

## **Breeder's Code of Conduct**

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

1. Each dog owned or under my care will receive proper nutrition, water, shelter, and veterinarian care.
2. As a breeder I will:
  - Breed to the American Kennel Club (AKC) recognized standard for the Kuvasz breed.
  - I will consider only the improvement of the breed when breeding a bitch or allowing a breeding with my stud dog, being conscientious of controlling and eliminating inherited problems.
  - Use only physically sound stock for breeding, and will refuse to breed any dog or bitch that I consider unworthy of reproduction. Furthermore, I will encourage neutering practices for all stock not intended for breeding or showing purposes, and will utilize the AKC Limited Registration for such stock.
  - Keep accurate records and monitor the progress of each dog bred by me to better analyze and improve my breeding program.
  - Consider the breeding of bitches before 24 months of age as not desirable.
  - Maintain medical records indicating all treatments and vaccinations for dogs under my care.
3. I will openly acknowledge all hereditary issues known to me in breeding animals' lines to breeders and to the public. To protect the future of the breed I will breed dogs only following completion of the required Kuvasz CHIC testing protocol in effect at the time of the breeding.
  - All test results will be recorded openly with the appropriate registry such as Orthopedic
  - Foundation for Animals (OFA), Canine Eye Registration Foundation (CERF), and be available with the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) so a CHIC number will be assigned.
  - Male dogs under 24 months of age will have their preliminary test results published and will be considered to have met the testing requirements when published. This does not remove the responsibility of obtaining additional test results to get a CHIC number when the dog is eligible.
  - Foreign dogs will be considered as having completed the requirements for breeding provided the recommended test results are recorded and made public in the CHIC/OFA database.
  - Currently CHIC required testing protocols for Kuvasz include hips, elbows and thyroid, and are subject to change with notice as health issues are identified or testing methods evolve. Other recommended tests include CERF and patellae.
  - Dogs born prior to January 1, 2005, will be exempt from the CHIC number requirement, but test results will be made available to any puppy buyers or breeders considering the use of the animal or its offspring.

- Every effort will be made to include testing results in the CHIC/OFA database for pet/companion dogs by encouraging buyers to test their dogs and obtain a CHIC number for their dog when they reach two years of age.

4. I will make every effort to place each dog/puppy in a healthy, stable environment, and furthermore, will make a concerted effort to keep any of my stock out of the hands of unscrupulous breeders, retail markets and puppy mills. I recognize the following practices as desirable and subscribe to them as normal procedure.

- Each dog/puppy will be accompanied with a written sales agreement and any pertinent
- information necessary to register said dog/puppy.
- Copies of health and immunization records will be provided to the new owner at time of sale or transfer, as well as a copy of a three-generation pedigree.
- Guarantee the health of stock transferred subject to a veterinary examination within 72 hours of delivery.
- All stock should be guaranteed against serious physical genetic faults rendering the stock unfit for the purpose of its intended use.
- Potential genetic faults known to me shall be disclosed to the prospective purchaser.

5. I will take back any dog of my breeding that becomes displaced at any time during its life. If I am unable to do so, I will make a concerted effort to relocate that dog, and financially assist any rescue effort to an amount of money not to exceed \$250.00.

6. I recognize that I am indeed an ambassador for the breed and will conduct myself as such. Accordingly, I will:

- Not discourage newcomers to the breed.
- Not disclaim another breeder or their dog.
- Offer only productive and constructive criticism when asked for my opinion.
- Not make any false statements (verbally or written) about fellow KCA members.
- Exhibit and encourage the exhibition of quality and promising stock at dog shows and matches wherever possible to promote and further the breed and its public appreciation and acceptance.