



The Basset Griffon Vendéen Club Code of Ethics

(as distributed to all breed clubs by the Kennel Club)

All members of the Basset Griffon Vendéen Club undertake to abide by the KC Code of Ethics and associated BGV Club Code of Ethics.

Club members will:

1. properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
2. agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, or who carries out a caesarean section on a bitch, may report such operation to the Kennel Club.
3. agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
4. abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
5. not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
6. agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.
7. not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
8. ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
9. clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
10. only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and will help with the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change.
11. supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
12. ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents at the earliest opportunity, if not immediately available.
13. not sell any dog to commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. Will not sell by sale or auction Kennel Club registration certificates as stand-alone items (not accompanying a dog).
14. not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise dogs nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog.

Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, if appropriate.

In addition, BGV Club breeders will:

15. breed only to improve the quality of the BGV, selecting a stud dog/bitch to be mated based on researched compatibility of pedigrees, conformation and temperament and being aware of health conditions in the breed and BGV Club research work to overcome these. This includes taking into account DNA test results in the case of PBGVs.
16. not knowingly engage in cross-breeding.
17. share all findings regarding their breeding, including providing evidence of health clearances of BGV breeding stock as required by the BGV Club, also for acceptance onto the BGV Club's Breeders Directory.
18. only breed from a PBGV sire and dam who, unless hereditary clear to a maximum of two generations, have been DNA tested and do not engage in breeding the following combination of dogs - affected to affected, affected to carrier and carrier to carrier.
19. not breed from any BGV bitch under the age of 18 months or before the second season should this occur prior to the bitch attaining the age of 18 months. No BGV bitches to be mated under any circumstances prior to their first birthday in line with the KC guidelines.
20. ensure puppies are microchipped by 8 weeks of age, which is compulsory, making purchasers aware of additional means of identification i.e. tattoo or DNA profile.
It is now a legal requirement to have your dog microchipped
21. ensure no puppy changes hands under 8 weeks of age.
22. ensure puppies are in good health at time of sale.
23. provide the following at the time of sale/transfer:
 - * a contract of sale to be signed, with one copy retained by the purchaser, including details of any known cosmetic faults; breeders should include in the contract of sale a recommendation that all PBGVs should be likewise eye tested between the ages of 2 and 8 annually;
 - * a record of inoculations and worming with guidelines for continuing the schedule;
 - * advice on care and grooming specific to the breed;
 - * information on known health problems in the breed and provisions for making contact for help with care, health or welfare;
 - * guidance on encouraging the new owner to have their own vet check within a specified time to be assured of the puppy/dog's health status.
24. Whether or not the KC documents are available, explain any breeder-placed endorsements on the registration and obtain signed confirmation of awareness and acceptance from the new owner/s before or at the time of physical transfer of the BGV to its new owner.
25. In the case of PBGVs, breeders will:
 - * follow the recommendation that, before mating, a BVA eye test with Gonioscopy is carried out.
 - * give Puppy Buyers proof of POAG status of both parents.

- * for progeny, provide the following information:
- * the status of the puppy if known (based on the parents' results)
i.e. Clear to Clear producing Clear, or Affected to Clear producing Carriers.
- * In the case of a Clear to Carrier mating, either:-
test the entire litter to establish the status of the puppies prior to sale;
or
endorse the litter and inform the purchaser that a DNA test will be required
prior to the endorsement being lifted.
- * if intending to export a puppy from a Clear to Carrier mating, arrange for a DNA test
to be carried out before export.

26. When breeding dogs, adopt as a minimum standard the principles, requirements and recommendations as embodied in the Kennel Club's Assured Breeder Scheme*. It is strongly recommended that members who breed should apply to join the Scheme.

*The Kennel Club's Assured Breeder Scheme is no longer in existence, but core principals should still apply. Ensure that all dogs used for breeding are selected for temperament characteristics suitable for their intended purpose. Dogs must also be reasonably typical of their breed or type in terms of appearance and characteristics. Commit to help, if necessary, with the re-homing of any dog that they provide, throughout the dog's lifetime, for whatever reason.