

Code of Ethics



All members of the Korthals Griffon Club of Great Britain (KGCGB) undertake to abide by its general Code of Ethics:

Club Members Will:

1. Properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
2. Agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, or who carries out a caesarean section on a bitch, may report such operation to the Kennel Club.
3. Agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
4. Abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
5. Not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
6. Agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed if there is clear evidence that this is the case.
7. Not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
8. Ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
9. Compliance with the Code of Ethics and the law when away from home i.e. not at Kennel Club licensed events covered by the show/trial regulation.
10. Compliance with Kennel Club regulations when competing at a licensed event.
11. Clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
12. Only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and will help with the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change. It should be impressed upon on buyers that they should contact the breeder in the event of any problem arising.
13. Supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
14. Will ensure that all puppies have had a full veterinary health check before they leave for their new homes.

15. Ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents at the earliest opportunity if not immediately available.
16. Not sell any dog to commercial dog wholesalers, laboratories, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. Will not sell by sale or auction Kennel Club registration certificates as standalone items (not accompanying a dog).
17. Not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise dogs nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog.
18. Undertake all breed relevant health and screen checks, as defined by the Kennel Club, when planning a litter. It is recommended that a K-Locus test is carried out on both bitch and sire to confirm whether or not their results are KB KB for mating purposes.
19. Abide fully with the compulsory micro-chipping of dogs from 6 April 2016 as detailed in the government legislation “Micro-chipping of Dogs Regulations”.
20. Conduct themselves in such a way as not to bring discredit to the breed or the Society and will demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.

Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.

In addition, the Club strongly recommends that:

1. When planning a litter members take advantage of all relevant health and screening checks.
2. No member should breed a litter unless he/she is reasonably sure of finding good homes for the puppies before a mating is considered. Owners of stud dogs should make it very clear to bitch owners of the commitment and facilities necessary to rear a litter. It is the responsibility of all stud dog owners to investigate the history of all visiting bitches. No bitch should be mated unless she fulfils the criteria as stated in this document.
3. Before breeding a litter, serious and equal consideration should be given to construction, temperament, health, working ability and soundness, in and for the choice of breeding stock. It should always be born in mind that aggression and nervousness form no part of a Korthals Griffon temperament and character. All breeding should be aimed at the improvement of the breed. Breeders should, at all times, strive to produce stock sound in mind and body that fits the breed standard and carries an instinct to work.

4. When making the decision to mate a bitch, all consideration should be given to her health and welfare and to the unborn puppies. No bitch should have more than one litter a year and never without consideration to the well-being of the bitch. No bitch should be mated before her second birthday. No bitch should be mated after the age of seven years and ten months. No bitch should have more than four litters in her lifetime, except under extraordinary circumstance.
5. Not proceed with a mating where there is a relationship between the dog and bitch which will leave the puppies with more than one common grandparent or closer link.
6. All puppies should be registered with the Kennel Club. It is the Club's preference is that Breeders make use of a puppy sales agreement: an example of which can be downloaded from the Kennel Club website.
7. No puppies born in the UK should leave the breeder before the age of 8/9 weeks. It is advised that use is made of the endorsements available at the time of registration. Puppies should only be sold to homes where it is known that the needs and welfare of the puppy is a priority and fully understood at each developmental stage (e.g. feeding regime, company, exercise etc). No dogs or puppies should be exported to countries where they are not protected by anti-cruelty laws. If doubt exists, DEFRA or the Kennel Club should be consulted. If importing from abroad, please check for legislation with the above bodies.
8. Prospective buyers of puppies and/or adults should be carefully screened for suitability and should be fully advised of the characteristics of the breed, stressing the necessity for care, grooming, training, ample exercise and an understanding of owning a hunting breed of dog.
9. Purchasers of puppies or adults should be provided at the time of sale with a pedigree, diet sheet and information about training, worming and inoculations. The purchaser should also be provided, where applicable, either at the time of sale or as soon as possible thereafter, with the necessary documents pertaining to Kennel Club registration. If endorsements are in place these must be pointed out at the time of sale in accordance with the Kennel Club's requirement.
10. No puppy should be knowingly sold to laboratories, pet shops or dealers in dogs or to persons known to sell stock to any of the above, nor should any stud services be provided to such persons (a dealer is defined as any person who regularly buys dogs as an agent for sale at a profit; a person who buys dogs as an agent for a known individual is not necessarily a dealer).
11. No puppy or adult which has any apparent physical defects, or which shows any definite departure from its Breed Standard should be sold without the buyer being made aware of such defects and the possible consequences. Members should only sell puppies and adults, which, to the best of their knowledge and belief, are in good health at the time of sale.

12. Advertising by members is kept strictly factual. Misleading exaggeration or unfounded implications of superiority should not be used. Members should also refrain from making unfair or untrue statements about dogs or practices of others.
13. It would be considered unethical to exhibit/compete with a bitch at any show/trial/test/game fair, training group etc. that is more than four weeks in whelp or in season. The latter with the exception of shows where the classes are single sex. No dog or bitch should be exhibited/or compete if considered to be in less than the best of health and condition.
14. The Korthals Griffon Club of Great Britain will not tolerate harsh handling in any way shape or form. Anyone found to be punishing a dog unduly and/or unfairly will be promptly reported to the Kennel Club.