

AKITA CLUB OF AMERICA RESCUE



ACAR Rescue Application

Applying to establish an Akita Club of America Rescue

Are you thinking of becoming an ACAR member rescue? Are you a 501(c)3 non-profit organization? Groups that are interested in establishing an approved hands-on Akita rescue need to apply to ACAR. Please contact Ann Bavaria, ACAR president, at rsakita@aol.com if you need help to apply or would like more information. The application is on page 2 below.

ACAR has final approval authority for establishing new Akita rescues. Additional requirements for approval of hands-on Akita rescues are listed below.

Each ACA approved hands-on Akita rescue must:

- Be a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization.
- Spay/neuter before placement, excluding danger to health.
- Use adoption contracts with protective clauses for each adoption.
- Be mentored by an established ACAR-approved hands-on rescue.
- Have guidelines to ensure the safety of both people and dogs.
- Evaluate all dogs' temperament before placement.
- Maintain the dogs in a well-kept facility and/or foster homes.
- Provide educational material to help the adoptive family adjust to an Akita.
- Provide veterinarian and vaccination records to adoptive families.
- Visit potential homes prior to and after adoptions.
- Continue to follow-up with adoptive family for at least one year.
- Keep a record of all placements.
- Take back all dogs if placement does not work out.
- Provide veterinary and adoption references upon request.
- Be willing to give a public accounting for all donations.
- Be willing to have an ACA Rescue Committee member or a designated representative of the ACA Rescue Committee inspect the facilities/foster homes and inspect all Akitas on the premises.
- Be willing to euthanize any dog that is a danger to people.
- Ensure that all Akitas are:
 - cared for humanely, including providing quality food, clean water, adequate and clean shelter, regular exercise, socialization, training and medical care.
 - either micro chipped or tattooed prior to adoption, and bear the rescue organizations tag, containing the rescue organizations name, telephone number(s) and other contact information.
 - adopted as indoor dogs only.
- The hands-on rescue will notify ACAR:
 - of any change in address(s), telephone number(s), 501(c)(3) status, or named directors within two weeks of change.
 - immediately if any director, officer, volunteer, agent, or member is charged with or convicted of animal cruelty; Or if any animals are seized by any law enforcement or animal control agency.
 - immediately if the individual and/or organization no longer rescues purebred Akitas.

Application to become an ACAR-recognized hands-on Akita rescue

Organization name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Website: _____

Please list all your nonprofit board members and indicate which of those board members are Akita Club of America Board members. ACA membership is one of the requirements for approval: _____

Do you or any members of your organization currently breed Akitas? If so, please list the approximate number of litters per year. _____

How many years of experience do you or the members of your organization have with the Akita breed?

Approximately how many adoptable Akitas do you have under your care at any one time? _____

Approximately how many Akitas do you place annually? _____

Please provide two references (names and contact information) who can verify your rescue experience.

Do you have an adoption application and pre-adoption screening procedure? _____

(Attach copy of your adoption application)

Do you have an adoption contract and follow-up procedure? _____

(Attach copy of your adoption contract)

Do you provide educational and health materials emphasizing the positive and negative traits of the Akita breed?

Yes

No

Do you or a qualified individual evaluate the temperament of the Akita prior to considering it adoptable?

Yes

No

Does your organization have a euthanasia policy?

- Yes No

Does the adoptable Akita receive pre-adoption veterinary care including but not limited to spay/neuter, heartworm check, fecal check, and current vaccinations?

- Yes No

Do you have a "return" or "take back" clause in your adoption contract?

- Yes No

Is your organization a 501(c)3 approved organization?

- Yes No

Is your organization willing to permit a site inspection by an ACAR representative?

- Yes No

Is your organization willing to share health information on the Akita you evaluate or deem adoptable?

- Yes No

Does your organization provide Lost and Found services?

- Yes No

Where do you or your organization maintain your adoptable Akitas? (i.e., your own premises, foster homes, boarding kennel, Shelter, etc.) _____

Please provide the names and contact information for at least two individuals that have adopted an Akita from your organization in the past year. _____

I, the undersigned, understand that any misrepresentation of me and/or my organization or any untruths in the information that I have provided on this application that may be discovered at a later date will invalidate my application and exclude my organization from participation in ACAR. I also understand that should it be discovered that I and/or my organization is/are not abiding by the Eligibility Requirements outlined in the ACAR Funding Guidelines, the Rescue ID number may be revoked and that my organization will no longer be eligible to participate in ACAR funding. By typing my name below, I agree that I reviewed a copy of the ACAR Funding Guidelines and ACAR Code of Ethics. I also understand that it is at the sole discretion of ACAR whether to approve or deny this application.

Name of rescue president

Date

ACAR CODE OF ETHICS

This Code of Ethics was originally established under the authority of the Akita Club of America Rescue Committee and adopted by Akita Club of America Rescue (known here afterward as the ACAR) and is intended to establish guiding principles and minimum standards of practice to which ACAR would have Akita rescuers adhere. Each rescuer applying to receive rescue funding from ACAR must sign the Code of Ethics, which will be held by the secretary of ACAR. It is presented as a set of principles for Akita rescue groups to follow when proceeding with the care and placement of unwanted Akitas.

