

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE  
RUSSELL TERRIER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

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## CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE I - NAME AND OBJECTS

**SECTION 1.** The name of the Club shall be the RUSSELL TERRIER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA herein referred to as RTAA or the Club.

**SECTION 2.** The objects of the Club shall be.

- a. to do all possible to bring the natural qualities of the Russell Terrier to perfection;
- b. to encourage the organization of independent local Russell Terrier Specialty Clubs in those localities where there are sufficient fanciers of the breed to meet the requirements of The American Kennel Club;
- c. to accept the standard of the breed as approved by The American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which Russell Terriers shall be judged;
- d. to do all in its power to guard against the commercial exploitation of the breed;
- e. to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, obedience trials, earthdog tests and other dog related activities;
- f. to protect and advance the interests of the breed by
  - i conducting sanctioned matches, specialty shows, earthdog, tracking, obedience, rally, agility and other dog related activities under the rules and regulations of The American Kennel Club.
  - ii providing education seminars and material to include history, working, and standard of the breed.
- g. to promote fellowship, helpfulness, sportsmanship and sharing of knowledge among the fancy.
- h. To promote genetic health and appropriate health screening through education and awareness.

**SECTION 3.** The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or remainder or residual from dues or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

**SECTION 4.** The members of the Club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such Bylaws as may be required to carry out these objectives.

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## BYLAWS

### ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

**SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY.** There shall be six (6) types of membership open to all persons who are in good standing with The American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club.

- a. Single Membership: Open to all persons 18 years of age or older who are residents of the United States of America and who will enjoy all Club privileges and will be entitled to one vote on any matter placed before the membership.
- b. Household Membership: Open to two adults living at the same address who are residents of the United States of America, both of whom will enjoy all Club privileges, each holding the right to vote on any matter placed before the membership and hold office
- c. Junior Membership: Open to all persons 17 years of age and younger who will enjoy all Club privileges except those of voting and holding office. A Junior with an immediate family member holding an Individual or Household Membership shall pay no dues.
- d. Honorary Membership: Honorary members are persons of outstanding achievement or service in the club or for outstanding achievement in promotion and education of the breed in the US or in any country where the breed is kennel club registered. Honorary members shall be ineligible to hold office or vote, unless such honorary members maintain voting status by application and payment of dues and reside in the United States of America. Non-voting Honorary members shall not count in determination of a quorum.
- e. Associate Membership: Associate Members shall enjoy all the privileges of membership except the right to vote, hold office and participate in the Club's Membership Awards programs. Associate members shall not count in the determination of a quorum. All Associate Members will be provided with opportunities to meet current members, through at least Regional and National club events or by way of the Clubs Annual Meeting; all of which will be held in the United States of America. Associate Members are persons who are 18 years of age or older who reside in or outside the United States of America and are entitled, by way of application or have not yet been voted into single or household voting membership or who have not received a favorable vote for single or household membership, to receive the Club's official newsletter.
- f. Foreign Membership: A Foreign Member is one who resides in a country outside of the United States. Foreign Members shall enjoy all the privileges of membership except the right to vote, hold office and participate in the Club's Membership Awards programs. Associate members shall not count in the determination of a quorum.

### SECTION 2. DUES.

- a. Membership The amount of dues for each type membership shall be determined by a vote of the Board of Directors once a year. Dues for Junior Membership, Associate Membership and Foreign Membership shall be set to cover Newsletter expenses and all associated expenses. Dues shall be determined by a majority vote of the entire Board of Directors and be payable on the first day of January of each year.

- b. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year.
- c. During the month of November, the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of dues for the ensuing year.
- d. All persons whose dues remain unpaid on March 1st of the ensuing year shall be automatically dropped from membership and shall be so advised in writing by the Secretary.
- e. The fiscal year shall be from January 1 through December 31.
- f. Any person elected to membership three (3) months prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> shall be exempt from annual dues for the ensuing fiscal year.

### **SECTION 3. REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP.**

- a. Owner of a Russell Terrier for the last five years or;
- b. Meaningful experience as an exhibitor or judge in conformation, earthdog or a breeder of champions in an AKC recognized breed for at least five years or;
- c. Meaningful experience as an exhibitor or judge in conformation, natural hunting or a breeder of Open Terrier or Working Terrier champions in the Jack Russell Terrier Club of America or the United Kennel Club; or
- d. AKC or UKC judge with five (5) or more years judging in either of these venues.
- e. A demonstrable adherence to the breeding and selling practices as described in the RTAA Code of Ethics;
- f. Exhibition of good sportsmanship in all phases of dog activities and ownership; and
- g. Proposed/endorsed by one current RTAA member in good standing prior to 2012 and two current members in good standing not in the same household beginning January 1, 2012, who have known the candidate for at least two years .

