



MISSION STATEMENT FOR THE NORTH AMERICAN TECKEL CLUB (NATC)

The mission of the NATC is to preserve the dachshunds' hunting heritage, to promote their usefulness in the field and to support the breeding of dachshunds with sound bodies and stable temperaments.

The dachshund should combine functional soundness and an aesthetically pleasing appearance that avoids extremes. The NATC will take rigorous and aggressive steps to control genetic diseases through the use of screening tests and selective breeding practices. We will promote the sound, friendly temperaments and the responsiveness so desirable in dogs that are both hunters and family members. The hunting qualities of the dachshund are an integral part of the complete dachshund. However, in addition to having hunting desire and a good nose, the dachshund must be intelligent, physically fit, agile, and obedient. These last four qualities, so useful in hunting, also make the dachshund highly desirable as a human companion.

The NATC endorses events designed to develop and showcase the dachshund's many talents and encourages sportsmanlike behavior in all activities involving dachshunds. NATC sponsored conformation shows follow exacting standards. Specifically each dog is evaluated against an objective standard (Federation Cynologique Internationale Standard 148). The primary purpose of these shows is education of the breeders, exhibitors and spectators through the judges' detailed evaluations and identification of dachshunds that are suitable for breeding. Competition is a secondary consideration.

The NATC encourages the breeding and training of dachshunds that are recognized, respected and used for their specific hunting capabilities in North America. We believe that in many North American situations, especially blood tracking and falconry, a good hunting dachshund is more useful than any other breed. The Germans employ the term "*Gebrauchshund*", for the useful hunting dog and they place great emphasis upon testing to determine whether and to what degree a dog is indeed "useful." Dogs are tested and judged against an objective standard of what is useful rather than simply comparing one dog's performance against another's.

The NATC intends to use the European dachshund "usefulness" tests as a basis for developing similar tests adapted to North American game and hunting methods. We believe that these tests will aid in the selection and training of useful hunting dachshunds. The tests will be designed to assess the capability of dachshunds to usefully perform various hunting functions. These hunting functions include (1) tracking wounded big game, (2) locating and then trailing small game while giving voice so that the hunter knows where the game and the dog are passing, (3) locating, baying and or bolting underground quarry and (4) flushing rabbits from dens and brush piles.

NORTH AMERICAN TECKEL CLUB CODE OF ETHICS

RESPONSIBILITIES AS A MEMBER OF NATC:

- I subscribe to the purpose of the NATC as set forth in the Mission Statement and will abide by the Bylaws of the NATC and DTK.
- I will exhibit sportsman like behavior at all dog events and will encourage others to do so. I will conduct myself in a manner that is courteous and respectful to fellow members
- I will strive to approach the club's problems and issues in a constructive manner that is respectful to all involved and not destructive to the club.
- I will devote myself to the betterment of the breed and promote the breed through my deeds and conduct.
- I will help educate the public in the FCI Dachshund Standard, the breed's hunting heritage and versatility, care of the breed and all other areas of animal welfare that I am qualified to discuss.

RESPONSIBILITIES AS A DOG OWNER:

- I shall ensure humane treatment and training, proper feeding, maintenance and health care protection for all my dogs
- I will ensure that my dogs shall be contained within safe restrictions whenever their safety cannot be personally supervised.
- I will ensure that my dogs are not a nuisance to my neighbors or my community.
- I shall provide my dogs with ample opportunity for exercise and social interaction.

RESPONSIBILITIES AS A BREEDER:

- I will only use dogs for breeding that are registered with a nationally recognized kennel club such as the Deutscher Teckelklub (DTK), the American Kennel Club (AKC), The Canadian Kennel Club (CKC), or an FCI recognized kennel club. I will not use my studs on unregistered bitches.
- I shall strive to breed and/or provide stud service to conform to FCI Breed Standard, and only from quality, healthy stock.
- I will cover all stud service terms by written agreement and keep accurate records of matings, births, registrations, etc.
- I will screen for inherited diseases that are known to be prevalent in the breed or that are known to have occurred in dogs that are related to mine and will not breed dogs that are known to have these diseases.
- All puppies leaving my possession shall be a minimum of eight (8) weeks of age and will have had at least one puppy inoculation. Only in exceptional situations puppies will be sold at the age younger than 8 weeks.
- I will not sell or supply any puppies to puppy brokers, pet shops, "puppy mills," laboratories, raffles or similar projects.
- I will screen prospective buyers as thoroughly as possible to determine their desire and ultimate intent for each puppy or dog acquired from me.
- I will not sell dogs or puppies without true representation to the purchaser nor use misleading or untruthful statements in selling or advertising. I will supply each purchaser with: a) registration papers or a registration application, b) at least a three-generation pedigree, c) a complete medical record, and d) details on proper feeding and care.
- I will strongly encourage buyers to spay or neuter puppies that are not of breeding quality.
- I understand and acknowledge that I may need to take back, or assist in finding a new home for, any dog I produce at any time in its life, if requested to do so.
- Under no circumstances, shall I surrender a dog or a puppy to a humane society or shelter. If the animal is unplaceable because it has a destructive temperament, is seriously injured, terminally ill or it would be inhumane to prolong life, I will take responsibility for euthanizing the dog.

I understand and accept that signing this Code of Ethics is a necessary requirement for membership in NATC.

I further acknowledge that major or repeated violations of the NATC Code of Ethics will result in disciplinary actions.

Print name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____