

Code of Ethics

The Midwest Labrador Retriever Club has adopted the following Code of Ethics as a guide for members whose goal is the welfare and preservation of the Labrador Retriever breed. When engaged in any activity involving Labrador Retrievers, members agree to follow this Code of Ethics and to refrain from activity that would be detrimental to the breed or Midwest Labrador Retriever Club. It shall be the responsibility of each member to preserve and promote the Labrador Retriever as a breed by acknowledging the standards as published by the American Kennel Club and developed by The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.

Sportsmanship and Conduct

The members of the Midwest Labrador Retriever Club, are encouraged to participate in and support multi-purpose activities for the breed, always promoting improvement of type, quality and ability. In doing so, they will exhibit good sportsmanship at all dog-related activities, acting as role models for novices and peers. As such members will uphold the AKC Code of Sportsmanship.

Members will make themselves available to assist novices and the general public with information concerning the Labrador Retriever.

Every member shall inform him/herself of and follow the American Kennel Club rules, and must be in good standing with the AKC.

Members shall refrain from intentionally maligning judges, fellow competitors, breeders, or owners by making false or misleading statements regarding their dogs, breeding practices, or person.

Cruel or abusive handling of dogs is detrimental to the sport. Such behavior only reflects negatively upon ourselves, our dogs, and the Midwest Labrador Retriever Club.

Breeding

Members of the MWLRC who take the responsibility to breed are suggested to utilize genetic testing tools available when making breeding decisions. Any individual dogs that enters a breeding program should be selected and evaluated for hereditary defects through the use of currently recognized and available tests and registries. Breeding should promote the outstanding characteristics of the ideal Labrador Retriever.

Breeders are encouraged to utilize limited registration for all dogs that will not be shown or bred and to educate their puppy buyers on responsible pet ownership including spaying/neutering.

Each member of this club shall keep accurate and complete records of his/her dogs including, but not limited to breeding records, health records, pedigrees and competitive achievements. Members who knowingly falsify or misrepresent any documentation will be expelled from this club and their actions reported to the American Kennel Club, Inc.

Draft 11/16/11

When placing puppies, Breeders are obligated to provide appropriate registration documentation according to the AKC rules and written instructions regarding the care of the dog, health needs, dates and types of shots administered and still required, and status of worming program. ABOVE ALL, BREEDERS SHOULD BE HONEST when dealing with puppy purchasers in all matters such as pedigrees, clearances, and inherited attributes.

Breeders shall not participate in the commercialization of Labradors including selling or donating dogs or puppies to dealers,, puppy mills, or for auction or raffle. However, the donation of puppies to be trained by non-profit, service-oriented organizations is strongly encouraged.

Members should be available to their puppy buyers for information and consultation and should inform their buyers of their willingness to be involved in the placement of the puppy if a situation arises that the original buyer cannot keep the puppy.