

Portuguese Podengo Pequenos of America
Code of Ethics (8-01-09)

As a member of good standing of the Portuguese Podengo Pequenos of America I support the following:

I. I shall comply with all the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club

II. CARE and MAINTENANCE

To provide clean, dry, temperature appropriate housing with ample opportunity for proper exercise for my Poquenos.

To feed a properly balanced diet, commensurate with the requirements of the breed.

To be certain that all the Pequenos in my care are protected by the necessary vaccinations as recommended by the Veterinary Colleges.

To make every effort to keep my Pequenos free of external and internal parasites.

To make every effort to see that my Pequenos have the socialization necessary to allow their love and acceptance of human companionship to be developed to the fullest extent.

To be aware that my Pequenos are an intelligent and sensitive breed and that, although it is an excellent kennel dog, its love of humans necessitates daily human attention for proper care and training.

To microchip all my Pequenos, both show and pet quality. *

* The rationale for microchipping all purebred Pequenos is to help identify any that should happen to end up in a rescue situation and rule out any crossbred dogs that may resemble the Pequenos.

III. BREEDING

To only breed to produce dogs that meet the breed standard.

To use for breeding only those Pequenos that I consider genetically, temperamentally and physically free from defects. I understand that all dogs used for breeding should be screened for any genetic defects as may be appropriate to propagate good health.

To not use for breeding, or breed to, any Pequenos I consider to be of “pet” quality, or any Pequenos that are not registered with AKC Foundation Stock Service.

To DNA all Pequenos used for breeding.

Breeding stock should be screened radiographically for genetic based disease such as Legg Calve Perthes and Hip Dysplasia prior to being used for breeding. Those individuals found to be dysplastic or having evidence of Legg Calve Perthes disease should be eliminated from a breeding program.

Breeding stock should be OFA certified after 2 years of age. Breeding stock used prior to 2 years of age should have preliminary hip radiographs taken before being used in a breeding program.

Breeding stock should be screened for patellar luxation prior to being used for breeding and those individuals that are found to be suffering from patellar luxation should be eliminated from a breeding program.

To have my breeding stock certified free from eye diseases currently recognized as having a genetic basis by a Board Certified Veterinary Ophthalmologist. Registration with CERF is strongly recommended for all breeding stock.

Breeders should evaluate the temperament of a prospective stud dog and brood bitch prior to breeding. Excessively shy or aggressive Pequenos should not be used in a breeding program as they are not the typical temperament.

With the knowledge that the demand for puppies may not meet the supply potential, refrain from breeding merely for the sake of producing puppies, but shall be conservative and selective in any breeding program.

To have adequate facilities to keep and care for all the puppies until the proper homes are found for them.

Puppies should be released to their new owners no sooner than 8 weeks of age.

Breeders must, to the best of their ability, assume responsibility for the continuing welfare of the puppies that they breed.

Breeders should accept the return of any dog they have sold or placed regardless of age or circumstances.

Stud dogs should not be bred or collected prior to one (1) year of age and should be in good health and free of communicable diseases and known genetic faults.

It is recommended to have preliminary radiographs of the hips done if the dog is under two (2) years of age and an OFA radiograph and certification if over two (2) years old and have the patella’s examined and found to be free from luxation.

It is recommended to not use a stud dog over 10 years of age without having veterinary certification.

Bitches should be at least eighteen (18) months old before being used for breeding and should be in good health and free of communicable diseases and known genetic faults. It is recommended to have preliminary radiograph of the hips done if the bitch is under two (2) years of age and an OFA radiograph and certification if over two (2) years old and have the patella's examined and found to be free from luxation.

It is recommended to not breed a bitch after eight (8) years of age without veterinary certification.

It is strongly recommended to have a Brucella canis blood test prior to each breeding of a stud dog and bitch to screen for the infection. If a positive result is found and confirmed, infected individuals must be removed from a breeding program.

Breeders of litters are responsible for puppies produced by their bitches, and that breeders verify that purchasers of puppies will be responsible owners who will provide proper homes and care. I agree that all breeding that occurs should be done with the intention of the preservation and betterment of the breed, taking into consideration matters of structure health and temperament, as well as the ability of the breeder to be responsible for the puppies produced.

No bitches should be bred for commercial reasons. No Pequenos will be sold to commercial facilities, businesses or agents thereof.

To explain to all potential buyers and breeders the responsibilities they have to the breed and to the puppies resulting from any breeding.

To maintain records of health and breeding of each individual dog in accordance with the requirements of the American Kennel Club.

To realize that I have a lifelong responsibility to make every reasonable effort to protect the well being of each and every dog I produce. This includes accepting the return or rescue of any of the Pequenos that I have bred, regardless of age. If I am unable to do so, either physically or financially, I will contact the rescue coordinator and ask for advice/ assistance. Under no circumstances will I knowingly allow Pequenos of my breeding, or any one else's, to be placed in a shelter or passed from home to home indiscriminately.

IV. SALES

To offer for sale only those Pequenos which are physically and mentally sound and make every effort to properly place my dogs according to temperament and personality, realizing that the welfare of said puppy, or dog, is of prime importance. To only offer an intact "pet" quality for sale providing both parties sign a non-breeding contract, and when possible the dog shall be released on an AKC limited registration.

To not release puppies to their new homes until they are at least 8 weeks of age. I will not ship puppies by air under 10 weeks of age, but will let them travel if accompanied by the new owner.

To screen potential buyers as carefully as possible and refuse to sell to any person whom I have reasons to believe will not properly care for the dog, both mentally and physically.

To provide each new owner with health and feeding information and any other pertinent information necessary for the care and keeping of the dog.

To provide each purchaser with a bill of sale, three-generation pedigree, health record, registration and instructions for good care and feeding.

To supply a written health guarantee detailing conditions for replacement or reimbursement.

To recommend that all purchasers have their dog examined by a licensed veterinarian within 72 hours of receipt.

To not advertise falsely. All dogs shall be as represented by me and any defects shall be forthrightly noted.

To invite all purchasers to contact me at any time should any questions arise, and agree to do all possible to assist them regarding the breed.

To refuse to sell or donate dogs to commercial wholesalers, retailers in litter lot sales or for raffles.

V. GENERAL

To provide written agreements for all co-owners, stud services and conditional sales.

To always conduct myself in a manner that reflects credit upon the Portuguese Podengo Pequenos breed, the Portuguese Podengo Pequenos of America and myself.

To practice good sportsmanship, good ring manners and courtesy to both judges and fellow exhibitors.

To practice responsible dog ownership as outlined by the American Kennel Club at all times.

To not let any of my Pequenos roam at large or cause a nuisance to neighbors or those carrying out official duties and ensure my dogs are leashed and under control when

out in public. I will clean up after my dogs in public areas and anywhere they are being exhibited.

To take responsible precautions to maintain hotels and show grounds in clean conditions.