

GERMAN SPITZ CLUB OF AMERICA (GSCA) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
(please email to GermanSpitzClubAmerica@gmail.com)

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Website or Facebook page:

Why do you want to be a member?:

Do you have or are you planning to have German Spitz? Size, color, age, sex?

If yes, have you bred any German Spitz litters? How many generations?

Are you interested in or have experience in:

Showing

Breeding

Performance

Therapy or other sharing with the community

The following questions require a response for us to apply to the AKC as the parent club for the German Spitz. Please circle the correct answer. Thank you!

-Have you bred OR registered a litter (any breed) with the AKC in the last 3 years? YES NO

-Do you presently own registrable pure bred dogs? YES NO

IF YES, what breeds

-Are you an AKC approved judge? YES NO

If so, what AKC competition types are you approved for?

-Have you exhibited at AKC events in the last 2 years? YES NO

Indicate competition types you have competed in by circling:

Conformation	Lure Coursing
Obedience	Earth Dog
Agility	Trick Dog
Rally	Farm Dog
Fast Cat	Scent Work
Herding	Barn Hunt

Do you agree to abide by the Bylaws, Policies and Code of Ethics of the German Spitz Club of America (GSCA) and the Breeding Regulations as published by the Dutch Keeshonden Club at <https://www.keeshondenclub.nl/wp/fokreglement/> and <https://www.keeshondenclub.nl/wp/erkende-kleuren/> ?

Do you agree not to engage in any activities detrimental to the German Spitz Club of America (GSCA)?

GSCA encourages people to participate, enjoy the dogs and camaraderie and have fun. We are available to answer questions and mento those new to the dog show world.

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

GSCA MEMBER SPONSOR:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

**ARTICLE I.
MEMBERSHIP; CLUB**

1.01. Membership. Any individual in good standing with the American Kennel Club (“AKC”) and agreeing to the Club’s Code of Ethics and the Guidelines for Ethical Breeding practice, shall be eligible for membership of the Club. Such individuals shall become members of the Club (the “Members” and each individually as a “Member”) only upon each respective individual’s payment and the Club’s acceptance of payment in full of Dues (defined herein).

1.02. Regular Member. A Regular Member shall be an individual who is at least eighteen (18) years old, a resident of the United States, and owns, plans to own, breed, exhibit or promote the German Spitz (a “Regular Member”). Upon admission, each Regular Member shall have all rights and privileges afforded by the Club set forth herein, including the right to vote on the election of directors and on such other matters as the Board may determine from time to time.

1.03. Application for Membership. The Board shall approve a membership application form that provides that the applicant is in good standing with the AKC and agrees to abide by the Bylaws, the Articles, the AKC’s Code of Sportsmanship then in effect, the Club’s Code of Ethics set forth on **Exhibit A** and the Club’s Guidelines for Ethical Breeding Practices set forth on **Exhibit B**. The applicant must also provide his or her name, contact information, occupation and any other relevant information. For all classes of members, the application must include the endorsement of two sponsoring members in good standing. Any application fee shall be submitted to the Secretary. At least once a quarter, the Secretary shall publish the name and address of each applicant along with the endorsements (the “Publication”).

1.04. Voting on Membership. Absent an objection, the Board shall vote on an applicant thirty (30) days after the Publication. The vote shall be conducted by secret ballot and requires an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Board present at the meeting or two-thirds of the entire Board if voting by mail. If there is an objection to an applicant for membership, the objection, along with the reasoning, shall be filed in writing with the Secretary within thirty days of the Publication. All objections shall be disclosed to the Board. The Board may take reasonable action to investigate or resolve the objections prior to voting on the applicant. An applicant who received an objection shall be voted on by secret ballot and must receive an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Board present at the meeting or two-thirds of the entire Board if voting by mail.

German Spitz Club of America Code of Ethics

This code is established to protect and advance the interests of German Spitz and to provide standards for responsible ownership and breeding practices.

All Members Shall:

Appreciate the unique nature of the German Spitz and try to preserve its characteristics of type, temperament, and health as a natural dog.

Abide by the Constitution and By-laws of the German Spitz Club of America (GSCA) and the rules of the American Kennel Club (AKC).

