



REGISTERED BREEDERS CODE OF ETHICS

Revised January 2010

The United Kingdom Ragdoll Breeders Society requires that Breeders registered with the Club must sign the undernoted declaration confirming that they fully understand and agree to abide by the items set out in the following Code of Ethics.

1. PURPOSE OF CODE OF ETHICS

It is the aim of the Club to look after the general health and welfare of the Ragdoll breed and to set down reasonable guidelines within which breeders should operate.

2. HEALTH & WELFARE

- a) Every cat/kitten should be in excellent health when leaving the household or cattery. It should be free of any parasites, fungus or disease.
- b) It is required that all Probationary breeders have a mentor of an experienced breeder of the UKRBS. This is to ensure that help is given into the set up and running of a breeding household.
- c) It is highly recommended that all breeding lines owned by a UKRBS Breeder are tested for the known HCM ragdoll gene and the cats micro chipped. Documentation evidence of the above to be held by the club
- d) It is required that the cat/kitten has completed a course of vaccinations against enteritis and cat 'flu before leaving the household or cattery and at the time the kitten leaves home the vaccination card is given to the new owner. (As in line with GCCF Rules.) Any other vaccinations can be discussed with your veterinary surgeon.
- e) It is recommended that the breeder's veterinary surgeon carries out a general health check and confirmation of sex when the kitten has its final vaccination.
- f) It is recommended that breeders insure their cats/kittens for at least the first 4 weeks after leaving their household or cattery and encourage new owners to continue the insurance.
- g) The breeder should provide the buyer with guidelines for feeding, grooming and raising a Ragdoll.
- h) The UKRBS encourage all breeders to take full responsibility for the rehoming of any cat/kitten that they breed or any breeding cats that they might retire.

3. PEDIGREE/TRANSFER CERTIFICATE

- a) In accordance with the GCCF Rules 10a. and 10b. the breeder MUST supply a 4 generation pedigree at the time the cat/kitten leaves home, together with a signed Transfer Certificate, if this is available, unless in the case of a kitten sold as a pet it is jointly agreed in writing by both parties at the time of sale, that the Transfer Certificate will be forwarded by the breeder on receipt of a vet's letter confirming that the kitten has been neutered/spayed. However UKRBS strongly recommend all kittens be registered with at least one registering body before leaving the breeders home

4. BREEDING QUEENS/STUDS

- a) A kitten sold as a potential breeding queen or stud should be an outstanding example of the breed and conform closely to the Standard of Points.
- b) The breeder must ensure to the best of their ability that kittens sold for breeding should not be from lines with any known health problems nor have any defects as listed in the preface to the GCCF Standard of Points booklet.
- c) Any Stud boys advertised on the UKRBS Stud List must be clear from any know Ragdoll HCM genes.
- d) Under NO circumstances should studs be sold to a household with no females, nor is it recommended that breeders should sell potential studs to households which have yet to breed and raise a litter of Ragdoll kittens. It is strongly recommended that Red Series males should NOT be sold to novice breeders without fully explaining the fact that when mated to a 'traditional' colour Queen, ALL female offspring will be Tortie and all male offspring will be Seal, Blue, Chocolate or Lilac. The UKRBS also strongly recommend that Red Series Males should not be sold as an only Stud, unless it is fully understood the implications of the colours involved in their offspring.
- e) As UKRBS is committed to the future health & welfare of the Ragdoll, the lines of kittens / cats advertised on the active register by the club MUST test negative for the HCM gene. Cats / Kittens that have tested positive for the known HCM gene should NOT be sold for breeding. New / Novice breeders with the UKRBS should only purchase kittens/cats whose lines have tested clear to ensure that the foundation lines they are working with in their breeding program are genetically healthy against the know ragdoll HCM gene at this present time. However, the UKRBS is concerned that clearing this known HCM gene from our lines should not damage lines and type, therefore breeders are encouraged to work with one another to help clear affected lines as quickly as possible but in doing so protecting the Ragdoll in health, type and lines.
- f) Registered Breeders agree to strictly adhere to the official GCCF Ragdoll Registration Policy. All Ragdolls used for breeding, including any outcross, must only have the recognised Breed numbers in all lines of their pedigree. **Please note: B & C of Registration Policy.**
- g) When selling a kitten registered on the active register to a Novice/Probationary breeder, the breeder of the kitten agrees to become the new breeders Mentor and agrees to support and guide them within the recommendations of the club.
- h) Probationer breeders should not sell kittens for breeding unless they have been assessed by their mentor /or experienced Ragdoll breeder who agrees that the said kitten is of suitable type and potential.

5. ADVERTISING

Breeders registered with The United Kingdom Ragdoll Breeders Society may refer to the Club in any advertisements, literature or web sites only for cats and kittens bred in strict accordance with the current GCCF Registration Policy for Ragdoll Cats, UKRBS Breeding Policy and Code of Ethics.

6. ATTENDANCE AT SEMINARS

- a) Probationary Breeders registered with the Club are required to attend two Seminars prior to going onto the full Breeders' List.
- b) It is a requirement of the UKRBS that all Registered Breeders with the club attend a refresher seminar within a five year period.

7. CLUB DISCIPLINE

Members who are included in the Club's breeding lists will be removed from the said lists by the committee for the following:

- a) Any breeder disciplined by the GCCF for seriously contravening their Rules or Constitution.
- b) Any breeder who is proved to have broken the aforementioned code of ethics
- c) Any breeder selling any cat/kitten to pet shops or brokers or acting as brokers.
- d) Any breeder who deviates from the Club's advertising policy.
- e) Any breeder whose actions bring the Club into disrepute, or whose words or actions may be considered detrimental to the club, its members or the Ragdoll breed.
- f) Any breeder *ADVERTISING & SELLING* cats / kittens on the active register which have tested positive either Heterozygote or Homozygote for the known HCM gene.

I/We have read and fully understand the above Registered Breeders Code of Ethics and hereby agree to abide by them.

Signed..... Date

Both must sign if joint Registered Breeders