



North of England Dalmatian Club Charter

Our Charter is written as a means to further support reputable responsible breeders and inform the general public of how we protect our Dalmatian breed by maintaining our high health and welfare breeding standards by upholding and exceeding our procedures and legal obligations. Also to make you aware of and to identify reputable breeders who are genuine and who demonstrate that Dalmatian welfare is prioritised above profit.

Genuine responsible breeders are passionate about breeding healthy Dalmatians to ensure you have a happy, healthy dog that lives for a long time and also to improve the health of the breed by breeding from only the best and healthiest dogs. Be assured there are lots of people out there who make a large profit by selling Dalmatians that have been poorly bred often in terrible, and even cruel conditions. Unfortunately these unscrupulous breeders and sellers can be difficult to spot, as some will go to great lengths to convince you they care about the dog. Please do not be caught out by them. Don't fund this cruel trade.

The following guidance should be read together with the four Dalmatian Club's Code of Ethics for Dalmatians.

- Ensure you are absolutely positive a Dalmatian is suitable for you, your family, home and lifestyle.
- Research is key to finding a genuine reputable breeder preferably in or around your own area.
- Confirm the validity of the breeder by checking the Kennel Club website, their website, contact them, arrange a visit and ask lots of questions before committing to buy.
- Be wary of third party sales, it is illegal, where the Dalmatian is not being provided by the original breeder.
- Ask the age of the mum as no puppy should be bred from a mum who is under two years old at mating or over 8 years.
- The paramount concern of a breeder when breeding a litter is the welfare of the mum and her puppies.
- The puppy must be seen with its mum in the place where it was born, beware of offers to meet elsewhere.
- Observe the interaction and wellbeing of the mum and puppies also the welfare arrangements.
- Ask if the parents have been hearing tested and had any major health problems.
- Don't make a snap decision, ensure you have had plenty of time to make up your mind, do not buy the puppy if you have been pressurised into buying it or if you have any doubts about the breeder.
- Reputable breeders will only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy, healthy life and will help with re-homing if the initial circumstances change.
- It is illegal for the breeder to let you take the puppy home until it is at least 8 weeks old, unless special circumstances prevail.
- When collecting your Dalmatian, ensure you receive a Puppy Pack including genuine paperwork/certificates for KC registration, your contract, hearing test, vaccinations, micro chipping, worming and relevant health tests.

A reputable breeder will always provide pre and post sales assistance to ensure your Dalmatian has the best start in life and will also be there for advice for the lifetime of the Dalmatian.

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