



# CANADIAN COTON DE TULEAR CLUB CODE OF ETHICS (“COE”)

## **Introduction**

The Canadian Coton de Tulear Club (the “CCTC” or the “Club”) is a Canadian membership organization devoted to the preservation and welfare of the Coton de Tulear, abiding by our mission statement “Celebrating the Coton. Preserving the Breed”. Those affiliated with the CCTC have a passion and commitment to this wonderful breed.

The CCTC welcomes members and breeders who celebrate the Coton, believe in the mission and are truly dedicated to the breed and contribute to the CCTC initiatives (which may include Coton rescue, Club improvements, or other projects).

All information within the CCTC is to be kept confidential.

## **CCTC COE Breeders and Breeding**

Our CCTC COE breeders are committed to preserving and protecting the physical, psychological, and genetic integrity of the Coton de Tulear. We are proud to be dedicated, responsible breeders who adhere to the FCI standard and distinguished from those who exploit the breed solely for profit.

It is understood that the purpose for breeding the Coton de Tulear is to preserve the breed, while aiming for genetic diversity, betterment of the breed, and to produce physically sound puppies, which exhibit no clinical signs of illness, structural problems, or temperamental defects. The ultimate goal for Coton breeders is for such puppies to become healthy adult dogs that reflect the FCI standards in structure and character.

Our breeders advocate against puppy mills, pet store dog sales, backyard breeders and online brokers. Breeders will not knowingly be involved with breeding mixed breeds or “designer dogs” nor will they knowingly be involved with providing breeding stock to puppy mills, puppy farms, backyard breeders or brokers through direct sale of dogs or stud/bitch services. Our breeders will educate themselves on the differences and reach out to the BOD should require any clarification.

The conditions in which our breeders raise dogs and puppies are of significant importance and distinguish us from non-ethical breeders. The best possible standards of canine well being including overall health, sanitary living conditions, veterinary care and mentally stimulating environment including socialization for dogs and puppies will be maintained. All animals will be treated with kindness and compassion never using harsh training methods and ensuring positive reinforcement techniques. Each breeder will educate the puppy buyers as such.



Breeders will embrace breeding with interest, education, dedication, care and commitment.

These are our requirements that form the foundation of our COE:

### **Breeding Practices**

1. Abide by this COE, the Bylaws, and Procedures of the CCTC.
2. All breeding dogs shall have comprehensive health tests and the results of those tests shall be a major factor in breeding decisions. Breeding decisions shall entail making ethical choices, keeping in mind the individuals, lines and overall health of the breed.
3. Each breeder is responsible for keeping up to date on all health issues pertaining to the Coton de Tulear and test as appropriate for the well being of the dog and the breed.
4. Each breeder shall understand the mode of inheritance and management of carriers in order to avoid passing on any genetic defects.
5. The CCTC recommends a female to be bred from a minimum age of 18 months to a maximum age of six years and not to over-breed keeping with a maximum of five litters during the life of a female. The health and wellbeing of the dogs will be at the forefront of all decisions.
6. Stud dogs must be a minimum of one year old and ensure stud services are not supplied to any immature bitch, one in poor health, having serious faults, non-purebred Cotons, those from non-ethical breeders, backyard breeders, puppy mills, or puppy farms. The CCTC recommends breeders consider using semen evaluations in determining health and viability of stud dogs.
7. Register every Coton and every puppy from the breeding program, and within the parameters as set forth by the official registry for the Coton de Tulear in Canada, including permanent identification methods via microchip and/or tattoo.
8. Strive for the health and quality of the puppies and the health of the female.
9. Never breed for profit at the expense of the dogs or puppies.
10. Never participate in the donation of Coton de Tulear as prizes for raffles, auctions or contests.

### **Sales Practices**

1. Every Coton de Tulear will be sold with a sales contract. Each sales contract will contain the registered names of the sire and dam, the registration numbers of the sire and dam, and the call names of the sire and dam.



2. In addition to the contract, breeders will supply records to the buyer regarding immunization, worming, future care, feeding, and a written health guarantee of a minimum of one year.
3. Have a working relationship with a veterinarian for puppy care.
4. If requested, the breeder shall provide puppy buyers with health test results and pedigree of the parents.
5. Each breeder is committed to ensuring the well-being of all puppies they produce. To ensure an excellent quality of life, breeders must diligently screen prospective buyers to determine their suitability for Coton ownership.
6. Breeders shall provide support and ongoing advice to puppy buyers.
7. Maintain and keep organized records of all litters and buyers.
8. Maintain and keep organized all health records.
9. Ensure transparency on any health issues especially when selling breeding dogs and provide mentorship.
10. When promoting the Coton de Tulear through advertisements, the CCTC must be listed as affiliated Parent Breed Club. COE breeders are encouraged to display the CCTC logo.
11. Maintain a reasonable, competitive price within your area.
12. Prudently classify stock as either show prospects/breeding or pet companions. Seek assistance from a well-experienced breeder to confirm any doubts on classification.
13. Never provide false or misleading advertisements or information.

### **Conformation Show Practices**

The CCTC supports breeders and members to exhibit their Coton de Tulear whenever possible and encourages the presentation of high-quality dogs. Experienced exhibitors are encouraged to provide guidance to the novice exhibitor and breeder with an understanding to the long-term benefits to the CCTC and the breed. All breeders and members shall exhibit good sportsmanship at shows.

### **Health Testing Practices**

CCTC COE breeders shall embrace health testing in order to preserve the health of the breed and maintain the status of a CCTC COE breeder.

The CCTC recommends using the tests on CHIC (Canine Health Information Center) as a starting point for health testing, while actively keeping up to date on new health information. The CCTC encourages registration of all test results with OFA (formerly Orthopedic Foundation of Animals) AKA the Canine Health Information Center.



### **Physical health tests:**

- Eye Examination – CERF and is done by a board-certified ophthalmologist
- Patellar Luxation – done through local vet
- Hip Dysplasia – X-ray - OFA Evaluation or Penn Hip
- Elbow Dysplasia – X-ray - OFA Evaluation
- OFA Cardiac Evaluation – basic through local vet or more extensive through cardiologist
- OFA Thyroid – blood test evaluation from an approved laboratory

### **Genetic tests:**

- Full Genome testing – Embark or equivalent
- Neonatal Cerebellar Ataxia (Bandera's Syndrome)
- Von Willibrands (vWD)
- IVDD
- Degenerative Myelopathy
- Canine Multifocal Retinopathy 2
- Primary Hyperoxaluria
- Hyperuricosuria

COE – November 9, 2020