EDUCATION

- I will fully educate all potential adopters about the advantages, disadvantages, and responsibilities of owning an Akita, as well as provide them with resources to further their knowledge. I will stand by ready to act as an informational resource for the life of the adopted Akita.
- Additionally, I will educate and assist all Akita owners, potential owners, or the general public seeking information on the breed or seeking help in dealing with their Akita with the intention of preventing that dog from becoming a problem for them or their community.
- I will always conduct my rescue activities to present the Akita breed in a positive and honest manner.
- I will advocate voluntary spay/neuter.

EVALUATION

- Any dog coming into rescue will be evaluated by a knowledgeable person.
- I will inform potential new owners of any known issues, such as intolerance of other dogs, cats, children, etc., in any Akita they are considering adopting.
- After proper evaluation, if an Akita has health or temperament issues which render him/her unsuitable for adoption, I will not attempt to find placement for that dog. Furthermore, I will consider quality of life and euthanize when necessary in a safe and humane manner.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- I will provide appropriate care for each Akita including but not limited to comfortable shelter and confinement, exercise, socialization, appropriate diet, health and temperament screening, parasite control, vaccines, and treatment for any injury or hereditary defect causing pain or distress.
- I will make sure any foster home used by my rescue follows the same high standards for fostering and will make any facility used by rescue available for inspection if so required by ACAR.

HEALTH AND VETERINARY CARE

- All Akitas prior to placement will be
 - current on vaccinations, tested for regionally appropriate vector-borne diseases, and have a treatment plan in place for any detected diseases
 - permanently identified by microchipping or tattoo
 - maintained on appropriate parasite control (heartworm and flea/tick preventative, and dewormed for intestinal parasites as needed)
 - spayed/neutered.
- If any of these Akitas are precluded by temporary health condition(s) as documented by veterinary records, a date should be set to complete the appropriate care and spay/neuter.
- If a permanent health condition precludes spay/neuter, it must be documented by veterinary records, and the placement should be of such known parameters that the chance of unwanted reproduction is negligible.
- Any rescue placing an intact dog should notify the rescue committee of this situation to address any complaints to the committee
- I will give all adopters copies of the Akita's health records and will thoroughly discuss any health concerns with them.
- I will keep myself well-informed in the field of Akita health issues and deal responsibly with health conditions when they arise.

RECORD KEEPING

- I will use all proper paperwork when doing Akita rescue including an adoption contracts, adoption applications, and a surrender forms.

- Contracts for adoption will include but not be limited to the following provisions:
 - the Akita will be returned to the rescue if the owner can no longer keep it
 - the Akita cannot be used for fighting or as an attack dog or trained as a guard dog,
 - the Akita will be an inside pet only, and
 - the potential owner agrees to follow certain rules of health, nutrition, and training.
- Adoption applications should include but not be limited to:
 - personal and veterinary references,
 - house visits when required, and
 - household member information.
- Surrender forms should include but not be limited to:
 - proof of ownership,
 - all health, training, and nutrition information on Akita being surrendered, and
 - a statement saying once the form is signed by the owner, all rights to said Akita are now ended, and that the Akita becomes sole property of the Akita rescue.

QUALIFICATION OF NEW OWNERS

- I will refuse to consider adoption to a person who I have reason to believe:
 - has been or is involved in the commercial pet trade,
 - is guilty of animal cruelty or neglect,
 - has habitually chained a dog outside,
 - has ever abandoned an animal in the past.
- I will thoroughly investigate each potential adopter to determine the suitability of the dog chosen for adoption, bearing in mind that the decisions I make affect not only me but the reputations of other Akita rescuers and the future of the Akita breed.

RETURN OF DOGS TO RESCUE

- I accept the responsibility for the well-being of every Akita rescued by me for the life of that dog, and will accommodate any dog placed by me whose owners are unwilling or unable to care for it.
- I have made provision for my returned Akitas through the use of a will, power of attorney, or other appropriate arrangement in the event that I am unable to meet my obligations.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

- I agree to carry out my rescue activities in a professional, positive, cooperative, and considerate manner so that my representation brings credit to my own rescue and other ethical rescues or rescuers.
- At no time will I use Akita rescue as a means to make any personal profit or allow Akita rescue to be a profit-making organization for anyone's personal gain, and will always conduct Akita rescue as a not-for-profit endeavor.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

- I will make every reasonable effort to stay abreast of existing or proposed regulation and legislation such as BSL, which may impact the owner, or potential owner, of any dog I might place.
- It is my duty to inform owners and potential owners of these regulations so that they might make a considered decision about accepting a placement.

COMPLAINTS AND VIOLATIONS

I understand that ACAR is not a policing agency. However, if ACAR receives complaints about me, I understand that ACAR must respond to these complaints. ACAR may designate one or more committee members or others to investigate the complaint. If ACAR determines that I violated or did not abide by the COE, I will be removed **temporarily** or permanently from ACAR's list as a rescue contact; and if permanently, any and all association with ACAR will cease. I further understand that there is no appeal process and the decision of ACAR is final.

My rescue focus is on doing what is in the best interests of the Akita, both as a breed or an individual dog. To this end I affirm that I will to the best of my ability follow ACAR's Code of Ethics. If I fail to do so, I understand and accept ACAR's complaints and violations procedures.

Name of rescue president

Date

Name of rescue organization