

The Code of Ethics Review Committee presents the following revision of the CCA Code of Ethics to the CCA Board for its review and approval.

Our process:

The committee members researched best practices for policies on social media and member behavior.

We reviewed policies on the following sites among others for ideas and sample wording.

- The American Miniature Schnauzer Club
- The American Maltese Association
- United States of America Coton de Tulear Club
- The German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America
- The Samoyed Club of America
- The American Bloodhound Club
- <http://www.boardeffect.com/blog/steps-to-create-a-nonprofit-social-media-policy/> - Blog Article by Lena Eisenstein
- *Examples of a Social Media Policy for Nonprofit Organizations* by Tracey Sanilands
- The Kennel Club Code of Conduct - <https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk>

We reorganized the current Code of Ethics into 3 sections:

- I. Introduction
- II. Standard of Conduct - Welfare of the Collie
- III. Standard of Conduct - Good Sportsmanship and Member Behavior

The new proposed social media policy is included in section III.

Collie Club of America Code of Ethics

I. INTRODUCTION:

This code shall establish a standard of conduct to be followed by all members of the Collie Club of America, Inc. We recognize the difficulty of covering all situations and, for this reason, any failure to comply with the intent of the code shall be handled in the same manner as a specific violation. The welfare of all Collies is the responsibility of all members. Failure to conduct oneself in compliance with the *Code of Ethics* shall be considered prejudicial to the best interests of the Collie.

All members will be given a copy of the code when joining and the act of signing it signifies the acceptance of the code in its entirety. Membership applications without a signed *Code of Ethics* will not be processed. Members agree to accept the most current code with each membership renewal. Any member violating this code either in content or intent shall be subject to CCA Bylaws Article VI Suspension and Expulsion, up to and including expulsion from the club.

II. Standard of Conduct - Welfare of the Collie

A. Breeding, Selling, and Exhibiting

1. No member shall knowingly sell or place, trade or give any Collie of any age to pet dealers, catalog houses, or other commercial sources; nor shall Collies be given as prizes, auctioned, or exploited to the detriment of the breed.
2. No Collie should be sold with defects of health or temperament that would interfere with its normal function as a suitable pet or companion. All known defects shall be disclosed to the new owner in writing.
3. All dogs shall be transferred, sold, or placed in good condition, free of communicable diseases, with health guaranteed for a reasonable length of time. This should include a written health record, including an inoculation schedule and an eye examination done either by a licensed veterinarian trained in veterinary ophthalmology or a certified ophthalmologist. It is also suggested that the dogs have some type of permanent identification, such as a microchip or tattoo.
4. Collie puppies shall not be released until eight (8) weeks of age. Puppies sold as pets shall be sold with AKC Limited Registration. Spay/neuter agreements are strongly recommended on all collies sold as pets.
5. A written agreement should be drawn up between the buyer and seller for all transactions. The agreement should include a request that the seller be contacted in the event, at any time, the owner is unable to keep the dog. When contacted it will be the obligation of the seller to make every effort to assist the buyer in placement of the dog.
6. No member shall sell or aid in selling to a person who they have reason to believe cannot or will not provide proper care and environment for the Collie. Members shall not abandon or put dogs in shelters, pounds, or rescue. If circumstances require emergency placement of a dog into rescue the owner is financially responsible for the care of the dog.
7. All breeding shall be done with the intention of advancing and protecting the breed. All Collies used for breeding shall be in good health and free from communicable disease. Dogs known to be sterile, cryptorchid, or monorchid shall not be offered at stud. Stud dog and bitch owners shall notify the other of any physical problems and/or any known inherited genetic defects or any other condition in their dogs.
8. Bitches shall be bred only to selected stud. Owner of bitch is to be consulted before any other stud is used.

9. All financial arrangements and breeding arrangements will be in advance of sales or service and agreed to in writing by both parties. Only an actual witnessed tie or AI that has been agreed upon by all parties shall be considered a breeding.
- B. Proper Care
1. All members shall provide proper care, nutrition, and a suitable environment for their Collies.
 2. Collies shall not be kept in circumstances or numbers where their needs cannot be adequately met.
 3. Collies will be provided with routine veterinary care as required for the well-being of the dog.
- III. Standard of Conduct - Good Sportsmanship and Member Behavior
- A. General
1. All advertising should be honest and not in any way misrepresentative or fraudulent. Variety shall be designated in all advertising.
 2. Whether at home, traveling, at shows or motels, all members shall conduct themselves at all times in such a manner as to reflect credit on the sport of dogs in general and the CCA and Collies in particular.
 3. Members will not violate any applicable local, state, or national laws or ordinances.
 4. No member shall intentionally or maliciously malign another member by making false or misleading statements about that member, his or her dogs, or breeding practices. No member shall harass or threaten another member for any reason.
 5. No member will impersonate another member, CCA officer, or other entity, including communicating under a false or unauthorized name.
- B. CCA Events
1. Members are responsible for traveling to CCA events with appropriate/required health certificates and vaccination status for dogs in the member's care.
 2. Abusive or aggressive behavior toward anyone at a CCA event will not be tolerated and will result in a Bench Show Hearing. This includes behavior directed toward participants, exhibitors, committee members, judges, event officials, venue management, etc.
 3. Members will follow AKC and CCA policies and guidelines while attending events.
 4. Members will refrain from bringing underage animals into any event venue and will comply with CCA guidelines on unentered dogs.
 5. No puppies/dogs may be brought to any event to be sold on the premises.
- C. Social Media
1. Members should be aware of personal responsibility when posting on social media. CCA online communities should be informative and enjoyable for all members.
 2. Communication should be appropriate, respectful, constructive, and correct. Posts that defame, threaten, harass or are, in any other way, inappropriate or libelous will be removed.
 3. No information posted on an official CCA social media or electronic site may be shared externally without the authority and/or express permission to do so.
 4. Attempts to undermine the reputation, purpose, advancement, or goals of the CCA on public social media sites is a serious breach of conduct. Avoid public comment or action intended to impugn the integrity of members of the CCA including its Officers, Directors, and Committees. Concerns and suggestions for improvement should be discussed internally by bringing issues to the attention of the appropriate CCA committee or the CCA Board of Directors.

I have read the above *Code of Ethics standards of conduct* and agree to abide by them as a

CCA member : _____ Signature

Rev. _____ 2023