



# 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 maintain a high standard of health and care of their dogs. They will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if/when required.
- 2 Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act (2006).
- 3 Will ensure that their dogs' microchip details are kept up to date, that their dogs wear properly tagged collars (except when working), and are kept leashed or under effective control when in public places.
- 4 Will not allow their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
- 5 Will clean up after their dogs.
- 6 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.
- 7 Will not breed from their animals unless they understand their responsibilities and are prepared for unsold puppies.
- 8 Will give every consideration to a dog's working ability when planning a mating. The Chesapeake is primarily a working gundog.
- 9 Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed. Reliable and steady temperament is essential in this breed and all breeders should strive for this.
- 10 Will retain a life-long interest in the welfare of dogs they have bred and take reasonable care to ensure the suitability of prospective owners. The characteristics of the Chesapeake Bay Retriever (good and bad) should be fully explained to prospective owners.
- 11 Will only breed from animals that are as free as possible from known hereditary defects and whose parents are also as free as is possible. All breeding stock should have current KC/BVA clear eye certificates, have had their hips and elbows examined under the KC/BVA hip and elbow schemes, and have been genetically screened for PRA and DM or be clear by parentage in one generation. At all times the improvement of the breed should be the primary consideration.
- 12 Will not mate bitches before 18 months of age or the third season (whichever comes first) and will not breed from a bitch more than once a year. A bitch should not be bred from beyond 7 years old. A bitch is not expected to have more than four litters in her lifetime.
- 13 Will satisfy themselves as to the suitability of any bitch coming to their stud dog, especially with reference to ethic no. 12. Stud dogs are not to be bred to crossbreed bitches or bitches of another breed.
- 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 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.
- 16 Will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
- 17 Will ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents and microchip details 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.
- 18 Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
- 19 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).

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.