### **SECTION 4. ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP.**

- a. Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by these Constitution and Bylaws and the rules of The American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address, and the applicant's experience in breeding, showing and competition in other dog related activities. Beginning January 1, 2012, sponsors must be members in good standing that have been Club members for twenty-four (24) months at the time the applicant submits his/her membership application. Applicants shall be judged on whether the applicant meets the criteria for membership in Article I, Section 3 and agrees to the following which shall be included on the membership application.
  - 1. Accept the Breed Standard as approved by the American Kennel Club.
  - 2. Encourage and promote responsible breeding of purebred Russell Terriers and protect the breed by never selling puppies or adult dogs to commercial outlets or in litter lots.
  - 3. Never put your own dogs in rescue.
  - 4. Members should conduct themselves at all times in such a manner as to reflect credit on the RTAA, the AKC and the sport of purebred dogs. This includes respect for the show site, convention and overflow facilities, and other aspects of responsible dog ownership.

5. Support and abide by the Constitution and Bylaws, and the Clubs Code of Ethics and by the rules of the American Kennel Club.
- b. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues for the current year.
  - c. The Board of Directors has the responsibility of researching candidate's background, past and current facilities and breeding practices. The Board may appoint a committee of two (2) to five (5) members in good standing for a minimum of twenty-four months (or founding one hundred members prior to January 1, 2010) to research the candidate. All research presented to the Board must be accompanied by written documentation. Any negative findings will be presented to the candidate. That candidate has thirty (30) days to defend and/or refute the accusations and may submit additional documentation that he/she meets the Club's criteria.
  - d. Vote may be at any meeting of the Board of Directors no later than sixty (60) days after receipt of the completed application unless there are legitimate concerns or confusion about a membership applicant's qualifications. All votes will be properly recorded and available to the membership.
  - e. In the case of legitimate concerns or confusion about an applicant the vote on that applicant may be postponed for thirty (30) additional days for the purpose of additional research.
  - f. Affirmative votes of a majority of the entire Board of Directors shall be required to elect an applicant. Applicants receiving a favorable vote will automatically progress from Associate membership to full Individual or Household membership.
  - g. A candidate who does not receive a majority vote for membership will be mailed a letter within thirty (30) days of the vote stating the Board's objections to the Candidate's membership and outlining what the candidate can do to fulfill membership requirements for the Club.
  - h. An applicant who has received a negative vote by the Board may be presented by one of the applicant's sponsors at the next annual meeting of the Club, and the Club may elect such applicant by a favorable vote of a majority of the members present provided that member meets the minimum criteria for membership as outlined in Article I, Section 3. Should the applicant's endorser(s) decline or fail to present the application for a vote at the annual meeting, the applicant(s) shall be converted to an Associate Membership, and a refund for the difference in memberships dues shall be returned to the applicant by the Treasurer "after" the Annual Meeting.
  - i. *Honorary Members*: Honorary members shall be placed in this class by unanimous vote of the Board. A list of Honorary Members will be attached as an addendum to the Club's Bylaws in Article XI.
  - j. *Associate Members*: Applications to become an Associate Member shall be filed with the Secretary and need no approval endorsement.
  - k. *Foreign Members*: Applications to become an Associate Member shall be filed with the Secretary and need no approval endorsement.
  - l. *Junior Members*: Junior member application requires the sponsorship/endorsement of two (2) members in good standing but need no approval by the Board.

**SECTION 5. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.** Membership may be terminated:

- a. By resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary, but no member may resign when in debt to the Club. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club, become incurred on the first day of each fiscal year and must be paid in full prior to resignation.
- b. By lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid after the first day of the March of the fiscal year; however, the Board may grant an additional 60 days of grace to such delinquent members in meritorious cases. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting whose dues are unpaid as of the date of the meeting.
- c. By expulsion. A member may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VI of these bylaws. Any member who has lapsed or resigned may reapply for membership as specified in Article I Section 3 of these Bylaws.

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**ARTICLE II - MEETINGS**

**SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETING.** The annual meeting of the Club shall be held in conjunction with the Club's annual Specialty Show whenever possible, at a place, date and hour designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of the annual meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary to each member at least 60 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be 15% of the members in good standing.

