

ALASKAN MALAMUTE CLUB OF AMERICA—CODE OF ETHICS

approved 9 Oct 2013

PREAMBLE

The Alaskan Malamute Club of America asserts that its membership has the obligation to preserve the Alaskan Malamute breed without exploiting it. It further asserts that its membership has an obligation to the club to uphold the high ideals set forth for all dog club organizations by the American Kennel Club.

It is urged that dogs and bitches only be bred when it is conscientiously felt that such breeding will result in improvement of the breed.

Club members should strive to breed healthy dogs with good temperaments and place them in suitable homes.

Club members should make themselves aware of health problems that affect the breed so that they may make educated decisions when planning a breeding.

Breeding is a responsibility that does not end when puppies go to their new homes.

Good sportsmanship is a requirement of the AKC and is expected of AMCA members.

Club members should set a good example, and offer assistance and mentoring to prospective and new Malamute owners with regards to care, health issues, training and suitable activities, as well as being a good "dog neighbor".

CODE OF ETHICS

1. Members shall abide by the rules of the American Kennel Club and uphold the Constitution and Bylaws of the Alaskan Malamute Club of America. At large members shall abide by the rules of their country's kennel club.
2. No member shall knowingly be involved in the sale/placement of puppies/dogs through retail or wholesale outlets, mail order businesses, dog dealers/agents/brokers, or act as a finder for such operations. No member shall knowingly be involved in the sale/placement of puppies to any entity whose reason for purchase is resale. Puppies/dogs shall not be placed through auctions or raffles.
3. No member shall knowingly be involved in the breeding or selling of wolf hybrids.
4. No member shall sell/place any puppy/dog without furnishing registration papers unless both parties have signed an agreement stating when/if and under what circumstances papers will be furnished. If registration papers are not provided at the time of sale, information to identify the puppy/dog, (such as birth date, litter or individual registration number, pedigree, microchip number or tattoo) shall be furnished at that time. If the dog is not registerable the purchaser/adopter shall be so informed.
5. It is recommended that any puppy sold as a pet/companion be registered using the AKC's limited registration application. Dogs/puppies bred by members outside the U.S. should use a comparable foreign limited and/or non-breeding registration where available.
6. Dogs used for breeding shall be cleared of hip dysplasia by OFA, Pen-Hip, comparable foreign registry, or a qualified veterinary radiologist. Dogs should be cleared of inherited eye diseases by CERF, a comparable foreign registry or a qualified veterinary ophthalmologist.
7. It is strongly recommended that members take full advantage of all practical DNA tests when selecting dogs for breeding. No member shall knowingly breed two dogs to each other who are carriers for the same genetic disease. Dogs may be used if their ancestors have been cleared by DNA testing.
8. When available, health screening and DNA testing should be used as a resource to manage, decrease, or eliminate genetic diseases in the breed. In planning a breeding health issues such as, but not limited to, epilepsy, hypothyroidism, allergies, heart disease, coat funk, and orthopedic disorders should be considered. Members are encouraged to store DNA with the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) or comparable facility as well as participate in health research of diseases in the Alaskan Malamute.
9. Members shall disclose known genetic status of the puppy/dog being sold and that of its parents. Screening or test results shall be disclosed in a written sales contract signed by the seller and buyer. If any of the above (hips, eyes, CHD, PN) have not been done it shall be so stated. A breeder's policy regarding replacements or refunds due to health issues shall be clearly stated in their sales contract.
10. Breeders should understand and acknowledge that due to unforeseen circumstances they may need to facilitate in rehoming or rescuing dogs they have produced or sold. Purchasers should be made aware of this in their contract
11. Members shall provide secure facilities for their dogs that provide adequate space and protection from adverse or extreme weather. Water and food shall be provided on a daily basis. Facilities shall be clean and dogs shall have regular access to exercise. Members shall provide appropriate health care for dogs in their custody.
12. Health, registration, identification, breeding and sales records shall be kept current. It is recommended that dogs be permanently identified by tattoo or microchip and that breeders permanently identify puppies before they go to their new homes.
13. Members' dogs should be well socialized and have basic obedience training.
14. Advertising and promotion of dogs shall be factual. Members will exercise care in evaluating prospective buyers and do their best to place dogs in suitable homes.