



## **The Boston Terrier Club** **GENERAL CODE OF ETHICS**

All members of the 'The Boston Terrier Club' undertake to abide by its general Code of Ethics.

### **Club Members:**

- 1) Will properly house feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
- 2) Will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, may report such operation to the Kennel Club.
- 3) Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
- 4) Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
- 5) Will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
- 6) Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.
- 7) Will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
- 8) Will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
- 9) Will clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
- 10) Will only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and will help with the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change.
- 11) Will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
- 12) Will ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents at the earliest opportunity, if not immediately available.

- 13) Will not sell any dog to commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. Will not sell by sale or auction Kennel Club registration certificates as stand alone items (not accompanying a dog).
- 14) Will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise dogs nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog.
- 15) Stud dog owners should have due consideration for the health and welfare of the breed.
  - a) The stud dog owner must ensure that there are valid reasons for any bitch being mated and determine, as far as possible, that the owners of the bitch can whelp and care for the puppies.
  - b) Commercial consideration must not be a reason for providing stud services.
- 16) No dog with a physical or hereditary defect, known to be detrimental to the breed, should be used in a breeding programme. Controlled breeding programmes, now in existence, or to be introduced, should follow British Veterinary Association/Kennel club guidelines, in conjunction with Guidelines from the Boston Terrier Club.
- 17) All Bostons used in a breeding programme should first be DNA tested for Early Onset Cataract. It is the breeder's responsibility to ensure all puppies eyes are tested under the KC/BVA scheme before they go to their new homes and owners should be advised to re-test at six months of age. All animals should be re-tested annually.

If, having followed these arrangements and having had a minimum of four consecutive unaffected adult certificates and having provided all documentation to the Club, a dog is then diagnosed as being affected with cataract, it may be used in a breeding programme. The Club must be notified of any such mating.

All dogs affected or unaffected MUST continue to be tested whilst being used in a breeding programme.

Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.

No alteration shall be brought into force until the Kennel Club has been advised and approved the alteration.

(Revised February 2009)