

THE SOUTHERN NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB



GENERAL CODE OF ETHICS & RULES and GOOD PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR BREEDING 2022



The Southern Newfoundland Club General Code of Ethics

All members of The Southern Newfoundland 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.

15. Members undertake to abide by the Code of Ethics and use the Southern Newfoundland Club Good Practice Guidelines for Breeding.

16. In the event of a member being accused of a breach of the Code of Ethics, the matter will be referred to the committee for investigation.

17. The Club will only provide details of a litter to prospective purchasers for a breeder who has certified that they have, and will, comply with the requirements of the Good Practice Guidelines for Breeding in respect of that litter.

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.

2. Members Declaration

2.1 I will, at all times, maintain a high standard of care, health and welfare for the Newfoundland and will not deliberately or knowingly libel or slander another person or make derogatory comments about another persons dog(s).

2.2 I will share and disseminate information to all those interested in the breed and encourage and exhibit sportsmanlike conduct in all competitions at all times.

3. Objectives and Composition

3.1 The Club shall be called The Southern Newfoundland Club. Its main objective will be to promote the health and welfare of Newfoundlands, to hold beauty shows and working events, and other events as shall be decided from time to time.

3.2 The Club shall have a Patron, President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee, and an unlimited membership.

3.3 The categories of membership will include honorary, individual, joint, or junior (under the age of 18 years on 1 January). The Officers and Committee will be honorary positions.

3.4 Anyone wishing to join the Club will need to be proposed and seconded. In order to propose or second a new member you must have been a member of the Club for two years.

3.5 Persons who have given continuous service to the Newfoundland breed or to the Club, or are likely to confer honour on the Club, may be elected Honorary Members at a General Meeting, due notice of the intention to propose them having previously been given to the Secretary. Such Honorary Members shall be accorded all the privileges of fully paid up members. There will be no more than two honorary memberships awarded annually.

3.6 Any member may withdraw from the Club on giving notice in writing to the Secretary, but shall not be entitled to a refund of any subscription paid to the Club.

4. Relationship with the Kennel Club

4.1 During the month of January each year the Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary for continuance of registration and that by the 31st July each year, other returns, as stipulated in the Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies, will be forwarded to the Kennel Club.

4.2 The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the Rules and Regulations of the Club in all cases relative to Canine or Club matters.

4.3 The Officers acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any change of Secretary of the Club which may occur during the course of the year.

4.4 The Club may not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.

4.5 The Kennel Club shall be the final Court of Appeal in all matters of dispute.

4.6 No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee of, or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society.

5. Management

5.1 The Club will be managed by a Committee consisting of 9 members in addition to the President, Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be ex-officio members of the Committee and a suitable person appointed as Welfare Officer **who can be chosen also among the members of the Committee.**

5.2 Committee members and the President shall retire annually on 3 year rotation. They shall be eligible for re-election.

5.3 The Secretary and Treasurer shall each be elected for a period of 3 years with their retirement being in rotation. They shall be eligible for re-election.

5.4 The Committee, at its 1st meeting following each Annual General Meeting, shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson to take the Chair at all Committee meetings - Vice-Chair to take the Chair in the absence of the Chairperson. The Chair and Vice-Chair will be elected by the committee from the committee. The Chairperson of a meeting shall have a casting vote.

5.5 The Officers of the Club shall be the President, Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer will have full voting rights. The Chairperson will have a casting vote.

5.6 The committee may appoint or form a sub-committee as and when appropriate.

5.7 No two members of any family, partnership or household shall be Officers or Committee members of the Club at the same time.

5.8 Meetings of the Committee shall be held at least four times a year in addition to any meeting held on the day of the Annual General Meeting.

5.9 A quorum for Club Committee meetings shall be five members.

5.10 The Committee shall have power to co-opt members on to the Committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between Annual General Meetings. Co-opted members will have full voting rights. They may then be proposed for election in the normal way.

5.11 Any Committee member who, without a valid reason is absent from 3 consecutive meetings of the Committee will be deemed to have resigned from the Committee.

5.12 The Secretary will keep a copy of the full minutes of all meetings, which shall be available for inspection by all paid up members in normal working hours by appointment at the residence of the Secretary.

5.13 The Secretary will keep a register of all fully paid up members and their addresses and, if so requested, make the list available for inspection by the Kennel Club and members of the Club. A declaration of the number of members of the Club must be made with annual returns.

