**AKC Lehigh Valley Kennel Club Code of Ethics**

**1.3.19 revised**

I will become familiar with and will abide by the rules of the American Kennel Club, the AKC Standard of my breed(s) and the Constitution and By-laws of the Lehigh Valley Kennel Club.

**Health**

At all times I will maintain the highest standards of health and veterinary care, nutrition and cleanliness for our dogs’ physical and mental health.

**Registration, Breeding and Sales**

I will strive in my breeding program to improve the breed to conform closely to the AKC Breed Standards by selecting the stud or dam as to reduce faults and to achieve better type and qualities in the puppies. Dogs/bitches shall be bred only to purebred registered dogs/bitches of the same breed.

I shall not engage in the wholesaling of litters or the selling of stock to commercial sources of distribution. Only mature bitches should be bred and provided the best pre- and post-natal care.

I will keep accurate pedigrees and records of all breeding’s.

A puppy or adult placed, as a companion, shall not be bred. This shall be clearly understood by the buyer and I shall have a signed statement to that effect. All other puppies or adults shall be registered or eligible for registration, full or limited, with the AKC and the purchaser shall be provided with accurate and valid papers.

All puppies and adults shall be housed in a clean and healthy condition and shall be old enough (per state requirements) to make the necessary adjustment to a new home safely. No adult or puppy shall be sold without adequate protection against disease.

**Sportsmanship**

I will conduct myself in such a manner that will reflect favorably upon the Club and the sport of purebred dogs, at all times and in all circumstances.

I will not speak or write maliciously of another member nor seek to impair their reputation.

I will gauge my actions for the best interest of the club and the sport of purebred dogs.

I will not use the Club for personal gain or profit unless the service I rendered benefits the Club and the stipend is less than what it would cost the Club to have the service rendered by a non-member.

In the event of a complaint lodged against a breeder or individual with the LVKC, I will agree to cooperate to resolve the stated complaint.