

Date Received: _____ Application Number: _____



Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.

Membership Application Information

Dear Prospective SHCA Member,

Thank you for your interest in the Siberian Husky Club of America. Enclosed, you will find all forms and information necessary to complete your application for membership in SHCA.

The SHCA believes that an applicant for membership should meet certain minimum requirements.

For **regular** membership, these requirements are defined as follows:

1. The applicant must be a resident of the United States of America, its territories or possessions.
2. The applicant must be at least 18 years old.
3. The applicant must have owned a Siberian Husky for at least three consecutive years.
4. The applicant must have actively participated in AKC conformation shows, companion events, or organized sled dog races; and have been involved in organized breed-related activities such as SHCA-sponsored programs or local Siberian Husky specialty clubs.
5. The applicant must be willing to sign and consent to the SHCA *Code of Ethics* and *Guidelines for Ethical Breeding Practices*.
6. The applicant must obtain two sponsors (may not be members of the same household, close family, or SHCA Board members) who are members in good standing of the SHCA, and who have known the applicant for at least two years.

For **associate** membership, as follows:

1. The applicant must be a resident of the United States of America, its territories or possessions.
2. The applicant must be at least 18 years old.
3. The applicant must have owned a Siberian Husky for at least one year.
4. The applicant must be willing to sign the SHCA *Code of Ethics* and *Guidelines for Ethical Breeding Practices*.
5. The applicant must obtain one sponsor (may not be a member of the same household, close family, or SHCA Board member) who is a member in good standing of the SHCA, and who has known the applicant for at least one year.

For **junior** membership, as follows:

1. The application must be a resident of the United States of America, its territories or possessions.
2. The applicant shall be between the ages of ten and eighteen (i.e., not yet eighteen).
3. The applicant must be willing to sign the SHCA *Code of Ethics* and *Guidelines for Ethical Breeding Practices*.
4. The applicant must obtain two sponsors (may not be members of the same household, close family, or SHCA Board members) who are members in good standing of the SHCA, and who have known the applicant for at least two years.

For **foreign** membership, as follows:

1. The applicant is not a resident of the United States of America, its territories or possessions.
2. The applicant must be at least 18 years old.
3. The applicant must be willing to sign the SHCA *Code of Ethics* and *Guidelines for Ethical Breeding Practices*.
4. The applicant must obtain two sponsors (may not be members of the same household, close family, or SHCA Board members) who are members in good standing of the SHCA, and who have known the applicant for at least two years.

Note: As stipulated by the SHCA constitution and bylaws, associate, junior and foreign members do not count in the quorum, do not vote, do not hold office, and do not sponsor applicants for membership.

If you feel that you meet these requirements, please complete and submit the following:

1. Complete and sign the Application for Membership
2. Complete and sign the Questionnaire
3. Read the SHCA Code of Ethics and sign, and return one copy with the application. Keep the second copy for your records.
4. Read the Guidelines for Ethical Breeding Practices, sign, and return one copy with the application. Keep the second copy for your records.

5. Submit the initiation fee and first year's dues. The current fees are:
Individual: Regular and Foreign membership: Dues \$25.00 + Non-Refundable Application Processing Fee \$20.00 = \$45.00
Associate and Junior membership: Dues \$15.00 + Non-Refundable Application Processing Fee \$10.00 = \$25.00
6. Sponsors must read and sign the SHCA Sponsor's Responsibility Guidelines.
7. Obtain letters of sponsorship from two SHCA members who have known you for at least two years (for associate membership, obtain a letter of sponsorship from one SHCA member who has known you for at least one year). Please urge your sponsors to include sufficient information to enable the Board to give your application proper attention. Sponsors must include how long and how well they have known you personally.

Important Note: Inadequate letters may cause delay or rejection of your application.

If the Membership Committee determines that you meet the minimum requirements and that your application is complete, your name, and those of your sponsors, will be published in the SHCA Bulletin, which is mailed to all members.

