



## CKCS United Code of Ethics

### *Introduction*

The CKCS United Code of Ethics is designed to ensure the integrity, health, and well-being of Cavalier King Charles Spaniels (CKCS). All members, breeders, and affiliates of CKCS United are expected to adhere to the highest standards of conduct in all activities related to the breed. This code outlines our commitment to responsible breeding, care, and representation of CKCS.

### **1. Health and Welfare**

1.1. **Health Testing:** All breeding dogs must undergo health testing for common genetic disorders in CKCS, including but not limited to heart, eye, and patella issues. Results must be available upon request.

1.2. **Veterinary Care:** Ensure all dogs receive regular veterinary care, vaccinations, and preventative treatments.

1.3. **Diet and Exercise:** Provide a balanced diet and regular exercise appropriate to the age, breed, and health condition of the dog.

1.4. **Living Conditions:** Maintain clean, safe, and comfortable living conditions for all dogs under your care.

### **2. Breeding Practices**

2.1. **Breeding Standards:** Only breed dogs that meet the breed standard as recognized by major kennel clubs or the CKCS United additional color standards, with an emphasis on temperament, health, and conformation.

2.2. **Genetic Diversity:** Aim to maintain and enhance the genetic diversity of the breed to avoid inbreeding and associated health problems.

2.3. **Age and Frequency:** Do not breed dogs before they are mature or beyond their ability to produce healthy offspring. Limit the number of litters per dog to ensure the health and well-being of the dam.

2.4. **Breed Purity:** Do not mix other breeds with Cavaliers. Ensure that all breeding practices maintain the purity and integrity of the CKCS breed.

2.5. **Placement:** Screen potential puppy buyers to ensure they are capable of providing a loving and responsible home. Provide lifelong support to puppy buyers.

### 3. Representation and Promotion

3.1. **Honesty:** Represent the breed, your dogs, and CKCS United honestly in all forms of communication and promotion.

3.2. **Education:** Commit to educating the public and prospective owners about the CKCS breed, including its needs, temperament, and potential health issues.

3.3. **Advertising:** Use truthful and ethical advertising practices. Avoid exaggerations or false claims about your dogs or breeding practices.

### 4. Community and Collaboration

4.1. **Support and Respect:** Treat all members of the CKCS community with respect and support. Encourage and mentor new breeders and owners.

4.2. **Conflict Resolution:** Address conflicts and disputes within the community in a professional and respectful manner. Seek mediation or third-party assistance if necessary.

4.3. **Participation:** Engage in CKCS United activities, meetings, and initiatives. Contribute to the betterment of the breed and organization.

### 5. Compliance and Accountability

5.1. **Regulations and Laws:** Comply with all local, state, and national regulations and laws related to dog breeding, care, and ownership.

5.2. **Reporting:** Report any unethical behavior or violations of this Code of Ethics to the CKCS United Board of Directors.

5.3. **Consequences:** Understand that violations of this Code of Ethics may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or termination of CKCS United membership.

By adhering to this Code of Ethics, members of CKCS United demonstrate their commitment to the highest standards of care, breeding, and representation of Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. This code is a reflection of our dedication to the health, well-being, and future of this beloved breed.