



AMERI-CAN STABYHOON ASSOCIATION

CODE OF ETHICS

Version 2.0 – 1 April 2010

I. PURPOSE

The main purpose of the Ameri-Can Stabyhoun Association, hereafter referred to as the ASA, is to preserve, protect and promote the health, character, appearance, and general well being of the Stabyhoun, as well as its natural working ability and other unique characteristics of the breed.

It is mandatory that the ASA Code of Ethics be subscribed to by those who are concerned with the propagation of physically, mentally and temperamentally sound Stabyhouns that conform to the breed standard. Measures should be taken to acquaint the general public with the contents of this Code, so they may not become innocent partners in improper breeding practices and the detrimental use of the Stabyhoun.

Consistent with the above, I will agree to breed in a discriminate manner and only upon strong evidence of the possibility of finding suitable homes for the resulting puppies. I understand, and agree that to breed indiscriminately may contribute to the deterioration of the Stabyhoun breed and lead to overpopulation.

II. BREEDING

I agree to use for breeding only those Stabyhouns that conform to the official breed standard as adopted by the Federation Cynologique Internationale, hereafter referred to as the FCI and accepted by the ASA.

Furthermore, I agree to adhere to the advice of the Breeders Advisory Committee of the ASA who will use all the resources at their disposal to review my choices of suitable breeding partners for my Stabyhoun should I decide to pursue breeding. I understand that failure to follow the Breeders Advisory Committee's recommendation will result in a warning and may cause my membership in the club to be rescinded excluding all my Stabyhoun from breeding with ASA members' dogs.

If interested in breeding, I agree to comply with each of the following requirements:

- Each Staby must receive a minimum of two evaluations of very good or excellent from qualified FCI judges for this breed as approved by the ASA.
 - In lieu of these evaluations, a form developed by the Breeders Advisory Committee (BAC) detailing information regarding the conformation, health and character of each Stabyhoun must be provided by owners to the BAC, accompanied by recent pictures of the dog showing conformational detail, i.e. side, front and rear view, and from which the BAC can give an informed evaluation of the dog.
- Both breeding partners need to be of excellent health physically, mentally, and temperamentally. A questionnaire found on the website, <http://vetapps.vet.upenn.edu/cbarq/>, for the **Canine Behavioral Assessment and Research Questionnaire(C-BARQ)** must be completed for each partner to help the BAC to assess any temperament issues that may influence the mental health of our breed. Should a Staby appear to have behavioral issues, a mental and temperament assessment by an impartial third party, such as those professionals listed on the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants (IAABC), may be required.
- Both breeding partners cannot be related to each other as (grand)parent-(grand)child, or as (half) brother-(half)sister.
- Both the same combination of male and bitch (the same parent combination) is only permitted two times unless approved by an exception from the BAC.
- The bitch cannot be older than 60 months (5 years) at the breeding of her first litter.

