

BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF CANADA CODE OF ETHICS (May 1982)

In keeping with my dedication to the betterment of the Bernese Mountain Dog breed, I herewith pledge to maintain the following practices:

AS AN INDIVIDUAL with a special interest in the breed, I resolve to maintain personal contact with all animal under my care and ensure that they are kept in good condition, to share my knowledge with other members, and to support the Club in its endeavours.

AS A MEMBER I resolve to abide by the Constitution, By-Laws and standards as set down by the Club and always to conduct myself in a manner that will be beneficial to the Club, the breed, and its image. I will not defame other Club members.

AS A BREEDER I resolve to devote my efforts to the improvement of the breed, by maintaining high standards of temperament, physical soundness and conformity to the Canadian breed standard in my breeding stock, and by insisting that the stud dogs I use are of the same high standard. To this end, I shall:

1. Maintain the best possible standards of health and care in my kennels.
2. Refuse to use for breeding purposes and refuse stud service to any bitch I consider in poor health, of unsound temperament, or otherwise of poor quality.
3. X-ray for hip dysplasia and exclude from my breeding programs those dogs with unsound hips. Any evidence of hip dysplasia is, at best, a serious fault.
4. Refrain from breeding a bitch until she is at least 18 months old, preferably two years, and from breeding her on two or more consecutive heats (more than once a year). Seek veterinary approval for all exceptional cases.
5. Refuse to deal knowingly with unethical breeders and any dog wholesalers or retailers, nor to deal with any buyer where I have reason to believe that the puppy or dog will not be properly cared for.

Keep and pass on to buyers of puppies or adult dogs, accurate health, breeding, registration and pedigree records.

Deliver only puppies or adult dogs of sound health and temperament and to urge all buyers to have a puppy or adult dog sold by me examined by a competent veterinarian within forty-eight hours.

8. Discuss with all prospective buyers their expectations in a puppy or dog using the general categories of show and/or breeding quality and pet quality. Rate the animal for the buyer to the best of my knowledge and skill at the time of sale, giving full and frank disclosure of any faults which the animal may have or which are known to be in its immediate family background. Provide a written guarantee to all animals with acceptable provision for refund or replacement.
9. Provide a CKC non-breeding contract to be signed by the buyer and myself, preferably for all puppies and always for pet quality animals.
10. Keep in touch with the progress of dogs of my breeding in order to better analyze my program.

In understanding that serious infractions of the above code, where they are deemed detrimental to the breed or individual dog, or another club member, may result in expulsion from the club.

Signed _____ ** _____

** (Second signature required for double membership)