

## HELDERBERG BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF NEW YORK RESCUE

### INTRODUCTION

Thank you for inquiring about Berners available for adoption. The Helderberg Bernese Mountain Dog Club of New York is active in New York State and adjoining areas of Vermont, MA, and CT. Our goals are to educate the public about responsible dog ownership, particularly with Bernese Mountain Dogs, and to place homeless Berners into new, loving homes. Please note that we do not adopt outside of our club area.

### DOG AVAILABILITY

Our "orphans" are turned over to us by their owners: or from cooperating shelters. Any dog we receive for new homes will be first placed into foster homes where we are able to evaluate the dog's temperament and activity level in an attempt to determine the type of life-style and family the dog will complement. We suggest you look for a dog that matches your life-style and has the personality characteristics you desire, rather than limit yourself to a particular gender or age. The broader range you consider, the better your chances of adopting a dog. We have been fortunate to have had limited dogs available for adoption, but that could change at any time. Berners are large (75 lbs. to 125 lbs.) active dogs who often display puppy-like behavior until 3 or more years old. They are also sometimes not a long lived breed some go as soon as 5-6 years, although many make it to 10-12 and often both life spans are contained in the same litter. We recommend an adult house-trained dog for working couples of families with small children, since they adapt to family situations much more quickly.

### SPAY/NEUTER/MICROCHIP

All dogs adopted from HBMD of NY are spayed or neutered and microchipped. If not microchipped prior to adoption, the new family must make arrangements to bring the dog to their vet within three months to be microchipped. The adoption will not be considered final until this requirement is met. All dogs are current on vaccinations, have had fecal and heartworm test and are on heartworm preventative. We require a minimum donation based upon the age of the dog to help offset out expenses, which can range is excess of \$400.00 for each dog rescued:

Less than 3 years of age - \$500.00  
3 through 7 years of age - \$250.00 - \$300.00  
8 years and older - \$150.00

### APPLICATION

Please complete the application so we can get to know you, your family and your life-style. All adults in your household **MUST** sign the application, and it must be completed in full to be evaluated. We require a home visit, which will be helpful in determining the compatibility of the dog you have requested with your life-style, so a club member will contact you to arrange an appointment. If your application is approved your name will be placed on our waiting list for available dogs, and you will receive an adoption opportunity notice should a dog become available. Dogs are placed with the home that best meets the dog's, **NOT** on a "first come, first served" basis.

Some dogs require specific circumstances and the needs of each individual dog are evaluated. A fence may be required for young, active dogs or dogs that have had little or no obedience training or a tendency to roam. These dogs may need a safe, enclosed area for proper exercise and safe release of youthful energy.

### REQUIREMENT FOR FORMAL TRAINING

We may require some dogs to attend on obedience class within 4 weeks of the adoption date. At the time of adoption we will request a \$50.00 obedience coarse deposit. At completion of the obedience course, please send your Certificate of Completion to the club treasurer and a refund will be mailed to you. A good obedience course ensures the success of your adoption experience.

**HBMDC of NY-ADOPTION APPLICATION**

Please provide all information that you feel is pertinent, or to explain answers more fully.

**Circle Your Preferences:** - Male – Female – Either    **Age:** - Under 1 yr. – 2-3 yrs. – 3-5 yrs. – 5 + - No Preference

**Dog’s Energy Level:** High – Med – Low – No Pref.    **Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_    **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_    **Occupation:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Work Ph.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street, City, State, Zip Code)

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Co-Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_    **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_    **Occupation:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Work Ph.** \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Applicant: Spouse – Parent/Guardian/Child – Roommate – Other

**A successful adoption depends on selection the right Bernese Mountain Dog for you and your household and a good understanding of the dog’s needs & care requirements. Please help us with this process by answering the following questions fully & completely. THANK YOU!**

1. Reason for Adoption: Family Companion – Gift – Protection – Guard dog – For Children – Other \_\_\_\_\_
2. Type of Residence: House – Townhouse – Apartment – Condominium – Mobile Home – With Parents
3. Own or Rent? Attention Renters: A copy of your lease or a notarized statement from your landlord confirming a large dog is permitted must be attached or application can’t be processed.
4. How many adults in household? \_\_\_\_\_ Children & ages: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Are any residents allergic to animals or dander? \_\_\_\_\_ Have asthma? \_\_\_\_\_ (How controlled) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Yard Description and Fence type/size/height:
7. If yard not fenced, what arrangements will you have for the dog’s exercise & toilet duties? Please explain:
8. Will dog be tied? Left outside? Is there Shelter/Doghouse?
9. Where will dog stay while at work or out of the house?
10. Number of hour’s home alone each day?
11. Who will be home most often? Can they handle a large possibly unruly dog? Please explain:
12. Where will dog stay while on vacation?
13. If you move, what will happen to the dog?
14. Are you prepared to provide for the dog for the next 10 or more years?

15. Have you ever trained a dog?                      How long Ago?                      Did you complete the course?                      If no, explain:

If recent please provide name/address of trainer/organization:

16. Would you be willing to take a dog to training?

17. Have you ever crated a dog?                      When?                      Are you willing to do so now?                      If no, explain:

18. Please list all pets that reside in your home (also include those that you did not own)

<u>Breed</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Spayed/Neutered</u>	<u>Where is pet now? Please explain</u>

If you had a dog as a child, what level of responsibility did you have?

19. Has a dog ever been necessary to sell or give a pet away?

20. Have you ever surrendered a dog to a shelter?

Please provide the name & phone number for at least two references:

- 1.
- 2.

21. Who is your intended Veterinarian:                      Can we contact them?  
Name/Address of Clinic:

22. How did you hear about HBMD of NY Rescue?

I acknowledge that all information provided on this form is true and correct. I understand that any misrepresentations of fact may result in the decline of my application and or removal by HBMD of NY Rescue of the adopted dog from my possession.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Adults in household please sign on bottom/reverse.

Please return to HBMD of NY Rescue Chair: Heather Fischer  
193 Allen Rd.  
Porter Corners, NY 12859