(Incomplete applications will result in the application being returned to the applicant. Sponsor responsibility sheets must be delivered WITH the packet. A checklist is provided to ensure application packets are complete prior to submission.) Comments will be invited from the general membership. **(Major issues found during the application review will be discussed with the sponsors).** Subsequently, the Board will vote on your application. The Recording Secretary will notify you if your application receives sufficient positive votes for election to membership. Please bear in mind that this process usually requires a period of several months after your completed application has been received. If membership is not granted, your annual dues fee will be returned; however, the application processing fee will be retained to offset administrative costs.

If, at this time, you choose not to apply for membership, we invite you to subscribe to the SHCA Newsletter, which features articles of both current and long-term interest, photos of new member-owned champions, and sections devoted to shows, specialties, obedience and agility trials, racing news, and more. The annual subscription is \$35.00 (\$76.00 USD for foreign subscriptions). To subscribe, you may contact the Circulation Manager listed on the SHCA website. Should you have any questions, or if I may be of any further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me. You can find my contact information on shca.org, under the menu option for Membership.

Sincerely,

SHCA Membership Chair

Date Received: _____ Application Number: _____



Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.

Application for Membership

Applicant Information:

I am applying for: Regular (18+ y/o) Associate (18+ y/o) Junior (<18 y/o) Foreign (18+ y/o)
(May vote/hold Office) (All other memberships may NOT vote/hold Office)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ + _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Kennel Name _____ Occupation _____

Sponsors: Individuals who are not immediately related to the applicant or to each other,¹ and who are currently members in good standing of the SHCA. Each sponsor must write and sign a short letter of recommendation which must be received by the Membership Chair prior to approval of the application. The letters should indicate the sponsors' association with the applicant, ways in which the applicant may contribute to the club, and vice versa. Each sponsor must also read and sign the SHCA Sponsor Responsibility Guidelines form—attesting that the applicant meets the minimum requirements, and attesting to his/her understanding of what is expected from the applicant and the sponsor. **These forms must accompany the application.**

For **regular, junior, and foreign** memberships, this application must be endorsed by two sponsors. For **associate** memberships, this application must be endorsed by one sponsor. For **junior** memberships, this application must be co-signed by a parent or guardian.

Eligibility: The types of membership (other than juniors) – regular, associate, and foreign -- open to all persons eighteen years of age and older, who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this club.

Dues: Annual regular and foreign membership dues are \$25.00 per person. Annual associate and junior membership dues are \$15.00 per person.

Processing Fee: There shall be one non-refundable application processing fee for regular and foreign members of \$20.00 for an individual applicant, respectively, and one non-refundable application processing fee for associate and junior members of \$10.00 for an individual applicant.

The application shall be forwarded to the Membership Chairperson, together with a check, payable to SHCA, for the dues and initiation fee. Note that—in the event the applicant is not elected to membership—dues payment will be returned; however, the initiation fee will be retained to offset processing costs. The application packet must also include a signed SHCA Code of Ethics form, sponsor letter(s) of endorsement, a signed Guidelines for Ethical Breeding Practices form, and signed Sponsor's Responsibility Guidelines forms.

Send complete application packet to the SHCA Membership Chair (complete contact information available under Club Information > Membership menu on the SHCA website (www.shca.org)).

¹ "Immediately related" is defined as spouse, domestic partner, parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, siblings, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, and persons living in the same household. Adopted, step and half relations count as immediately related.

Acknowledgement & Agreement

I understand and agree that the failure to give complete and truthful answers on this application may be cause for denial of my application or discipline in the future should my answers later be learned to have been materially incomplete or untruthful. I understand and agree that should my application be denied that I am not entitled to any explanation. I further agree to hold the Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc. (SHCA), its officers, board members, and its members harmless for any harm or injury I may claim for such a denial. I will reimburse the SHCA, its officers, board members, or members for the cost of defending any action I may initiate related to the denial of my membership application, including reasonable attorneys' fees if applicable. I hereby apply for membership in the SHCA. If accepted I agree to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the SHCA, and the rules of the American Kennel Club. I agree that any statements submitted in regard to this application become the property of the SHCA, and I voluntarily relinquish any and all rights to them.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____ Date: _____
(for junior membership only)

Date Received: _____ Application Number: _____



Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.

