

# **NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB**

## **CODE OF CONDUCT AT CHAMPIONSHIP AND OPEN DOG SHOWS**

Northumberland and Durham Labrador Retriever Club expects exhibitors and other visitors to conduct themselves in a responsible manner and to ensure that their dogs are properly taken care of throughout the period of the show and do not become a nuisance to other exhibits or to visitors at the show. Any breach of these provisions may lead to the person/s involved being asked to leave the premises and its surrounding areas. **All incidents will be recorded and passed on to the appropriate authority if deemed necessary**  
Below are guidelines which we expect to be followed.

### **People**

- Participants have a duty both to their dogs and to others to make our events friendly and welcoming and they are expected to be co-operative and to respect all other participants both inside and outside in the designated show areas and car parks
- Participants and visitors should conduct themselves at all times in an appropriate fashion and should display good manners and respect towards other participants, visitors, show officials and to judges
- Any verbal communication with a judge regarding dogs, should take place after judging has taken place and must be conducted in a polite and professional manner
- Abusive or aggressive behaviour towards any person at the show including the judge, other participants, visitors, show management or other officials will not be tolerated under any circumstances
- Smoking is not permitted in the ring and/or inside buildings
- Mobile phones should be turned off whilst exhibiting your dog
- If you have children, do not allow them to touch any dogs unless you have the permission of the owner for them to do so. Be aware of where your children are, and what they are doing at all times

### **Dogs**

- All dogs must be of the correct temperament to enable the judge to examine the exhibiting dog
- Bitches in season should be shown with thought and consideration, particularly with consideration for dog owners
- Dogs should be of such temperament that other dogs waiting to be judged will not be stressed
- Dogs must not be left in vehicles on warm or hot days
- Crated dogs should be identifiable with crates labelled with names and telephone number

### **Harassment**

No one should be subject to intimidation or made to feel alarmed or distressed or put in fear of reprisal. Harassment is a criminal offence. To that end the Club adopts a zero tolerance towards all types of harassment activity

Harassment may be defined as causing alarm, distress and anxiety and fear of physical violence or other threat, offensive statements, verbal abuse and threats.

Conduct may include speech, obstruction and so on. As such conduct may involve a criminal offence the police may be involved and it may be that the Club will defer any action pending the outcome of such investigation and/or prosecution.

The Club expects courtesy and co-operation to be shown towards everyone involved at their events.

Whilst pressures and tensions which arise at any competitive level are understood, any aggression or abuse towards those who are simply undertaking their jobs for the benefit and interest of the exhibitor/competitor and the audience are ultimately the dog itself cannot be tolerated