

## **LDOA POLICY ON MEMBERSHIP & ENFORCEMENT**

### *MEMBERSHIP IN GOOD STANDING DEFINED*

On receipt of a Membership Application Form accompanied by receipt of the annual membership fee and a signed statement that the member agrees to support the Purpose, Goals and Objectives of London Dog Owners Association (LDOA) and that they will respect and adhere to the LDOA Member Code of Ethics, the application is processed and a Membership Card valid for a period of one year is issued to the member stating he/she is a "Member in Good Standing"

A NEW Membership Application and accompanying fee by cash or cheque may be mailed or submitted directly to any Executive member of LDOA. On receipt of these, the LDOA Executive will undertake a review/screening process on a monthly basis to indicate either acceptance or rejection of an application. In the case of rejection, the applicant will be consulted and/or informed by the Membership Secretary of a specific reason for declining membership as the case may be.

Accepted Applications will thereafter be processed by the LDOA Membership Secretary and the LDOA Treasurer will deposit the membership fee within a 30 day period.

Applications for Membership RENEWAL will be exempt from the above review process and processed promptly unless there has been a reported alleged complaint or problem concerning the member or his/her dog behaviour that has not yet been investigated or resolved.

The LDOA Member Code of Ethics is an affirmation of how applicants for membership should behave. Violations will be handled pursuant to the LDOA Constitution, By Laws and Policies and the procedure for dealing with any reported misconduct will be as follows:

Oral or written complaints about a member will be received and handled by the LDOA Executive Committee who will send a copy of the complaint to the member giving him/her an opportunity to respond within 30 days by discussing and clarifying the alleged complaint.

If the number or seriousness of the complaints against a member should require further investigation of conduct prejudicial to LDOA, formal action by the Executive will consider one or both of the following options:

1. Revoke membership immediately in writing with no refund of fee and ask for return of membership card
2. Report the alleged misconduct to an appropriate agency for enforcement. (City Police, London Animal Care Center, London Humane Society)

Infractions considered by the LDOA Executive Committee to be of a lesser degree will be dealt with by an educational letter from LDOA to the person involved affirming the LDOA Member Code of Ethics, requesting nothing less than full compliance in the future.