

## Code of Ethics

The Willamette Valley Irish Wolfhound Club, in keeping with its constitutional aim of protecting and breeding fine Irish Wolfhounds, has adopted the following **Code of Ethics** to promote and foster the highest standards among its members. Any question of ethics not specifically covered in this code will be left to the discretion of the individual member. The Willamette Valley Irish Wolfhound Club is a club comprised of members devoted to a noncommercial basis for continued betterment of the breed. This **Code of Ethics** is predicated upon this fundamental philosophy.

### I. Records

Complete and accurate breeding records shall be maintained as follows.

- A. For Sire and Dam:
  - 1. AKC registered name, number, and date of whelp.
  - 2. Names and addresses of registered owners.
  - 3. Dates of actual breeding.
- B. For the resulting litter:
  - 1. Date of whelp and AKC litter number.
  - 2. Number and sex of puppies whelped alive.
  - 3. Number and sex of puppies dead at birth.
  - 4. Name, sex, and registration date for each live puppy.
  - 5. Name and address of owner of each puppy.
- C. All records should be made available to the Irish Wolfhound Club of America for incorporation into statistical data. All records of this nature are for informative purposes only and are kept confidential.

### II. Breeding

- A. The purpose of breeding Irish Wolfhounds is to bring their natural qualities to perfection in accordance with the **Standard**. There exists a constant danger that disreputable or ignorant breeders may, by improper practices, produce physically, mentally or temperamentally poor specimens to the detriment of the breed.
- B. A member who undertakes a breeding shall:
  - 1. Be selective, with an eye to the conformation, physical well-being, and temperament of the pair to be mated.
  - 2. Breed only after a careful study of the breed **Standard**, the basic principles of genetics, and the pedigrees of the pair in question.
  - 3. Be prepared to provide the proper care for both the bitch and her offspring; and to retain the puppies for as long as is necessary for their proper placement in suitable homes.
  - 4. Use for breeding only those animals, which have attained at least the minimum height for dogs and bitches as specified in the Standard.
- C. The owner of the stud dog shall:
  - 1. Exercise exemplary conduct in contraction for use of his dog, and shall abide by the standards as set forth in this **Code of Ethics**.
  - 2. Use the dog only on bitches which are an asset to the breed and whose owners agree to conform to this **Code of Ethics**.
  - 3. Follow the progress and sale of any puppies resulting from the use of the stud, and insure the well-being of these puppies, as he is equally responsible for the resulting litter.

4. Not split the litter in lieu of a stud fee for the primary purpose of resale, as this is considered to be unethical.
5. Provide one fee return service for a bitch that has been bred but failed to conceive.

### III. Care and Sale of the Litter

This includes:

- A. All puppies shall be provided with proper Veterinary and home care.
  1. The elimination of parasites.
  2. The necessary immunizations.
  3. The proper diet.
- B. Any puppy, which is deformed or irreversibly ill, shall be humanely destroyed.
- C. All of the puppies in a litter shall be graded as to quality, i.e., pet or show stock, and shall be priced accordingly (2004: \$1500 - \$2000 show quality). It is recommended that two or more experienced breeders participate in this grading process.
- D. Any pet stock puppy shall either be altered or transferred without AKC papers or sold with AKC limited registration. Withholding the AKC registration papers requires a written agreement between buyer and seller, a copy of which must be sent to the AKC.
- E. All potential new owners shall be screened in order to ascertain their suitability as Irish Wolfhound owners. Special attention should be paid to matters such as adequate fencing, physical facilities and the financial responsibility for proper care.
- F. The Association recommends that no puppy be released to its new home at an age younger than ten weeks, and preferably twelve weeks.
- G. Every puppy, upon being turned over to its new owner, shall be accompanied by the following items:
  1. Feeding instructions.
  2. Puppy medical records, which shall include immunizations, types of vaccine used, dates of inoculations, dates of wormings.
  3. A four-generation pedigree.
  4. A club membership application with a copy of the **Code of Ethics**.
  5. AKC registration papers for those puppies sold for showing and breeding purposes.
  6. Information on the available literature about Irish Wolfhounds.
- H. All new owners shall be encouraged to have their puppies checked by a Veterinarian within forty-eight hours of time of delivery.
- I. The new owner should be advised to keep the breeder informed about the development of the puppy, and of any problems, which may occur during the life of this dog.
- J. In the event that the new owner is unable to keep the Irish Wolfhound, at any age, the breeder shall require the buyer to return it.
- K. If a puppy is to be co-owned, it is recommended that a contract signed by both owners be drawn up stating the exact terms of the co-ownership.
- L. Puppies under twelve weeks of age shall never be exported or imported.
- M. All advertising of puppies and adult dogs, written or oral, shall be factual and honest in both substance and implication.
- N. The price of a puppy should be reasonable and dependent on the quality of the animal.

### IV. General Conduct of Members

- A. Members shall be aware at all times that the **Willamette Valley Irish Wolfhound Club** exists to improve and protect the breed and that these aims are to be uppermost in the minds of the members in all of their activities within the breed.
- B. No member shall:
  - 1. Knowingly falsify pedigree or breeding information.
  - 2. Sell puppies to pet stores either on consignment or outright.
  - 3. Supply puppies for raffles or other such enterprise.
  - 4. Sell to unethical breeders or persons whose intention to resell the dog is known or suspected.
  - 5. Maliciously degrade another member's Irish Wolfhound or Kennel.
  - 6. Import or export entire litters of Irish Wolfhounds, to sell entire litters within the United States, either to a private party or for commercial resale.
  - 7. Sell bitches in whelp.
  - 8. Use membership in the Association in advertising or other promotional activities.
  - 9. Trade or barter an Irish Wolfhound in lieu of a monetary sale.
- C. Members shall:
  - 1. Make every effort to educate any new owner or interested person, and to be both instructive and constructive in their comments.
  - 2. Demonstrate good sportsmanship both inside and outside the show ring at all times.
  - 3. Always behave in a manner that will be conducive to the advancement of our breed and our Association.
  - 4. Maintain sanitary conditions for their dogs, and provide adequate exercise, the proper diet, and the necessary inoculations.
  - 5. Conform to all the items regarding placement and sales listed under Section III. of the **Code** if it becomes necessary to sell, give away, or otherwise place their dog.
  - 6. In all questions of ethics not covered by the **Code**, act in the best interest of the breed.

V. **Enforcement**

- A. It is the responsibility of each member to make an inquiry concerning suspected violations of this **Code**. Should such a violation appear to exist, the **Board of Directors** should be notified and action may be taken in accordance with the bylaws of the **Willamette Valley Irish Wolfhound Club**.
- B. Board members may not take an active part in decisions, which personally affect them.

VI. **Appeals**

- A. Any appeals method shall be established by the **Board of Directors** in accordance with the bylaws of the **Willamette Valley Irish Wolfhound Club**.

VII. **Exceptions**

- A. It is recognized that legitimate exceptions to this **Code of Ethics** will arise from time to time. Any member with a possible ethical problem may, at his request, have that problem reviewed by the Board for its recommendations. Furthermore, the **Board of Directors** may upon sufficient evidence and under certain conditions where the good of the breed is protected, waive any of these foregoing provisions.