Code of Ethics

- Members of the CCCI have an obligation to protect the welfare and the best interests of their breed by conducting themselves in a manner designed to reflect credit to themselves, their breed and the CCCI.
- Members who exhibit are expected to observe the highest standards of sportsmanship: conduct themselves in such a manner as to reflect positively on the sport of showing dogs; and exhibit good will at all shows and obedience trials.
- Members who contemplate breeding a litter, or who will allow the use of their stud dog for the same purpose shall direct their efforts toward producing dogs of high quality, of even temperament, vigorous and free of health problems. They shall be familiar with the Chow Chow breed standard, and breed only those specimens which conform to it.
- Members shall not engage in false or misleading advertising or misrepresentation of their breed, nor shall malign their competition by making false or misleading statements regarding their competitors' dogs, breeding practice, or person.

DISREGARD FOR THE STANDARDS SET FORTH IN THIS CODE OF ETHICS SHALL BE CONSIDERED UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR, AND NOT SUPPORTED BY THE CCCI.

Online Code of Ethics

Notice to all Chow Chow Club Inc. (CCCI) online members.

The CCCI does not review websites and their content which may be reached from this site through links provided by our members in the "Member Contacts" section of this site. As such, exposure to sites which may contain objectionable material and may be offensive to any of our membership or other persons is not knowingly generated by CCCI. Although the CCCI cannot assume responsibility for censorship of content on the internet, any member has the right to lodge a complaint against another member, per the rules of our constitution and by-laws, in which case the CCCI may intervene, and may find it necessary to suspend or expel members who author content with malicious intent, misrepresentation or defamation on ANY publicly available media (including but not limited to internet communications of any kind). Therefore, a few guidelines should be observed by our membership. We suggest the following as a minimum courtesy to your fellow members and the general internet community:

- Consider the same care and wording as you would when placing ads in the parent club magazine "Chow Life", or any other publication where your comments may expose you to libel.
- Never place derogatory comments about Chows, other breeders, organizations or clubs in your web sites.
- Do not use photographs of dogs you do not own or co-own in your internet pages, without the permission of the owner(s).
- Observe copyright notices on web pages, photographic, electronic and printed media, do not borrow articles, graphics, pictures or images of any kind without the express permission of

the owner(s). If you have original images on your page(s), place a copyright notice and/or state that "No images on this site may be used without consent." to avoid this situation.

- Critical personal opinions regarding persons other than yourself, judging outcome of any event, including derogatory comments concerning a judge, placements or any participant (Person or Dog), should be avoided on publicly available media (either a post to a List, a web page, public chat room or an e-mail to the general public).
- Members in good standing of the CCCI may include that they are a member on their own websites, Facebook page, and the AKC Marketplace. Members are encouraged to also include a link to the CCCI official website from their website. The "official" URL to the CCCI web site is: https://chowclub.org/

DISREGARD FOR THE STANDARDS SET FORTH IN THIS ONLINE CODE OF ETHICS SHALL BE CONSIDERED UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR, AND NOT SUPPORTED BY THE CCCI.

- **AKC Personal Conduct Policy (May 2024 Board Meeting; amended May 2025)–**

It is a privilege to be part of the American Kennel Club. Everyone who participates in the sport must refrain from conduct detrimental to the integrity of and public confidence in the sport of dogs and the AKC. This includes everyone that participates in any way in AKC events from exhibitors, judges, superintendents, show secretaries, club members, stewards, vendors, handlers, or anyone that uses AKC services.

Conduct by anyone in the sport that is irresponsible, dangerous, violent, or illegal puts others at risk, damages the reputation of others in the sport, and undercuts public respect and support for the AKC. We must endeavor at all times to be people of high character, show respect for others inside and outside our sport, and conduct ourselves in ways that favorably reflect on ourselves, our dogs, and the AKC.

This zero-tolerance policy is issued pursuant to the *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc.* as it relates to conduct prejudicial to the best interest of purebred dogs, purebred dog events or the AKC.

Expectations and Standards of Conduct:

As participants in our sport, we must hold ourselves to a higher standard and conduct ourselves in a way that is responsible, promotes the values of the AKC, and is lawful.

