

CODE OF ETHICS

DELAWARE VALLY SOFT COATED WHEATEN TERRIER CLUB

This code of ethics is presented to all members of the Delaware Valley Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club, whose foremost objectives are the welfare, improvement and advancement of the breed in accordance with the Standard. This Code outlines basic procedure and sets forth principles of general conduct to be followed by all Club members.

1. General Conduct

- A. Each member will consider the welfare of the breed when engaged in breeding, exhibiting or selling Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers and will refrain from actions which are contrary to the best interests of the breed and the Club.
- B. Every dog shall be provided with humane living quarters, veterinarian supervised health care, proper nutrition and grooming.
- C. Each member will be familiar with and abide by the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club regarding the registering and exhibiting of Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers and the keeping of accurate records of breeding and exhibiting.
- . Good sportsmanship will be exhibited at all times.
- . Each Club member will be responsible at all times for the behavior of his dogs, such behavior to reflect the best possible image of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier.
- . All members will promote the cause of responsible dog ownership and assist in educating the public as to the Breed Standard as approved by the American Kennel Club.

. Breeding Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

- . Only AKC registered dogs will be bred, and furthermore it is recommended that only AKC Conformation Champions, and only those capable of contributing to the improvement of the breed be bred.
- . Breeders will aim to produce sound, healthy, happy dogs true to breed characteristics as set forth in the Breed Standard of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier.
- . All breeding stock must be of sound temperament and possess no major hereditary defects. They must be in good health, free of parasites and communicable disease, e.g. Brucellosis, and genital infections. Testing for these will be done as close to breeding time as possible.
- . All breeding stock over two years of age will be OFA certified. All breeding stock under two years of age will be x-rayed and show no clinical signs of hip dysplasia.
- . All breeding stock will have eyes examined at least every two years by a Board Certified Veterinary Ophthalmologist. This will be done until at least six years

of age. It is recommended that dogs and bitches being used extensively for breeding continue these examinations beyond the age of six.

- . Only mature dogs and bitches will be used for breeding.

- . A bitch will not be bred on her first season and preferably not before her third season or 18 months of age. In the event that the bitch is bred on two successive seasons or twelve months, that bitch will not be bred during the next two successive seasons or twelve months.

- . Dogs should not be used at stud before 11 months of age and should have preliminary OFA certification or OFA number. Written stud contracts, modeled on those offered by the SCWTCA, will be used for each breeding.

- . Selling Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

- . Breeders will refuse to sell to (or recommend) unethical pet dealers, pet wholesalers, pet brokers, or to any buyer where there is reason to believe that the puppy or dog will not be properly cared for.

- . Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers will not be offered as raffle or contest prizes or for other types of give-aways.

- . All advertising describing kennels and dogs offered for sale will be of an honest and forthright nature.

- . The breeder will provide AKC registration papers or application forms at the time of sale, or when sold with spay/neuter contract upon receipt of a copy of the Certificate of Neutering. Sales contracts, modeled on those offered by the SCWTCA, should be used for all sales.

- . It is recommended that the contract include a stipulation whereby the breeder be notified of any plan on the part of the owner to resell or otherwise dispose of a dog. This stipulation would also require the buyer to either return the dog to the breeder or place the dog with new owners who have been approved by the breeder. Breeder will also require buyer to advise of any unusual health or temperament problems and/or the death of the animal. Buyer and seller must inform one another of changes of address.

- . All conditions of sale agreed upon by the buyer and breeder, including leasing, whelping and breeding, must be in writing. When a non-registration or non-breeding clause is included, a copy of the contract should be sent to the AKC.

- . All animals sold as pets will be sold on spay/neuter agreement, and/or AKC Limited Registration.

- . All Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers will be in good condition and good health at the time of delivery. The dog/puppy, to the best of the seller's knowledge, will be free of internal parasites, and will have protection against those diseases which can be controlled by vaccination according to current veterinary practices. At the time of delivery the seller will furnish medical records indicating the date of vaccination and medication used.

- . An accurate pedigree of at least four generations, as well as complete written instructions on feeding, health care, training and grooming of the dog/puppy will be furnished at the time of sale.

