

Great Lakes Cavalier Club Inc. Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct serves as a guide for members of the Great Lakes Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club Inc. to follow, recognizing their role as stewards of the breed, having a common interest in the protection of CKCS, as well as the well-being of the breed and the individual dogs that members own and produce in their breeding programs.

Implicit in the Great Lakes Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club Inc. membership is the understanding and full acceptance of the Code of Ethics, Bylaws of the GLCKCSC Inc., and Code of Conduct. This Code of Conduct is established to aid them in that pursuit. The Code of Conduct standards are presented with the realization that ethics are difficult to regulate and that most individuals desire and intend to do what is right.

Recognizing that a violation(s) or blatant disregard for the Constitution and Bylaws, Code of Ethics and AKC Rules and Regulations may result in discipline as authorized by the Bylaws and Constitution up to and including suspension of your GLCKCSC Inc. membership or expulsion from the GLCKCSC Inc. The AKC and the ACKCSC will be notified of any disciplinary action taken.

GENERAL CONDUCT

Members of the Great Lakes Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club Inc. will: Comply with the Rules and Regulations of the American Kennel Club (AKC), the Constitution, and Bylaws of the GLCKCS Inc. as well as be in good standing with the AKC.

Members of the GLCKCSC Inc. will exhibit good sportsmanship and good will at all dog-related events in accordance with the AKC precepts of good sportsmanship. Winning and losing with grace is the minimum standard of good sportsmanship in all forms of competition. Good sportsmanship and general civility are expected. The interaction of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition are essential in every aspect of GLCKCSC membership, whether inside or outside of the ring. It is not simply a goal for the GLCKCSC member, it is a requirement.

Members will not make public false or misleading statements concerning the CKCS breed, other breeds, or breeders. Members will refrain from the use of any slanderous or defaming statements or innuendos against another breeder, a specific dog/kennel, the ACKCSC, GLCKCSC, and judges, etc. on any public forum including social media. Use of social media (using an electronic device or social networking sites to intimidate, harass, or gossip by emailing, texting, posting, or sending messenger photos) to disparage the GLCKCSC or any member will be viewed as an overt act prejudicial to the breed, good sportsmanship, and the GLCKCSC and will not be tolerated.

Members will keep accurate breeding records, registration papers and pedigrees in accordance with AKC rules and regulations. Breeding stock should be free of known hereditary diseases at the time of breeding. In the best interest of CKCS breed, members are encouraged to use available methods of health testing to do their best to maximize soundness and minimize genetic problems in litters they produce with the intention of improving the breed.

It is the intent of open registries such as OFA to exchange information to encourage breeders to make knowledgeable breeding decisions. Therefore GLCKCS members shall not use information from open registries and/or full disclosure of health screen results maliciously or to malign bloodlines of individual CKCS or breeders.

Breeding

All dogs shall be kept in a clean, healthy, and safe environment. Dogs will be provided with all nutrition, exercise, socialization, vaccinations/titering, deworming, external parasite control, and appropriate veterinary treatment necessary to provide maximum mental and physical well-being. When a CKCS (neonate through adult) must be euthanized, the procedure should be humanely performed.

GLCKCS members will strive to improve the breed to conform closely to the AKC Breed Standards by selecting the stud or dam as to reduce faults and to achieve better type, health, and qualities in the puppies. Dogs/bitches shall be bred only to purebred registered CKCS dogs/bitches of standard acceptable colors.

As member breeders of GLCKCSC Inc., we are held to a higher standard as guardians of the CKCS breed.

It is **STRONGLY** recommended that all dogs offered at stud shall not be bred prior to one (1) year of age, shall be in good health, free from communicable diseases, and disqualifying genetic faults.

Stud owners will verify that the bitch owner is a responsible owner/breeder and they are not directly or indirectly involved with any puppy broker, puppy mill, pet shop, litter lot sales, or any other commercial enterprises whose business is involved in like activities. Stud owners will verify that the bitch is an AKC registered purebred CKCS and the puppies that result from the breeding will be AKC registered. All resulting pet quality puppies will be sold on limited registration spay/neuter contracts.

Any bitch accepted for stud service should be at least eighteen (18) months of age or on their third season, in good health, free from communicable diseases and disqualifying genetic faults. It is highly recommended that no bitch be bred without proof of negative brucellosis test.

It is **STRONGLY** recommended by the GLCKCSC Inc. that GLCKCSC Inc. member bitch owners shall not breed a bitch more than two (2) consecutive seasons, nor prior to eighteen (18) months of age or before their third season, nor after nine (9) years of age. The bitch should be in good health, free from any communicable diseases, and disqualifying genetic faults. All bitches will be bred with intentions of improving the breed. All pet puppies will be sold on limited registration spay/neuter contracts.

No bitch will be bred for commercial purposes or bred for designer breed market. GLCKCSC Inc. members will NOT sell puppies to commercial facilities, businesses, kennels, puppy brokers, pet shops, guard dog businesses, nor agents thereof, or bred for the designer breed market. Members will not dispose of dogs or puppies by giving them to the local animal shelter, pound, humane society, or any organization of that type.

All advertising shall be factual, informative, and free of fraudulent or misleading statements.

Members will register all puppies and adults with full or limited registration with the AKC and the purchaser shall be provided with accurate and valid papers except where registration papers are being held back by contractual agreement. All buyers must receive a record of health clearances, immunizations, worming, pedigree, and applicable AKC or other Kennel Club transfer documents.

Members will not sell or give away a puppy/dog with known detrimental genetic or temperament defects except under a non-breeding (alter) agreement. The new owner will be fully informed of any known information concerning the defect before the transaction is complete. Members will honestly evaluate the quality of any dogs sold or placed and fairly represent the evaluation as opinion. CKCS not intended for breeding purposes are to be sold on spay or neuter agreements or, limited registration where applicable.

The breeder has the responsibility of assuring, to the best of their ability, a safe and healthy home for each puppy they produce. Responsibility of the breeder does not stop with the sale. The breeder should be available for consultation and to assist in the recovery and placement of any dog sold by the breeder if such need arises

Discipline

The GLCKCS, Inc. cannot and shall not be held responsible for the actions of any kennel or individual who engages in unethical practices or fails to abide by the GLCKCS, Inc. Code of Conduct. Education and communication are the preferred methods of obtaining compliance to the GLCKCSC Inc. Code of Conduct; however, flagrant, serious, and/or repeated disregard of this code may result in formal charges brought before the GLCKCS Inc. Board of Directors by GLCKCS Inc. members, nonmembers, and/or the Ethics Committee. The standard by which the GLCKCS, Inc. shall determine whether a violation of the GLCKCS, Inc. Code of Ethics has occurred is by a preponderance of the evidence. Failure to comply with GLCKCS, Inc. Code of Conduct may subject a member to disciplinary procedures. Allegations of violations of the Code of Conduct shall be reviewed by the Ethics Committee for their recommendation prior to review by the Board of Directors.

Contract violations as well as slanderous or libelous allegations between members shall be adjudicated in the courts prior to presentation to the proper representatives of the GLCKCS Inc.

By signing this Code of Conduct, I understand and will comply with all details held within.

Members

Print name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Co-applicants

Print name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

**Please sign and submit with application.
Applications and renewals will not be honored without a current Code of Conduct**