

Code of Ethics

The Canadian Coton de Tuléar Club, hereafter referred to as the CCTC, is a non-profit Canadian organization devoted to the preservation and welfare of the rare breed Coton de Tuléar.

All members abide by our mission statement “Celebrating the Coton. Preserving the Breed.”.

The CCTC COE breeders are committed to preserving the physical, psychological, and genetic integrity of the Coton de Tuléar. 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.

CCTC COE Breeders advocate against puppy mills, pet store dog sales, backyard breeders and online brokers. Breeders will not be involved with breeding “mixed breeds/designer dogs” nor will they be involved with providing breeding stock to puppy mills, puppy farms, large scale breeders, backyard breeders or brokers through direct sale of dogs or stud/bitch services.

The CCTC is an inclusive membership organization. Those affiliated with the CCTC have a passion and commitment to this wonderful breed. CCTC welcomes members who celebrate the Coton, believe in the mission, and are truly dedicated to the breed and breeders who are happy to follow the Code of Ethics. CCTC COE breeders and members shall exhibit integrity and tact about and towards each other at all times and shall not discuss in any derogatory manner other CCTC members with another member, prospective Coton owner, or the public.

Any CCTC member whose membership is, or has been, revoked and/or suspended from any other Canine Organization (ie. CFC, CKC, local club etc.) will be revoked and/or suspended from the CCTC for an equivalent period of time. Should the revocation and/or suspension be lifted and the member reinstated in good standing in the other Canine Organization, the CCTC will consider a request to reinstate the CCTC membership status. This same guideline shall apply to any CCTC member who is investigated/charged with any animal mistreatment through the SPCA or any other organization.

I acknowledge that the conditions in which dogs and puppies are raised by COE breeders/owners are of significant importance and distinguish us from non-ethical breeders, puppy mills, back-yard breeders etc. With this in mind, I agree to maintain the best possible standards of canine health, sanitary living conditions, and veterinary care. I agree to provide a mentally stimulating environment, including socialization, for my dogs and puppies. I will treat all animals in my care with kindness and compassion never using harsh training methods and will educate my puppy buyers as such.

ON BREEDING

It is understood that the purpose for breeding the Coton de Tuléar is to better the breed and to produce a physically sound puppy which exhibits no clinical signs of illness, structural problems, or temperamental defects. The ultimate goal for the Coton breeders is for such puppies to become adult dogs that reflect the FCI standards in structure and character.

CCTC COE Breeders accept the responsibility of preserving and protecting the breed and will embrace breeding with interest, knowledge, dedication, care and commitment.

REQUIREMENTS

1. I will abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the CCTC.
2. I am responsible to plan every mating with the intention of improvement, and preservation of the breed type, temperament, and health, with awareness of the co-efficient of inbreeding, age and the conformation of both sire and dam.
3. I am responsible for thorough screening of all prospective buyers to determine their suitability for Coton ownership and ensure puppy has an excellent quality of life.
4. I will register every Coton I own/co-own and every puppy from litters produced by me with, and within the parameters as set forth by, the official registry body for the Coton de Tulear in Canada including permanent identification methods either microchip and/or tattoo.
5. I will ensure that my breeding program will include health tests of my breeding dogs and I will make ethical choices based on those results. I will use the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) as a guideline for testing. I promise to keep current of all health issues pertaining to the Coton de Tulear and test as deemed appropriate for the wellbeing of the breed. Decisions will be based on lines and overall health of the breed. I will understand the mode of inheritance and manage carriers in order to not produce affected dogs.
6. I will be responsible for the well-being of all puppies produced by my kennel for their entire lifetime.
7. I will do my best to help with CCTC initiatives which may include Coton rescue, club improvements, or projects as much as I can. I will be positive, helpful and respectful to fellow breeders
8. I will not over-breed my bitches for profit, with no regard for the quality of the puppies or health of the female. The CCTC recommends a female to be bred from a minimum age of 18 months to a maximum age of 6 years as well as a maximum of 5 litters during the life of a female.
9. As the owner of a stud dog, I will breed only healthy, mature dogs. I will refuse stud service 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.
10. I will not participate in the donation of Coton de Tuléar as prizes for raffles, auctions or contests.