Honestly represent the breed and their own dog(s).

Not make false or misleading statements about another competitor and their dog(s) and bear responsibility for the truth and accuracy of any information and/or photographs submitted for publication.

Display good sportsmanship and conduct, whether at home or at shows in such a manner as to reflect praise upon themselves and the GSCA.

Maintain the best possible standards of health, cleanliness, safety, and care of their dogs.

All Breeders and Owners, of Bitches and Stud Dogs Alike, shall:

Breed German Spitz which adhere to the American Kennel Club and FCI approved Standard for the breed and which are healthy and temperamentally and structurally sound.

Breeders shall keep well informed in the field of genetics and work to eliminate hereditary defects from the breed. All dogs and bitches to be bred shall be x-rayed prior to breeding and declared free of hip dysplasia by an authorized body or organization (OFA or Penn-Hip in the USA), be screened free of eye problems by an authorized body or organization (CERF in the USA), and be tested for genetic health defects known to be present in the German Spitz.

No dog or bitch will be bred prior to undergoing health testing as noted above, and inspection by a licensed judge or authorized GSCA representative.

No stud dog should be used in more than five (5) breedings until the active female breeding population reaches 100. Considering the slow maturation of the German Spitz and the importance of assuring that breeding stock is free of genetic or other health problems, a minimum breeding of age of two (2) is seriously recommended in order for the breeders to determine with greater certainty that the parents are of good health, temperament, and structure.

A bitch may not be mated before the day on which she has reached the age of two years.

A bitch, from which no puppies have been born before, may not be mated after the day on which she has reached the age of 72 months.

A bitch, from which puppies have been born before, may no longer be mated after the day on which she has reached the age of 96 months.

A bitch may not be mated after the day her fifth litter is born.

A bitch may not be mated if this mating means that there is no period of at least 12 months between the births of two successive litters of this bitch.

The definition of a litter is: a situation in which a bitch from one pregnancy has produced one or more fully grown or immature puppies, which may or may not have been born alive or dead naturally.

Not inbred or line breed.

A bitch may not be covered by her grandfather, her father, her brother, her half-brother, her son or her grandson.

Breeding with this kind of close family relationship leads to high inbreeding, which can increase the chance of hereditary defects. This is highly undesirable. In order to ensure that sufficient less related animals are available in the long term, the ambition and the advice to breeders and breed clubs is to limit the increase in inbreeding in breeds.

Owners of bitches shall not undertake the breeding of a bitch unless they are prepared to keep the resultant puppies until each is suitably placed.

Not sell or donate any puppy or litter of German Spitz to Brokers, wholesale dealers in dogs, dealers for resale of dogs, humane societies, laboratories, or provide any animal for auction, prize, or raffle purposes.

Retain all puppies with the litter until at least eight (8) weeks of age and have received at least one vaccination for distemper and parvo and been wormed.

Microchip all puppies and adults. As a condition of sale or placement, the breeder(s) should retain the right of first refusal should the purchaser ever decide to transfer ownership, thereby giving the seller every opportunity to help the purchaser find a new home for the dog if necessary.

Provide puppy/dog buyers with the following papers for no additional charge for each puppy or dog sold:

a written Contract of Sale specifying conditions of the sale and signed by both buyer and seller,

a three generation pedigree, and

written instructions for care, feeding and immunizations.

North American Breeders must provide AKC registration papers within six (6) months. Breeders outside of North America who export to the United States must provide registration papers for the exported dog within eighteen (18) months.

Require that any adult or puppy with a disqualifying fault, aggressive temperament, or non-color be spayed/neutered, and provided with only AKC limited registration.

Seller should ascertain that the prospective buyer has knowledge and facilities to properly care for a growing or grown dog, considering both the physical and mental well-being of the dog. Breeders should emphasize to puppy buyers the importance of proper socialization of the German Spitz puppy and encourage the achievement of a Canine Good Citizen certificate.

I, _____ and _____

Print Name of first voting member
voting member

If applicable, print name of second

agree to abide by the GSCA Code of Ethics as set forth above and uphold the integrity of the practices as set forth below.

Sign _____ Date _____

Sign _____ Date _____