any disqualifying fault as listed in the official AKC Rottweiler Standard; and (c) does not exhibit any radical departure from the official AKC Rottweiler Standard, such as (i) dogs lacking one or both testicles, (ii) undereshot or overshot bites, (iii) more than one non-eruptive tooth, (iv) entropion or ectropion, (v) long or curly coats, (vi) excessive temperament traits such as extreme shyness, nervousness or viciousness towards people, (vii) exhibit white markings (other than a small amount on the chest), or (viii) exhibit color or markings other than as stated in the official AKC Rottweiler Standard. I further agree to disclose to buyers the absence of any of the above stated criteria in the litter's pedigree when breeding from lines with which I am familiar and have actual knowledge of any such absence.

As the owner of an AKC registered Rottweiler bitch, I agree:

- 1) to breed only normal, healthy, OFA certified, mature bitches;
- 2) not to permit my bitch to produce litters in three consecutive seasons;
- 3) to cull deformed puppies;
- 4) to provide adequate facilities, time and resources to care for the resulting litter;
- 5) to breed my bitch to only one stud dog during any one estrus cycle;
- 6) to make a sincere effort to determine that a reasonable number of puppies from the anticipated litter are suitably spoken for prior to breeding; and
- 7) to provide the NRC Secretary with a copy of the bitch's OFA numbers and contract(s) prior to breeding.

As the owner of an AKC registered Rottweiler dog, I agree:

- 1) to breed only normal, healthy, OFA certified, mature dogs;
- 2) to refuse stud service to any bitch which has not been OFA certified;
- 3) to refuse stud service to any bitch in poor health;
- 4) to refuse stud service to any bitch which exhibits any disqualifying faults or radical departures from the official AKC Rottweiler Standard;
- 5) to follow the customary practice of allowing one repeat service (at the bitch's next season) in the event a bitch has failed to conceive after being bred to one of my studs provided the stud dog is in good health and still available which repeat service shall be at a time and place mutually agreeable to the owner of the bitch and myself;
- 6) to encourage breeding by a bitch's owner only if said owner has the facilities, time and resources to adequately care for the resulting litter;
- 7) to make a sincere effort to determine that a reasonable number of puppies from the anticipated litter are suitably spoken for prior to breeding; and
- 8) to provide the NRC Secretary with a copy of the dog's OFA numbers and contract(s) prior to breeding.

The breeder must be a member of the NRC in good standing for at least 18 months to be eligible for the NRC Breeders List.

HEALTH: I agree to maintain a high standard of care for my dogs, including proper veterinary care, and agree that proper mental health includes regular contact with people and exposure to the outside world.

SALES: I will refuse to recommend breeders who do not conform to the ideals and obligations expressed in this Code of Ethics, and to refuse all sales to dog wholesalers and retailers (such as pet shops), including the selling or buying of litter lots. All sales of Rottweilers shall be by written agreement. I will provide the buyers of my Rottweiler puppies and/or adults with accurate health, breeding and registration records (including the OFA numbers of both parents) and a four generation pedigree, except that registration papers may be withheld on a Rottweiler which is suspected of carrying a disqualifying fault until the Rottweiler has been proven not to carry the disqualifying fault or has been rendered incapable of reproduction as evidenced by veterinary confirmation.

I will follow the general practice of breeders, that any puppy sold as a show prospect which subsequently develops a genetically disqualifying defect shall be: (1) replaced by the breeder with another show prospect puppy; (2) the purchase price refunded and the dog returned to the breeder; (3) the buyer's money refunded to the extent of the difference between the price paid and the price of pet puppies sold from the same or similar litters with buyer retaining the dog; or (4) any other mutually agreeable alternative. I will further recommend to my puppy buyers that they spay or neuter any dog which had developed disqualifying faults thereby rendering the dog unsuitable for breeding. I will not release puppies before they are seven weeks of age and then only with the full knowledge that they are healthy and have the required medical inoculations and care. I will urge my puppy purchasers to provide obedience training at a proper age. As a breeder, I will make a sincere effort to see that every dog has an adequate home and will be cared for properly.

ADVERTISING: I agree that my advertising (whether oral or written) shall be factual and not worded so as to attract undesirable buyers or to encourage the raising of purebred Rottweilers as an easy-money scheme. **NO PRICE WILL BE PERMITTED IN ADVERTISING ROTTWEILERS.**

SPORTSMANSHIP: I shall conduct myself at all times in a manner which will be a credit to me and to the Rottweiler breed regardless of the location or circumstances, particularly when attending dog shows as an exhibitor or spectator. I understand that this conduct is also expected of me at all NRC meetings.

ENFORCEMENT: I understand and agree that upon receipt of sufficient evidence of violations of this Code of Ethics, presented in writing, the Board of Directors will proceed according to Article 7 of the Constitution of the Northstar Rottweiler Club.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES: I further understand and agree that should I be in violation of any provision of this Code of Ethics through no fault of my own, I shall have recourse to the Grievance Committee prior to the issuance of its report and recommendations to the Board of Directors.