

Border Terrier Canada



Canada's National Breed Club
Founded 2004

The BTC Code of Ethics (Revised March 2022)

This Code of Ethics, approved by the Border Terrier Canada (BTC) Board of Directors and based (with permission) on the Border Terrier Club of America (BTCA) Ethical Standard, outlines the basic principles which all BTC members have agreed to follow. It is primarily directed toward the behaviour of breeders, stud dog owners and those involved in the sale of Border Terriers, and sets standards for pet owners and exhibitors.

1. General Conduct

- A. Each member of the BTC:
 - (a) considers the welfare of the breed first and foremost when engaged in breeding, exhibiting, or selling Border Terriers.
 - (b) should be familiar with the Breed Standard (Standard) and strive to maintain its integrity.
 - (c) is familiar with and abides by Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) rules regarding registering dogs and keeps accurate records of the breeding, health, and exhibition of his/her dogs.
 - (d) is responsible for the behaviour of his/her dogs, keeping them under control at all times and cleaning up after them.
- B. No member shall intentionally misrepresent his/her dogs to any judge, prospective buyer or the public.
- C. Every dog should be provided with humane living quarters, proper nutrition and grooming, adequate exercise, and veterinary supervised health care.

2. Breeding

- A. Only Border Terriers registered with the CKC or the registry body of the country of birth will be bred.
- B. Breeders are responsible for the welfare of every dog they breed, and should be willing to take back or re-home a dog at any time during the dog's life.
- C. Socialization of puppies with people and other dogs is essential to their proper development.
- D. Only bitches and dogs possessing correct temperament and characteristics as set forth in the standard should be bred.
- E. Breeding stock should be in good health, of sound temperament and free from hereditary defects. BTC recommends at least the following health clearances for both sire and dam prior to breeding:
 - Hips (OFA,* OVC**, BVA*** or Penn HIP)
 - Eyes (CERF ****or OFA)
 - Patellas (OFA)
 - Heart - Basic or Specialist (OFA) and
 - DNA for Shaking Puppy [SLEM]***** (OFA).
 - A CHIC***** number is desirable, as it indicates tests have been done and the results made public on the OFA website indicating a high level of commitment by the breeder. A heart exam done by a qualified veterinarian who is not a heart specialist does not qualify the dog for a CHIC number, however, the results also appear on the OFA website if the breeder chooses to do so. Breeders should be willing to discuss the results with any prospective owners.
- F. Only mature dogs and bitches should be used for breeding. Ideally, dogs and bitches should not be bred before 24 months of age, which is when mature health test results are available.
- G. Stud dog owners should reserve the right to refuse bitches that do not meet the criteria outlined in the Standard, or if they are uncomfortable with the situation. The stud dog owners' role includes partial responsibility for litters sired by their dogs. They should be prepared to offer advice and/or assistance if the breeder of a litter or a puppy buyer at any time requests it, including assistance with re-homing of offspring, if needed.
- H. Business arrangements between the owners of the stud dogs and bitches being bred should be put in writing.

3. Selling Border Terriers

- A. Proper placement of each Border Terrier is essential to the welfare of the dog and the satisfaction of the owner.
- B. Advertising and written or verbal representation of bitches, stud dogs, litters, and pedigrees should be honest and not misleading. Written contracts or agreements that will form part of the sale should be made available to, and discussed with, potential owners prior to either party committing to the sale.
- C. The breeder shall provide the following to a new buyer at the **time of sale**:
 - (a) A complete medical history, for pups or adult dogs being placed.
 - (b) Written instructions for feeding, health care, training, and grooming.
- D. The breeder shall provide the following to a new buyer, **when available**:
 - (a) CKC registration or other registration forms. Per CKC requirements, the breeder is responsible for the individual registration of all puppies in the litter.
 - (b) A three-generation pedigree.
 - (c) If registration papers are to be withheld, a written contract with specific details that have been reviewed and agreed to by the breeder and the buyer prior to the sale.
 - (d) A non-breeding agreement and/or CKC non-breeding registration for those dogs not suitable for breeding and those sold as pets.
- E. BTC recommends any transfer of ownership of a Border Terrier be accompanied by a written agreement to protect both the breeder and the new owner.
- F. Responsible breeders include in the written agreement a clause that if the owner cannot keep the dog, the dog is to be returned to the breeder or placed or sold with the breeder's approval of the new owner.
- G. BTC recommends that a Border Terrier be at least eight weeks of age before being transferred to a new owner; however, the breeder should make the final decision based on the pup's development or other circumstances.
- H. All Border Terriers should be in good health when transferred to the new owner, free from parasites and up to date on inoculations, as appropriate.
- I. Members selling Border Terriers should comply with all local and provincial laws regarding selling dogs.
- J. Breeders should follow up on all dogs sold to ensure the dog's welfare and to answer owner's questions.
- K. No member knowingly sells a Border Terrier to a pet dealer, wholesaler, or broker, singly or in litter lots, or offers a Border Terrier in a raffle or as any sort of prize.

4. Exhibition, Trials, and Tests

- A. Members should be familiar with and adhere to all CKC rules governing exhibition, trials, and tests, including those pertaining to changes in appearance by artificial means.
- B. Dogs exhibited in conformation events should be groomed according to the Standard.
- C. Dogs exhibited in companion and performance events should be well kept, clean, and represent the Border Terrier proudly.
- D. The owner of record is responsible for the presentation and conduct of his/her dog at all times; and is responsible for the conduct of any agent handling his/her dog.
- E. Members should conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.

*OFA - Orthopedic Foundation for Animals

**OVC - Ontario Veterinary College

***BVA - British Veterinary College

****CERF - Canine Eye Registration Foundation

*****SLEM - Spongiform Leukoencephalomyelopathy

*****CHIC - Canine Health Information Center

I/we, the undersigned, have read and understand the Code of Ethics of Border Terrier Canada.

Name: _____ Date _____ Signature _____

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Approved by the BTC Board of Directors, 07 May 2022