



THE OTTERHOUND CLUB OF AMERICA, Inc. Membership Application

Please return completed application to OHCA Secretary:

Robin Keeling

4221 Wildflower Pond NW, Acworth GA 30101

THE OTTERHOUND CLUB OF AMERICA, Inc. opposes the sale of puppies to pet stores or whole-litter sales. Anyone selling puppies in this manner, or who contemplates doing so, should not apply for OHCA membership.

Contact Information: (Please print legibly)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

What Otterhound(s) do you presently own? (Dog Name, Sire/Dam & Breeder)

Do you plan to show your Otterhound(s) in:

Conformation/Dog Shows Obedience Tracking Agility Other _____

CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP: (all yearly, June 1st-May 31st)

Individual \$30 Foreign/Individual \$30 Junior \$0
 Couple \$42 Foreign/Couple \$42

Voice is the official Club Publication. Would you like to receive a paper copy? Yes No

PEC: Would you be willing to participate in Public Education Events in your area? Yes No

Please indicate the state(s): _____

I will abide by the Constitution and Bylaws, and the Code of Ethical Conduct of the Otterhound Club of America, Inc., if I am elected to membership.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Membership applications must be endorsed by two (2) members of the Otterhound Club of America, Inc.

1) Member signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

2) Member signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

OTTERHOUND CLUB OF AMERICA, Inc.
Constitution

Section 1. The name of the Club shall be: The Otterhound Club of America, Inc.

Section 2. The objects of this Club shall be:

- a) to encourage and promote quality in the breeding of pure-bred Otterhounds and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection.
- b) to encourage the organization of independent local specialty clubs in those localities where there are sufficient fanciers of the breed to meet the requirements of the American Kennel Club.
- c) to urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which Otterhounds shall be judged.
- d) to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, obedience trials, and tracking tests under the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club.
- e) to conduct sanctioned matches, specialty shows, obedience trials and tracking tests under the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club.

Section 3. The club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or remainder or residue from dues or donations to the club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

Section 4. The members of the club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such bylaws as may be required to carry out these objects.

Initial(s) _____

THE OTTERHOUND CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.
CODE OF ETHICAL CONDUCT

Article I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Code of Conduct shall be to always maintain a standard of excellence in ownership, breeding, sales and exhibition of Otterhounds. All OHCA members have an obligation to protect the best interests of the breed by conducting themselves in a manner reflecting positively on themselves, their hounds, and the OHCA. Blatant and serious infractions of the Code could lead to disciplinary actions by the Board of the OHCA under Article VI of the OHCA By-Laws.

Article II. RECORDS

All members of the OHCA shall be familiar with and follow the AKC rules regarding record keeping registration, sales, and transfer of dogs. Members agree to register every Otterhound and maintain accurate records per AKC requirements, as well as provide relevant dog and/or litter information to the Otterhound Database.

Article III. CARE OF OTTERHOUNDS

Otterhound owners agree to:

- A. Provide adequate food and water, appropriate shelter and regular veterinary care including all necessary tests and heartworm as well as parasite prevention.
- B. Provide care, affection, socialization and training in order to make their Otterhound a sound and well-adjusted pet.
- C. Contact their Breeder if at any time they are unable to keep their Otterhound. If the Breeder is not able to help with rehoming, the owner will contact Otterhound Rescue and will not place the dog with any other rescue or in an animal shelter.

Article IV. BREEDING

Bitch Owners Agree to:

- A. Breed only with the intention of improving the breed and finding suitable homes for the resulting puppies.
- B. Choose only healthy, mature and mentally sound parents with good qualities according to the current AKC standard.
- C. Know the inherited problems of their stock and the breed, and work to control and eliminate those problems.
- D. Perform the CHIC testing recommended by the OHCA prior to using any Otterhound for breeding, and publish all results.
 - i. X-ray all breeding stock for canine hip dysplasia and submit x-rays to OFA, Penn-Hip or any other professional panel for evaluation and make such evaluations public.
 - ii. Submit blood for genetic testing for Thromboplastic Thrombasthenia (Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia) at the approved lab or show proof that the puppies will be clear by parentage.
 - iii. Submit blood from the Dam for the epilepsy study at the University of Missouri and submit blood from the litter of puppies before they leave breeder's care.
- E. Permanently identify each pup before placing (tattoo or microchip)
- F. Be open and honest with buyers, and those involved in breeding, about the health background of their hounds, including hip status, Glanzmann's test, blood tests, thyroid tests, seizures, allergies, and any other health or temperament problems.
- G. Ensure that all puppies from each litter are registered with the AKC.
- H. Submit Sire, Dam and litter information to the Otterhound Database no later than 6 months after the litter has been born.

Stud dog owners agree to:

- A. Ascertain that the owner of the bitch to be bred is well prepared to whelp and care for a litter and is willing to adhere to the standards presented in this code.
- B. Refuse stud service to bitches that do not meet the criteria in this Code.
- C. Take an interest in seeing that the resultant puppies are placed in secure homes and be willing to help if offspring needs to be rehomed.

Article V. ADVERTISING

Oral and written advertising should be factual and clear, not allude to situations or features that are incorrect.

Article VI. SALES

Sellers will refuse to sell to wholesalers and retailers, or to sell or buy in litter lots, or to participate in the raffles of puppies. To do so will result in loss of OHCA membership.

Sellers agree to:

- A. Not sell puppies before eight weeks of age.
- B. Provide the buyer feeding instructions, a complete health record of the puppy, a suggested schedule of further inoculations and deworming, instructions to take the puppy to the buyer's veterinarian, grooming, care, and training tips at the time of purchase.
- C. Register both the litter of puppies and the individual puppies with the AKC, or provide the buyer with an AKC registration application.
- D. Provide a bill of sale stating all terms of the purchase.
- E. Encourage their puppy buyers to join the OHCA and make themselves available in the future to answer buyer's questions concerning the dog's development and well-being.
- F. Take back or make every effort to assist in rehoming of any puppy or an adult Otterhound they produced.

Article VII. CONTRACTS

Contracts should adhere to the principles set forth in this Code and should be signed by all parties, each having a copy and each fully understanding the terms at the time of signing.

Article VIII. SPORTSMANSHIP

OHCA Members agree to:

- A. Conduct themselves at all times in a manner which will reflect positively upon them and the Otterhound breed, both in their actions and their conversations whatever the venue.
- B. No matter the context or venue, treat and speak of others as they would expect to be treated and spoken of themselves.
- C. Refrain from bullying in OHCA events and activities in any form. Bullying in this context means conduct that (i) threatens, humiliates, or intimidates or (ii) interferes, prevents, or discourages participation or (iii) abuses, whether written or verbal, including but not limited to social media.
- D. Be gracious in competition whether winning or losing both in actions and words, whatever the venue.

Initial(s) _____