



Code of Ethics

REVISED 27TH JANUARY 2016

**CODE OF ETHICS
OF RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP, INCLUDING KEEPING, WELFARE, BREEDING,
SELLING AND DISPOSING OF DOGS BY MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN
STAFFORDSHIRE TERRIER CLUB OF QUEENSLAND INC.**

COMPLIANCE WITH CODE OF ETHICS

1. Each member, upon signing an Application for Membership of the American Staffordshire Terrier Club of Queensland Inc. and being duly accepted to membership of the ASTCQ Inc. shall, in addition to agreeing to be bound by the Club Constitution and Rules and Regulations of DogsQld, be also bound by the ASTCQ Inc.'s Code of Ethics relating to responsible dog ownership, including the keeping, welfare, breeding, selling and disposing of dogs by members to the effects of the terms and conditions set under Section 2 hereof.

CODE OF ETHICS AND UNDERTAKING

2. In consideration of the ASTCQ Inc accepting me to membership, I undertake to abide by this Code of Ethics that:
 1. I shall ensure at all times, all dogs under my control are properly contained within a fenced area or suitable enclosure, properly housed, fed, watered, exercised and receive proper veterinary attention if and where required.
 2. I shall not allow any dogs under my care to roam at large or to cause a nuisance or be aggressive to neighbours, other dogs, members of the public or persons carrying out official duties. I will ensure when in public or open areas my dogs are leashed or otherwise under effective control.
 3. Should I require to leave a dog in the care of another person for any period of time, I will ensure that the other person is aware of the requirement that the dog is to be kept leashed or under effective control at all times.
 4. I agree not to breed from a bitch or a dog in a way that is detrimental to the dog or the bitch or to the breed. I further acknowledge that I shall breed only with the intent of maintaining and/ or improving on the standard of the breed and welfare, health and soundness of my dogs and I shall strive to eliminate hereditary diseases within my dogs and from within the breeds:

Further:

- a. I shall not mate any bitch kept or owned by me before it has reached the age of eighteen (18) months at the time of mating.
- b. I shall not breed from any bitch kept or owned by me causing it to whelp more than twice in eighteen (18) months.
- c. I shall not breed any bitch kept or owned by me causing it to whelp more than four (4) times without prior veterinary certification of fitness for breeding.
- d. I shall not breed any bitch kept or owned by me aged eight (8) years or over at the time of mating unless I have a current veterinary certificate state that the bitch is in good health at the time of breeding.
- e. I shall not breed from any male dog under nine (9) months of age.
- f. I shall not mate my bitch or dog to a close relative, i.e. mother/son, father/daughter or brother/sister.

5. I agree that when selling any dog that my primary obligation must be for the welfare of the dog specifically and for the breed generally and I further undertake that if I dispose of any dog either by sale or commission that the dog is identifiable by microchip.
6. I shall not directly or indirectly give a dog or stud service as a prize or donation in any contest or raffle of any kind.
7. I shall only breed for the purpose of improving the standard of the breed.
8. I shall not permit any of my purebred dogs to be mated:
 - a. To a dog of a different breed
 - b. To a crossbred dog
 - c. To an unregistered dog of the same breed
 - d. To a purebred registered dog of the same breed that is not owned by a financial ANKC state body member.
 - e. To a dog not on the Main Register.
9. I agree to only sell a dog where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and I will assist in the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change.
10. I shall not:
 - a. Sell or otherwise transfer from my care any puppy under eight (8) weeks of age. I will liaise with my veterinarian to determine a vaccination regime approach for my dogs and shall provide a current Vaccination Certificate, signed by a veterinarian registered under the law of Queensland or any other State/ Territory with any dog leaving my care.
 - b. Export any puppy under eleven (11) weeks of age.
11. I shall ensure that all persons acquiring dogs from me are given clear written information as to their responsibility for the care and welfare of the dog.
12. I shall provide to all purchasers of dogs sold or placed by me, written details of all dietary and immunisation requirements and details relating to the responsible dog ownership as well as the responsibility to abide by Local Laws.
13. I shall ensure that all dogs sold or disposed of by me are in the best possible state of health. Where I dispose of a dog with a health issue or disability, I shall obtain from the recipient written and signed acknowledgement of the condition of the dog.
14. I shall be honest regarding the characteristics of the breed and shall not falsely advertise a dog or mislead any person regarding the performance or quality of a dog on offer.
15. I shall comply with all provisions of the Animal Care and Protection Act (2001) Qld and with the laws relating to the keeping of dogs promulgated by my local authority.
16. I accept that, should I become aware that any of my dogs have a contagious disease, I will not attend events, social or official with my dogs until the dogs are no longer contagious.

17. I accept the following:

- a. The objective of the ASTCQ Inc. is to promote in every way the standing and improvement of the American Staffordshire Terrier in the worldwide community.
- b. As a consequence, membership of the ASTCQ Inc. extends certain responsibilities.
- c. As a member, it is incumbent to me to also abide by the following requirements:
 - i. Conduct myself politely and with integrity at all ANKC events.
 - ii. Conduct myself in a sportsmanlike manner at such events and in any related activities and communications.
 - iii. Respect the reputations of other ANKC members
 - iv. In reference to the matters outlined below, I acknowledge that my involvement in any matters listed with affect my standing as a member and could result in disciplinary action and suspension of membership:
 1. Committed an offence involving cruelty to animals.
 2. Committee and indictable offence or summary offence.
 3. Being found liable for defamation or libel in civil court proceedings instituted as a result of conduct in the dog world context.
 4. Threatening or abusive behaviour, whether verbal or physical.
 5. Harsh treatment of dogs.
 6. Use of the ASTCQ Inc. name or brand in a derogatory manner.

COMPLIANCE

3. Any member failing to observe any provision of the Code of Ethics may be dealt with under the Club Constitution rules.