Membership Application Questionnaire

Applicant's Name _____

Membership Type: Regular Associate Junior Foreign

NOTICE: Information furnished on this form is used by the Membership Chair and the Board of Directors to evaluate potential members. None of the questions and/or answers should be considered an automatic qualifier or disqualifier for membership.

NOTE: Please PRINT CLEARLY and use BLACK or BLUE ink.

Name _____ Age, if under 18 _____

Special Interests or Skills _____

*There are additional questions on the next page. If additional space is required to answer the following questions, please feel free to add another sheet of paper.

1. When did you obtain your first Siberian Husky? _____

2. How many Siberian Huskies are presently owned by you or your immediate family? Of these, how many have you raised from puppyhood? _____

3. List by year the number of litters of Siberian Huskies you have registered with the AKC. _____

4. How many stud services have you given involving Siberian Huskies? _____

5. Do you perform radiographic examinations (OFA) on your Siberian Huskies? _____

6. Do you perform annual ophthalmological examinations (CAER/SHOR) on your Siberian Huskies? _____

7. Name other breeds you own, and how many. _____

8. Describe your specific activities with the Siberian Husky.

A. Please include the names and breed of each AKC Champion, obedience and/or agility titleholder, and Sled Dog degree holder that you own or have owned (please use separate piece of paper as necessary).

B. In addition, please include the number of AKC shows, obedience and/or agility trials, or sled/dryland races in which you have participated over the past 24 months

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Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.

Membership Application Questionnaire (continued)

9. Name of organized Siberian Husky club of which you are a member, and offices held: _____

10. Name(s) of AKC-recognized all-breed kennel, obedience or agility club of which you are a member, and offices you have held: _____

11. Name of animal humane association of which you are a member _____
12. Are you an AKC judge? _____ Are you a professional handler? _____
13. Do you subscribe to the SHCA *Newsletter*? _____
14. What dog publications do you read regularly? _____
15. Are you currently, or have you ever been, under suspension by the AKC? _____
16. Do you sell or have you sold dogs to pet stores or other persons, for resale through pet stores or other commercial outlets? _____ If so, explain _____

17. Do you consign or have you consigned dogs for sale at pet stores or other commercial outlets? _____ If so, explain _____

18. Why do you wish to join the SHCA? _____
19. What can you contribute to the SHCA? _____

I have read the information describing SHCA membership qualifications, including the *Code of Ethics* and *Guidelines for Ethical Breeding Practices*. I understand that this form is merely a questionnaire to determine my experience and background in the breed and confirm that the foregoing statements are true to the best of my knowledge.

I agree that any statements submitted in regard to this application become property of SHCA, Inc., and I voluntarily relinquish any and all rights to them. I understand you will notify me after you have reviewed the information provided.

Signature _____ Date _____

Return to SHCA Membership Chair, at the address listed under **Club Information > Membership** menu at **shca.org**.

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Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.

Code of Ethics

In order to promote the highest ideals among Siberian Husky owners and breeders and to aim for the continuous improvement of the breed within the framework of the American Kennel Club-approved breed standard, I pledge that:

1. I will follow the rules of good sportsmanship in all Siberian Husky competition and activities.
2. I will fully explain to all prospective Siberian Husky purchasers the disadvantages as well as the advantages of owning a Siberian Husky.
3. I will attempt to help and befriend novice exhibitors, racers, and breeders.
4. I will keep well-informed in the field of genetics, and will work persistently to eliminate hereditary defects from the breed.
5. I will, before entering any breeding agreement, carefully analyze the conformation and the pedigrees of the prospective sire and dam and, keeping the breed standard clearly in mind, refuse the mating if, in my opinion, it will not be in the best interest of the breed. If I deny stud service, I will fully explain my reasons to the owner of the bitch.
6. I will refuse to deal with dog wholesalers or to sell puppies or dogs to pet shops, and I will include in all stud contracts an agreement to be signed by the owner of the bitch that no puppies resulting from the mating will be wholesaled or sold to pet shops.

Signed _____ Date _____

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Signed _____ Date _____



Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.