- . Breeders are responsible for all dogs bred throughout their lifetime.

. Exhibiting Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

- . AKC rules concerning entering shows and exhibiting dogs will be strictly observed.
- . Dogs will be presented in the show ring clean and properly groomed according to the Standard. Any change of appearance by artificial means other than docking tails and removing dew claws (in accordance with the standard) is strictly forbidden.
- . Exhibitors will conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner in and out of the ring.
- . The owner of record will be responsible for the appearance and conduct of his dog at all times.

. Discipline

- . Failure to comply with the Code of Ethics will subject a member to disciplinary procedures provided by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Delaware Valley Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club.
- . Alleged violation of the Code of Ethics shall be treated in accordance with Article VI of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Delaware Valley Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club.

CONSTITUTION

DELAWARE VALLEY SOFT COATED WHEATEN TERRIER CLUB

ARTICLE I

Name and Objectives

SECTION 1. The name of the Club shall be the Delaware Valley Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club (hereafter referred to as the "Club"). For purposes of this Club's Constitution and Bylaws, the Delaware Valley, as hereafter referred to, is assumed to be those areas of Pennsylvania and New Jersey falling within an approximate 25 mile radius of Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

SECTION 2. The objectives of the Club shall be:

- a. to encourage thoughtful breeding of purebred Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection.
- b. to urge members and breeders to accept the Breed Standard as approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers shall be judged.
- c. to do all in its power to protect and advance the interest of all breeds of purebred dogs and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows and obedience trials.
- d. to conduct sanctioned matches, dog shows and obedience trials under the rules of the American Kennel Club.
- e. to provide opportunities for Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier owners and others interested in the Breed to meet, exchange ideas and learn proper care necessary for the well being of Wheatens.
- f. to encouraged showing and exhibition of dogs at American Kennel Club programs and to assist novice owners in procedures for handling and showing dogs in AKC sanctioned shows and matches.
- g. to guard against the commercial exploitation of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier.
- h. to accept and abide by the Code of Ethics of the Delaware Valley Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club.

SECTION 3. The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits, remainder or residue from dues or donations to the club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

SECTION 4. The members of the Club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such bylaws as may be required to carry out these objectives.

SECTION 5. The use of the DELVAL, Inc. emblem or name in any form of advertising by any member or group of members is prohibited, except by the Club itself, with the approval of the DELVAL Board of Directors.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

Membership

SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY. There shall be two types of membership open to all persons eighteen years of age and older who are in good standing with The American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club:

Single Membership - one vote

Joint Membership (husband and wife or two persons who share the same domicile) - two votes

While membership is to be unrestricted as to residence, the Club's primary purpose is to be representative of the breeders and exhibitors in the Delaware Valley area.

SECTION 2. DUES. Membership dues shall be no more than \$20.00 for Single Memberships and \$30.00 for Joint Memberships, payable on or before the 1st day of January each year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of October the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of dues for the ensuing year.

SECTION 3. ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP. Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors, which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by these Constitution and Bylaws, the Code of Ethics and the rules of the American Kennel Club. Prospective members should have attended at least two regular meetings of the Club before action may be taken on their membership applications. The application shall state the name address and occupation of the applicant and it shall carry the endorsement of two members in good standing, not residing in the same household, and not members of the same immediate family of each other or of the applicant. No more than one member of the Board of Directors may endorse any application for membership. Upon acceptance, new members will be billed for dues. If a new member's dues are not received within sixty (60) days from the notification of acceptance, acceptance shall become void. Applicants elected to membership after October 1st shall not have to pay additional dues for the following fiscal year.

All applications are to be filed with the Secretary and each application is to be

read at the first meeting of the Club following its receipt. At the next Club meeting the application will be voted upon by written ballot. Affirmative votes of three-fourths of the members present and voting at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant. Meeting notices shall give all members advance notice on membership applications on which a vote is to be taken.

