

## **PURPOSE**

The Code of Ethics is established in accordance with the objectives of the South African Mastiff® Breed Council, to protect, preserve and advance the interest of South African Mastiff® dogs worldwide. The South African Mastiff® Breed Council is providing written guidelines for responsible and ethical breeding practices to strive to conserve and improve the breed in structure, temperament and working ability.

In breeding, the emphasis shall be placed on working ability and other outstanding qualities of character of this breed. Measures should be taken to acquaint the public with the contents of this Code so that they might not become innocent partners in improper breeding practices.

Consistent with the above, I will agree to breed discriminately and only upon strong evidence of the possibility of finding suitable homes for the resulting puppies. I understand and agree that to breed inadvisably may lead to over-population and contribute to the deterioration of the South African Mastiff® breed. To be truthful.

## **OWNERSHIP**

Members will follow the South African Mastiff® Breed Council by-laws, and any federal, provincial and local laws. Members will maintain the highest possible standards of health, cleanliness and care of all dogs. Dogs shall be contained within safe restrictions when the breeder/owner cannot personally supervise their safety. All dogs shall be raised with the highest possible level of human interaction and socialization where possible to best facilitate sound development of the dog both mentally and physically.

## **RECORDS**

When I breed my bitch or use my stud dog in service, I agree to keep accurate records of stock, matings and pedigrees and to register my breeding stock with the South African Mastiff® Breed Council. I will always use the prescribed birth notification and sales contract obtained from the South African Mastiff® Breed Council, even if I decide to give my own printed pedigree. I understand that only an official South African Mastiff® Breed Council birth notification will be accepted. Every South African Mastiff® puppy or dog that leaves my property and ownership will be accompanied by a contract, regardless of the quality or purpose of the puppy or adult dog.

## **BREEDING**

I shall plan each breeding with the paramount intention of improving my bloodline within the foundation of the historical breed type.

I will select the stud dog and brood bitch with an eye on conformation, temperament and working ability, with a careful study of the breed standard and the principles of genetics.

I will not breed a male or female until they are both physically and mentally mature.

Before entering in any breed arrangement, I will scrutinize the pedigree, conformation and working potential of both the sire and dam, keeping in mind the ideal of the breed. I have an obligation to refuse the breeding if, in my opinion, it is not in the best interest of the breed.

I believe that only those dogs known to be free of serious or disqualifying defects/faults should be used for breeding. I agree not to use for breeding dogs with any of the following: vaginal hyperplasia, unsound temperaments such as extreme shyness, nervousness or viciousness, any disqualifying features as per the breed standards and no dogs with the black coat colour gene in the ancestors.

As a responsible breeder, I will refrain from using a dog that, although free from serious or disqualifying defects, consistently produces afflicted puppies.

I further recognize that merely obtaining the necessary certification does not warrant breeding an animal.

Further, if, to the best of my knowledge, I should breed from lines in which any of the above defects/faults occur, I will disclose this to my buyers.

I will:

1. Breed only dogs of stable temperament.
2. Breed only dogs free of communicable diseases.
3. Breed only dogs with no disqualifying physical faults according to the breed standard.
4. Will not breed with dogs with black coat colour in their ancestors.
5. Offer at stud only dogs who meet the above criteria.
6. Use only studs who meet the above criteria.
7. Breed only to bitches who meet the above criteria.
8. Breed only bitches who meet the above criteria.
9. Not breed bitches more than three out of four consecutive seasons.
10. Only breed normal, healthy mature dogs which have passed the minimum requirements.
11. As the owner of a stud dog, I will refuse stud service to any bitch that does not have the required certifications, has disqualifying faults, or which I consider to be in poor health. When a bitch has failed to conceive after being bred to one of my stud dogs, I will allow one repeat service, at such time and place as are mutually agreed to by the owner of the bitch.
12. Will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under my care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention when required.
13. I agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon who performs an operation on any of my dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, or who carries out a caesarean section on a bitch, may report such operations to the Council.
14. I agree that all my breeding animals will be microchipped and/or tattooed and the records send to [info@southafricanmastiff.co.za](mailto:info@southafricanmastiff.co.za)
15. As a breeder I will urge my puppy purchasers to provide obedience training at the proper age.



