



# USRC MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

This agreement is entered into between the United States Rottweiler Club, "USRC" and the USRC Member or Membership Applicant(s) named below.

Membership dues are due annually on April 1 of each year. Dues are \$55 for Single Membership or \$60 for Family Membership

Membership in the USRC is limited to those who prescribe to and abide by the purpose and objectives of the USRC, all rules of the USRC and those who observe the highest standards of sportsmanship and good will at any meetings, forums, shows and working events, and at any other event or gathering, real or electronic, involving Rottweilers.

All new applicants or any person whose prior membership in USRC has lapsed must apply for USRC membership. The names of all applicants for USRC membership will be posted to the USRC forum. All applicants will be screened to ensure those applicants meet membership eligibility requirements. No person shall be refused membership on a basis of race, color, creed, religion, gender, age, or national origin.

## Types of Membership:

1. Full Membership - Full members are eligible to participate in all the USRC's events and programs and are eligible for election to office or to serve on USRC committees.
2. Family Membership - A family membership shall recognize two adults living in the same household as individual full members with all rights and privileges as described above. Persons under the age of 21 residing within the household will also be recognized as individual full members of USRC with all rights and privileges, but shall not vote, hold office or be counted as full members for purposes of club formation or continuance.
3. Probationary Membership - A probationary member may be an applicant or a full member under disciplinary suspension. Probationary members are not eligible to participate in USRC sanctioned events and programs and may not vote or hold office. Probationary members may not be counted as full members for purposes of club formation or continuance.

## USRC Members and USRC Membership Applicants obligations:

1. USRC Members and Applicants shall maintain the highest standard of conduct and sportsmanship.
2. USRC Members and Applicants shall ensure that their dogs have the highest standard of health care and cleanliness.
3. USRC Members and Applicants shall not dock and shall not buy docked dogs.
4. USRC Members and Applicants shall abide by the USRC Breeding Regulations:
  - a. Dogs used for breeding by USRC Members must be free of disqualifying faults in accordance with the FCI Standard Nr.147/19.06.2000.
  - b. At the time of breeding, the female must be at least two years old and less than nine years old, the male must be at least two years old and less than ten years old. Females are allowed only one litter per year and males may not breed more than two females in one week and not more than 40 females in one year.\* Requests for exceptions to the breeding age or frequency may be granted by the USRC Breed Director.
  - c. All dogs used for breeding must have a USRC recognized hip rating prior to the breeding. The dog must have certification issued by OFA, ADRK or an FCI Hip-Elbow Dysplasia - International Certificate. For breeding eligibility, the hips must be rated as OFA Excellent, Good or Fair, ADRK HD Free or HD+/-, or FCI HD A or HD B. Dogs with HD+ hip rating from the ADRK may be bred only if the dog has been deemed breedable at an ADRK Ztp or has obtained a breedable hip rating from OFA. The HD+ hip rating must be disclosed on any and all advertisement related to the dog unless the dog has obtained a breedable hip rating from OFA.
  - d. Effective April 1, 2014, all dogs born after April 1, 2012 and used for breeding by USRC members must have USRC recognized elbow rating prior to breeding. The dog must have certification issued by OFA, ADRK or an FCI Hip-Elbow Dysplasia - International Certificate. For breeding eligibility, the elbows must be rated as OFA Normal, Grade I or Grade II, ADRK ED Free, ED+/-, ED+ or FCI ED 0 or ED 1. Dogs with ED++ elbow rating from the ADRK may be bred only if the dog has been deemed breedable at an ADRK Ztp or has obtained a breedable elbow rating from OFA. The ED++ elbow rating must be disclosed on any and all advertisement related to the dog unless the dog has obtained a breedable elbow rating from OFA. OFA Grade I or II ratings must be released for inclusion in the OFA public database.
  - e. Effective April 1, 2014, all dogs residing in the U.S. born after April 1, 2012 and used for breeding by USRC members must have an OFA normal cardiac rating prior to breeding. Clearance by auscultation or echo by a



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board certified cardiologist is preferred however auscultation by a specialist or practitioner is currently accepted by OFA standards for cardiac clearance.

5. USRC Members and Applicants shall not expect to receive any type of financial gain either personal or business related from participating in USRC events, from the outcome of USRC events or from the issuing of USRC titles or awards by judges or from the issuance of USRC paperwork and materials.
6. USRC Members and Applicants shall release, discharge, and hold harmless USRC, its officers, members, clubs, employees and agents from and against any and all liability, whether foreseeable or unforeseeable, arising out of or in any way connected with policies, regulations or activities of USRC, its member clubs and its members, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of USRC or any person or entity acting on or alleged to have been acting on their behalf.
7. USRC Members and Applicants shall not bring or threaten to bring legal proceedings against USRC, its Directors, Member Clubs or Members for any matter relating to USRC business or activities.
8. USRC Members and Applicants shall assume all the risks of injury to person or property, whether known or unknown, that could arise out of participation in activities of USRC.
9. USRC Members and Applicants shall settle any cause of action, controversy or claim arising out of or related to USRC through the USRC's Misconduct and Discipline process. If a satisfactory solution can not be reached through the USRC's Misconduct and Discipline process, USRC Members and Applicants shall resolve and settle any cause of action, controversy or claim arising out of or related to USRC by arbitration pursuant to the applicable rules of the American Arbitration Association.
10. In the event that litigation occurs between the parties, USRC shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees upon prevailing at any stage of the action.

Violation of the membership agreement or misconduct may result in fines or the loss of USRC privileges, including suspension or termination of USRC membership.