Guidelines for Ethical Breeding Practices

The Board of Directors feel that the following are those basic precepts that an overwhelming majority of the fancy accept as proper, honest, and fair as regards conduct between breeders. Our example, as breeders who voluntarily establish and subscribe to such guidelines, will have a beneficial effect.

The Stud Dog

1. The stud dog should be OFA certified free of radiological evidence of hip dysplasia.
2. Eyes should be diagnosed as free from genetic disorders by a canine ophthalmologist once yearly.
3. The stud dog owner should require of the brood bitch -- OFA certification and current proof of unaffected eyes from a canine ophthalmologist.
4. The stud dog should be free of hereditary, incapacitating faults, not be oversize or undersize, should be a good specimen of the breed, and possess proper disposition. In addition, the dog must have two normally descended testicles.
5. The stud dog should be in good health, free from any disease, as well as internal and external parasites at the time of mating.
6. A male can be offered at stud by passive advertising only. Stud service should never be actively solicited by the stud owner or agent. Solicitations should be initiated only by the owner or agent of the bitch.
7. The owner of the stud dog, when approached, is obligated to discuss the merits and disadvantages of the proposed breeding with candor.
8. The stud fee is actually for the act of breeding which is consummated by a "tie." The fee itself is a matter between the parties involved and subject only by mutual agreement as to amount. A stud dog owner/agent may make the practice of offering a return service at another breeding season if a mating does not produce a litter. The normal arrangement is for the full fee to be paid at the time of service.
9. If a stud dog has not been proved by producing a litter (listed in the AKC Stud Dog Register), the burden of proof of fertility is with the stud dog owner.
10. No substitution of stud dogs will take place unless agreed to by the owner or agent of the bitch.

The Brood Bitch

1. The brood bitch should be OFA certified free of radiological evidence of hip dysplasia.
2. Eyes should be diagnosed as free from genetic disorders by a canine ophthalmologist once yearly.
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5. The bitch should be in good health, free from any disease, as well as internal and external parasites at the time of mating.
6. Under ordinary circumstances, the brood bitch should not be bred before the age of two years.
7. Under ordinary circumstances, the brood bitch should not have puppies on successive seasons.

The Breeding

1. A breeding should never be undertaken unless it is specifically for the purpose of producing a better dog. Under no circumstances should a breeding be made to satisfy sales demand or for the sole purpose of supporting a kennel.
2. A breeding should never be made unless the owner of the bitch can properly care for the litter. There must be adequate yard space and housing. There must be adequate funds to cover health care, unexpected medical bills, and for general care over an extended time when proper homes have not been found for them.
3. All breedings should be personally supervised to ensure the dogs' safety.
4. All arrangements should be in writing. These should cover fee, boarding, travel, and other circumstances pertinent to that particular mating, and should be signed by both parties.
5. One puppy, full term, dead or alive, constitutes a litter.
6. The breeder of the litter should allot proper time for socialization and play with the puppies.

The Puppies

1. Each puppy sold should be accompanied by an AKC registration form and a correct, signed pedigree. A health record of immunization and parasite control, as well as the feeding regimen should be written out and also verbally explained to the buyer.
2. The breeder should develop and have in mind a profile of an acceptable potential Siberian Husky owner. The advantages and disadvantages of owning this puppy should be fully explained.
3. The breeder should be aware of the facilities available at the purchaser's home for the puppy. Questions such as . . . Who is going to be responsible for its care? . . . Will it be properly confined? . . . Do all members of the family want the dog? . . . etc., should be asked and answered in the affirmative before the puppy is sold.
4. If, in the breeder's judgment, the puppy is pet quality only, strong consideration should be given to limited registration or to withholding the registration papers by mutual agreement with the purchaser, using the outline in Chapter 3, Section 4A and Section 6, respectively, in the AKC Rules, Registrations, and Dog Shows.
5. The price of the puppies is properly the business of the seller and purchaser. Any agreements, arrangement, and guarantees should be in writing, and signed by all parties involved.
6. The breeder should follow up on puppies placed for at least the first year, and should be willing to help place the puppy in another home if the original buyer is unable to keep it.
7. The breeder should be willing to answer questions as long as the buyer needs advice. (6-77, revised 5-90)

Signed _____ Date _____



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Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.