SECTION 4. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP. Memberships may be terminated:

- a. by resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary; but no member may resign when in debt to the Club. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club and they become incurred on the first day of each fiscal year.
- b. by lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 90 days after the first day of the fiscal year. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any club meeting whose dues are unpaid as of the date of that meeting. A lapsed membership may be reinstated prior to July 1st by payment in full of all dues obligations plus a reinstatement fee equal to twenty five (25%) percent of the delinquent dues.
- c. by expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VI of the Bylaws.

Any person ceasing to be a member for any cause whatsoever and having temporary possession of any Club property shall immediately upon cessation of membership return said property to the Club Secretary, who shall in turn provide a receipt for same.

SECTION 5. MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING – "Members in good standing" are defined as those members who owe no billed debt, including dues for the current year, to the Club and are in good standing with the AKC.

ARTICLE II

Meetings and Voting

SECTION 1. CLUB MEETINGS. Meetings of the Club shall be held in the Delaware Valley. A minimum of six (6) monthly meetings shall be held per year. By approval of a majority of the members, a meeting may be rescheduled for a different day of any give month in order to accommodate special circumstances. The hour and place of meetings may be designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of each meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

SECTION 2. SPECIAL CLUB MEETINGS. Special club meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority vote of the members of the Board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board, and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five (5) members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held in the

Delaware Valley at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein.

SECTION 3. BOARD MEETINGS. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in the Delaware Valley (6) times a year on the same day as, and immediately prior to, a regular meeting of the Club, or at such hour and place as may otherwise be designated by the Board. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 4. SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President, and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held in the Delaware Valley at such date and hour as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such a meeting. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting. Any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business shall be transacted thereat. A quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 5. VOTING. Each member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the Club at which he is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any Club meeting or election.

ARTICLE III

Directors and Officers

SECTION 1. BOARD OF DIRECTORS. The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President and three (3) other persons who shall be elected at the Club's annual meeting as provided in Article IV and shall serve until their successors are elected. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. OFFICERS. The Club's officers, consisting of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meetings.

- a. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of the President in addition to those particularly specified in these Bylaws. The President will serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member of all committees.
- b. The Vice-President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's death, absence or incapacity.
- c. The Secretary shall keep a record of the following: 1) all meetings and votes of the Club and of the Board; 2) committee reports; 3) official membership roll

and current addresses; and 4) special and standing rules. The Secretary shall 1) notify Officers and Committee Members of appointment; 2) furnish committees with any documents necessary for the performance of duties; 4) sign all certified acts of the Club; 4) receive all votes and ballots, proposed Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws, and proposed changes to the Code of Ethics; and 5) receive any additional nominations and any resignations.

The Secretary shall 1) have charge of all general correspondence of the Club, i.e. correspondence which is not the function of other offices or committee chairmen; 2) receive the slate of Officers and Board Members from the Nominating Committee Chairman and so notify the General Membership; 3) send all ballots; 4) send written notice of all meetings; 5) notify new members of their election to membership; 6) keep a file of the attendance sheets signed at each meeting by those members present; 7) handle all correspondence concerning charges against a member; and 8) carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these Bylaws.

- d. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club. He shall deposit the same in a bank approved by the Board, in the name of the Club. His books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and he shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or payment, not before reported; and at the Annual Meeting, he shall render an account of all monies received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer may be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine. All costs thus incurred shall be borne by the Club. Absent bonding, the Board shall appoint a committee to review the financial records of the Treasurer prior to the expiration of the Treasurer's term of office.

SECTION 3. VACANCIES. Any vacancies occurring on the Board or among the offices during the year shall be filled until the next annual election by a majority vote of all the then members of the Board at its first regular meeting following the creation of such vacancy, or at a Special Board Meeting called for that purpose; except that a vacancy in office of President shall be filled automatically by the Vice-President and the resulting vacancy in the Office of Vice-President shall be filled by the Board.

ARTICLE IV

The Club Year, Annual Meeting, Voting, Nominations, Elections

SECTION 1. CLUB YEAR. The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of January and end on the 31st day of December. The Club's official year shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the annual meeting and shall continue through the next annual meeting.

