



STCA STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

RESCUE CODE OF CONDUCT

Scottish Terrier Club of America (STCA) does not rescue dogs. Rescue is a decentralized effort by volunteer rescue groups operating independently throughout the country. Volunteers may be a Regional Scottish Terrier Club or an independent organization created solely for rescue work. The STCA Rescue Contacts Web Page acts as a purely informational site for locating rescue contacts and to facilitate communication between groups and the public. Each rescue is responsible for establishing its own policies and procedures. The STCA does not endorse or accept responsibility for any of the contacts listed on the STCA Rescue Contacts Web Page. Scottish Terrier (Scottie) Rescue groups operate in the recovery, rehabilitation, evaluation and re-homing of purebred Scottish Terriers in permanent homes suited to the temperament of each individual Scottish Terrier (Scottie). A rescue Scottish Terrier shall be considered any Scottish Terrier of unknown origin, that has been lost, abandoned, or voluntarily surrendered by its owner; or, in the event that the breeder is known, that breeder declines to accept responsibility for the Scottie.

The rescue groups and individuals listed on this website are guided by the following Code of Conduct:

1. We are a volunteer, charitable endeavor. We do not represent the STCA and will not use our position as a contact listed on the STCA website for personal gain or for profit of any kind.
2. We will always consider the best interests of the Scottie as we serve as their advocate.
3. We will respond in a timely manner to all requests for assistance.
4. We will conduct ourselves in a professional manner and will be honest and forthcoming with the public and never knowingly misrepresent a rescue Scottie's age, medical condition and/or temperament to anyone.
5. While in foster care, we will house the Scottie safely, humanely and comfortably with the proper socialization and training.
6. We will provide the foster Scottie with appropriate food, water, shelter and the necessary veterinary care.
7. We will thoroughly interview potential adopters and foster families, obtain references, both personal and veterinary, and complete a home visit where possible with all family members and pets to ensure a successful placement.

8. We will ensure that all dogs are spayed or neutered unless contraindicated by veterinary evaluation or extraordinary circumstances. In the event that a dog is adopted at an age too young for spay/neuter, we will include a spay/neuter contract and follow up at the appropriate time.
9. We will ensure, to the best of our ability, that no adoptable Scottie is denied rescue due to age or treatable physical or medical condition. In the event that a foster Scottie is deemed unadoptable due to health or temperament, euthanasia will be carried out in a timely manner with respect and dignity for the Scottie.
10. We will obtain a release of ownership for the Scottie from the owner or a transfer document from a shelter or rescue organization for all dogs that pass through our custody. Every effort will be made to find the owner of any Scottie that is not surrendered by the owner before placing the Scottie with an adopter. If the Scottie comes in as a stray and not through a local shelter, the local Animal Control Officer or local police department from the area where the Scottie was found must be contacted to determine if the Scottie was reported lost. This contact must be made again before placing the Scottie after any required hold time has expired.
11. We will require a written adoption agreement for all rescue dogs which will include a clause stating that if, for any reason, the placement is not successful, the rescue Scottie must be returned to us. We will never place a Scottie as anything other than an indoor pet.
12. We will never knowingly place a dangerous Scottie.
13. We will adhere to the laws governing rescue in the states in which we operate.
14. We will conduct ourselves courteously with our fellow Scottie rescue groups as well as other members of the animal welfare community

Adopted May 2004; Revised, April 2015, March 2017.