

The Basset Hound Club

Code of Ethics

1. Properly house, feed, water and exercise all hounds under your care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
2. Keep your hound's vaccinations up to date and worm regularly.
3. Do not allow your hounds to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to any of your neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
4. When your hounds are away from home, ensure they are under proper control at all times.
5. Acknowledge responsibility to clean up after your hounds in public places or anywhere where your hounds are being exercised.
6. Agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon who performs an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, **or who carries out a caesarean section on a bitch**, may report such operations to the Kennel Club.
7. Do not knowingly breed from a bitch which does not conform to the Breed Standard, has any hereditary fault or in a manner which is deleterious to her health (i.e. successive seasons). You should not breed from a bitch less than 18 months of age and never more than every other season. It is advisable not to breed from a bitch of more than 6 years of age. Never mate your bitch to more than one stud dog during any one season.
8. Do not knowingly use your stud dog on a bitch which does not conform to the Breed Standard nor has a hereditary fault.
9. Do not knowingly use a hound at stud which does not conform to the Breed Standard or has any hereditary fault.
10. If you use your stud dog on a suitable bitch owned by a novice, help place the puppies and help with any problems.
11. Never sell puppies younger than 8 weeks old.
12. Only sell puppies and adults to homes where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and be prepared to help with the re-housing of a hound if the initial circumstances change.
13. When placing puppies or young hounds in a new home, provide written details of all dietary requirements and supply guidance concerning responsible ownership.
14. Do not sell any hound to commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or indirectly allow hounds to be given as a prize or donation in a contest of any kind.
15. Do not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the Breed or falsely advertise hounds nor mislead any person regarding the quality of the hound.
16. In normal circumstances when selling or transferring an adult or puppy to another person ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner, if they have not yet been returned from the Kennel Club, then a written and signed undertaking must be given to the purchaser stating that the papers will be sent as soon as possible.
17. Always provide a Pedigree for the purchaser of an adult or puppy and make sure it is accurate in every detail to the best of your knowledge.

The Kennel Club consider that every Breed Club should include in its Code of Ethics the statement that they will "conform to any breeding control programme instituted in order to produce sound and typical stock".