

Shetland Sheepdog Club of Georgia, Inc.

Licensed by the American Kennel Club
Member of the American Shetland Sheepdog Association

MEMBERSHIP

Who is eligible for membership in the Shetland Sheepdog Club of Georgia?

- Any person being in good standing with The American Kennel Club, and who subscribes to the purpose of this Club as set forth in the Constitution shall be eligible.
- There are no territorial limitations as to residence; however, the Club's primary purpose is to be representative of the Breeders, Owners, and Exhibitors in its immediate area.

What types of membership are offered?

- **Full Membership**, including the right to vote, hold office, and nominate candidates for office and judges, is open to individuals 18 years of age and older.
- **Associate Membership** is open to individuals 18 years of age and older who wish to participate on a limited basis, excluding the following privileges: right to vote, right to hold office, right to nominate candidates for office and judges, and the right to receive club awards.
- **Junior Membership** shall be offered to individuals under the age of eighteen (18) and shall hold the same privileges as Associate members except their status will convert to Full or Associate membership upon reaching their eighteenth birthday. Must be between 10 and 18 years old and not covered under a Family Membership.
- **Family Membership**, consisting of two or more adults, including minor children, residing in the same physical household. The adult members shall be either Full or Associate members. Each adult 18 years and older has a vote in Full membership with a maximum of 2 votes per family.
- **Auxiliary Membership** for those who live in another town or state but wish to support the SSC/GA. They cannot vote or hold office and they cannot automatically upgrade to Associate or Full Membership.

How do I become a member of the Shetland Sheepdog Club of Georgia?

- Each prospective applicant shall **attend two meetings or one meeting and one Club sponsored event** in any six consecutive Club meetings/events prior to making application for membership.
- Each applicant for membership shall apply on an approved form and agree to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws and the rules of The American Kennel Club and to abide by the Club Code of Ethics.
- Applicants must **obtain the endorsement of two (2) Full Members** (not of the same family) in good standing. Note that sponsors must be Full Members.
- Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall **submit dues payment** for the current year.

What's next?

- The Secretary shall read all information from the application form during the next two (2) consecutive meetings of the Club following receipt of the application. The application will be voted on by secret, written ballot at the meeting of the second (2nd) reading. The applicant must be present for the second (2nd) reading. If not, the application will be held for the next meeting.
- Affirmative votes of two thirds of the full members present and voting at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant. The Secretary will notify the applicant in writing of his/her acceptance or rejection within two (2) weeks.

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“CODE OF ETHICS”

This code is established in accordance with the objectives of the Shetland Sheepdog Club of Georgia, Inc. It is set forth as a guideline to protect and advance the interest of purebred dogs by maintaining high breeding standards, and by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows and other dog related activities including respect for people and dogs. Adherence to the code is strongly recommended.

BREEDING:

The breeder should:

1. Breed only with the idea to improve the breed.
2. Breed only with the intention of finding suitable homes for the puppies.
3. Study, understand, and breed with the intention of conforming to the AKC standard for the Shetland Sheepdog.
4. Breed only healthy AKC registered parents of good temperament and conformation, free of known disqualifying faults, according to the AKC Breed Standard.
5. Breed only mature bitches and provide facilities for excellent pre-natal and post-natal care of the dam and puppies.
6. Refuse to breed a stud dog or brood bitch to any dog which is markedly inferior physically or temperamentally and qualify your refusal.

HEALTH:

The owner should maintain the best possible standards of canine nutrition, health, cleanliness and veterinary care, including mental health which includes contact with people and exposure to the outside world.

REGISTRATION:

The owner should breed only AKC registered Shetland Sheepdogs (other breeds notwithstanding) to AKC registered Shetland Sheepdogs. The owner should always abide by the rules of the American Kennel Club. Accurate records of breeding and pedigrees should be maintained.

SALES:

The owner/breeder should:

1. Not breed, sell, or consign puppies or adults to pet shops or other commercial dealers.
2. Discuss with buyers age-appropriate spaying or neutering of all Shetland Sheepdogs which for any reason will not be used for breeding.
3. Honestly evaluate the quality of the Shetland Sheepdog being sold and fairly represent that evaluation.
4. Not release puppies to new homes before they are eight (8) weeks of age.
5. Furnish details on dog being sold or placed, on feeding, general care, medical inoculations, accurate pedigrees, etc.
6. Screen all prospective buyers to ensure that puppies or adults will have a safe and loving home.
7. Follow up on puppies and dogs after the sale to ensure their continued care and to encourage the owners to become involved in purebred dog activities (in show, obedience, tracking and herding, etc.).

SPORTSMANSHIP:

The owner/breeder should always conduct themselves in a manner which reflects credit upon themselves, his/her purebred dog, and the sport of purebred dogs, regardless of their location or circumstances.