ON SALES

1. I will sell every Coton de Tuléar that is produced by me 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. (added effective October 26, 2016).
2. I will keep records of all my litters as well as records on any health issues in order to eliminate problems.
3. I will list the CCTC as my affiliated Parent Breed Club if I am promoting the Coton de Tuléar through advertisements. COE Breeders are encouraged to post the logo of the CCTC.
4. I understand that if an ethical complaint is filed against me or my kennel that I will be able to dispute any allegation in writing and appeal any sanction against me.
5. Maintain a reasonable, competitive price within your area.
6. Keep records of all puppy buyers.

7. Intelligently and honestly classify stock as show prospects, or pet companions. If in doubt, seek help from a knowledgeable breeder to classify the litter.
8. Avoid false or misleading advertising.
9. Supply records to the buyer regarding immunization, worming, future care, feeding, and a written health guarantee of a minimum of one year.
10. Provide puppy buyers with health test results and pedigree of the parents if requested.
11. Provide lifelong support to puppy buyers, including ongoing advice.

CONFORMATION SHOWS

1. The CCTC encourages breeders and members to exhibit their Coton de Tulear whenever possible, and encourages the presentation of high quality stock.
2. With an understanding to the long term benefits to the CCTC and the breed, exhibitors are encouraged to be willing to help and encourage the novice exhibitor and breeder and always use constructive and honest criticism.
3. At shows I will exhibit good sportsmanship, positive reinforcement and refrain from using negative comments. I will represent the CCTC in a positive manner.

HEALTH TESTS

The CCTC recommends basing tests on CHIC (Canine Health Information Center) standards, while actively keeping up to date on new health information. The CCTC encourages registration of all test results with OFA. The CCTC trusts, and expects, that our CCTC COE breeders will embrace health testing in order to preserve the health of the breed and maintain being a COE breeder. Should you choose not to register with OFA, you must be willing to provide proof of health testing if requested by puppy buyers and/or the CCTC board of directors. The CCTC encourages more than the 2 DNA tests as recommended by CHIC. It is the CCTC COE breeder's responsibility to keep current of all health information and to routinely check for updates to CHIC as this can, and will, change in the future. Here is the website for CHIC, <http://caninehealthinfo.org/> The following are the current recommendations by CHIC for health testing.

Eye Examination by a board-certified Ophthalmologist

- Results registered with [OFA](#) or CERF

Patellar Luxation

- OFA Evaluation

Hip Dysplasia

- OFA Evaluation
- Penn Hip

Health Elective (TWO tests from the following list of tests)

- OFA Cardiac Evaluation – OR

- OFA Thyroid evaluation from an approved laboratory – OR
 - vWD DNA Test from an Approved Laboratory – OR
 - OFA Elbow Evaluation – OR
 - NEONATAL CEREBELLAR ATAXIA (BANDERA’S SYNDROME) DNA TEST – OR
 - DEGENERATIVE MYELOPATHY DNA TEST FROM AN APPROVED LABORATORY – OR
 - CANINE MULTIFOCAL RETINOPATHY 2 DNA TEST FROM AN APPROVED LABORATORY – OR
 - PRIMARY HYPEROXALURIA DNA TEST FROM AN APPROVED LABORATORY – OR
 - HYPERURICOSURIA DNA TEST FROM AN APPROVED LABORATORY

I HEREBY AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE ABOVE CCTC CODE OF ETHICS TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY, PUTTING THE WELFARE AND ADVANCEMENT OF THE COTON DE TULEAR BREED FIRST AND FOREMOST OVER AND ABOVE THE GOAL OF PROFIT.

Signature of member/breeder: _____

Date: _____

Amended October 26, 2016