- The bitch may not be bred after the day she reaches 96 months (8 years) of age and may have no more than 5 litters in her lifetime.
- The birth needs to occur naturally. If the birth of a litter is done twice surgically, by means of a Caesarian Section, the bitch will not be used for further breeding.
- The bitch may not produce more than two litters in a 24 month period, with the understanding that the time period between the last whelping date and the next breeding must be at least 8 months. This regulation will ensure that the health of the litter produced may be evaluated for signs of inheritable diseases prior to another pairing.
- The bitch must be 24 months or older (2 years), at the time of breeding, and the breeder must have, in hand, a certificate which signifies a passing grade from an official OFA hip examination or its equivalent and a reading of normal, Grade 1 or Grade 2 from an official OFA elbow examination or its equivalent.
- The male must be 24 months (2 years) or older, at the time of breeding, and the breeder must have, in hand, a certificate which signifies a passing grade from an official OFA hip examination or its equivalent and a reading of normal, Grade 1 or Grade 2 from an official OFA elbow examination or its equivalent. An exception to this regulation may be made if the male is 18 months or older and has passed a preliminary OFA hip examination or its equivalent and has a normal reading in the elbows. A request for this exception must be presented to the Breeders Advisory Committee of the ASA at least one month before the proposed breeding and must be accepted by this Committee. After the male has reached the age of 24 months, a final OFA hip exam must be done to confirm that the male has, in fact, a passing grade and is available for breeding purposes. If the male does not pass this second exam, the male will not be used for further breeding.
- The male may stud no more than 2 litters in a single calendar year, with a total maximum of 8 litters in his lifetime. Between uses as a stud, the offspring need to be evaluated for any signs of inheritable diseases.
- Due to the rarity of the Stabyhoun breed in the U.S. and Canada, artificial insemination will be allowed but only by special permission granted by the BAC of the ASA. I will make such a request a minimum of one month in advance of any anticipated breeding. Breeding by natural methods is to be encouraged, but with the distances between studs and females, often times the only possibility will be by Artificial Insemination. If it appears that, at the time of breeding, a natural breeding cannot be accomplished and the only way to breed the dogs is through artificial insemination, an exception may be granted by contacting one of the members of the Breeders Advisory Committee by phone or e-mail. If permission is granted by the BAC member, the Artificial Insemination must occur at the office of a licensed veterinarian, with both dogs present.
- Dogs that suffer from epilepsy, are kink tailed, are unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid, are tri-colored, or who have been operated on for elbow dysplasia or have a Grade 3 and above elbow dysplasia reading will not be bred.
- When it is approved by the BAC to breed a male or a female with Grade 1 or 2 Elbow Dysplasia with a normal mate, pups born from this test pairing will not go into future breeding pools until further data is collected. Future owners of those pups will be told that up front and these "test" pups will be sold as pet quality only until the BAC determines the best course of action for the breed.
- For a breeding to occur, each breeding partner must be examined for the appearance of hip dysplasia and the following rules must be met:
 - a) Dogs with the OFA grade of Excellent (A+), Good (A-), or Fair (B+), or equivalent ratings as judged by a reputable Veterinarian controlled registry, may be used for breeding in each arbitrary parent combination;
 - b) Dogs with the OFA grade of Borderline (B-) or Mild(C), or equivalent rating as judged by a reputable Veterinarian controlled registry, may be considered for breeding on a case per case basis by the Breed Advisory Committee based on their family history;
 - c) Dogs with the OFA grade of Moderate (D) or Severe (E), or equivalent rating as judged by a reputable Veterinarian controlled registry, may never be used for breeding;

- d) Dogs with foreign registry may be used if they meet the comparable passing criteria of the country of origin.

See the chart below for some examples:

OFA	FCI (European)	BVA (UK/Australia)
E	A+	0-4 (no > 3/hip)
G	A-	5-10 (no > 6/hip)
F	B+	11-18
B	B-	19-25
M	C	26-35
Mod	D	36-50
S	E	51-106

III. RECORDS

If I breed my bitch or use my stud dog in service, I agree to keep accurate records of the stock and to make that information readily available to the ASA Board. If either or both the stud and/or dam are not available for prospective puppy buyers to view, I will have recent pictures of the absent dog(s). The pictures should show conformational detail, i.e. a side, front, and rear view on which the buyer can judge the absent parent and make an informed decision.

IV. HEALTH

I agree to maintain good standards of health and care for my dogs, including proper veterinary care. I further agree that proper health includes proper socialization that means regular contact with people and exposure to the outside world that would include contact with other animals.

As a breeder, I agree that the conditions, under which the dogs are bred, must satisfy at least the following criteria:

- a. The health and welfares of the current dogs is good;
- b. The separation of dogs from bitches must be possible in order to prevent unplanned mating;
- c. The whelping area must meet at least the following criteria:
 - sufficient room to allow the mother to move around and to remove herself from the reach of the pups;
 - food and water available for the mother nearby;
 - access to an area for the mother and later, the pups to relieve themselves;
 - adequate ventilation and/or heat for the area;
 - care must be given to ensure proper socialization of the pups.

If the ASA establishes, that one or more of these named situations at the kennel are not satisfied, I will be notified of this violation in writing and upon receipt of that notice I will have ten days to correct the situation to become in accordance with the criteria above.

I will ensure that the pups are de-wormed, vaccinated and chipped according to normal veterinary rules, and will provide a completed vaccination booklet filled in by the veterinarian. I will not allow a pup to leave the mother prior to reaching the age of 7 weeks and only then with the full knowledge that they are healthy and have had the required veterinarian evaluations, inoculations and care.

I agree to provide the Breeders Advisory Committee with a written description of the physical and mental condition of the puppies at the age of 7 weeks, on a form approved by the BAC, which shall include information regarding weight, color, teeth, eyes, testicles, dewclaws, umbilical cord, tails and temperament of each individual puppy.

I agree to foster regular contact with the Buyers of my pups regarding health, weight, appearance and character information, training progress, problems, concerns or questions. This information is of great value in evaluating the breeding program. I agree to make this information available to the Breeders Advisory Committee upon request.

