

SOUTHERN WEST HIGHLAND WHITE TERRIER CLUB GENERAL CODE OF ETHICS

All members of the Southern West Highland White Terrier Club undertake to abide by its general Code of Ethics.

Club Members:

1. Will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
 2. Will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, may report such operation to the Kennel Club.
 3. Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
 4. Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
 5. Will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
 6. Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.
 7. Will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
 8. Will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
 9. Will clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
 10. 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.
 11. Will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
 12. Will ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents 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.
 13. 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).
 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.
- 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.

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Member's Code of Ethics

15. The Southern West Highland White Terrier Club recognises its responsibility to preserve and protect the West Highland White Terrier. Therefore certain standards of ethics are laid out for the guidance of Members, who should have read and familiarised themselves with the British Kennel Club Standard for the Breed.

Membership of the Southern West Highland White Terrier Club assumes acceptance of this Code. Anyone who knowingly and/or persistently acts in breach of the Code to the detriment of the Breed shall be refused membership, in accordance with Rule 10 of the Club.

It is expected that members will keep their dogs in an environment and under conditions that as far as possible ensure the well-being of the dog. Wilful neglect or cruelty to any dog may result in exclusion or expulsion from membership, subject to the provisions of Rule 10 of the Club.

16. Members should breed only from mature dogs and bitches believed to be clear from known physical and mental defects of a harmful nature, remembering that the prime concern should be to produce healthy, sound and typical stock, who will be a credit to the breed. Dogs at stud should not be used for stud purposes before the age of 10 months.

Members are to agree without reservation that any Veterinary Surgeon operating on any of their dogs to correct a hereditary defect, may report such an operation to the Kennel Club.

Members should sell only those dogs which, to the best of their knowledge, are in good health at the time of sale, and endeavour to act responsibly when defects do arise.

As a general rule, no bitch should be required to have more than six litters, due regard being given to the number of puppies whelped and never without due regard for the well-being of the bitch. No bitch should be mated before her second season and never before the age of 14 months or after the age of 8 years without Veterinary advice. No bitch should be mated continuously.

No member should breed a litter unless he/she has got the time and facilities to devote proper care and attention to the rearing of puppies, and to the well being of the dam, no member should provide stud services unless he/she is satisfied that the owner of the bitch has such time and facilities. In providing stud services to bitches, members are to ensure that the bitch is sound in wind and limb.

Unregisterable stock should not be used for breeding. Stud service should be refused to unregisterable bitches.

Where the breeder wishes to endorse registration as, for instance, "progeny not eligible for registration", or, "not for export", then the purchaser must be clearly made aware of these endorsements and their consequences before sale is agreed.

17. When selling stock, members should be honest in their dealings with Clients both at home and abroad, putting the interests of the Breed before profit. New owners should be provided with a minimum three generation pedigree, diet sheet, completed transfer of ownership form, details of worming and inoculation advice. It is essential that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog to another person. Puppies and/or adult dogs may not be exported unless Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries & Food (MAFF) guidelines have been followed regarding age and health regulations for the country of import, and, if age is not specified, never before the age of 12 weeks.

No dogs should be sold to importers in countries, particularly the Far East, where they are not protected by anti-cruelty Laws or where organisations do not exist to combat neglect of animal welfare. If in doubt, the MAFF, RSPCA or Kennel Club should be consulted. Breeders are also made aware that it is possible to register a puppy "Not eligible for issue of an Export Pedigree", to help deny registration in any country of importation. Before selling dogs abroad, members should make every effort to check the credentials of the prospective purchaser through, for instance, membership of recognised West Highland White Terrier Clubs in the appropriate country, or through recommendations. It is recommended that importers be known personally to the breeder, and to ensure that their concern for the welfare of the dog is beyond doubt.

When selling to older prospective owners, the breeder should be aware that commitment to the dog may be of the order of 15 years, and provision should be made for the dog in the event of the incapacity or death of the owner. Dogs should not be sold to homes where they will be regularly left on their own for the majority of the day. Interest in Club membership should be stimulated in non-members.

18. No puppies or adult dogs should be given, loaned or sold to commercial, wholesale or retail dealers, (including establishments commonly known as "Puppy Farms") nor to laboratories, as raffle prizes, competition prizes nor donated to a contest of any kind. In addition, stud services should not be made available to such outlets. The outlets specifically mentioned here are to be similarly avoided whether they deal in several Breeds or just the West Highland White Terrier, and such avoidance shall apply equally to purchasing from such outlets. Care should be exercised as to the suitability of future homes, and, where possible, after-sales follow up with interest and advice is recommended.

19. No breeder should breed a litter unless he/she is reasonably sure of securing suitable homes for the puppies. No puppies should leave the breeder before 8 weeks of age.

Members should be aware that they have a commitment to the wellbeing of all the dogs they breed for the whole of the dog's life. Purchasers should be encouraged to contact the breeder in the event of any problems with the dog. Members should make every effort to be of assistance in these circumstances. If a dog comes into the care of a Breed Rescue Scheme, then the Breeder should recognise his/her responsibility to assist the Breed Rescue organisers in ensuring that the dog is appropriately cared for and re-homed.

Members are advised to keep accurate records of sales, litter, wins etc., for their own benefit and protection.

20. In matters appertaining to "loan of a bitch" or "stud" agreements, members are advised to seek Kennel Club advice and act accordingly.

21. Members must not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the Breed, nor falsely advertise dogs, nor mislead any person regarding the quality of the dog. All advertising and publicity/promotional material should be strictly factual. Wilful misrepresentation in this context is both illegal and contrary to the interests of the Club.

22. Members of the Southern West Highland White Terrier Club are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and sportsmanlike manner to judges and fellow members, both inside and outside of the ring. Abusive language and conduct is especially deemed to be contrary to harmony and good fellowship among members. Serious cases of misconduct will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Rule 10 of the Club.

23. The Code of Ethics applies to everyone who has agreed to be subject to the jurisdiction of the Kennel Club. They, whether owner, keeper or in temporary charge of a dog for any purpose, accept their responsibility in that they will:-

- i) properly house, feed, water and exercise all dog(s) in their care and arrange veterinary attention if and when required;
- ii) not allow any of their dog(s) to roam at large, or cause a nuisance to neighbours, or those carrying out their official duties;
- iii) when dog(s) are away from home, ensure that dogs shall wear properly tagged collars, and shall be kept fully leashed or under effective control;
- iv) acknowledge responsibility to clean up after your dog(s) in public places or anywhere their dog (s) are being exhibited.

24. Special Code from the Kennel Club. Members will inform those accepting their stock that there is evidence of certain Breed associated conditions for which no current control schemes are available. Details of these conditions, as it affects member's stock, will be made available to prospective purchasers.