



## Bracco Italiano Club Of America

### B.I.C.A.

#### **CODE OF ETHICS**

Membership with the Bracco Italiano Club of America carries with it certain responsibilities. The Club has been formed to preserve and protect the welfare of the Bracco Italiano. It falls to the members to see that such responsibilities are upheld. The Bracco Italiano Club of America puts forth these standards of behavior and practice for all its members:

#### **Members shall:**

- abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of the BICA.
- encourage and support testing for health disorders directly related to the Bracco Italiano.
- conduct themselves at all times in such a manner as to reflect credit on the sport of purebred dogs and Bracchi Italiani in particular.
- never make unfair or untrue statements regarding the dogs or practices of others.
- put the well being of their dogs and the breed ahead of all personal gain.

#### **Breeders shall:**

- maintain the best standards of canine health, cleanliness and care.
- breed only dogs that are in compliance with all current BICA health requirements, are in good health and free from communicable diseases.
- BICA requires that all dogs: have their hips tested with OFA (with a rating of good or excellent) or PennHIP (scoring 50% or better), their eyes tested as "normal" with CERF.
- be familiar with both the Bracco's conformation and working standard, and strive to breed dogs which fit that description.
- only breed dogs in an attempt to improve the Bracco Italiano breed.
- provide puppies with as much human contact as is possible to ensure proper socialization to people.
- not breed bitches or dogs prior to 2 years of age. In no event should a bitch whelp more than once a year.
- be certain their brood bitch receives proper care, especially during pregnancy and whelping, and that their stud dog's good health is maintained at all times and that all puppies receive proper veterinary care from whelping until placement with a permanent owner.
- not breed a dog or bitch which produces offspring with the same serious defect detrimental to the animal's well-being, such as blindness, deafness, lameness, or impairment of bodily functions, from the litters by two different mating partners.
- keep accurate breeding records, registrations, and pedigrees.
- evaluate honestly the structural and mental qualities of all Bracchi Italiani sold, and fairly represent that evaluation, and when needed request assistance from more experienced breeders.
- provide a sales contract, signed by all parties involved, which would include but not be limited to all services and sale arrangements mutually agreed upon, adjustments, replacement conditions, etc. This contract shall require that the breeder be contacted whenever an owner can no longer keep a dog at any time in the dog's life so that the breeder may either assist the placement of, accept the return of, or pay said dog's expenses should the dog be placed in Rescue.
- furnish appropriate paperwork or transfer documents, unless written agreement is made at the time of sale that the papers are being withheld, pedigree, health information on parents, details on feeding, general care, inoculation program, etc.

- be fair, open and honest in conducting business and advertise honestly in a manner that is no way misleading or fraudulent, and help educate inquirers about the Bracco Italiano.
- verify to the best of their ability that the purchasers of the puppies will be responsible owners who will provide proper homes and care.
- assume responsibility for educating and assisting new owners in caring for their dogs for the lifetime of the dog.
- Breeders are expected to supply BICA membership forms and a copy of the Code of Ethics to all puppy/adult dog buyers.
- No Bracco Italiano will be sold or consigned to commercial facilities, business or agents thereof.