Animaltalk®

Your guide to responsible pet ownership

Code of conduct

FOR RESPONSIBLE DOG BREEDERS

As a responsible dog breeder, I Andrien M yburgh (breeder's full name)

of Scherzando Pepper and Salt Riesen Schnauzer (kennel name), reg number 1021002

with KUSA, K9 Registry, other _____ (cross out non-applicable),

located at Plot 164, M ooiplaats, Pretoria (address)

and contactable on 082 635 8863 (daytime telephone) 082 635 8863 (cell)

info@scherzando.co.za (email address) www.scherzando.co.za (website)

UNDERTAKE TO:

Provide information on the characteristics and properties of the breed to interested individuals. I will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed, falsely advertise, or mislead any person regarding the performance of any dogs for sale or puppies for sale.

Breed with no more than three breeds preferably only one or two.

Breed only for the purpose of improving the quality of the breed and its temperament at any time. Never engage in cross-breeding.

Conscientiously plan each litter of puppies for sale, selecting a stud dog and bitch to be mated based on their pedigrees, conformation and temperament adhering to best practice.

Ensure that purebred puppies for sale are registered with the appropriate registering body (Kennel Union of Southern Africa, German Shepherd Dog Federation, and the like) and within the registering bodys stipulated time span, and that said registrations are passed on to the new owners timeously.

Not breed any male or female until they are both physically and mentally mature (two years of age for females). Likewise, I will not continue to breed any male or female beyond an appropriate age for the breed (seven years of age for females).

Ensure that the bitch has a minimum of one year (preferably 18 months) between litters unless the vet has confirmed that breeding earlier will be okay.

Screen my dogs for any hereditary health problems that are prevalent in my breed and ensure that all breeding dogs are free from these disorders prior to breeding.

Keep accurate records and retain those records for a minimum of five years. These records will include: stud service contracts, pedigrees, all litters of puppies for sale, and all dogs/puppies sold with details of new owners.

Never place puppies with puppy brokers or pet stores. Only advertise in reputable media with a clear breed adverting policy and code of conduct.

Inform potential buyers about what responsible pet ownership entails. Animaltalk and Dog Directory offer free info sheets and a responsible pet owner code of conduct.

Screen all potential owners through a questionnaire and references.

Care about the wellbeing of my breeding dogs and the puppies they produce. I will always put the welfare of my dogs before profit.

Take great care in ensuring that puppies are not placed with buyers who will potentially breed them in an unethical manner.

Do everything in my power to ensure that my puppies new homes are responsible forever homes.

Provide a safe, happy and healthy home for my dogs and puppies. I will not constantly confine my breeding dogs to cages, and will treat my dogs in a humane manner at all times, realising that dogs are pack animals who thrive on love and companionship.

Ensure that my puppies offered for sale are healthy and well socialised prior to placement.

Ensure that my puppies are vet-checked and vaccinated prior to placement.

Place puppies in their new homes at the appropriate level of maturity for their breed, between eight and 12 weeks of age but no less than eight weeks of age.

Microchip all my dogs, including puppies.

Require the spaying or neutering of all pet-quality puppies (puppies not being offered to another responsible breeder as part of their breeding programme).

Offer a reasonable health guarantee, and stand behind it.

Provide all puppy buyers, at the time of sale, with a puppy pack containing:

1. a written, three-generation pedigree.
2. a signed copy of the purchase agreement.
3. a full health record veterinary certificate booklet including a record of the puppys diet, inoculation and parasite control, as well as microchip documentation.
4. a health guarantee.
5. details of the puppys microchip.
6. basic diet and care information.
7. a seven-day supply of the food I have been feeding the puppy.
8. the time frame during which the puppy or dog may be examined by a licensed veterinarian, at the buyers expense, and upon written recommendation of the veterinarian for specific reasons, the puppy or dog may be returned to me for a full refund of all money paid.
9. a properly executed registration certificate (or if the puppy is not to be registered, a written statement to that effect). Registration materials may be withheld if a written statement is provided to the buyer of when, and under what conditions, they will be provided (for example, once there has been verification by a veterinarian that the puppy has been spayed or neutered).

Be dedicated to continued buyer education and support, particularly while they are adjusting to their new puppy.

Be willing to re-home a puppy in the event that the puppys new owner cannot fulfil their commitment for whatever reason.

Be fair, honest and trustworthy in all dealings with buyers.

Be courteous and professional in all correspondence and communication.

Only sell puppies I have personally bred. I specifically undertake not to sell puppies as being from my dogs bloodlines if they are not.

Actively support at least one animal charity.

Abide by this code of conduct under all circumstances OR return, at my cost, my Animaltalk/ Dog Directory Responsible Breeder Certificate and relinquish my privilege to be identified as an Animaltalk Responsible Breeder and my privilege to advertise in any of Panorama Media Corp magazines or digital properties.

Signed: _____ Date: 1 August 2015