



THE CENTRAL OHIO SHETLAND SHEEPDOG ASSOCIATION, INC.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Central Ohio Shetland Sheepdog Association, Inc is an American Kennel Club licensed club. COSSA is a breed-specific educational organization whose purpose is to promote the Shetland Sheepdog. Membership is encouraged for fanciers who have indicated a lasting interest in the breed by either exhibiting in AKC conformation and performance events, by breeding for breed improvement, or by keeping Shelties as a family companion. Prospective members must be interested in preservation of the AKC Breed Standard and use responsible breeding practices. The sale of puppies or litters to pet stores or brokers is forbidden.

The purpose of an individual in joining COSSA should be to join in by attending club meetings and participating in some of our events (shows, matches, seminars, meeting programs, etc.).

COSSA has a wide range of types and experiences of members within the club. We have people who are just getting started by buying their first Sheltie, to members who have bred and shown Shelties for over 30 years. The club encourages participation and input from all of our members, everyone is equal in our eyes.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

COSSA is governed by the rules of the AKC and therefore must abide by our Constitution and By-Laws which requires each applicant to go through this application process.

Steps for becoming a COSSA member:

1. Fill out a membership application in its entirety, all questions **MUST** be answered.
2. Two sponsors are required to co-sign an application.
3. Dues **MUST** accompany the application before it is accepted.
4. Return the filled out application to the club Secretary.
5. The application is read to the membership at two meetings following its receipt. At the second reading the application will be voted on by secret ballot.

THE APPLICANT MUST BE PRESENT DURING A MEETING FOR THE FIRST READING OF THE APPLICATION TO BE HELD. This gives the membership a chance to greet the applicant and get to know them.

The applicant may or may not attend the second meeting. By the club's Constitution and By-Laws, an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the membership present at that meeting is necessary to elect an applicant. Results of the voting will be announced at that meeting if the applicant IS voted into membership. Voting results will be kept confidential if the applicant is NOT voted into membership. The Secretary will contact the applicant by writing as to the outcome of the voting.

If an applicant is ever denied membership, the applicant may re apply for membership after a six month waiting period. Each application goes through the same process.

Names and addresses of new members will appear in the club newsletter as soon as possible. Rosters are updated twice a year.