

## **CODE OF BEHAVIOUR AND ETHICS**

### **PART 1 – BEHAVIOUR**

1. A member of the Tasmanian Canine Association (TCA Inc.) at all times -
  - a. shall conduct themselves politely and with integrity at any TCA Inc. approved event; and
  - b. shall conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at such events and in any related activities or communications; and
  - c. shall respect the reputations of other members, all judges and officials, at TCA Inc. approved events and in dealings in wider forums, including chat lists, on the internet and in other communications; and
  - d. shall not engage in any behaviour that is contrary to the standards accepted by the community
  - e. shall display good sportsmanship and conduct at all times so as to reflect credit upon themselves, the Australian National Kennel Club (ANKC Ltd) and the TCA Inc.

### **PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH CODE OF ETHICS**

**2(1).** Each person, upon signing an application for membership or renewal of membership of the TCA Inc., and being duly elected to general membership of the TCA Inc., in addition to agreeing to be bound by the Constitution, and Regulations of the TCA Inc., shall also agree to be bound by the TCA Inc.'s Code of Behaviour and Ethics.

**2(2).** Any failure to comply with this Code of Behaviour and Ethics will lead to disciplinary action which may result in loss or suspension of membership or other penalty.

### **PART 3- CODE OF ETHICS BREEDING AND UNDERTAKING**

**3.** A member shall not knowingly or recklessly misrepresent the ANKC Ltd or the TCA Inc., trading as Dogs Tasmania.

**4.** A member shall constantly strive to improve their knowledge of their chosen breed or breeds, and their knowledge of the requirements for the care, welfare and betterment of dogs.

**5(1).** A member shall ensure that all dogs under their control are properly controlled, housed, fed, watered, exercised at all times and receive veterinary care as required in accordance with any Government Regulations.

**5(2).** All dogs shall be able to stand up to full height and be able to turn around with ease in any crate in which it is confined.

5(3) A Member shall ensure that dogs under their control are not left in any situation that may cause injury or death to the dog.

**6.** A member who leaves his or her dog in the care of another person remains ultimately responsible for that dog.

**7.** A member shall take all appropriate lawful measures to assist a dog in distress.

**8.** A member shall positively enhance the reputation of dog breeders and owners by ensuring that dogs owned by the member are not a danger or nuisance to the community.

**9.** A member shall not participate in, nor support, any activity that involves cruelty or damage to animals, other than a legal hunting activity.

**10.** A member shall not dispose of any dog owned or bred by the member to a pound or animal refuge.

**11.** A member shall breed primarily for the purpose of improving the quality, health, welfare, soundness or working ability of the breed in accordance with the breed standard, and not specifically for the pet or commercial market.

**12.** A member shall not mate a bitch before it is 12 months of age unless the bitch is of a breed that has Litter Registration Limitations regarding age as set out in Part 6 of the ANKC Regulations.

**13.** Except in extenuating circumstances, a member shall not cause or allow a bitch to whelp more than twice in 18 months without the prior approval of the TCA Inc.

**14.** Except in extenuating circumstances, a member shall not cause or allow a bitch to whelp more than 6 times without –

- (a) prior veterinary certification of fitness for further breeding; and
- (b) prior approval of TCA Inc.

**15. (1)** A member shall not, without the prior approval of TCA Inc., permit any of that member's pure bred dogs to be mated to –

- (a) a dog of a different breed; or
- (b) a cross bred dog; or
- (c) an unregistered dog of the same breed; or
- (d) a dog that is not on the Main Register.

**15 (2)** A member shall only be allowed to breed ANKC Ltd recognized pedigree dogs unless the breed concerned is on the ANKC development register and with the prior approval of TCA Inc. Special dispensation may be given for members who breed dogs on the Sporting Register upon application to the TCA Inc Council.'

**16.** A member shall take all reasonable action to reduce the incidence of hereditary diseases in accordance with the ANKC Ltd Code of Practice for Hereditary Diseases.

**17.** A member shall not sell or otherwise transfer from his or her care any puppy under eight [8] weeks of age.

**18.** A member shall not export a puppy under eleven [11] weeks of age, or any greater age as may be specified under the livestock import requirements of the country to which the puppy is being exported.

**19(1)** A member shall not knowingly sell a dog to any person residing in an overseas country known to be involved in the use of dogs for the meat trade without first satisfying the TCA Inc. that the purchaser is a member of an ANKC Ltd recognised canine controlling body in the overseas country.

**19(2)** The member and purchaser shall further acknowledge in writing to the TCA Inc. that the intention of the sale is for the improvement of the quality of that breed in the overseas country, and not for any other purpose.

**20.** A member shall ensure that any person acquiring a dog from that member understands the requirements for the care, welfare and responsible ownership of the dog, and that the person acquiring the dog has the time and facilities (e.g. adequate fences, sufficient room and proper shelter) to fulfil their responsibilities.

**21.** A breeder shall maintain reasonable contact with the purchasers of dogs from that breeder and to offer continued advice and reasonable assistance.

**22(1).** A member shall register all puppies bred (excluding those breeds listed in ANKC Ltd Regulation Part 6, Section 6.2 whose specific colours precludes them from being registered on any Register) by that member that are living at the date of registration.

**22(2)** Such registration shall include all puppies from the litter on the one litter registration application form and shall be applied for within eighteen [18] months of the date of whelping.

**23.** A member shall provide to all recipients of dogs sold or otherwise disposed of by that member, written details of -

- (a) the breed characteristics; and
- (b) vaccination record or requirements; and
- (c) responsible dog ownership information; and
- (d) all documentation required by DogsTasmania.
- (e)

**24.** A member shall not incorrectly describe nor knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of a breed.

**25(1).** A member shall ensure that all dogs sold or disposed of by that member are in the best possible state of health.

**25(2)** Where a dog with a health issue or disability is disposed of the member shall obtain from the recipient written and signed acknowledgement of the condition of the dog.

**25 (3)** A member shall take all reasonable action to reach agreement with a puppy purchaser if the puppy has health or behavioural problems that were not diagnosed prior to the sale of the puppy.

**26.** A member shall not -

(a) sell or dispose of a dog to a commercial pet wholesaler or retail pet shop unless they are accredited by the Pet Industry Association of Australia Limited (PIAA); or

(b) allow a dog owned by that member to be given as a prize or donation or to be auctioned.

**27.** A member shall not conduct nor permit mother / son, father / daughter or brother / sister matings.

NOTE: The TCA Inc will not register the progeny of father/daughter, mother/son, brother/sister matings on the Main Register except where ANKC Ltd Regulations Part 6 Register and Registrations Section 8, Breeding applies.

**28.** A member who provides or makes available a dog for use in a film, advertisement, promotion, or any media or public display shall ensure that -

(a) the dog is portrayed in a manner consistent with its breed characteristics and temperament as described in the Standard for that breed; and

(b) the dog is presented in a manner that is unlikely to create a negative impression of dogs generally or that breed in particular and that if there is any likelihood of a negative impression, this is at the same time corrected through the development of a story line that presents the dog or breed in a balanced manner.

**29.** A member shall not indulge in false or misleading advertising relating to the conformation, characteristics or performance of that member's dog.

**30.** A member shall not misrepresent nor malign the conformation, characteristics or performance of another member's dog.