

English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc.
"Uniting fanciers and promoting the breed"



CODE OF ETHICS

Preamble

This Code of Ethics is established to set a standard of acceptable behavioral limits for the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc. members. As members of the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc. we recognize our responsibility to preserve and protect our breed, and we further recognize that the quality and reputation of all English Toy Spaniels rests solely in the hands of our breeders, owners and exhibitors. We, as members of the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc. adhere to and are guided by the following Code of Ethics.

I. Canon of Ethics

- A. Members of the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc. have an obligation to protect the interest of their breed by conducting themselves in a manner designed to reflect credit on themselves, the English Toy Spaniel and on the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc., and to be aware that the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc. exists to protect and improve the breed and that these aims must be uppermost in all activities within the breed.
- B. Members are expected to observe the highest standard of sportsmanship, conduct themselves in such a manner as to reflect positively on the sport of showing dogs and exhibit goodwill at all breed shows, obedience trials and performance events.
- C. Members shall maintain the best standards of health for their animals, care of their quarters and assure that the English Toy Spaniel has good medical care throughout his lifetime.
- D. Members shall not engage in false or misleading advertising or misrepresentation of the English Toy Spaniel nor shall they malign their competition or other members by making false and misleading statements regarding their competitors' dogs, breeding practices or person.
- E. Members shall not refer to the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc. membership in any advertising.

II. Responsibility As A Breeder

Breeders Shall:

- A. Be familiar with the breed standard and breed only those specimens which conform to it, never knowingly falsifying a pedigree or breeding information.
- B. Breed only English Toy Spaniels registered with full registration with the American Kennel Club (or other recognized registration bodies when applicable). Be familiar with the American Kennel Club rules concerning record keeping, registration, sales and transfers of dogs and to abide by those rules.
- C. Hold as the primary consideration in all breeding the improvement and preservation of the breed. Members who contemplate breeding a litter or who allow the use of their stud dog to the same end, shall direct their efforts toward producing dogs of exceptional quality, temperament and condition. Therefore, when planning breeding, members shall conscientiously strive to use the best dogs and bitches, free from serious physical and mental defects, including congenital and hereditary defects characteristic of the English Toy Spaniel. Members are not to use their stud dogs on pet quality bitches, totally lacking in type.
- D. Produce puppies only when time and facilities allow to provide adequate attention to physical and emotional development; retain and house only the number of dogs for which they have adequate facilities and to retain the puppies for as long as is necessary to assure their placement in suitable homes.
- E. Assure that all puppies, at 8-12 weeks of age, are examined by a veterinarian to include checking fontanel, hearts, eyes, and grading stifles.

- F. Keep puppies until they are at least 8 to 10 weeks of age before releasing to a new home with current inoculations.
- G. Provide that puppies sold solely as pets be sold with limited registration and/or have AKC registration withheld until proof of neutering is furnished by the buyer.
- H. Put any contract or guarantee in writing.
- I. Limit number of English Toy Spaniel litters bred or co-bred to average no more than four litters per year (this due to the small number of pet homes available).
- J. Refrain from further use of any bitch or stud dog that has become affected with or has produced any serious inherited defects detrimental to the animal's well-being; such as blindness, deafness, lameness, or impairment of the vital functions, and who consistently produces like results with different mating partners.
- K. Breeders shall not breed bitches more than 2 out of every 3 seasons. A bitch shall not be bred before 12 months of age, and then only if she is sufficiently mature and is in excellent health. A bitch should not be allowed to carry to term and rear more than 5 litters in a lifetime. After a bitch is 7 years of age, the breeder should seek the opinion of a Veterinarian regarding her health for breeding.
- L. Never supply a dog or stud service to pet shops, either outright or on consignment; refrain from supplying puppies for auctions, raffles or other such entertainment; refrain from selling puppies to persons whose intention to resell is known or suspect; refrain from breeding primarily for the pet market; refrain from selling puppies in litter lots.
- M. Sell only quality dogs to foreign countries.
- N. Be responsible for the welfare of each dog bred, sold or placed for the life of the dog; be available for consultation after placement or sale; perform timely follow-ups ensuring that both dog and owner have adjusted well; have a clear understanding (written contract) that if the buyer is no longer able to keep the dog, the buyer shall contact the breeder/seller so he/she can take the dog back or find it a suitable home.

III. Responsibility As An Exhibitor And/Or Handler

Exhibitors/Handlers shall:

- A. Act professionally at all times in caring for and exhibiting any dog in their charge.
- B. Not engage in any questionable contact with judges prior to judging.
- C. Be familiar with and abide by the American Kennel Club Rules and Regulations for Dog Shows, Obedience Trials, and The Guidelines for Dog Show Judges.
- D. Exhibit/Handle only those dogs that conform as closely as possible to the breed standard.

IV. General Conduct Of Members

Members Shall:

- A. Not be convicted of any crime or offense under state or federal law involving animals and/or directly effecting that member's eligibility or standing to continue as a member in the Club.
- B. Willingly educate any interested person about the breed, being constructive as well as instructive.
- C. Behave in a manner that will encourage the advancement of the English Toy Spaniel and the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc.
- D. Provide their dogs with adequate exercise and training, proper diet, and necessary inoculations, allowing the English Toy Spaniel to be a healthy, happy, and pleasurable companion.
- E. In all matters of ethics not covered by this Code, act in the best interest of the breed at all times, avoiding any appearance of wrongdoing and not merely wrongdoing itself.

V. Enforcement

- A. The English Toy Spaniel Club of America shall enforce Article VI of its by-laws entitled "Discipline" should violations of its Code of Ethics be brought before its Board or Committee, a copy of which is herewith attached and incorporated herein as if specifically set forth.
- B. Article VI entitled "Discipline" addresses the areas of suspension, charges, board hearings and expulsion. Each member is expected to be familiar with this very important by-law.

English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc
Constitution & By-Laws
Article VI

Article VI (Discipline)

Section 1. American Kennel Club Suspension:

Any Member who is suspended from the privileges of the American Kennel Club automatically shall be suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period.

Section 2. Charges:

Any member may proffer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$50.00 which shall be forfeited if such charge is not sustained by the Board or Committee following a hearing. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the Board or present them at a Board Meeting, and the Board shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the club or of the breed it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date of a hearing by the Board or Committee of not less than three members of the Board, not less than 3 weeks nor more than 6 weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by certified mail together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if he or she wishes.

Section 3. Board Hearing:

The Board or Committee shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the hearing, but both complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in that regard. Should the charges be sustained after the hearing all the evidence and testimony by complainant and defendant, the Board or Committee may by a majority vote of those present may reprimand the defendant, suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six months from the date of the hearing, or until the next Annual Meeting if that will occur after six months. And, if it deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before his fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the recommendation of the Board or Committee. Immediately after the Board or Committee has reached a decision, it's findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the decision and penalty, if any.

Section 4. Expulsion:

Expulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only at the Annual Meeting of the Club following a hearing and upon the recommendation of the Board or Committee as provided in Section 3 of this Article. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his own behalf though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges

and the findings and recommendations and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his or her own behalf. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A 2/3 vote of those present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If the expulsion is not so voted the suspension shall stand.

Compliance Statement & Certification To:

The English Toy Spaniel Club Of America, Inc

Upon acceptance as a member of the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc. I will adhere to the best of my ability to the rules and guidelines set forth in the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc. Code of Ethics. By executing this document, I certify that I have received, read and understand the Code of Ethics and Article VI entitled Discipline of the By-Laws of the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, Inc.

Signature of Applicant/Member

Date

Complete name of Applicant/Member (printed)