



BSDCQ CODE OF ETHICS 2018

Owners and admirers of Belgian Shepherd Dogs are the beneficiaries of a legacy, created and handed down through the concern and care of past owners and breeders. To preserve this legacy, there are certain principles which members of the Belgian Shepherd Dog Club of Queensland (BSDCQ) agree to adhere to, and which we encourage others to also consider and respect.

When breeding the Belgian Shepherd Dog, emphasis should be placed upon working ability and the other outstanding qualities and characteristics of the breed, as well as upon appearance. All breeders agree to use informed breeding practices to produce dogs who are physically and mentally sound.

The BSDCQ Code of Ethics is available to its club members, and any other Belgian Shepherd Dog fancier, to provide a blueprint about sound breeding practices:

1. The BSDCQ will be used as a forum for open discussion about the Belgian Shepherd Dog, what is working well for breeders and owners, and what challenges we face.
2. A BSDCQ member will not breed indiscriminately, but always for a purpose.
3. A BSDCQ member will not breed unless they have the facilities, time and resources to adequately care for a litter, whilst maintaining good standards of health, socialisation, care and proper veterinary attention.
4. Only the number of Belgian Shepherd Dogs that can be adequately cared for and managed to a good standard will be kept.
5. Attention will be paid when breeding a litter to improve upon the overall health of the breed, and to address any faults in health, conformation or temperament. All attempts to reduce the incidence of such faults, by whatever genetic means are available, will be made.
6. A BSDCQ member will not sell to, or recommend, other breeders who do not conform to this code; they will not sell a Belgian Shepherd Dog to any home where there is reason to believe that the dog will not be properly cared for.
7. Follow up services will be provided to puppy purchasers with a guarantee of future assistance.
8. Where possible, a BSDCQ member will take back any Belgian Shepherd Dog of their breeding if in need of rehoming or make an adequate donation to the BSDCQ Rescue Service for their assistance, if unable to re-home their dog.
9. A BSDCQ member will collaborate with fellow Belgian enthusiasts for the general advancement of the breed.
10. All BSDCQ members will demonstrate exemplary sporting conduct and integrity whether winning or losing, in or out of the show ring, and will not denigrate other people's dogs.
11. The advancement of the breed will be placed above personal power or glory.
12. BSDCQ members will comply with the by-laws and legislation of the Kennel Council, local authority and animal welfare legislation.