

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the United Shetland Sheepdog Association is to promote the Sheltie as a Total Dog, along with responsible dog ownership, good sportsmanship, and ethical breeding practices to preserve the integrity of the breed for generations to come.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

## Eligibility for Regular Membership

Applicant must be recommended by two sponsors who are a member in good standing of the United Shetland Sheepdog Association, herein referred to as USSA Applicant must own a UKC registered Shetland Sheepdog. Applicant must be in good standing with the United Kennel Club(UKC) Applicant must agree to abide by the USSA Code Of Ethics Applicant must agree to abide by the UKC Code Of Ethics Regular members are entitled to one vote each and can sponsor other member applicants.

### Associate Membership

Membership is available to anyone interested in the Shetland Sheepdog who does not meet the eligibility requirement of owning a UKC registered Sheltie. All other regular membership requirements must be met. Associate Members are not entitled to vote or sponsor other member applicants.

### Junior Membership

Membership is available to any junior, ages 8 to 17. Junior members are not entitled to vote or sponsor other member applicants.

## **Dual Membership**

Membership is open to two members who reside in the same household, one of which must qualify for regular membership. Dual members are allowed one vote. Only one member of a dual membership can sponsor other applicants on the same application.

# **USSA Code Of Ethics**

This code is established in accordance with the objectives of the USSA. It is intended to set forth minimum standards and practices to which USSA members adhere to as they strive to accomplish the goals and purposes set forth in the USSA Constitution. Violators of the USSA Code Of Ethics may be subject to disciplinary action. all members shall abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the United Shetland Sheepdog Association and the Rules and Breeders Code Of Ethics set forth by the United Kennel Club. (See Official UKC Rules & Regulations)

- 2. USSA members are encouraged to support the efforts of the USSA regarding health issues concerning the breed, and to have their dogs tested with respect to health disorders known to affect the breed.
- 3. Stud dogs should not be bred prior to one (1) year of age and should be in good health and free from communicable diseases and disqualifying faults. It is the USSA's position that stud owners are responsible for puppies produced by their studs, and it is therefore recommended they verify the bitch owner is a responsible owner and breeder. Any bitch accepted for stud service should be at least 16 months of age, in good health and free from communicable diseases and disqualifying faults. All breedings that occur should be done with the intention of the preservation and betterment of the breed, taking into consideration matters of structure, health and temperament, as well as the ability of the breeder to be responsible for the puppies produced.
- 4. No stud dog should be bred to any bitch whose owner is directly or indirectly involved with any puppy broker, puppy mill, litter lot sales, or any other commercial enterprise whose business is involved in like activities.
- 5. No bitch should be bred more than once a year without first obtaining veterinary certification that such a breeding is medically appropriate, nor prior to sixteen months of age, nor after eight (8) years of age without veterinary certification. Each bitch to be bred should be in good health and free from communicable diseases and disqualifying faults. Breeders of litters are responsible for the puppies produced by their bitches. Therefore it is recommended that the breeders verify that the purchasers of puppies will be responsible owners who will provide proper homes and care. All breedings that occur should be done with the intention of the preservation and betterment of the breed, taking into consideration matters of structure, health and temperament, as well as the ability of the breeder to be responsible for the puppies produced.
- 6. No bitch should be bred for commercial reasons.
- 7. Prices of Shetland Sheepdogs should be based upon individual quality. Members should maintain prices so as not to be injurious to the breed. When appropriate, some animals should be sold with a written agreement to have the animal altered and papers withheld pending alteration.
- 8. At the time of sale, members should furnish records to each buyer of all shots and wormings, pedigrees and UKC registration or transfer documents, unless written agreement is made at the time of sale that papers are being withheld.
- 9. All members should conduct themselves at all times in such a manner as to reflect credit on the sport of purebred dog showing and Shetland Sheepdogs in particular. This includes respect for the show site, convention and overflow facilities, and all other aspects of responsible dog ownership.



# **United Shetland Sheepdog Association Membership Application**

Annual dues payable to USSA are required with application. Please type or print clearly. Applicants Name:\_\_\_\_\_ Address:\_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_\_State: \_\_\_\_Zip:\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) <u>hm</u> Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) wk Email: \_\_\_\_ Shetland Sheepdog name & registration # (if applicable) Applicants Occupation: Area of Interest: Other UKC Club Affiliations: Interests & abilities you can contribute (example: organizational, computer, art:

Choose membership categor	у
-	00 (Two members of the same household). 00 (Non-voting – under age 18).
	(Make check payable to: USSA)
	Endorsement
I endorse the application of:	
For membership in the Unite	ed Shetland Sheepdog Association.
Print Name	Signature/Date
Print Name	Signature/Date
	you have read and agreed to abide by the United Shetland astitution, By-Laws and Code of Ethics.
Applicant Signature	Date
Please mail completed App	olication to:
	Priscilla Gardner

10300 W. Bath Road Laingsburg, MI 48848