

**Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America, Inc.  
Code of Ethics**

The Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America, Inc (DDBSA) requires its members to adhere to the following guidelines which constitute the organization's Code of Ethics. The DDBSA also requires that members, breeders and stud dog owners not aid or abet the violation of these guidelines by anyone else.

1. I will consider only the betterment of the breed when breeding a bitch or allowing a breeding with my stud dog, being conscientious of controlling and eliminating inherited conditions/deficiencies. The breeder(s) (bitch and stud dog owner) shall plan each breeding with the paramount intention of protecting the breed, and only when the parties involved agree the breeder(s) is/are in a position and have the knowledge to give proper care to both, the bitch and offspring.
2. I will not allow a bitch to be bred prior to her reaching twenty-four (24) months of age, nor shall any bitch be bred after her seventh (7th) birthday. A bitch will not be bred more than twice in any eighteen(18) month period unless she does not whelp a litter, the litter is stillborn, consists of a single (1) pup, or as a part of a veterinarian's recommendation. A bitch will have no more than four (4) litters in her lifetime.
3. I will sell a Dogue de Bordeaux only to a buyer whom I believe to be interested in the protection of the breed and who would agree in writing to provide the highest quality of care for said Dogue de Bordeaux, including quality food, water, proper shelter from heat or cold, active companionship, appropriate exercise, socialization and professional veterinary care whenever necessary.
4. A DDBSA member will sell each Dogue de Bordeaux puppy/adult on a written contract signed by all parties. Said contract shall contain, but is not limited to the following provisions:
  - a. Complete care/feeding instructions.
  - b. A record of inoculations and worming with a recommended continuation schedule.
  - c. Provide the buyer with a three (3) generation pedigree on the litter.
  - d. Furnish a signed AKC registration or transfer form, unless written agreement is made with the buyer that such papers are withheld or are to follow.
  - e. A provision that ensures that the breeder is contacted whenever an owner can no longer keep a dog at any time in the dog's life. The provision shall also state that in cases where the puppy/dog buyer can no longer keep the dog, the breeder shall have

first rights to take the dog back under his/her care and that the breeder will take back the dog if asked to do so.

f. Stipulate that the buyer have a veterinary check-up within five (5) working days of the sale, (or whatever is applicable in your state of residence), to determine that the Dogue de Bordeaux is healthy. If the veterinarian determines that the Dogue de Bordeaux is not in good health, the breeder will, upon the Dogue de Bordeaux's return to said breeder, refund the purchase price or replace the Dogue de Bordeaux.

5. I will not sell, nor allow any co-owners of my dogs to sell or provide a Dogue de Bordeaux for resale through gift, auction, prize or to a broker/agent or commercial outlet for resale. I will not engage nor allow any co-owners of my dogs to engage in the brokering of puppies, (selling or buying). If confronted with a potential rescue situation, I will contact Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America Rescue to assist the dog(s) in need.

6. I will not sell a puppy/adult that is sick, nor will I ship or deliver to the buyer a puppy less than eight (8) weeks of age.

7. I will adhere to the AKC Code of Sportsmanship at all times and in all matters relating to dogs in general and Dogues de Bordeaux in particular. I will maintain the highest degree of honesty and integrity. I will not knowingly make a misstatement of fact in any serious discussion of my Dogues de Bordeaux or the Dogues de Bordeaux of any other Dogue de Bordeaux owner that I might have with persons not qualified to judge the fact for themselves. When advertising my Dogues de Bordeaux in any media (magazines, internet websites, mail, email, etc.) I will not make false or misleading statements.

The DDBSA will review any person found guilty of such misstatements, but removes itself from any domain in ascertaining such guilt. Any remedy should be between affected individual parties and the legal findings of guilt then presented to the DDBSA for further action if necessary.

8. I will take back any Dogue de Bordeaux bred/sold by me who has been displaced. If I am unable to do so, I will assist the purchaser in finding a new home and if all options are exhausted, contact Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America Rescue with whom I will reimburse for all costs incurred not to exceed \$500 per placement.

9. I will recommend/discuss the neutering/spaying and/or reproductive health of any puppy/adult Dogue de Bordeaux I place or sell as pet quality as soon as the dog reaches the appropriate age. I will also discuss prevention of unwanted breeding(s) of this dog. The DDBSA strongly recommends all members register all of their puppies with AKC and uses the AKC Limited registration option on any puppies deemed pet quality.

10. I will not sell, place, nor use, a Dogue de Bordeaux for the purpose of attack training (other than sport training, i.e., French Ring Sport, Mondio Ring or Schutzhund that is conducted by recognized organizations), fighting, or any other sport detrimental to the breed and its reputation. I will not allow any Dogue de Bordeaux in my care to roam free, unattended or unsupervised.

11. I will not produce more than eight (8) litters in two calendar years per household nor will I permit my stud dog to be used in a program, which would exceed eight (8) litters in two calendar years per household. I will not purposely evade or attempt to circumvent these guidelines by registering/listing my dogs in the name of friends and/or other family members.

12. I will provide the highest quality care to all Dogues de Bordeaux and/or any other animals that I own, or that are in my possession, for as long as they are in my care. This is to include providing quality food, water, proper shelter from heat or cold, active companionship, appropriate exercise, socialization, and routine veterinary care. I will never abuse, and/or knowingly allow abuse of these same Dogues de Bordeaux.

#### **COMPLIANCE:**

Failure to adhere to the mandatory provisions of the DDBSA Code of Ethics may result in proceedings for reprimand, suspension and/or expulsion pursuant to the Bylaws of the Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America, Inc

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I declare that I am 18 years of age or older, not under sanction by the American Kennel Club, that I have read and understand the provisions of this document, and that I agree that adherence to these provisions is a condition of membership in the DDBSA.\*

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Signature of Applicant

Date

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Signature of Applicant

Date

**\*This document must be signed by each DDBSA member in a household**