**SECTION 2. SPECIAL CLUB MEETINGS.** Special Club meeting may be called by the President or by a majority vote of the members of the Board who are present at a meeting of the Board or who vote by mail, fax, or telephone call or shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by 15% of the members of the Club who are in good standing. Such meeting shall be held as such a reasonable place, date and hour as may be designated by the Board. Written notice of such shall be mailed by the Secretary at least 30 days and not more than 45 days prior to the meeting. The notice of the meeting shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other Club business may be transacted. The quorum for such a meeting shall be 15% of the members in good standing.

**SECTION 3. BOARD MEETINGS.** The Board shall meet at least once each calendar year, in conjunction with the Club's annual Specialty Show whenever possible. Other meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such times and places as are designated by the President or by a majority vote of the entire Board. Written notice of each such other meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary to each member of the Board at least 14 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for a Board meeting shall be a majority of the Board voting in person, by mail, fax or telephone conference, electronic mail or acceptable communications technology. Items voted on by telephone conference call, mail, fax or electronic must be confirmed in writing by the Secretary within seven days. Executive Sessions are prohibited except on issues regarding disciplinary actions and pending or possible legal issues regarding the club or its members.

**SECTION 4. EMERGENCY BOARD MEETINGS:** Emergency Board meetings may be called by any Board member with less than a 21 day notice but no sooner than a 48 hour notice for issues of critical importance such as compromising of the Club's bylaws or constitution, the breed standard, or a decision that may have a long-run deleterious effect on the Club. The quorum for such an emergency Board meeting shall be two-thirds of the Board. Items voted on by telephone conference call, mail, fax or electronic must be confirmed in writing by the Secretary within seven days. Executive Sessions are prohibited except in matters of disciplinary actions, issues regarding Board or Committee members, or legal matters.

**SECTION 5.** The Board of Directors may conduct its business by mail, fax or telephone conference, electronic mail or similar acceptable communications technology through the Secretary. Items voted upon by telephone conference call or other electronic communication must be confirmed in writing and postmarked or faxed within seven (7) days.

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### **ARTICLE III - DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.** The Board shall be comprised of seven (7) Directors, all of whom shall be members in good standing who are residents of the United States. The Board shall be divided into two classes, one class to consist of four Directors each and one class to consist of three Directors with one class of Directors to be elected one year and the other class to be elected the following year. The Directors shall be elected at each annual election for a term of two years and shall serve until their successors are elected. No Director shall serve for more than three consecutive terms or six (6) years. Offices of President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be limited to one year. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

**SECTION 2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND TERM OF OFFICE.** Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, all elected officers shall be selected by, and from among the Directors within 30 days following annual elections and shall take office by November 1st. Elected officers shall hold office for a term of one year, or until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified.

The Club's officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meeting.

- a. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President, in addition to those particularly specified by these Bylaws.
- b. The Vice President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's death, absence or incapacity.
- c. The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board and of all votes taken by mail, fax or telephone and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. The minutes of the Annual Meeting and all other meetings shall be published in the next issue of the Club's Newsletter and shall be available to the membership if requested by a member within 30 days of

the meeting by electronic communication. Corrections or additions shall be requested within 30 days of publication. These shall be published and the minutes adjusted. Records of all votes taken by the Club or the Board shall be published in the following issue of the Club's Newsletter. The Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify Officers and Directors of their election to office, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed by these Bylaws.

- d. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging to the Club. The Treasurer shall deposit the same in a bank approved by the Board, in the name of the Club. The Treasurer's books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and the Membership and the Treasurer shall report to the Board at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt of payment not previously reported; and at the annual meeting the Treasurer shall render an account of all moneys received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.
- e. The AKC Delegate shall be elected for a term of two years by the membership by the same method of nomination and election at the same time as voting for Board of Director candidates. The AKC Delegate will attend meetings of the AKC Delegate Body and will make regular reports to the Board and the membership. The AKC Delegate may not be a member of the Board, but must be a member of the Club in good standing. The elected AKC Delegate assumes position on the same date as the new Board.

**SECTION 3. VACANCIES.** Any vacancies occurring on the Board or among the officers during the year shall be filled until the next annual election by those candidates from the previous election who received the next highest votes. If the candidate with the next highest votes cannot serve then the candidate with the second highest votes will fill the vacancy and so forth. If there are no candidates from the previous election or no candidates who are willing to serve to fill the vacancy the Board may fill the vacancy by a majority vote of all of the then members of the Board; except that a vacancy in the office of President shall be automatically filled by the Vice President and the resulting vacancy in the office of Vice President shall be filled by the Board.

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## **ARTICLE IV - THE CLUB YEAR, VOTING, NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS**

**SECTION 1. CLUB YEAR.** The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of January and end on the 31st day of December.