5.14 No individual may be elected to the Committee or be an Officer until they have been a member of the Club for 2 years.

6. Finance

6.1 A banking account shall be held in the name of the Club into which all revenue of the Club shall be paid. Withdrawals shall only be made on the signature of two Officers of the Club, one of which shall be the Treasurer.

6.2 The Treasurer shall maintain the accounts which will be certified annually and presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting. Certification of accounts must be carried out by one qualified Accountant or two unqualified individuals with accounting experience.

6.3 Membership: Single, Joint, Junior, up to and including 18 years of age.

Membership runs from 1st January to 31st December inclusive and the membership fees shall be agreed by the Committee.

All applications for new membership and renewals must be forwarded directly to the Membership Secretaries only.

New applications

New membership must be applied for using the official form, which can be downloaded from the Southern Newfoundland Club website, or requested from the Membership Secretaries.

The form must be completed fully and legibly in black ink. It must include the Proposer and Secunder's signatures and be signed by both applicants in the case of a joint membership. Proposers and Seconders must be current club members with a minimum of two years consecutive membership.

The completed form must be sent with payment to the Membership Secretaries. The application will then be circulated to the Committee for ratification.

If a Proposer or Secunder signature cannot be obtained, a probationary membership will be applied, this for a twelve month period. Probationary membership will be indicated by the letter P following the Membership number.

Membership fees unpaid by 31st January will nullify any privileges of membership and if not paid in full by the 1st March the member's name(s) will be deleted from the database.

After this date, 1st March, any person wishing to renew their membership will have to follow the New Application for Membership process.

In signing the application form applicants are making the following declaration:

I/we will at all times, maintain a high standard of care, health and welfare for the Newfoundland and will not deliberately or knowingly libel or slander another person or make derogatory comments about another person's dog(s). I/we will share and disseminate information to all those interested in the breed and encourage and exhibit sportsmanlike conduct in all competitions at all times.

Membership renewals

Membership renewal forms may be downloaded from the club website, using this form will enable the database to be accurately maintained.

Those wishing to renew membership after lapsing will be required to reapply using a New Membership Application form, duly Proposed and Seconded, signed by both applicants if applicable. Original membership numbers are not re-issued to lapsed members or any other member.

In the case of a single membership requesting to become a joint membership the second applicant must apply using the New Membership Application form, duly completed and signed by the applicant and forwarded to the Membership Secretaries, this will then be circulated to the Committee for ratification. The same membership number of the original single member will apply.

Memberships must not be dealt with at shows or events as the membership process cannot be implemented.

General membership rules

Any member may withdraw from the club on giving notice in writing to the Membership Secretaries and shall not be entitled to a refund of any subscription paid.

All membership matters must be addressed to the Membership Secretaries.

6.4 The Club's financial year shall run from 1st January to 31st December.

6.5 The Club's Trustees shall consist of the President, Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. The assets of the Club shall be vested in the Club Trustees to be held in Trust for the members.

6.6 If the Club is wound up or ceases to be a Registered Club under these Regulations, a final statement of audited accounts with a record of the disposal of the property of the Society shall be forwarded to the Kennel Club within six months and the persons named as Officers and Committee of the Club on the last return furnished to the Kennel Club, will be held responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the Club. In the absence of other instructions all assets will be given to other Newfoundland Clubs at the discretion of the Committee. The Club will obtain from donors of Challenge Cups or Trophies an acknowledgement that the gift is made outright to the Club.

6.7 All expenses properly incurred by the Officers and Committee on behalf of the Club shall be defrayed out of the funds of the Club alone.

6.8 The Club shall be responsible for costs incurred in legal proceedings brought against the Club, its Officers or Committee.

7. Discipline

7.1 Any member who shall be suspended under Kennel Club Rule A42.j.(5) and/or any member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A42.j.(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the Club for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification.

If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Club, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Club, the Committee of the Club may, at a meeting the notice convening which includes as an object the consideration of the conduct of the member, determine that a Special General Meeting of the Club shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her.

Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and hour of the Meeting that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at the meeting a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, his/her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of members, and he/she shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a member of the Club, except that he/she may within two calendar months from the date of such Meeting appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose.

7.2 If the Club expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, Dog Shows, Trials or Competitions, the Club will report the matter in writing to the Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.

8. Judges

8.1 The Committee shall be responsible for appointing/nominating judges for any event organised in the name of the Club.

8.2 The Club shall maintain judging lists in accordance with Kennel Club recommendations. Copies of judging lists will be available upon application to the Secretary. Lists will be sent out annually to the Secretaries of General Championship Shows.

