

# Irish Red and Whiter Setter Association

## CODE OF ETHICS

### I. GENERAL

This Code of Ethics is devised in accordance with the aims and objectives of the Irish Red and White Setter Association. It outlines the essentials of responsible behavior for Irish Red and White Setter owners and potential breeders, whose foremost aim should be the welfare of their dogs and of the breed. All Members are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with this Code of Ethics.

- A.** Members will consider the welfare of their dogs and the breed above any personal gain or profit, and should take responsibility for any dogs they own and provide for the welfare of all dogs by them for the lifetime of those dogs in the event a dog is in need of rehoming.
- B.** Members should at all times conduct themselves in such a way as not to bring discredit to the Breed or Association. Members should not deliberately disparage other owners, exhibitors or breeders, or their dogs, and should act at all times in a polite and sportsmanlike manner and with courtesy to judges, officials and fellow exhibitors alike and should accept decisions made with grace and dignity.
- C.** Members, when advertising, should not misrepresent themselves or their stock, state only the facts; not offer IR&WS at bargain prices, or in any way encourage raising IR&WS as a money-making enterprise. Members should follow good business practices and ethics in sales and breeding contracts and should honor all agreements. Written agreements are encouraged.
- D.** Members shall not participate, promote, condone breeding of Pure IRWS to other breeds.

### II. BREEDING

A breeder shall be defined as any member who breeds his bitch or offers his stud dog at public stud.

- A.** Member should breed only with the intention of improving the breed. Planning each litter with this goal in mind, using parents of appropriate qualities in relation to the official standard.
- B.** Members should abide by the rules and regulations of the AKC and should comply with all AKC requirements regarding litter and individual record keeping. Whenever possible, all dogs/bitches & litters should be registered with AKC/FSS.
- C.** Members should take advantage of any relevant or official scheme devised to test a dog's soundness, and use for breeding, only those dogs and bitches free from hereditary defects such as hip-dysplasia, hereditary eye anomalies, monorchidism, malocclusion, or entropies eyelids.
- D.** Before considering a breeding, the breeder should make sure both the bitch and stud dog are certified clear of hip-dysplasia, PPC or and eye anomalies (for eye anomalies - within a year of the intended breeding), Clear of CLAD (either by DNA or pedigree), normal Thyroid, vWD (Elisa recommended, DNA test available in the UK optional) The breeder should

refrain from repeat breeding of any pair of individuals who, although free from hereditary defects, consistently produce afflicted offspring.

- E.** Breeders should not breed bitches under two years old nor allow their bitches to whelp more than once in any twelve month period, nor breed a bitch after her 8th birthday.
- F.** Breeders should ensure that every effort is made to place puppies in suitable homes and not allow puppies to leave their premises under the age of seven weeks. Breeders should not sell to dealers or pet shops nor consign Irish Red & Whites Setters to commercial breeders, retailers or research laboratories, nor supply dogs for raffles, prizes, auctions or other such projects.
- G.** Breeders should honestly represent the qualities and defects of any puppy to the prospective buyer. Should a problem arise, to either exchange, offer a full refund or agree on a mutual compromise.
- H.** Breeders should provide each puppy with the accepted course of inoculations and veterinary treatments and provide each buyer with accurate records regarding health, and should be encouraged to have their dogs permanently ID with a micro chip or tattoo and to submit DNA to the AKC. Breeders should provide a three generation pedigree for the IRWS being purchased.
- I.** Buyer/Owners should have their dogs permanently ID with either a microchip or tattoo and to submit DNA to the AKC if not provided by breeder.
- J.** Breeders should only sell Irish Red & White Setters, permit stud services lease stud dogs or brood bitches to individuals who give satisfactory evidence that they are in accord with this Code of Ethics.

### **III. VIOLATIONS**

Violations of the Code of Ethics may result in disciplinary action being taken in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws or Standing Rules of the Irish Red & White Setter Association.

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**1997, Irish Red & White Setter Association (revised: March 26, 2007)**