The Club's official year shall begin on the November 1st and end on the 31st day of October. Directors shall take office on November 1st and officers shall be elected within 30 days. The election of officers may be conducted at a meeting of the Board, by mail, fax, telephone or other electronic communication. Each retiring officer shall turn over to his successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after being notified of the election of new officers.

**SECTION 2. VOTING.** At the annual meeting or at a special meeting of the Club, voting shall be limited to those members in good standing who are present at the meeting, except for the annual election of Directors and Delegate and amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws and the Standard for the breed which shall be decided by written ballot cast by mail. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted. The Board of Directors may decide to submit other specific questions for decision of the members by written ballot cast by mail.

**SECTION 3. ANNUAL ELECTION.** At the annual election of the Directors and Delegate to The American Kennel Club, the vote shall be conducted by secret ballot. Ballots to be valid must be received by a designated professional firm. Ballots shall be counted by the designated professional firm by October 1. The designated professional firm shall check the returned ballots against the list of members whose dues are paid for the current year prior to the opening of the envelope. The designated professional firm shall certify the eligibility of the voters as well as the result of the voting, and will notify the Secretary who will in turn notify the newly elected Directors and Delegate by mail by within 5 business days.

The results of the election shall be announced at the Annual Meeting, shall be printed in the next issue of the Club's Newsletter and shall be published on the Club's website within fourteen (14) days of the election results. Persons receiving the largest number of votes for each Director position shall be declared elected. In the even of a tie, a flip of a coin will determine position. If any nominee, at the time of the meeting is unable to serve for any reason, such nominee shall not be elected and the vacancy so created shall be filled by the new Board of Directors in the manner provided by Article III, Section 3. The Secretary will immediately notify the newly elected Directors and Delegate by mail.

**SECTION 4. NOMINATIONS AND BALLOTS.** No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated in accordance with these Bylaws.

A nominating committee shall be chosen by the Board of Directors before February 15. The committee shall consist of three members from different areas of the country and two (2) alternates. All members must be in good standing with the AKC and no more than one may be a member of the current Board of Directors. No one on the nominating committee shall be running for the upcoming election. The Board shall name a chairman for the Committee from those selected to serve on the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee may conduct its business by mail, fax, electronic communication or telephone.

- a. The Nominating Committee shall nominate from among the eligible members of the Club one candidate for each vacant position on the Board of Directors and one candidate for the Delegate to The American Kennel Club and shall procure the acceptance of each nominee so chosen. Members who are eligible to serve on the Board of Directors must be members in good standing with the AKC and who have been members of the Club for two (2) or more years. The Committee must nominate candidates to insure that there will be a designated Director for each of the specific areas outlined in Section 4(e). The Committee shall then submit its slate of candidates to the Secretary who shall mail the list, including the full names of each candidate, the state in which he resides and the vacancy for which he has been nominated, to each member of the Club on or before

- March 15 so that additional nominations may be made by the membership if they so desire
- b. Additional nominations of eligible members may be made by written petition addressed to the Secretary and received at the Secretary's regular address on or before April 15, signed by three (3) members and accompanied by the written acceptance of each such additional nominee signifying his willingness to be a candidate. If no valid nominations are received by the Secretary by April 15, the Nominating Committee's slate shall be declared elected and no balloting will be required. The Secretary shall promptly notify all candidates of their election by May 1, with their terms beginning on July 1. Notice will be published in the following issue of the Club's Newsletter.
  - c. If there are additional valid nominations received by the Secretary by April 15, the Secretary shall mail to each member in good standing on or before May 15, a ballot listing all the nominees in alphabetical order together with the names of the states in which they reside and a resume for each candidate written by that candidate. All resumes will be printed and included in the envelope but separate from the ballot itself.
  - d. A blank envelope will be included and a return envelope addressed to the designated professional firm marked "Ballot" and bearing the name of the member to whom it was sent. So that the ballots may remain secret, each voter, after marking his ballot, shall seal it in the blank envelope which in turn shall be placed in the second envelope addressed to the designated professional firm. Marked ballots must be received by June 15. The designated professional firm shall check the returns against the list of members whose dues are paid for the current year prior to opening the outer envelope and removing the blank envelope, and shall certify the eligibility of the voters as well as the results of the voting which shall be announced in the next issue of the Club's Newsletter
  - e. Nominations cannot be made in any manner other than as provided above.
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## **ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 1.** The Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board and serve at the "Pleasure of the Board". Special committees may also be appointed by the Board to aid it on particular projects. The term of any committee is one (1) year.