Those convicted of a crime or subject to a disposition of a criminal proceeding ("Disposition" as defined in this Policy) are subject to discipline. Even if the conduct does not result in a criminal conviction, those found to have engaged in any of the following conduct will be subject to discipline. Prohibited Conduct includes but is not limited to the following*:

- Assault and/or battery
- Sexual assault or other sex offenses;
- Violent or threatening behavior toward another individual;
- Inappropriate comments, conduct and/or contact regarding but not limited to race, color, religion, disability, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or are sexual in nature ("Harassment");
- Illegal possession of a gun or other weapon (such as explosives, toxic substances, and the like);
- Crimes of dishonesty such as blackmail, extortion, fraud, money laundering, embezzlement, or racketeering (could be subject to the AKC's *Unauthorized Use of Club Funds* Policy);
- Theft-related crimes such as burglary, robbery, or larceny;

- Crimes against law enforcement, such as obstruction, resisting arrest, or harming a police officer or other law enforcement officer;
- Conduct that poses a genuine danger to the safety and well-being of another person; and
- Conduct that undermines or puts at risk the integrity of the AKC, AKC clubs, club officials, AKC approved judges, AKC personnel, or anyone that participates in any way in AKC events. Judges conduct would also be subject to the *Integrity of Judges and Judges Misconduct*

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*Penalties for specific offenses as outlined in the *AKC Discipline Guidelines* shall be applicable.

When AKC becomes aware of a possible violation of this Policy and pursuant to the *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc*, AKC may undertake an investigation, the timing and scope of which will be based upon the circumstances of the matter. Any such investigation may be conducted by AKC personnel, independent parties, or a combination of the two. In cases that are also being investigated by law enforcement officials, the AKC may continue its separate investigation, and will work to cooperate with law enforcement to avoid any conflict or interference with the law enforcement proceedings. A failure to cooperate with an investigation or to be truthful in responding to inquiries will be separate grounds for disciplinary action. An accused's refusal to speak to an AKC investigator under such circumstances will not preclude an investigation from proceeding or discipline from being imposed.

Upon receipt of information that a person has been charged or accused with misconduct pursuant to this policy, the AKC will notify the person that the privileges of the AKC may be withheld ("temporary referral") in accordance with the, *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc*, Article XII, Section 4. Further, AKC may consider the restrictions and terms placed on an individual pursuant to pretrial release conditions by the Court ("Pretrial Release" as defined herein) in evaluating information that a person has been accused of Prohibited Conduct under this policy (e.g. no contact with minors or no possession of animals, etc.). Accordingly, AKC will notify the person that they have been placed on temporary referral. Temporary referral affects all dogs registered with the AKC as owned or co-owned by that person. The temporary referral means that the person should not breed, sell, or transfer dogs with the expectation AKC paperwork will be provided. Additionally, awards will not be recorded for any dogs owned or co-owned by the individual that participates in any AKC events.

If AKC determines that no violation has occurred and no action will be taken to cause a suspension of privileges, the temporary referral will be removed, and all pending applications processed.

If the Prohibited Conduct is substantiated, AKC will follow the disciplinary process as set forth in the *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc.* In matters involving the violations of this policy, AKC *may* remove the individual from AKC registrations as a co-owner. This is not removal of legal title of a dog, rather it is removal of the individual from AKC recorded registration. In addition, an accused, in certain circumstances, may be prohibited from being on the grounds of AKC approved events.

** Definition of "Disposition" – includes conviction, admission, finding of guilt, plea to a lesser included offense, plea of no contest, *nolo contendere*, best interest plea or similar type plea, the acceptance of or into a diversionary program, deferred adjudication, disposition of supervision or similar arrangement.

** Definition of "Pretrial Release" – includes, but is not limited to, bond, conditional release, recognizance, etc.

This policy may be updated at any time and is effective immediately.

AKC Code of Sportsmanship

PREFACE: The sport of purebred dog competitive events dates prior to 1884, the year of AKC's birth. Shared values of those involved in the sport include principles of sportsmanship. They are practiced in all sectors of our sport: conformation, performance and companion. Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years. With the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our sport, this code is presented.

- Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
- Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
- The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
- The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
- The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge's placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
- The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
- The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.
- Sportsmen welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport.
- Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
- Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
- Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
- Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.
- Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB®