**NORTH AMERICAN TECKEL CLUB**

**CODE OF ETHICS**

**RESPONSIBILITIES AS A MEMBER OF NATC:**

* I subscribe to the purpose of the NATC as set forth in the Mission Statement and will abide by the Bylaws of the NATC and DTK.
* I will devote myself to the betterment of the breed and promote the breed and the NATC through my deeds and conduct.
* I will exhibit sportsmanlike behavior at all dog events and will encourage others to do the same.
* I will be courteous to my fellow club members.
* I will strive to approach the club's problems and issues in a constructive manner that is respectful to all involved and not destructive to the club.
* I will help educate the public in the FCI Teckel Standard, the breed's hunting heritage and versatility, care of the breed and all other areas of animal welfare that I am qualified to discuss.

**RESPONSIBILITIES AS A DOG OWNER:**

* I shall ensure humane treatment and training, proper feeding, maintenance and health care protection for all my dogs
* I will ensure that my dogs shall be contained within safe restrictions whenever their safety cannot be personally supervised.
* I will ensure that my dogs are not a nuisance to my neighbors or my community.
* I shall provide my dogs with ample opportunity for exercise and social interaction.

**RESPONSIBILITIES AS A BREEDER:**

* I will only use dogs for breeding that are registered with a nationally recognized kennel club such as the Deutscher Teckelklub (DTK), the American Kennel Club (AKC), The Canadian Kennel Club (CKC), or an FCI recognized kennel club. I will not use my studs on unregistered bitches.
* I shall strive to breed and/or provide stud service to conform to FCI Breed Standard, and only from quality, healthy stock.
* I will cover all stud service terms by written agreement and keep accurate records of matings, births, registrations, etc.
* I will screen for inherited diseases that are known to be prevalent in the breed or that are known to have occurred in dogs that are related to mine and will not breed dogs that are known to have these diseases.
* All puppies leaving my possession shall be a minimum of eight (8) weeks of age and will have had at least one puppy inoculation.
* I will not sell or supply any puppies to puppy brokers, pet shops, laboratories, raffles or similar projects.
* I will not sell dogs or puppies to individuals or kennels that supply brokers, dealers, pet shops, laboratories etc.
* I will screen prospective buyers as thoroughly as possible to determine their desire and ultimate intent for each puppy or dog acquired from me. Buyers who are established breeders will be thoroughly vetted to ensure that they are reputable.
* I will educate potential new breeders on the complexities of breeding quality teckel and will consider mentoring them to ensure they develop into responsible breeders.
* I will not sell dogs or puppies without true representation to the purchaser nor use misleading or untruthful statements in selling or advertising. I will supply each purchaser with: a) registration papers or a registration application, b) at least a three-generation pedigree, c) a complete medical record, and d) details on proper feeding and care.
* I will educate potential buyers on responsible and safe ways to contain dogs in order to avoid unplanned litters and will strongly encourage them to research the health and temperament risks of spaying and neutering.
* I understand and acknowledge that I may need to take back, or assist in finding a new home for, any dog I produce at any time in its life, if requested to do so.
* Under no circumstances, shall I surrender a dog or a puppy to a humane society or shelter. If the animal is unplaceable because it has a destructive temperament, is seriously injured, terminally ill or it would be inhumane to prolong life, I will take responsibility for euthanizing the dog.

I understand and accept that signing this Code of Ethics is a necessary requirement for membership in the NATC.

I further acknowledge that major or repeated violations of the NATC Code of Ethics will result in disciplinary actions.

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_