

DELAWARE VALLEY CHINESE CRESTED CLUB, INC.
CODE OF ETHICS

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Code of Ethics is to set forth principles for Delaware Valley Chinese Crested Club members to use as a guide when confronted with decisions and courses of action that will impact on the lifetime well-being of dogs under their care, and the preservation and improvement of the breed as a whole.

MEMBERS OBLIGATIONS:

Members are individually granted membership in the Delaware Valley Chinese Crested Club because of their commitment to the protection, preservation and promotion of the breed. Each member of the Club has an obligation to protect the interests of the breed by conducting themselves in a manner designed to reflect credit on the member, the Chinese Crested, and on the DVCCC. Violations of the Code of Ethics will be examined by the Board of Directors. Failure to comply may result in suspension or termination of membership.

ETHICAL BREEDING PRACTICES:

Each breeder will agree to have a lifelong obligation to each puppy produced through their breeding efforts by offering to take back any dog of their breeding. To this end, each breeder will keep complete records of all dogs owned and/or bred by them, and of any placements, as are required by the American Kennel Club.

- When planning their breeding program each breeder will consider using only mature, healthy dams and sires that possess breed type as set forth in the standard, and are temperamentally and physically sound with no known or suspected serious inheritable defects or diseases.
- No member will provide stud service to unregistered bitches, or breed bitches to unregistered dogs. All breeding will be done with the improvement of the breed as its purpose.
- No breeder will intentionally breed a bitch before she is 15 months old.
- Each member will raise puppies in a healthy environment with socialization and training appropriate to the puppies' developmental stages, will immunize and provide all other appropriate veterinary care.
- No member will offer stud service to holders of USDA licenses for dog breeding, brokers, agents who resell dogs, pet shops, or bitches who have not been properly screened for health disorders.

ETHICAL PLACEMENT PRACTICES:

Each prospective buyer will be carefully screened with the intent of placing the puppy in a permanent, loving home.

- No placements will be made to holders of USDA licenses for dog breeding, brokers, pet shops, or agents who resell dogs nor shall the breeder place an intact dog in a pet home without a spay/neuter agreement.
- The breeder will be prepared to keep every puppy for as long as it takes to find a suitable home.
- Each breeder will supply each purchaser with:

1. Complete medical records which show the dog's health status
 2. Diet information
 3. Care and maintenance information
 4. A completed contract for the sale of the dog or puppy. That contract shall include a restriction on the new owner reselling or otherwise transferring the dog or puppy without the breeder's written consent, and an agreement by the breeder to take back the dog at any time during its life. The contract should also include whether the dog is approved for breeding.
- The breeder/seller will be available to assist in any way to promote the successful transfer and ongoing adjustment of the puppy (or older dog) in the new home.
 - Each breeder will ensure that the intact Chinese Crested sold as pets are not used in breeding by registering them using the AKC limited registration. If an intact pet is sold, the breeder will use a written agreement requiring the new owner to spay or neuter their pet at an appropriate age, within a reasonable time limit. Breeders may withhold AKC registration papers until proof of spay/neuter is supplied by the owner.
 - Puppies will not be sold at less than 8 weeks of age.
 - Each member shall refrain from making untruthful or misleading statements in advertising.
 - No member will provide Chinese Crested for prize or raffle purposes.

ETHICAL OWNERSHIP PRACTICES:

Each member will provide proper care for their own dog(s) including, but not limited to, proper living conditions, proper grooming, nutrition, veterinary health care, socialization, training and exercise.

- Each member will at all times conduct themselves in such a manner as to reflect positively on the sport, the Club, the breed, and the reputation of pure-bred dogs.
- Each member may report to the Board, the conduct of any person which may be harmful to the breed, the Sport, or the Club. Such reports will not be taken lightly and must be substantiated with the proof to support any allegation of misconduct.
- Each member who is an experienced owner, breeder and/or exhibitor should willingly mentor novice owners, exhibitors and/or breeders, offering advice, constructive criticism or assistance with problems when requested to do so.

EXCEPTIONS:

Legitimate exceptions to these Ethical Guidelines may arise. In such cases, any member may request that the Officers and Board of Directors of the Delaware Valley Chinese Crested Club review the problem.