

# Northern Newfoundland Club



## Good Practice Guidelines for Breeding

1. Breeding a litter of Newfoundlands is not a task to be entered into lightly. It is more than a commitment to looking after puppies for almost 3 months; it is a commitment to provide the necessary support to those puppies for the rest of their lives.
2. Breeding should only take place between two Newfoundlands registered with the Kennel Club.
3. Owners should only breed a litter if they have the time and facilities to devote proper care and attention to the rearing of the puppies, including socialisation, and the well-being of the dam. Breeders are responsible for the stock they have bred and should be prepared to take back and either keep or re-house dogs of their own breeding, no matter how old, and only use the Welfare Scheme as a last resort.
4. The purpose of breeding is to maintain or improve the quality of the Newfoundland in accordance with the Breed Standard. Careful selection of the sire and dam with an eye to conformation and temperament is essential. Only after careful study of the Breed Standard, the health of the individuals and near relatives, the pedigrees and basic principles of genetics should the mating proceed.
5. All animals to be bred shall have sound and typical structure and conformation, shall be of sound temperament, free from crippling or disabling hereditary defects and in good physical condition.
6. Only a Newfoundland (dog or bitch) which consistently produces offspring free from such hereditary defects from different mates should be used for breeding.
7. All dogs and bitches to be used for breeding shall have their hips and elbows scored under the BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia & Elbow Schemes and only Newfoundlands with as low a score as possible used for breeding.

Breeders are expected to take every reasonable step to contribute to the lowering of the Breed Average in accordance with the best Veterinary and Genetic Advice currently available at the time of breeding.

8. All dogs and bitches to be used for breeding shall have their hearts tested and graded by a veterinary cardiologist with a diploma in veterinary cardiology. This should be by means of a colour flow Echo Doppler and only dogs/bitches passed as free from abnormalities to be bred from. All dogs and bitches to be used for breeding must have a colour flow echo Doppler examination performed by a veterinary surgeon with a diploma in veterinary cardiology every two years.
9. The cystinuria status of all dogs and bitches to be used for breeding be determined by DNA testing and mating carried out with the objective of eliminating this genetic fault from the breed.
10. A bitch should only be mated whilst between the ages of 2 (two) years and 7 (seven) years. A first litter should only be produced when under the age of 5 (five) years. There must be at least 12 (twelve) months between litters. Members will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon who carries out a caesarean section on a bitch, may report such an operation to the Kennel Club.
11. A litter should be bred only when suitable homes will be found for all the puppies.
12. It is the individual and joint responsibilities of the owners of the stud dog and brood bitch to ensure that the proposed mating complies with the above requirements.
13. Prospective owners of puppies should be screened for suitability by means of a home visit; they should be advised of breed characteristics, the need for grooming, exercise and specialised feeding as a puppy as well as the advantages and disadvantages of raising a Newfoundland. Insurance is another matter that needs to be thought about.
14. Puppies should have a health check by a veterinary surgeon before going to their new homes. Transfers should only be made of healthy stock and only after they are 7 (seven) weeks of age. Transfers should only be made to the final owner and not to any intermediary.
15. Newfoundlands should only be sold in this country or to countries which have a reciprocal agreement with the Kennel Club and not to those countries, which by reason of climate or philosophy, are unsuitable.
16. Kennel Club Registration should be obtained as soon as possible and provided to the new owner preferably at the time of collection. The endorsements 'Progeny not eligible for Registration (R)' and 'Not eligible for

the issue of an Export Pedigree (X)' should be placed on KC record and on the Registration Certificate. These restrictions can subsequently be raised by the breeder if they think appropriate. It is advisable to give the purchaser a written and signed contract with advanced written notice of this and all other conditions of transfer before any sale is completed.

17. As well as providing the Registration Certificate with the change of ownership section duly completed, the breeder should provide at collection the following:
  - a. A five generation pedigree, showing any known relevant colours as well as any health screening - hip, elbow, heart scores and cystinuria status.
  - b. Written information on any veterinary treatment - inoculation, worming, etc., - that has been provided.
  - c. A dietary requirements sheet from puppy to adulthood, together with possible sources as well as enough of the dog's current diet for at least 4 days.
  - d. Information on responsible dog ownership and training.
  - e. A copy of the Kennel Club General Code of Ethics.
  - f. A Northern Newfoundland Club membership application form (unless they are already a member). New owners should be advised to have their puppy checked by their own veterinarian within 48 hours of arriving home and to have a microchip fitted at once.
  - g. A written contract signed by both breeder and buyer outlining the future responsibilities of both.
18. Breeders should be willing to provide advice and assistance to owners of their stock. However, this is a two way process, thus owners should keep their dog's breeder informed of its health and progress and contact the breeder at the first sign of *any* problems. A breeder should be prepared to take dogs back if rehoming becomes necessary.
19. Advertising may be read by persons having little or no knowledge of dogs. Thus all advertising should not promote any particular breeding through misleading or exaggerated statements or distortion of fact, or through stated or implied deprecation of the Newfoundlands of others.
20. The Club will only provide details of a litter on the Club's online breeder and puppy list to prospective Purchasers for a breeder who has certified that they have met and will comply with the requirements of the N.N.C's Good Practice Guidelines for Breeding in respect of that litter.

## **THE KENNEL CLUB GENERAL CODE OF ETHICS**

Members should note: - The registered owners of all Kennel Club registered dogs accept the jurisdiction of the Kennel Club and undertake to abide by this General Code of Ethics:

Members are recommended to obtain a copy of the current edition of this booklet direct from the Kennel Club and they should also take note of all the current Statutory Legislation and Kennel Club Regulations with regards Dog Breeders, Breeding and applications to register a litter and/or a single puppy.