



The Large Munsterlander Club

Code of Conduct for Members

[approved by the RKC 4th December 2023]

Words of masculine gender should be taken to include the feminine gender unless the context indicates otherwise.

1. Members/Owners must always consider the welfare of their dogs and the breed before any personal gain.
2. Members/Owners must only breed from Large Munsterlanders of sound temperament and good type which show natural ability and always strive to produce Large Munsterlanders conforming to the Standard as published by the Kennel Club.
3. Neither dogs nor bitches in poor health, or unsound temperament, or with serious hereditary faults should be used for breeding.
4. Owners/Members are encouraged to have their dogs health checked with all four health checks (see below) whether or not their dogs are being used for breeding purposes to assist with tracking and monitoring the breed. The four health tests are: hip scoring, elbow scoring, eye testing for hereditary cataract and DNA testing for HUU. Members whose bitches or stud dogs are being used for breeding must ensure that all four health tests are completed and results obtained before mating takes place. Members will ensure that when advertising proposed or actual stock, the results of all health checks carried out for both sire and dam prior to mating are included in the information being given, so avoiding misrepresentation of themselves or their stock.
 - a. **Hips and Elbows.** Must be scored on the BVA/KC scheme. Breeders who offer puppies that are a result of Artificial Insemination (AI) or Pet Passport matings must state clearly to prospective purchasers why both parents may not conform to the UK Health screening requirements in these guidelines. In

the interest of breed health, any member taking their dogs for hip/elbow scoring must submit the plates to the BVA, whatever the likely score of the hips/elbows might be.

b. Eye Test for Hereditary Cataract. Under the BVA scheme this must be within the previous 12 months of the mating. It is recommended that all Large Munsterlanders have their eyes tested after the dog has reached the age of 8 years, particularly if the dog has been used for breeding.

c. DNA Test for HUU. Only Large Munsterlander matings between Clear/ Clear and Clear/Carrier are permitted to take place: only these will be included on the Club Puppy Register. All DNA results must be submitted to the Kennel Club for publication.

5. Members/Owners must not allow matings between dogs and bitches which do not conform to the colour as defined in the Breed Standard as published by the Kennel Club.

6. Members/Owners must not allow a bitch to whelp before she is fully mature. Members/Owners must not let a bitch whelp under 12 months between litters. (Maturity is defined as not less than 20 months and not more than 8 years of age.) Members/Owners must also ensure that stock from which they breed is registered at the Kennel Club and conforms to the Breed Standard.

7. A bitch must have no more than four (4) litters in her lifetime and accordingly no more than four (4) will be accepted onto the Puppy Register.

8. Members/Owners must not knowingly sell puppies to dealers, pet shops or puppy farms and only offer for sale puppies which are healthy, free from parasites and have hind dew claws removed.

9. Members/Owners when advertising are advised to take care to avoid misrepresentation of themselves or their stock and only deal in a fair and honest manner with clients who must be advised of any fault the dog may have. Clients buying stock must be advised to present the dog to a veterinary surgeon within three days of purchase. Should a veterinary surgeon at such examination advise that the dog is not suitable for the purpose for which it was bought by reason of ill health, hereditary abnormality or unsound temperament, members must agree to take back such a dog and refund the purchase price.

10. Members/Owners when with their dogs must conduct themselves in such a way as not to bring discredit to the breed or the Club, and demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.