

Member's Code of Conduct

All members of the Kuvasz Club of America shall abide by this Code of Conduct.

Members shall bear in mind that the Code of Conduct is more than a set of rules; it is a commitment to a high standard of practice in owning and breeding Kuvasz. Adherence to the spirit of the Code is as important as adherence to the letter of the code.

In order to promote and foster the highest standards among Kuvasz owners and breeders, and to aim for the continuous improvement of the breed within the framework of the American Kennel Club-approved breed standard, I pledge to follow the code in all areas set forth below:

Education: I will educate myself about the Kuvasz and its unique history, temperament, needs and health issues. I will endeavor to share my knowledge with those genuinely interested in seeking to better understand this breed. I will accept and support the current AKC recognized Kuvasz breed standard and will not mislead the public in any way that the current standard is not consistent with or undermines the breed's Hungarian origins.

Good Sportsmanship: I will abide by the AKC Code of Sportsmanship* I will conduct myself at all times in a manner that is a credit to the Kuvasz Club of America. As such, I will not publicly engage in false, misleading or maligning statements (written or verbal) regarding judges, officials, KCA officers, exhibitors, fellow members, another dog, or misrepresentation of my own dogs.

Treatment: All Kuvasz in my care will be provided a safe and healthy environment, proper nutrition and appropriate veterinary care at all times. I recognize my responsibility to protect the name and reputation of the Kuvasz breed and will not allow my dogs to become a nuisance.

Breeding: As a breeder, I recognize I am responsible for the protection, well being and improvement of the breed and agree to the following:

I will breed to the American Kennel Club recognized Kuvasz Breed Standard. I will consider only the betterment of the breed when breeding a bitch or allowing a breeding with my stud dog. I will keep well informed regarding hereditary defects in the Kuvasz breed and will diligently strive to eliminate these defects from the breed.

I will breed dogs only following completion of the required KCA CHIC testing protocol in effect at the time of the breeding. I will have the required KCA CHIC preliminary testing done on dogs under 24 months of age used in breeding and redo the testing when the dog is eligible for a CHIC number. When using a foreign dog, I will make every effort to see that the CHIC protocol is adhered to, if possible. Exceptions may be made if frozen semen is used from a deceased

stud dog, elderly dog, or when using frozen semen from a dog in another country. I understand that CHIC only indicates that testing has been performed, not that the tests have indicated that the dog is free from that disorder, therefore I will record all tests openly with the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA).

While I understand that breeding accidents may occasionally occur, I will make every effort to protect my dogs from accidental breedings. If dogs involved in an accidental breeding are under the age of 24 months I will make every effort to have CHIC testing requirements met after the dog is 24 months of age.

I will be available to buyers for whatever advice, reasonable aid or assistance they may need for the life of the dog. I will make every effort to educate prospective Kuvasz owners of the advantages, disadvantages and responsibilities of owning a Kuvasz.

I will assume responsibility for any dog of my breeding if the owner must relinquish their dog, or for any dog of my breeding which comes into the possession of a rescue network or shelter. I understand that this responsibility also applies to me if I am the co-breeder of a dog.

New breeders are encouraged to engage with experienced mentors. Conversely, experienced breeders are encouraged to share their knowledge with other breeders, new breeders in particular.

As a stud dog owner I understand my obligation to share in the responsibility for the offspring sired by him. Therefore, if the owner of the bitch (breeder of the litter) is unable or unwilling to take responsibility for the puppies produced from breeding with my stud dog, I will assist the breeder or assume the responsibility in care and placement of the offspring.

Documented misconduct or violation of this Code of Conduct should be presented to the KCA Board or the AKC when appropriate. Education and communication are the preferred methods of obtaining compliance to the Members Code of Conduct; however, flagrant, serious and/or repeated disregard of the code may result in formal charges brought before the KCA Board of Directors by a KCA member(s).