If I produce a litter of puppies and for some reason become unable to care for, sell or place the puppies resulting

from that litter, I will offer the litter to the Board of the ASA for placement. If necessary, no money will be exchanged, putting the life and welfare of the puppies first.

I will provide for the registration of all pups with the FCI by ensuring that both the dogs that are used for breeding are registered themselves as well as the litter.

V. WELFARE

I will not participate in, or sell to anyone who participates in dog fighting/pitting. I will not expose my dogs to undue danger, or sell to anyone who participated in activities considered unduly dangerous by a rational person, i.e. pack wild boar hunting. If I am unable to keep my Stabyhoun, for any reason, I will contact the ASA rescue coordinator in my area, or a board member, and attempt to place the dog in a new home. I will make every effort to avoid turning the dog over to an "animal shelter" or to a veterinarian to be euthanized.

I will urge my puppy purchasers to provide puppy obedience training at the proper age, and purchasers of adult dogs to begin obedience training immediately.

I will provide, asked and unsolicited, any available and known data about my dogs and their offspring that is of interest to the Breeders Advisory Committee or the ASA Board.

VI. SALES

I will refuse to sell to or recommend breeders or individuals who do not conform to the ASA Code of Ethics or to dog wholesalers, dealers, retailers and their agents. I also agree that I will not personally act as a dog dealer or wholesaler in any manner or form. In the event that it should become necessary for me to do so regarding a Stabyhoun, I will submit a request with a full explanation in writing to the Board for approval. A similar letter will also be required from the owner of the litter or dog(s) in question.

I will use a contract or written agreement with every sale or purchase involving a Stabyhoun that will contain as a minimum all of the essential elements of an ASA approved sales contract. To the best of my ability, I will state clearly to a buyer whether the puppy or dog being sold is potentially a pet or breeding quality dog and will so stipulate in my contract.

I agree that I will not sell a Stabyhoun to a person who is purchasing a Stabyhoun with breeding prospect if they will not become a member of the American Stabyhoun Association and subscribe to its Constitution and Bylaws and sign the current ASA Code of Ethics. I agree to make a full disclosure to these purchasers about what procedures will be necessary to determine the dog's breeding ability at a later date.

I will give buyers of puppies or adult dogs accurate health, breeding and litter registration records and at least a 4-generation pedigree. Registration papers may be withheld on a Stabyhoun suspected of carrying a serious fault that would make it detrimental for breeding purposes until the Stabyhoun has proven otherwise or been rendered incapable of reproducing. However, the seller must keep the registration on file and available for future needs. The withholding of registration papers must be in written agreement and signed by both the buyer and seller and must be included in every pet-quality contract.

I will require that my puppy buyers render incapable of reproducing any Stabyhoun that has developed disqualifying or serious faults (this includes a bad temperament). As a breeder, I will make every serious effort to see that every dog will have an adequate home and will be given proper care.

The ASA does not condone SALES-LEASE (breeders terms) arrangements or placements of Stabyhoun.

VII. ADVERTISING

I agree that my advertising, oral and written, shall be factual and not worded so as to attract undesirable buyers, or to encourage the raising of purebred Stabyhoun as an "easy money" scheme.

VIII. GENERAL CONDUCT AND SPORTSMANSHIP

I shall conduct myself at all times in a manner that will reflect credit upon me, the ASA, and the breed, regardless of the location or circumstances, but especially when attending dog shows or trials, whether as an exhibitor or spectator.

I agree that I will not co-own a Stabyhoun and participate in the breeding of said Stabyhoun with a person who does not subscribe to and sign the current ASA Code of Ethics.

If I should become aware of the maltreatment, misuse or need for relocation of any Stabyhoun, I will notify all of the following for the resolution of the problem: a member of the Board of Directors, the appropriate authorities in the area, and the breeder.

If any of the articles above are violated or over-stepped, one or more of the following punishments may be administered:

- reprimand
- monetary fine
- temporary or lasting disqualification of the breeder or individual from the ASA membership;
- temporary or permanent withdrawal of the right to serve as an officer.

IX. LIMITS OF LIABILITY

The total responsibility for breeding and delivering pups lies with the breeder. The ASA and its Board of Directors accept absolutely no liability with respect to possible faults in the pup, resulting from a breeding, even if the breeder follows all the provisions in these regulations. Any consultation with the ASA regarding the selection of breeding lines or prospective homes for puppies shall be at the breeder's own risk.