



WALA Member's Code of Ethics



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The Worldwide Australian Labradoodle Association is a community of dedicated Australian Labradoodle breeders who understand and accept that the long-term improvement, sustainability, and health of the Australian Labradoodle rests in the hands of those who love, care for, and breed this dog.

This *Code of Ethics* shall serve as a guide for members of the WALA to follow, recognizing that each member has a responsibility for and a common interest in the well-being of the Australian Labradoodle breed as a whole and of the individual dogs that members own and produce in their breeding programs. This *Code of Ethics* also sets the tone, defines the issues, and articulates the values and visions of the WALA. This *WALA Code of Ethics* helps to clarify rights and obligations and articulates an unmistakable minimum standard of conduct expected of its members.

Implicit in membership in the WALA is the understanding and full acceptance of the *Code of Ethics* as a condition of membership. In cases where the regional laws of the WALA Member Breeder's country of residence are in conflict with the *WALA Rules and Regulations* or *Code of Ethics*, these regional laws will supersede the *WALA Rules and Regulations* and *Code of Ethics*.

Members of the WALA shall commit themselves to the following principles of our *Code of Ethics*:

Principle 1 - Commitment to WALA Community

- I will help and support my fellow members in fulfilling our mission of worldwide collaboration for the benefit of the Labradoodle and Australian Labradoodle Breeds.
- I will mentor new breeders that purchase breeding stock from me.
- I will speak truthfully and respectfully about fellow breeders and their animals at all times, whether verbally, in writing, or within any social media platform.

Principle 2 - Commitment to Breed

- I will breed with the soundness of the Labradoodle or Australian Labradoodle in mind, breeding only animals that are in good health and who are physically and temperamentally sound.
- I will respect basic principles related to maximizing genetic diversity to maintain the health of the breed.
- I will commit to ongoing education about the Australian Labradoodle breed, including genetic diversity, positive training, inherited disease, desired temperament, and structure.
- I will conform to the WALA required health testing and will only breed those animals who have test results that meet the minimum standards of the WALA.
- I will maintain accurate breeding and litter records.

Principle 3 - Commitment to Purchasers

- I will not misrepresent the qualities of the Labradoodle or Australian Labradoodle, including any guarantee of allergy-friendliness.
- I will ensure that all pups and adults who are born or live with me will be properly cared for, vaccinated, wormed, and raised in a healthy environment where they are physically, mentally, and socially stimulated.
- I will make every effort to ensure that my puppies and dogs are placed in homes free of abuse, neglect, and mistreatment.
- I will accurately represent the actual sire and dam of any puppies produced.

Principle 4 - Commitment to WALA Organization

- I will respect this *Code of Ethics* and will attest to my compliance with the *Code of Ethics* on an annual basis as part of my membership renewal.
- I will obtain written approval from the WALA if my program is to deviate from this *Code of Ethics* in any way.
- I will act as an ambassador for our breed and the WALA.