SECTION 2. ANNUAL MEETING. The annual meeting shall be held in the month of March at which Officers and Directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret, written ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 4 of this Article. They shall take office immediately upon conclusion of the annual

meeting and each retiring officer shall turn over to his successor all properties and records relating to that office within thirty (30) days after the election.

SECTION 3. ELECTIONS. The Nominated candidate for each office shall receive a majority vote of the voting members present in order to be declared elected. If no nominee receives a majority, those two nominees who received the greatest number of votes shall participate in a run-off election. Persons receiving equal numbers of votes will first resolve the tie by a preliminary run-off election. The three (3) nominated candidates for other positions on the Board who receive the greatest number of votes for such positions shall be declared elected.

SECTION 4. NOMINATIONS. No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated in accordance with these Bylaws. Any Club member in good standing may be nominated. No member may hold more than one office. During the month of November the Board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three members and two alternates, not more than one of whom shall be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committee members and alternates of their selection. The Board shall name a Chairman for the Committee and it shall be his duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before January 1st.

- a. The Committee shall nominate one candidate for each office and three candidates for the other three positions on the Board, and after securing the consent of each person so nominated, shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing.
- b. Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Secretary shall before January 15th notify the General Membership in writing of the candidates so nominated.
- c. Additional nominations may be made at the February meeting by any member in attendance, provided that the person so nominated accepts when his name is proposed, and provided further, that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, his proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his willingness to be a candidate.

No person may be a candidate for more than one position, and the additional nominations which are provided for herein may be made only from among those members who have not accepted a nomination of the Nominating Committee.

- d. Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or in any manner other than provided for in this Section.

ARTICLE V

Committees

SECTION 1. The Board may each year appoint Standing Committees to advance the

work of the Club in such matters as shows, obedience trials, field trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other areas which may well be served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board. Special committees may also be appointed by the Board to be of aid on particular projects.

SECTION 2. Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board upon written notice to the appointee; and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose services have been terminated.

ARTICLE VI

Discipline

SECTION 1. AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB SUSPENSION. Any member who is suspended from the privileges of the American Kennel Club shall automatically be suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period.

SECTION 2. CHARGES. Any member may prefer charges against another member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club or of the Breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$25 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the Board following a hearing. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the Board or present them at a Board meeting, and the Board shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the Breed. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges it shall fix a date for a hearing by the Board not less than three (3) weeks nor more than six (6) weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by certified mail together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if he wishes.

SECTION 3. BOARD HEARING. The Board shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the hearing, but both complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in that regard. Should the charges be sustained, after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by the complainant and defendant, the Board may by a majority vote of those present suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six (6) months from the date of the hearing. And, if it deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before his fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board's recommendation. Immediately after the Board has reached a decision, its findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the Board's decision and penalty, if any.

SECTION 4. EXPULSION. Expulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only at a meeting of the Club following a Board hearing and upon the Board's

recommendation as provided in Section 3 of this Article. Such proceedings may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within sixty (60) days but not earlier than thirty (30) days after the date of the Board's recommendation. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the Board's findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his own behalf if he wishes. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A two-thirds vote of those present and voting at the meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted, the Board's suspension shall stand.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

SECTION 1. Amendments to the constitution and Bylaws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary and signed by twenty percent (20%) of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the membership with recommendations of the Board by the Secretary for a vote within three (3) months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

SECTION 2. The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for the purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each member at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

ARTICLE VIII

Dissolution

SECTION 1. Dissolution. The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than two-thirds of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the Club nor any proceeds thereof nor any assets of the Club shall be distributed to any members of the Club, but after payment of the debts of the Club, its property and assets shall be given to a canine charitable organization selected by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX

Order of Business

SECTION 1. At meetings of the Club, the order of business, so far as the character

and nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows:

Roll Call
Minutes of the last meeting
Report of President
Report of Secretary
Report of Treasurer
Report of Committees

Election of Officers and Board
(at annual meeting)
Election of new members
Unfinished Business
New Business
Adjournment

SECTION 2. At meetings of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

Reading of minutes of
last meeting
Report of Secretary
Report of Treasurer

Reports of Committees
Unfinished Business
New Business
Adjournment