

NDCC BREEDER CODE OF ETHICS

**Breeders must adhere to the CKC and NDCC Newfoundland Standard in their breeding program.
Breeders must also adhere to all regulations of the Canadian Kennel Club with regards to both registration and breeder ethics.**

Health

In order to protect the present and future welfare of the Newfoundland dog, it is strongly recommended that the following health checks be done on all Newfoundland dogs/bitches prior to being used for breeding and that certification through OFA be obtained at the appropriate age. By certifying with OFA there is record for future generations and breeders; without it, important information may not be available.

- Cystinuria – unless it is known definitively that the dog/bitch is clear by parentage
- Elbow dysplasia (or any elbow defect)
- Eye defects
- Hearts should be checked, preferably by a veterinary cardiologist
- Hip dysplasia
- Patellas

Temperament

Temperament is the number one priority in this breed. Since there is no certification for temperament – the onus is on the breeder to NOT use dogs/bitches that show signs of aggression with humans, or shyness that is beyond lack of socializing. A normal Newfoundland may appear shy when initially introduced to new things, but the recovery should be rapid and the dog/bitch should not continue to be frightened by normal things once properly introduced.

Colour

Breeders will not intentionally produce non-standard colours. Colour testing will be required when there is any possibility a dog/bitch may carry non-standard colours. In that way, the breeder can make an educated decision as to the value of the breeding and act accordingly, keeping in mind that we must avoid non-standard colours whenever realistically possible.

Under no circumstances will healthy pups be culled for being a non-standard colour.

In the event that non-standard coloured puppies occur in a Canadian bred litter, all such puppies will be sold on a CKC Non-Breeding Agreement with a spay/neuter clause in the personal contract. The objective is to eventually produce only standard colours in our breeding programs and this may take more than one generation of selection.

Breeding stock imported from countries where non-standard colours are acceptable will require colour testing. The use of imported dogs/bitches that carry non-standard colours will be considered intentional introduction of non-standard colours to the existing gene pool.

Where a breeder intentionally produces pups of non-standard colours the NDCC has the right to review the situation and proceed with any action deemed suitable by its executive members.

Breeding Practices

Breeders must NOT use dogs/bitches with disqualifying faults in their breeding program.

Disqualifications in this breed are: bad temperament, short flat coat (Labrador Retriever type), marking of any other colour than white on a black dog, or any colours other than the traditional black, or Landseer (white and black).

Breeders will breed only mature bitches and no bitch shall have more than two litters in a 24 month period unless there are extenuating circumstances. A mature bitch would be at or close to two years of age. Breeders will recognize that it is rarely in the best interest of the bitch to breed past 6 years of age and will act accordingly.

Stud dog owners shall accept for breeding only bitches that meet the requirements set out herein, and shall endeavour to ensure that the owner of the bitch will abide by good breeding practices such as are outlined in the NDCC's Code of Practice.

Selling Practices

Breeders will advise all new owners of breed characteristics, both mental and physical, as well as their needs with regards to grooming, exercise, diet, housing and training. They will also ensure that new owners are aware of the unique characteristics of this breed with regards to size, mess and cost before they commit themselves to purchase.

Puppy buyers shall be supplied with a five generation pedigree on which all known colours and recessives and available health scores are given. It is recommended that buyers be given copies of certifications. Alternatively the person could be given the link to access these online at OFA.

Puppy buyers will be provided with all worming and vaccination records, as well as what the breeder recommends for future vaccination/worming schedules.

Puppy buyers will be provided with CKC registration and transfer no later than six months after the date of purchase unless there are extenuating circumstances.

General Responsibilities

All breeders will make a commitment for the lifetime of every dog/bitch they produce, and will make every attempt to provide for any Newfoundland they have bred in the event that it becomes necessary. If rescue is needed because the breeder is unable to take the dog/bitch back, then the breeder will cooperate with the attending rescue organization and some financial support should be considered.

All breeders will commit to education of the general public and act accordingly when inquiries are received - at all times and not only when they have pups available.