

The Miniature Australian Shepherd Club of America, Inc. (MASCA)



CODE OF ETHICS

Amended on 2/5/15

MASCA, in keeping with its paramount aim of breeding the Australian Shepherd of the miniature size to the highest standard for working ability, health, versatility, and conformation, has adopted the following Code of Ethics to promote and foster the highest standards among breeders, owners, and fanciers, while encouraging good sportsmanship and cooperation toward the improvement and advancement of the Australian Shepherd of the miniature size. All members of MASCA and those breeders and owners utilizing the MASCA registry are required to subscribe and uphold MASCA's Code of Ethics in accordance with terms and conditions set forth herein and in MASCA's By-Laws.

Purpose: To promote and breed for the Australian Shepherds of the miniature size as a versatile herding dog in accordance with MASCA breed standards. To ensure that MASCA's members, owners and breeders accept and breed in accordance with a single standard for the Australian Shepherd of the miniature size, as approved by MASCA. Members may not simultaneously register a MASCA-registered Australian Shepherd as a different, separate breed with another registry and retain the MASCA registration privileges for that dog. In addition, MASCA members, owners and breeders may not register a dog with MASCA as an Australian Shepherd of the miniature size if that dog is already registered with another registry as a separate breed. To oppose the influence by any organizations, registries, or persons whose beliefs and/or actions might result in practices considered detrimental to the Australian Shepherd of the miniature size.

Definition: For the purpose of this Code of Ethics **Breeder** is defined as "any person or persons who breed any dog and in that breeding produces any puppies".

ARTICLE I RECORDS

Each member who breeds his bitch or uses his stud for services should keep accurate records: such as stud services, pedigrees, all litters produced, for a minimum of five (5) years.

ARTICLE II BREEDING

A breeder should plan each breeding with the paramount intention of improving the breed. A breeder should select sire and dam with an eye to conformation, temperament, and working ability with a careful study of the MASCA Breed Standard, pedigrees, and basic principles of genetics. A Breeder should refrain from breeding any dog before the age of 12 months old. The preferred minimum age for breeding is 2 years. A Breeder should refrain from breeding dogs that have or produce hereditary defects consistently.

ARTICLE IV SALES

The breeder should be discriminating in the sale of any dog. Australian Shepherds of Miniature size shall not be donated for raffle or sold to dog wholesalers or retailers, such as pet shops. A breeder should transfer all applicable registration papers at the time the purchase agreement is completed and agreeable to both parties. A breeder should refrain from releasing a puppy until at least seven (7) weeks old.

ARTICLE V ADVERTISING

A Breeder agrees to advertise any dog with factual information and not advertise an Australian Shepherd of the Miniature size as a Miniature American Shepherd.

ARTICLE VI MEMBER RELATIONS

Members should refrain from unnecessary criticism of another's dog and always present themselves in a professional matter at any function. The MASCA member pledges to help educate the general public, as well as graciously assist the novice breeder, with correct and pertinent information regarding the Australian Shepherd of the miniature size.

Article VII: Implementation

Prior to dog registration or membership approval, an individual agrees to uphold the MASCA Code of Ethics. Any infractions of this Code of Ethics should be reported, in writing, to the MASCA Board of Directors in accordance with the MASCA By-Laws. If and when a MASCA breeder: (i) deviates from these ideals, (ii) is uncooperative in rectifying their dog(s)' information, (iii) falsifies said information (in violation of the By-Laws and this COE), or (iv) acts in a manner unbecoming to a MASCA

member, then written evidence should be presented to the Board of Directors for disciplinary action. Any member who falsifies a registration or knowingly misrepresents a pedigree should be reported to the MASCA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will determine any actions taken. Infractions may result in termination of membership and/or revocation of MASCA registration privileges for all members, owners, breeders, and/or dogs, in accordance with the terms of the MASCA By-Laws.

Printed Name of Member #1

Printed Name of Member #2

Signature _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Date _____