

# Chesapeake Bay Retriever Club **Code of Ethics**

All members of the Chesapeake Bay Retriever Club undertake to abide by its Code of Ethics.

## **Club members:**

- 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 who performs 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 operations 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.
- 15 The Chesapeake is primarily a working gundog and every consideration should be given to a dog's working ability when planning a mating.
- 16 Only breed from animals that are as free as possible from known hereditary defects and whose parents are also as free as is possible. To this end it is essential that breeding stock, parents and grandparents should have current KC/BVA eye passes where feasible. The KC/BVA hip scheme is also recommended. At all times the improvement of the breed should be the primary consideration.
- 17 Within the rules of the Kennel Club regarding number of litters and age of bitch, this club recommends that bitches should not be mated before 18 months of age or the third season (whichever comes first) and should not be bred from more than once a year. A bitch is not expected to have more than five litters.
- 18 Stud dog owners should understand ethic no. 17 and satisfy themselves as to the suitability of the bitch.
- 19 Breeders should retain a life-long interest in the welfare of their stock and take reasonable care to ensure the suitability of prospective owners. The characteristics of Chesapeakes (good and bad) should be fully explained to prospective owners.
- 20 Reliable and steady temperament is essential in this breed and all breeders should strive for this.
- 21 Breeders should at all times be extremely careful when advertising or selling.
- 22 Members should not breed from their animals unless they understand their responsibilities and are prepared for unsold puppies.
- 23 Members shall at all times maintain a high standard of health and care of their Chesapeakes.
- 24 Members should give serious consideration before proposing or seconding new members for entry in this club.

This code of ethics is devised in accordance with the aims and objectives of this club. Whilst a member of this club it is expected that each person will adhere to the Code of Ethics laid down. 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.