Membership: Sponsor's Responsibility

Interest in membership in the Siberian Husky Club of America (SHCA) appears to be growing in proportion to the increase indicated Siberian Husky owners. The responsibility, therefore, of sponsorship for those seeking entrance into SHCA becomes a heavier burden in order to maintain the high standards and goals now present in our club.

Within the framework of the existing requirements for initial application, the club provides the following guidelines:

1. The applicant must have owned a Siberian Husky for at least three years (one year if for associate membership).
2. The applicant must have actively participated in AKC shows, companion or performance events, and/or organized sled dog activities (not applicable for associate membership).
3. The applicant must be willing to sign the SHCA *Code of Ethics* and *Guidelines for Ethical Breeding Practices*.
4. The applicant must be able to furnish two sponsors who are members in good standing of SHCA and who have known him/her personally for at least two years (for associate membership: one sponsor for at least one year). For regular membership, the applicant may be residing with one of the two sponsors, but the two sponsors must have different residences.

The intent of establishing specific minimum requirements for SHCA regular membership is to bring together those Siberian Husky owners who exhibit a dedication and a lasting interest in one or more breed activities. The intent of relaxing those requirements for associate membership is to introduce the prospective new member to the benefits of SHCA membership at an early point in their development and to promote advancement to regular membership, if so desired.

The Siberian Husky Club of America is a group of Siberian Husky owners which strives to keep the breed and its welfare uppermost in mind at all times, regardless of one's personal choice of activities. Because the club wishes to maintain this standard, it expects its members to give prospective applicants serious thought and consideration prior to granting sponsorship. An existing face-to-face relationship between sponsor and applicant is essential—**mere acquaintance and/or long-distance communication alone are not adequate grounds for sponsorship**. Furthermore, purchasing a puppy from an eligible sponsor does not of itself warrant sponsorship.

The sponsor should take adequate time to observe the applicant at various dog-related events, as this affords an excellent opportunity to become familiar with the applicant's practices, sportsmanship, and attitude. Extended periods of communication and observation—including visits to the applicant's home and kennel—are also essential in evaluating treatment and care of his/her Siberians. The applicant's practice of conservative breeding habits, possession of good "dog sense," and mutual respect from colleagues are additional traits that should be given serious consideration by the sponsor.

Dog show ribbons, racing trophies, and titles are all very well, but the manner in which future applicants conduct themselves in the sport of dogs carries more weight in meeting our criteria. It is recognized that for prospective associate members, the level of involvement in the sport and related activities may be considerably less and more basic than that of regular members; the level of interest and commitment to the breed, its welfare, and related activities, will be a better basis for endorsement.

The sponsor must remember that mere endorsement of an applicant is not the end of his/her responsibility to the applicant or to the SHCA; sponsorship should also include a measure of follow-up advice and assistance.

All of us are guilty of occasional bad judgment, and we often learn that ideas we held early in our careers turn out to be incorrect. All individuals should be continually learning, adjusting, testing ideas, and seeking new philosophies. Applicants who have exhibited occasional bad judgment, but have displayed positive changed behavior, should be eligible for membership.

If a sponsor is unsure or lacks adequate knowledge to wholeheartedly endorse an applicant, he/she should have the moral courage to refuse sponsorship until such time as all doubts as to the applicant's readiness for membership have been favorably resolved. A sponsor should stand ready to educate and assist the newcomer to attain growth within the sport of purebred dogs in general and the Siberian Husky in particular.

If an individual follows a course of positive development, and is possessed of honesty, integrity, and a willingness to listen and learn, he/she is a good prospect for membership.

Sponsors are encouraged to get to know their candidates as well as possible with the understanding that—by offering sponsorship—they place their own reputation behind that candidate. Sponsors are also encouraged to read their candidate's membership application prior to signing this form.

Applicant being sponsored _____

Sponsor: Have you read your applicant's completed membership application? _____ YES _____ NO

I certify that I have read the information presented in this form, and agree to sponsor the applicant named above.

Sponsor Signature _____ Date _____ Contact Number _____