9. Meetings

9.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held before the end of April each year, unless it is unable to proceed for some unforeseen circumstances, which will be reported to the Kennel Club.

9.2 The Annual General Meeting will be held for the following purpose:

Receive a report of the Chairperson of the previous year.

Receive the statement of accounts from the Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall submit for approval nomination of a professionally qualified Accountant or two unqualified individuals with accountancy experience who shall audit the Club's accounts for the ensuing year before the next Annual General Meeting.

Receive reports from the Hon Secretary.

Receive the report from the Club's President.

Receive the report from Welfare Officer.

Elect the Officers and Committee.

Discuss any resolution duly placed on the agenda of which prior notice has been given to the Hon Secretary.

Any other Business of an urgent and non-controversial nature by permission of the Chairperson of the meeting.

9.3 Sixty days notice (KC Requirement of minimum of 14 clear days) shall be given in writing to the members at their last known address of an Annual General Meeting or any General Meeting. Agenda items, correctly proposed and seconded must be lodged with the Hon Secretary in writing at least 30 working days prior to the meeting. Both Proposer and Seconder must be at the meeting for the item to be discussed.

9.4 A quorum for the Annual General Meeting and General Meeting and affairs shall be 20 members.

9.5 The Agenda for the Annual General Meeting shall be circulated to the members at least 14 working days before the date of the Annual General Meeting or General Meeting.

9.6 A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Secretary if 30 or more fully paid up members send a signed request in writing, stating the subject(s) to be discussed. A Special General Meeting may also be called by the Committee. This will be at the Committee's discretion.

9.7 Joint members shall each have full voting rights. Juniors - none.

9.8 The election of Officers and members of the Committee shall be by Postal Ballot.

9.9 Ballot papers for postal votes accompanied by an Agenda for the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to each Club member. The ballot papers will be returned to the Club Auditor, who will forward the results to the Hon Secretary prior to the Annual General Meeting.

9.10 In the event of a tie in the number of votes cast for two or more individuals, a ballot of members present at the Meeting shall decide who is elected to the particular vacancy.

9.11 When the Club holds a ballot at any meeting of the membership including Annual and Special Meetings, two non-voting scrutineers shall be appointed by the meeting to collect, count and declare the outcome of the vote, and they shall seal the ballot papers in an envelope which they shall forward to the Club Auditor to retain for one year, who shall deal on behalf of the Committee with any queries that may arise out of such a vote.

9.12 The Rules of the Club can only be altered at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, notice of which includes details of the proposal to alter the rules. Any rule change must be sanctioned by at least two-thirds of those present at the meeting. Any proposed alterations to the rules approved by the members in such a meeting may not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has given its approval of the alteration(s).

9.13 A precis of the minutes of the Committee and sub-committee meetings will be published in the Club's Newsletter after ratification.

9.14 Approval of new members will take place at Committee meetings or at the discretion of the Membership Secretaries who will circulate new applications for membership to the current committee for approval.

9.15 Members of other Newfoundland Club committees cannot be on the committee.

Good Practice Guidelines for Breeding

These guidelines are part of the Rules of the Club and should be adhered to by all Members in exactly the same way as any other Club Rule.

Newfoundland owners should, at all times, strive for the well being of the breed and, by diligent care, training and handling of their dogs, do all they can to enhance the breed's reputation as a trustworthy family companion.

Care and Maintenance

All Owners must:

a) Properly house, feed, water, groom and exercise all Newfoundlands under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention when required. Affectionate human companionship must be given. Owners should make themselves aware of the 'Five Freedoms' listed under the Animal Welfare Act 2007.

b) Not allow any of their Newfoundlands to roam or to cause a danger or nuisance to people, property or animals. When their Newfoundlands are off their property, ensure that they are fitted with properly tagged collars and are kept under effective control and subject to Bylaws. They should also have permanent identification in the form of a microchip or tattoo.

c) Act in a responsible manner by cleaning up and disposing of their dog's hair, excrement etc in public places or venues.

Breeding

1) Breeding should only be undertaken to maintain or improve the quality of the breed in accordance with the Breed Standard. Matings should be planned selectively and with never with financial gain being the primary reason.

