

## **CODE OF ETHICS GUIDELINE**

A member of the Bell Vernon Kennel Association agrees to conduct all activities with their dogs as follows:

### **Breeding**

Each litter is the result of conscientious planning, including consideration of the parents' freedom from hereditary defects, soundness, temperament and general conformance to the official standard of the breed. The BVKA member must be especially concerned with the proper placement of puppies, both pet and show potential. The BVKA member will only breed healthy mature animals, preferably 24 months but at least 18 months of age. Prior to breeding the BVKA member will have completed all health checks recommended for their breed.

### **Sales**

BVKA members will not purchase, sell, consign or transfer puppies or adults to/from pet shops, wholesale dealers, contest sponsors or to anyone thinking of breeding and/or sale to the aforementioned. BVKA members urge purchasers to spay/neuter any dog that will not be shown in conformation utilizing Limited Registration as appropriate. Under normal circumstances a BVKA member will not place a puppy prior to seven weeks of age.

### **Health and Welfare**

BVKA members will follow the guidelines of good kennel practice as defined by law. BVKA members will not exhibit, release or otherwise expose any animal that is known to have been exposed to a communicable disease until the end of the incubation period for that disease.

### **Registration**

If applicable BVKA members will accurately register their dogs with the American Kennel Club and abide by the rules of AKC.

### **Exhibition**

BVKA members will exhibit their dogs in all events in accordance with the rules of the American Kennel Club or whichever organization they are participating in and in the spirit of good sportsmanship. When traveling BVKA members will take reasonable care to maintain hotels and show grounds in a clean condition.

I have read, understand and voluntarily agree to conduct myself in accordance with the BVKA Code of Ethics: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_