+27 (0) 81 330 0592



[info@southafricanmastiff.co.za](mailto:info@southafricanmastiff.co.za)



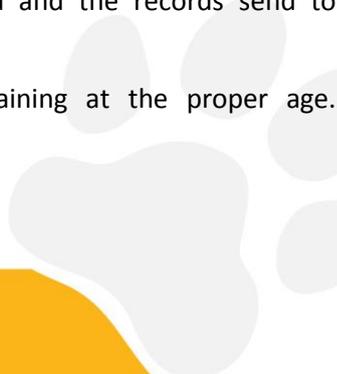
PO Box 2097, Zwavelpoort, 0036



[www.southafricanmastiff.co.za](http://www.southafricanmastiff.co.za)



263 Graham road, Tiegterspoort, 0056



16. If aware of the situation, the owner of a bitch or stud dog shall assist in the recover and/or relocation of all progeny produced as a result of any mating of that bitch or stud dog which, for any reason, cannot remain with the original purchaser.

To the best of my ability I will implement genetic screening of breeding stock for use in further studies and making available to other responsible breeders and the genetics database of the South African Mastiff® Breed Council. I will be honest and forthright in notifying any genetic or heritable diseases found to be in any dogs I own or have bred and pass on any information required to the genetics committee for research purposes and to assist in future breeding programmes.

### **SALES**

1. Breeders must complete a Litter Notification document directly after birth of the litter and send it to the office [info@southafricanmastiff.co.za](mailto:info@southafricanmastiff.co.za). This document assists the Council with research and accurate record keeping.
2. Sales contracts will be prepared for all transactions involving the transfer of ownership.
3. All puppies not purchased as working and/or breeding stock must be registered with the Council on a NON-BREEDING contract.
4. Birth notification and sales contract books can be obtained at head office at a fee.
5. All dogs/puppies sold or placed must be guaranteed to be in a healthy condition, including adequate protection/inoculations against known diseases.
6. Keep accurate health and breeding records.
7. Any provisions for refunds or reimbursement of expenses shall be included in the contract between breeder and purchaser.
8. I will send a copy of the contract of sale and birth notification in a timely manner to the office at [info@southafricanmastiff.co.za](mailto:info@southafricanmastiff.co.za). Birth notifications older than 6 months will be subject to a fine.
9. Puppies should not be younger than seven (7) weeks old prior to leaving the breeder's possession. If couriered, shipped or any other type of delivery requested, the puppy should be older than 12 weeks.
10. I will be discriminating in the sales of my dogs and only sell a puppy or adult dog to a buyer when I am confident that the buyer would care and look after his canine.
11. I will only sell to proper homes where the buyers indicate that they have a fair knowledge of the breed and will give the canine the proper care, attention and exercise required.
12. I will pass on to the buyer: dietary requirements, general health information, contract of sale, first inoculation and de-worming records.
13. I will not knowingly sell or consign puppies or adult dogs to pet shops, brokers or puppy mills, nor supply dogs for raffles, prizes or similar projects. No puppy or adult dog bred or owned by a South African Mastiff® Breed Council member shall knowingly be disposed of in an animal rescue, animal shelter or pound unless required to do so by law.

## ADVERTISING

1. I will inform the buyer of the qualities and weak points of the breed and will not knowingly use misleading or untruthful statements in selling or advertising. My advertising will be factual and honest, both in substance and implication.
2. I will observe highest levels of sportsmanship at all events, including social media. I shall refrain from making negative or malicious statements about other breeders, their dogs or practices. Disputes shall be handled internally.
3. It is illegal to advertise yourself as a South African Mastiff® breeder and offer puppies unregistered to the public.
4. The words South African Mastiff® is a registered trademark and can only be used by members in good standing.

I will exhibit and promote excellence in the discipline and practise of dog breeding.

I will do nothing which will bring the South African Mastiff® Breed Council into disrepute.

South African Mastiff® Breed Council members serve as ongoing ambassadors to all individuals interested in our breed. Let the soundness, health and temperament of dogs we have bred reflect our dedication to the good breeding practices and best interests of the South African Mastiff® breed as set forth in this Code of Ethics.

Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from membership and/or disciplinary action by the South African Mastiff® Breed Council and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.

I have reviewed and fully understand the contents of the South African Mastiff® Breed Council Code of Ethics, and hereby acknowledge and agree to comply with the above as a registered breeder. This document is a lawful agreement and binds all parties concerned. This document dated on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of January 2018 surpasses all pervious Code of Ethics signed/not signed by members as per our Lawful Regulations.

Executive Committee

