

THE KING CHARLES SPANIEL RESCUE AND BREED WELFARE

The King Charles Spaniel Breed Rescue will endeavour to provide and maintain the highest possible standard of welfare for dogs in its care and also provide help to anyone whom the Rescue feel would benefit towards the quality of life for the dog.

Dogs will be provided with adequate and appropriate care whilst with rescue at all times.

The Rescue will endeavour to seek suitable, long-term homes for dogs.

The Rescue will maintain contact with relinquishers & adopters and assist as appropriate.

When necessary new arrivals will be kept isolated until they have been properly assessed, by a veterinary professional.

Vaccination records will be sought if possible or dogs vaccinated as assessed by a veterinary professional.

As much information as possible will be sought from the source of the dog as to its health, ownership, temperament and reason for re-homing. Where appropriate, dogs will be scanned for identity, and steps taken to reunite dogs with owners or breeders. Breed rescue have the ultimate decision (taking into account all relevant information), whether a dog should be returned to the breeder, once in their care. Breeders must assume responsibility for their stock, which should be returned as soon as possible to breeder and no veterinary expenses be paid by rescue, save in an emergency situation & then said breeder to re-imburse rescue; unless they are financially unable; but this would be evaluated case by case.

Dogs will be assessed by individuals with the experience and knowledge to do so, to determine whether they require veterinary intervention, to

advise if they are suitable for re-homing and to decide on the best way forward for the dog.

Neutering of dogs or bitches will be considered unless there are good reasons for not doing this. This can be made as a condition of adoption.

In cases where dogs are considered unadoptable for reasons of health or temperament, careful consideration should be given to the best future options. If there are health issues which cannot be resolved and which impair the dog's quality of life to such an extent that it is suffering then humane euthanasia should be considered, subject to advice from a veterinary professional.

All dogs must be microchipped from 6 April 2016. When a dog is re-homed to a keeper the dog must be registered in that person's name with the proviso that the dog must be microchipped if not already done so. The rescue's contact details may be added as an alternative contact point should the dog become lost. The change in law relating to microchipping does not affect the legal requirement for a dog to wear a collar and tag when in a public place.

All prospective owners to be adequately assessed. The Rescue will be satisfied as far as possible, that individuals are physically, socially and financially able to care for the dog. The organisation must ensure that all adopters are at least 18 years of age.

Prospective owners who live in rented accommodation must show written permission to keep a dog on the premises.

Home visits may not be required in every case, but if the dog has specific needs a home visit may be necessary.

Financial contributions may be sought from new owners though this should be flexible if the dog would miss out on a good home for the sake of a contribution.

All potential adopters should be made aware of the responsibilities of dog ownership and breed specific issues.

The Rescue has a form of contract with former and new owners as appropriate, a form releasing the dog from the owners to the care of the rescue, and an agreement form for the new keeper of the rescue dog.

Full and appropriate documentation must be completed for all dogs being rehomed. Ongoing contact should be maintained to ensure that rehomings have been successful, and in the event that they are not, rescue must be prepared to take back dogs.

New owners should be informed about the benefits of pet insurance.

The Rescue will never knowingly provide dogs for adoption to any commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind.

The Rescue will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristic of the breed nor falsely mislead any person regarding the health or condition of a dog.

All monies will be kept in dedicated account and that payments are authorised in a way that will enable simple accounts to be drawn up.

The Rescue will endeavour to keep abreast of any developments in animal welfare.

The Rescue may provide appropriate information to new owners about canine care and welfare – it may wish to provide suitable sources and contacts, including breed clubs.

Reviewed September 2019