2) Breeding should only take place between two Newfoundlands who are registered with the Kennel Club, Irish Kennel Club or overseas equivalent. The Kennel Club highly recommends that a breeder should also apply to be a member of the Kennel Club Accredited Breeder Scheme. Members will when breeding dogs adopt as a minimum standard the principles, requirements and recommendations as embodied in the Kennel Club's Assured Breeders Scheme. It is strongly recommended that members who breed should apply to join the scheme. In addition all SNC members must also comply with the Club's Code of Ethics and Good Practice Guidelines for breeding.

3) All Newfoundlands to be bred from should have a healthy temperament, sound conformation and be in good physical condition.

4) Owners wishing to breed from their Newfoundland should only do so if they have the time, facilities and finances available to embark on this practice. Owners should also be aware of the lifelong commitment they owe to the resulting puppies and be prepared to take back and re-house a dog they have produced at any stage during that dog's life.

5) A breeder should have realistic expectations of available and suitable homes for puppies BEFORE a mating takes place.

6) A bitch should not produce a litter under the age of 24 months or over the age of 7 (seven) years. No bitches should be bred from for the first time whilst over the age of 5 (five) years unless written Veterinary and Club Committee approval has been sought.

7) All Newfoundlands to be bred from should have undergone health screening to eliminate hereditary defects. These screenings should be the ones available at that current time. The health screening currently available and recommended for Newfoundlands are - Hip Scoring (British Veterinary Association - BVA), Elbow scoring (BVA), Cystinuria DNA testing (Vetgen, Optigen or Laboklin) and all breeding stock should be tested by Colour Flow Echo Doppler by a recognised Cardiologist (list of vets on the Veterinary Cardiovascular Society website). It is highly recommended that all these tests are carried out on breeding stock.

8) No breeder should allow a puppy to go to its new home prior to receiving a veterinary health check and before the age of 7 (seven) weeks.

9) Prospective puppy owners should be screened for suitability by means of a home visit (by the breeder or by another responsible person), advised of breed characteristics, day-to-day practicalities of owning a Newfoundland and the value of taking out pet insurance.

10) Breeders should not sell a puppy to a home where it will be habitually without human company. Neither should they sell a puppy to a laboratory nor retail or wholesale pet dealer nor a person who is an agent for another purchaser. Puppies should not be sold to countries with unsuitable climate or questionable animal ethics.

11) Owners of male Newfoundlands should also satisfy themselves that they will provide stud services ONLY where all the above guidelines have been met and that none of the conditions of the Southern Newfoundland Club have been breached.

12) Kennel Club Registration should be obtained as soon as possible and provided to the new owner preferably at the time of collection, but certainly within 3 (three) months. Registrations should be endorsed as 'Progeny Not Eligible for Registration (R)' and 'Not Eligible for the Issue of an Export Pedigree (X)'. It is essential that the new owner sign a written notice to accept that they understand that these are in place.

13) A puppy buyer should also be supplied with a five generation pedigree, copies of health test certificates, information regarding worming, inoculation and feeding and a sufficient supply of the puppy's current diet to ensure that there are no sudden dietary changes. Details of any veterinary treatment the puppy has had should be included with the above.

14) Puppy buyers should also be provided with information on responsible dog ownership, a copy of the Kennel Club General Code of Ethics and a Southern Newfoundland Club membership form (unless they are already a member).

15) New owners should be advised to have their puppy checked by their own vet within 48 hours of arriving home.

16) Breeders should encourage puppy owners to liaise with them so that a pro-active approach to problems can be employed.

17) Breeders who use advertising to sell their puppies should be as factual as possible and strive to avoid misleading or exaggerated claims.

General Demeanour

Newfoundland owners should be ready to give help and advice to those less experienced in respective aspects of the breed.

Newfoundland owners should exhibit good sportsmanship and be welcoming and helpful to newcomers to the breed.

All Newfoundland owners should be aware of their responsibility to the breed by reporting, to the nearest representative of a Newfoundland Welfare Scheme, any dog they consider to be in need of help.

Newfoundland owners should be honest about hereditary problems occurring in their dogs (whether or not they are breeders) if veterinary opinion is such that the shared information would benefit the breed as a whole.

The Kennel Club General Code of Ethics

Members should note:- The registered owners of all Kennel Club registered dogs accept the jurisdiction of the Kennel Club and undertake to abide by this General Code of Ethics.

Members are recommended to obtain a copy of the current edition of this booklet direct from the Kennel Club and they should also take note of all the current Statutory Legislation and Kennel Club Regulations with regards Dog Breeders, Breeding and applications to register a litter and/or single puppy.