- a. No members and or advisors shall serve more than three consecutive terms on any committee.
- b. No Member and/or advisors shall serve on more than three committees except in the case where the membership numbers prevent appointment of enough members to warrant such.
- c. Under no circumstances shall the Club allow a Committee to operate as an Executive Committee.

**SECTION 2.** Any committee appointment may be terminated by a two-thirds vote of the full membership of the Board upon written notice to the appointee; and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose service has been terminated.

**SECTION 3.** There shall be a Newsletter Committee consisting of one (1) or more members and a Yearbook Committee consisting of one (1) or more members. The Newsletter and Yearbook shall be distributed via electronic format except in the case where a member has no access to a computer where the Newsletter and Yearbook shall be printed in black and white. The Board of Directors or the Membership by majority vote may mandate the Yearbook be printed either in color or black and white for distribution to the full Membership. The cost for printing the Yearbook, mailing and associated expenses shall be charged to each Member who wishes to receive a printed copy.

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## **ARTICLE VI - DISCIPLINE**

**SECTION 1. AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB SUSPENSION.** Any member who is suspended from all privileges of The American Kennel Club automatically shall be suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period.

**SECTION 2. CHARGES.** Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$100 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the Board or a Committee following a hearing. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the Board or present them at a Board meeting, and the Board shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club or of the Breed. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interest of the Club or of the Breed, it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date of a hearing by the Board or a Committee of not less than three members of the Board, not less than three weeks or more than six weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by registered mail together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in their own defense and bring witnesses if they wish.

**SECTION 3. BOARD HEARING.** The defendant shall have the right to bring counsel if he or she so chooses. The defendant shall also have the right to demand that the meeting be held in open session. Should the charges be sustained after hearing all of the evidence and testimony presented by complainant and defendant, the Board or Committee may by a majority vote of those present suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six months from the date of the hearing, or until the next annual meeting if that will occur after six months. If charges are sustained, the Board may also charge the defendant a monetary fine not to exceed \$500.00. The monetary fine will be no more than the actual expenses incurred by the charges and the hearing. And, if it deems that punishment insufficient it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before their fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the recommendation of the Board or Committee. Immediately after the Board or Committee has reached a decision, its findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the decision and penalty, if any.

**SECTION 4. EXPULSION.** Expulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only at the Annual Meeting of the Club following a hearing and upon the recommendation of the Board or Committee as provided in Section 3 of this Article. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his own behalf though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his own behalf. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A two-thirds vote of those present and voting at the annual meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted the suspension shall stand.

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## **ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS**

**SECTION 1.** Amendments to the Bylaws and to the standard for the breed may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by 15% (fifteen percent) of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the members for a vote within sixty (60) days of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

**SECTION 2.** The Constitution and Bylaws and the Standard for the Breed may be amended at any time, provided a copy of the proposed amendment has been mailed by the Secretary to each member in good standing on the date of mailing, accompanied by a ballot on which he may indicate his choice for or against the action to be taken. The notice shall specify a date not less than thirty (30) days after the date of mailing by which date the ballots must be returned to a designated professional firm to be counted. The favorable vote of two-thirds of the members in good standing who return valid ballots within the time limit shall be required to effect any such amendment.

**SECTION 3.** Dual-envelope procedures described in Article IV, Section 4, (C) shall be followed in handling such ballots to assure secrecy of the vote.

**SECTION 4.** No amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws or to the standard for the breed that is adopted by the Club shall become effective until it has been approved by the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club.

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## **ARTICLE VIII – DISSOLUTION & REORGAINIZATION**

**SECTION 1.** The Club may be dissolved for reorganization at any time by the written consent of not less than two-thirds of the members in good standing.

**SECTION 2.** The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than two-thirds of the members in good standing. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, other than for the purpose of reorganization, none of the property of the Club, not any proceeds thereof, or any assets of the Club shall be distributed to any members of the Club, but after payment of the debts of the Club its property and assets shall be

given to a charitable organization for the benefit of dogs selected by the Board of Directors.

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## **ARTICLE IX - ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**SECTION 1.** At meetings of the Club, the order of business so far as the character and nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows:

- Roll Call
- Minutes of the Last Meeting
- Report of the President
- Report of the Secretary
- Report of the Treasurer
- Reports of Committees
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Adjournment

**SECTION 2.** At meetings of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

- Minutes of the Last Meeting
  - Report of the Secretary
  - Report of the Treasurer
  - Reports of Committees
  - Unfinished Business
  - New Business
  - Adjournment
- 

## **ARTICLE X - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

**SECTION 1.** The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any other special rules of order the Club may adopt. All business of the club must be brought before the entire Board of Directors and must be voted on by the Board of Directors. Executive Committees are prohibited.