

## SAMOYED CLUB OF VICTORIA CODE OF ETHICS FOR BREEDERS

### AFFILIATION

The Samoyed Club of Victoria Inc., aims for affiliation with, and is bound by the Rules and Regulations and Code of Ethics of the Victorian Canine Association Inc., and accepts the Victorian Canine Association's basic Constitution for Affiliated Clubs. Any additional Domestic Rules shall be subordinate to those of the Victorian Canine Association Inc.

Breeders will:

- \* Breed for the purpose of improving the breed and when planning Samoyed mating's, every effort must be made to control, or if possible, eliminate faults, especially if such faults are hereditary, e.g. hip & elbow dysplasia, eye issues, liver shunts. It is highly recommend x-raying and scoring hips & elbows, conduct annual eye tests (including a gonioscopy at the initial check) and conduct bile acid tests on puppies at 8 weeks of age to check bile levels.
- \* Except in extenuating circumstances, members will not breed from any bitch kept by them causing it to be mated before it is eighteen months of age. Thereafter, not breed from any bitch kept by them causing it to whelp more than twice in eighteen months. They will not breed any bitch kept by them causing it to whelp more than four times without prior veterinary certification of fitness for further breeding.
- \* Not permit any pure bred dogs to be mated to a dog of a different breed, to a cross-bred, or to an unregistered dog of the same breed.
- \* Ensure that all breeding stock are hip & elbow x-rayed and scored & eye tested healthy before mating takes place. It is preferred that Samoyeds are hip x-rayed from twelve months of age, depending on when they are breeding. A copy of the hip x-rays results should be made available to the alternate party when mating's are being planned and a courtesy copy of the hip x-ray result should be forwarded to the Club for addition onto any possible future set up of a Data Registry. Whilst there is no set limit of hip score given for breeding, members are encouraged to use hip score information wisely for the protection and benefit of the Samoyed now as well as in the future.
- \* Give careful consideration when breeding Samoyeds that exhibit undue or unprovoked aggression towards humans or other dogs or exhibit timidity.
- \* Give careful consideration to other recognised genetic disorders, when making a decision as to whether to breed their Samoyed and choosing breeding stock.
- \* Ensure that as a breeder they have the time and the facilities to keep puppies until the right buyers are found and that all persons acquiring a Samoyed from them clearly understand their responsibility for the care and welfare of the animal and that they have the time and facilities (i.e. adequate fences, sufficient room and proper shelter, etc.) to perform their obligations.
- \* Not allow puppies to be removed from their environment before they are eight weeks of age and puppies shall have been microchipped, vaccinated and wormed prior to departure. It is highly encouraged to conduct bile acid tests on puppies at 8 weeks of age and wait for the results before allowing the puppy to leave for its new home.
- \* Any puppy with an anomaly must have this disclosed to the new puppy owner in writing prior to placement. It would also be advantageous to the future of the breed for the information to be passed on to the Health Sub Committee.
- \* Provide to all purchasers of their Samoyeds, written details of all dietary and immunisation requirements and/or an appropriate publication relating to such requirements and responsible dog ownership.
- \* Will 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.
- \* Ensure new puppy owners are aware of what grooming is required both for coat maintenance and when shedding occurs.
- \* Will ensure that all relevant VCA/ANKC documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents not immediately available at the earliest opportunity.
- \* Not sell any Samoyed, Samoyed litter or part thereof, to dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers, the commercial export market or any other commercial outlet nor directly or indirectly allow any dog to be given as a prize or donation in a contest of any kind.
- \* Endeavour to follow the development of any pup they sell.
- \* Be encouraged to join new puppy buyers into the membership of the Samoyed Club of Victoria Inc.
- \* Will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed or falsely advertise dogs or mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog.
- \* All breeders and owners of Samoyeds will act in a responsible manner and endeavour to help and advise the new owner upon the well-being of the Samoyed.

Any breach of these Code of Ethics may result in expulsion from the Samoyed Club of Victoria membership, and/or disciplinary action by the VCA and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action as appropriate.