



SOUTH AFRICAN GREAT DANE ASSOCIATION (SAGDA)

Breeder Member Code of Ethics

As at February 2007

1. Colour Interbreeding

Members of SAGDA agree to be guided by the following which are the acceptable colour cross matings and agree to provide their buyers with all known details of the colour ancestry of their puppies if requested: -

- Fawn to Fawn or Brindle
- Brindle to Brindle or Fawn
- Black to Black, Harlequin or Blue
- Blue to Blue, Black or Harlequin
- Harlequin to Harlequin, Black, or Black variants or Blue or Blue variants

Notes:

1. Although the mating of Harlequin to Blue is permissible under our standard and Blue Harlequins are a show colour SAGDA does not recommend that an inexperienced breeder embark on this path.
2. More detailed information on black or blue variants is available on request from SAGDA.
3. The use of Merles in any breeding program should only be undertaken by those who have made a thorough study of the genetics involved and the mating of Merle to Merle is definitely not permitted.
4. Any crossing of colours other than the above is considered to be detrimental to the ultimate good of the Breed.

2. Puppy Selling

All members of SAGDA absolutely agree to the following :

1. All puppies bred by members are registered with the Kennel Union of Southern Africa.
2. No puppy will be sold under the age of 6 weeks. The preferred age at date of sale is no younger than 7 – 8 weeks and ideally at 10 weeks.
3. Pedigree and details of diet to accompany each sale. Conditions of sale, if any, in writing and (if requested) a copy of Great Dane Standard.
4. No puppy suffering from any handicap or infectious disease, skin ailment or which is under veterinary treatment is sold or given away unless the new owner is made fully aware of the situation and agrees in writing to accept the puppy in such condition and carry on such treatment as is necessary.
5. If there is any reason why the puppy should not or cannot be shown or used for breeding, OR if the breeder intends applying any breeding restrictions whatsoever, the breeder will endorse the pedigree accordingly and the buyer will be advised in writing before the sale is completed.
6. Merle or white puppies will be registered with breeding restrictions and the buyer advised in writing that the restrictions are binding.

3. Breeding Practices

In the interests of protecting our breed, SAGDA members absolutely agree that they will NOT:

1. Breed from unregistered stock or allow their studs to be mated to unregistered bitches or encourage the breeding of unregistered Great Danes in any way whatsoever.
2. Deviate from the recommended colour codes as defined in Section one without:
 - a. advising SAGDA and discussing their reasons for doing so.
 - b. imposing breeding controls on all offspring from such a mating for 2 generations.
3. Breed from any dog or bitch which is known to have a hereditary deformity whether or not surgically corrected, such as (but not confined to) entropion eyelids or allow a mating of their studs to such an animal.
4. Allow a mating of their studs to any bitch which they know or have good reason to suspect, has been mated to another dog during the past three weeks OR is under the age of 22 months OR is obviously in bad physical health or obviously suffering from physical defects such as described in (3). Allow or carry out a mating of any of their own bitches under the same circumstances.

In addition to the above SAGDA strongly recommends:

5. That the breeding of bitches over the age of 5 years old is considered only with caution and due regard to the general health and condition of the bitch in question.
6. Certified Hip and elbow screening of all breeding stock.
7. That bitches are not bred in consecutive seasons (i.e. the bitch is 'rested' for at least one season after her litter and that owners of stud dogs do not agree to the mating of their dogs to any bitch who has not been rested for a season between litters.

4. Stud Agreements

In the interest of protecting both the owner of the bitch and the stud owner, SAGDA strongly recommend the following:

1. A written agreement between both parties which will contain at least the following details:
 - a. Stud fee and agreed time of payment.
 - b. Name and registration number of both Dog and Bitch.
 - c. Agreed action should no puppies or a single puppy result from the mating.
 - d. Any other special arrangements or agreements between the parties concerned relating to the litter.
2. The written agreement is binding only for the Dog and Bitch mentioned therein and no other unless clearly stipulated in writing

Whether or not a written stud agreement is put in place and in order to support and abide by SAGDA's stance regarding the breeding of unregistered Great Danes, SAGDA members are strongly urged to ensure that as a minimum they obtain from the other party and themselves enter into a written agreement that:

3. Should any dispute arise either before or after the birth of the puppies, neither party will refuse to sign the mating certificate and thus allow the registration of the puppies within the time stipulated by KUSA.