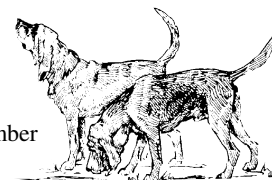


# THE BLOODHOUND CLUB



## CONSTITUTION

### 2008

#### 1. NAME

The Name of the Club shall be *The Bloodhound Club*.

#### 2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Club shall be:

- a) To foster the interests of the breed generally.
- b) To encourage the use of the Bloodhound for tracking man.
- c) To Promote the breeding of Bloodhounds according to the standard of the breed.
- d) To hold Shows, Working Trials and Training Meets, and to promote classes for Bloodhounds at other shows, and
- e) To provide opportunities for members of the Club to exchange information and opinions concerning Bloodhounds.

#### 3. MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 The number of members shall be unlimited, the classes of membership being Single, Joint, Family, Junior, and Honorary.
- 3.2 The eligibility for membership, method of election, rights, and annual subscriptions shall be as set out in the Appendix to this Constitution.
- 3.3 The subscription is for a calendar year and shall be payable on 1st January each year.
- 3.4 No member shall be allowed to vote or compete for Club Specials or enjoy any of the privileges of membership until his subscriptions and all outstanding debts due to the Club have been paid. Members whose dues have not been paid by 1st March shall be deemed non-members until such dues are paid. New members must have been confirmed for at least a full year before being able to vote.
- 3.5 Any member who shall be suspended under Kennel Club Rule A42j(4) and/or disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A42j(8) shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the Club for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification.
- 3.6 If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Club, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Club, the Committee may, at a meeting the notice convening which includes as an object the consideration of the conduct of the member, determine that a Special General Meeting of the Club shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her. Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and hour of the Meeting that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at a Meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, his/her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of members and he/she shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a member of the Club except that he/she may, within two calendar months from the date of such meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose.
- 3.7 The Secretary shall keep a register of the names and addresses of members and the register shall be open to the inspection of members at any General Meeting or Committee Meeting, or to the Kennel Club at any time.

#### 4. THE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

- 4.1 The entire management of the affairs of the Club shall be vested in the Committee.
- 4.2 The Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and nine members.
- 4.3 No member shall be eligible for election to the Committee until two years after the date of his application to join the Club.
- 4.4 The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall serve for a period of three years, one retiring each year. One third of the other committee members shall retire annually in rotation.
- 4.5 No two officers and/or committee members may be members of the same household.

- 4.6 No Officer or Committee member may serve on the Committee of another Bloodhound breed club.
- 4.7 Elections for Officers and Committee members shall be by postal ballot of all members. A Returning Officer shall be elected at a General Meeting and shall be responsible for arranging the elections. The Returning Officer during his term of office shall not be a Committee member nor may stand for election. At least one other Club member must be present when the envelopes containing the votes are opened; any member is entitled to be present.
- 4.8 Nominations for the election shall be sent to the secretary in writing, duly proposed & seconded, prior to 30th November each year. Existing Committee Members shall be eligible for re-election. Before standing for election any existing Committee Member or Officer must resign his existing post and may then be nominated for one post only. Nominees shall signify in writing their willingness to accept office.
- 4.9 Ties shall be decided by the toss of a coin by the Returning Officer.
- 4.10 If an extra Committee vacancy is being filled (because of a resignation) the person polling the fourth highest number of votes shall fill that vacancy and therefore may require re-election in one or two years, and the three candidates with the highest number of votes shall fill the vacancies requiring re-election in three years' time.
- 4.11 Committee meetings shall be held as deemed necessary by the Chairman and Secretary, but at least one Committee Meeting shall be held in each four-monthly period of the year.
- 4.12 The Committee shall appoint from amongst their number a Vice-Chairman, Show Secretary and Working Trial Secretary.
- 4.13 The quorum at a Committee meeting shall be six.
- 4.14 The Chairman shall have a casting vote.
- 4.15 The Committee shall have power to co-opt for special purposes, such co-opted members having no vote.
- 4.16 The Committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees.
- 4.17 No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within a KC registered society.

#### 5. GENERAL MEETINGS

- 5.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held before 31st March each year, to receive a report of the elections of Officers and other Committee members, to receive and pass the annual accounts of the Club and to transact such business that has been duly proposed, seconded and notified to the Secretary in writing at least twenty-one days prior to the Annual General Meeting. Notice of the Meeting shall be sent in writing to all members not later than thirty days before the date of the Meeting. No business other than that notified on the agenda of such meeting may be transacted unless deemed of an urgent nature by the Chairman.
- 5.2 A Special General Meeting must be held on the requisition of ten members stating the object of such meeting. The Secretary must send out notices within fourteen days of receiving the requisition, and at least twenty-one days' warning must be given of the Meeting. No business other than that which appears on the agenda must be conducted at a Special General Meeting. The Committee of the Club is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting.
- 5.3 The quorum at a General Meeting shall be ten.

