

The Working Newfoundland Club

Code of Conduct



Introduction

This Code of Conduct has been developed to define what we expect of you as members and what we expect of you as members and what you should expect of us as caretakers of the Club.

Why do we need this Code?

The advice and guidance offered in this document is not meant to cause difficulty but is there for the protection of all of us and particularly of our dogs - unity and co-operation is therefore vital.

What you can expect of us

The committee of the Club will:

- Meet where it will discuss general running matters and items brought to its attention by members
- Provide as much information as possible via its website, e newsletter and mail regarding events and meetings
- Endeavour to take into account its members needs and wishes when implementing changes to its activities or introducing new ones
- Always put first the welfare of dogs and their handlers when planning or holding events
- Ensure that each event is covered by the relevant insurance a copy of which will be on show at each event
- Always endeavour to support its judges, test managers and stewards by offering training, guidance and good care when they are acting on behalf of the Club
- Endeavour to support and encourage people new to the breed who wish to become involved in working their Newfoundland and provide information on the general care of them. This will include steering prospective purchasers of puppies away from puppy farmers and disreputable breeders
- Will signpost owners to the correct officers of any breed club to provide information on showing, breeding or welfare or anything else not covered by the Working Newfoundland Club
- Endeavour to provide all information relating to events in good time
- Ensure that all the monies raised by the club will be put back into the club and have a full set of accounts available for inspection each and every year at the AGM or by special request
- Ensure that its officers and committee members abide by its constitution and always act in a way which benefits the Club
- To support test managers and host groups who wish to hold events on behalf of the Club

All matters received, in writing, will be acknowledged within 14 days and information given on when the sender may expect a response.

Where matters cannot wait until a meeting, the secretary will endeavour to contact all committee members to deal with an issue via email and to respond quickly.

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The WNC will be an autonomous Club, able to make its own decisions in line with its member's wishes but will work with the three breed Clubs on matters that have a common interest for the benefit of the breed.

What we expect from you

- Commit to abide by the regulations and the event rules both in word and in spirit.
- Consider the health and welfare of their dog to be of prime importance.
- Consider the health and welfare of other peoples' dogs as if they were their own and not commit any act that puts other people or their dogs at risk.
- Commit to fair play, honesty and integrity within a competitive spirit.
- Commit to being civil and courteous at all times to other entrants, stewards, the test manager, judges, invited trainers and speakers
- Be respectful of decisions taken by judges /test managers or committee members
- Respect constructive criticism of their own and their dogs performance from judges
- Do nothing to affect the impartiality of the judges
- Take responsibility for the actions and behaviour of family members or guests that they invite to the event
- Welcome and encourage newcomers to the event and assist them in understanding both the letter of and the spirit of the regulations and this code of conduct
- Respect all venues used by the Club
- Respect all people working at or associated with the venues used by the Club
- Clear up after their dogs, in public places or anywhere within the confines of the event – and beyond
- Take responsibility for and keep their dogs under control at all times. This will include when working off-lead and particularly in the confines of the test perimeter
- Not knowingly allow their dogs with any infectious diseases or bitches in season to be brought to any Club activities
- Supervise and understand that they are responsible for their children and any children of their guests or spectators during Club activities
- Judges and the test manager reserve the right to exclude from taking part in a test, any dog considered to be unsuitable to take part in the test due to age, weight, temperament, illness or physical ability
- Undertake to inform judges and stewards of any health implications that might affect their test performance or require medical action
- To refrain from taking part in a level or section at which their dog or themselves are not physically fit enough to complete. The Club will not be held responsible for exasperating any previous illness or injury of either dog or owner. In addition, the standards of the test cannot be changed to accommodate any such deficiency in ability.
- To report any incidents or problems to the test manager at a test event, or event manager at any other type of event, and to follow the appropriate recording procedures if required

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- Recommend that their dogs are protected against communicable diseases, in particular, leptospirosis due to the amount of water activities taking place
- Be a member of the Club before taking part in competitive Club events to ensure that all entrants are insured against any incident by virtue of the negligent parties membership
- Will house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required

Social Media

Abuse via social media is becoming more and more frequent. The Club has a complaints policy which is to be observed and used where applicable. Members who bring the Club, its officers or other members into disrepute via social media will be subject to section 4 of the constitution.

Breach of this code of conduct

Breaching any part of this code of conduct may result in expulsion from Club membership. This will be dealt with by the committee in line with its constitution (section 4) and/or its complaints policy (both of which can be found on the website) or by request from the Secretary.

This Code of Conduct was adopted by the Working Newfoundland Club committee on:
20th of November 2011

Updated
05/11/16