

Rocky Mountain Mastiff Fanciers
Code of Ethics
(Amended: August 16, 1997)

The Rocky Mountain Mastiff Fanciers requires its members to adhere to the following guidelines, which constitute its Code of Ethics. The Club also requires that member, breeders and stud dog owners not aid or abet the violation of these guidelines by anyone else. This Code details certain practices necessary to implement the objectives of the Club as outlined in Article I, Section 2 of its Constitution.

1. I will consider only the betterment of the breed when breeding a bitch or allowing breeding with my stud dog, being conscientious of controlling and eliminating inherited problems. A breeder and stud dog owner shall plan each breeding with the paramount intention of protecting the breed, and only when the parties involved agree the breeder is in a position and has the knowledge to give proper care to both the bitch and offspring.

2. I will not allow a bitch to be bred prior to her reaching twenty-two (22) months of age, nor shall any bitch be bred after her seventh (7) birthday. A bitch will not be bred more than once (1) a year unless she does not whelp a litter, the litter is stillborn, consists of a single (1) pup, or as part of a veterinarian's recommendation for treatment of pyometra. Any other reason for a bitch to be bred more than once (1) a year would need to be stated in writing, along with a licensed veterinarian's certification of good health, to be received by the Secretary at least forty-five (45) days prior to breeding for the Board's approval.

3. I will keep at least a three-generation pedigree on each litter of mastiff puppies I breed.

4. I will only sell a Mastiff to a buyer whom I believe to be interested in the protection of the breed and who would agree in writing to provide the highest quality of care for said Mastiff, including quality food, water, proper shelter from heat or cold, active companionship, appropriate exercise, socialization and professional veterinary care whenever necessary.

5. I will not knowingly sell or provide a Mastiff for resale, gift or prize or to a broker/agent for resale. I will not engage in the brokering of puppies (selling or buying) i.e. pet shops.

6. I will not sell a puppy/adult who is sick, nor will I ship or deliver to the buyer a puppy less than eight (8) weeks of age.

7. I will not sell a Mastiff for the purpose of attack training, fighting, or any other sport detrimental to the breed and its reputation.

8. I will require the neutering/spaying of any puppy/adult I place or sell as "pet" quality as soon as the dog reaches the appropriate age.

9. If I should find myself unable to physically take back a Mastiff, bred/sold by me, who has been displaced, I will assist MCOA Rescue or a Regional Club Rescue Program in the placement of said Mastiff.

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10. I will report to the Board of the RMMF any mistreatment of Mastiffs or unethical practices by an RMMF member. I understand that if the Board of the RMMF determines that there is sufficient evidence of a member having violated any of the specific rules or objectives implied in the Constitution and By-Laws of RMMF, they may suspend or expel that member as provided for in the Constitution and By-laws.

11. I will show good sportsmanship at all times and in all matters relating to Mastiffs. I will maintain the highest degree of honesty and integrity. I will not knowingly make a misstatement of fact in any serious discussion of my Mastiffs, or the Mastiffs of any other RMMF member, that I might have with persons not qualified to judge the facts for themselves.

12. An RMMF member will sell each Mastiff puppy/adult on a written contract signed by all parties. Said contract shall contain, but is not limited to the following provisions:

- a. Complete care/feeding instructions.
- b. A record of inoculations and worming with a recommended continuation schedule. Homeopathic recommendations as provided by breeder.
- c. Provide the buyer with a five (5) generation pedigree on the litter.
- d. Furnish a signed AKC registration or transfer form, unless written agreement is made with the buyer that such papers are withheld or are to follow.
- e. A provision that ensures the breeder is contacted whenever an owner can no longer keep a dog at anytime in the dog's life.
- f. Stipulate that the buyer have a veterinary check-up within five (5) working days of the sale (or whatever is applicable in your state of residence), to determine that the Mastiff is healthy. If the veterinarian determines that the Mastiff is not in good health, the breeder will, upon the Mastiff's return, refund the purchase price or replace the Mastiff.

13. I will not produce more than eight (8) litters, owned or co-owned, in a twenty-four (24) month period. As a stud dog owner, I will not knowingly allow my stud dog to be used in a program, which has already produced more than eight (8) litters in a twenty-four (24) month period.

I/we, the undersigned applicant(s), do pledge to adhere to the above Code of Ethics of the Rocky Mountain mastiff Fanciers (RMMF):

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

(for RMMF File)

Date Received: _____

Secretary: _____ President: _____

Mailed Information the Treasurer on this _____ day of _____, _____ with dues in the amount of \$ _____, paid by Check # _____ Dated _____.

Signed: _____
Secretary for RMMF

Cc: Member(s)