

MINNESOTA DACHSHUND CLUB

CODE OF ETHICS

Each member of the Minnesota Dachshund Club is expected to adhere to the Club's Code of Ethics and to abide by the rules, regulations and policies of the American Kennel Club in breeding, exhibiting, and competing in performance events with his or her Dachshunds, as provided in the bylaws. Each member who utilizes the Club's Breeder Referral Service must sign and submit a copy of the Code of Ethics as a condition of being listed with the service.

1. Each member who intends to breed a litter or allow use of a male to sire a litter shall endeavor to produce Dachshunds that conform to the breed standard and are free of inherited defects.
2. No dog showing a serious defect in type, structure or temperament shall be used for breeding. Members shall not make their stud dogs available for breeding to bitches that show serious defects in type, structure or temperament, or that are not registered with the American Kennel Club (AKC) or eligible for such registration.
3. If a dog or bitch has produced any offspring with serious inherited defects detrimental to the animal's well-being, such as deafness, blindness, impairment of vital functions, or poor temperament, and produces like results with another mate, the member shall not use that dog or bitch for future breeding.
4. No bitch shall be bred more often than two out of three seasons, and shall be bred only if she is in good health. No bitch shall be bred at her first season unless she is over one year of age when this occurs.
5. All dogs used for breeding shall be individually registered with the AKC or eligible for registration. The member agrees to abide by all AKC rules, regulations and policies pertaining to the breeding, selling or placement, and exhibition of dogs.
6. The member shall not offer dogs for sale through wholesalers, brokers, pet stores, mass production operations (puppy mills), or other commercial distributors, and shall not provide dogs to laboratories, and shall not knowingly allow the use of a stud dog to produce litters that will be offered in such manner.
7. All puppies sold or placed by a member shall be at least eight weeks of age if delivered directly to the buyer by the breeder (or a non-commercial designee), or twelve weeks of age if shipped by air, and shall be immunized as appropriate for their age in accordance with sound veterinary practice.
8. A dog showing serious deviation from the AKC breed standard shall be sold or placed with a written agreement that it will not be used for breeding. Transfer of such dogs shall be by Limited Registration. It is recommended that dogs that are not to be bred from be spayed or neutered at an appropriate age in accordance with sound veterinary practice. All pet quality dogs shall be transferred by Limited Registration, or shall have been spayed/neutered prior to transfer. Whether a dog is pet quality shall be determined by assessing the dogs conformation and temperament according to the AKC breed standard. As provided in the AKC's policies, the transfer of any dog eligible for registration must include the registration application or certificate, and breeders cannot withhold a dogs registration or sell the registration for a higher price.

9. The member shall provide with each dog sold or transferred a health history including the immunization record, AKC registration application or transfer, a 3-generation pedigree, and information pertaining to the appropriate feeding and care of the dog.
10. If as a result of an accidental mating a member has a litter not eligible for AKC registration, the member shall raise and care for the puppies in the same manner as a registered litter. The member shall provide new owners with full identification of the parents, the puppy's health history and immunization record, and shall secure a written agreement that the puppy will be spayed or neutered at an appropriate age.
11. Each member has the obligation to conduct himself or herself in a manner that reflects credit on the club and the Dachshund fancy, and to render every reasonable assistance to new owners of Dachshunds sold or transferred.
12. No member may engage in false or misleading advertising or other misrepresentation of his or her Dachshunds, and members may not malign others by making false statements about another's Dachshunds, their practices, or person.
13. Members shall share in the responsibility for the well-being of every Dachshund they sell or transfer to another for the dog's lifetime. If the owner of a dog produced or placed by a member is unable to keep that dog, the member is expected to offer assistance in finding a suitable new home for the dog, or to accept its return. If the member learns that such dog is being kept in unsuitable conditions, the member is expected to attempt to educate the owner and/or secure the return of the dog. If the dog is subjected to inhumane treatment, the member is expected to seek to recover the dog or to notify an agency that has legal authority to remove the dog, and to then seek to recover the dog and provide for its care.
14. Under no circumstances shall a member surrender a dog to a humane society or shelter. If the dog cannot be placed in a suitable home because it has a destructive temperament, is seriously injured, is terminally ill, or is in such condition that it would be inhumane to prolong life, the member must take responsibility for the humane euthanization of the dog.