#### 6. FINANCES

- 6.1 Accounts shall be held in the name of the Club from which withdrawals may be made on the signature of any two of the following: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer.

- 6.2 All reasonable expenses incurred on behalf of the Club by the Secretary and Treasurer may be defrayed from Club funds. The Secretary and Treasurer may grant reasonable out of pocket expenses to persons acting on behalf of the Club and with the prior knowledge of the Secretary and Treasurer.
- 6.3 At each Committee meeting Committee members shall be informed of all payments made on behalf of the Club since the previous meeting.
- 6.4 The Financial year shall end on 31st October.
- 6.5 A copy of the audited annual accounts shall be sent to all members with the agenda of the Annual General Meeting 14 days prior to such meeting.
- 6.6 The Auditor must be a qualified accountant and shall be elected by the Committee.

## **7 CLUB ACTIVITIES**

- 7.1 All shows and working trials shall be organised by a sub-committee, minimum number three including the appropriate sub-section secretary. All changes in Club policy affecting these events recommended by a sub-committee must be ratified by the General Committee before being put into operation.
- 7.2 The winner of a cup or trophy must be a member of the Club. All cups and trophies which are won must be presented at the event. Perpetual trophies may be held by members and engraved at their own expense, provided they are returned in time to be presented at the next event. Each holder of a cup or trophy shall be responsible for its safe keeping and for its return in good condition on demand.
- 7.3 All cups and Trophies to be retained in the United Kingdom
- 7.4 The Club's list of show and working trial judges shall be compiled afresh each year in line with Kennel Club best practice.

## **8. MISCELLANEOUS**

- 8.1 The Club shall not join any federation of clubs or societies.
- 8.2 The Club shall be registered at the Kennel Club, and shall recognise the Kennel Club as the final Court of Appeal.
- 8.3 The property of the Club shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Club ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the Club's assets and the outcome of the meeting notified to the Kennel Club.  
(If a registered Club is wound up or ceases to be a Registered Society under Kennel Club Regulations, a final statement of accounts with a record of the disposal of the property of the Club shall be forwarded to the Kennel Club within six months and the persons named as Officers and Committee of the Club will be held responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding-up of the Club.)
- 8.4 No alteration or addition may be made to these rules unless the amendment is passed at two successive Annual General Meetings by a two thirds majority of those voting, except for the level of subscriptions which may be altered by a simple majority of those voting at any General Meeting. Such alterations shall not be brought into force until the Kennel Club has been advised and given its approval of the alterations.
- 8.5 The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary for the continuance of registration and that by 31st July each year other returns as stipulated in the Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities, will be forwarded to the Kennel Club. The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any change of Secretary to the Club which may occur during the course of the year.

### **APPENDIX TO THE CONSTITUTION CODE OF ETHICS**

1. Members must consider the welfare of their hounds as paramount, above any personal gain or profit and must ensure that their hounds are properly housed, fed, watered, exercised and cared for.
2. All breeding should be aimed at the IMPROVEMENT OF THE BREED. Before breeding a litter equal weight should be given to type, temperament, health and soundness. Members should do all in their power to discourage breeding from obvious inferior specimens.

3. Members offering Bloodhounds at stud should ensure that they are in good health and as far as possible free from hereditary defects. Dog hounds should be of good type, temperament and soundness. Stud services should be refused to clearly inferior specimens.
4. Bitches should not be bred from until they are mature, usually two years of age, nor should they be bred from too frequently.
5. No member should breed a litter of Bloodhounds unless he/she has the facilities and time to devote proper care and attention to the rearing of the puppies and the well-being of the dam. They should also be prepared to take back or help with the re-homing of their stock should it become necessary.
6. Prospective buyers should be screened for suitability and should be advised of the breed characteristics and faults. They should be shown a full-grown adult and made to realise what they are taking on.
7. At the time of sale members should provide a signed three generation pedigree together with a Kennel Club Registration Certificate and Transfer (if available), diet sheet and fact sheet regarding worming, vaccination, training, etc. All puppies should be fully covered by insurance for a month from purchase and should be wormed before sale. A receipt of purchase should be supplied.
8. Where a Bloodhound puppy deviates seriously from the standard or has an obvious defect, the buyer must be made aware of this fact and the Kennel Club Registration Certificate should be amended to disallow breeding from the animal, or it should be neutered by the breeder at a later date.
9. No Bloodhound should knowingly be sold to a pet shop or dealer and great care should be taken when exporting to ensure the hound goes directly to its new home.
10. Members should conduct themselves at all times in such a manner as to reflect credit on the Bloodhound and should demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times at competitive events.

### **CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP**

1. Single membership: proposed by one existing member then elected by the Committee and having the right of appeal to an Annual General Meeting if not elected. Single members have full rights of membership and are eligible to vote and to serve on Committee (subject to the rules as set out in the Constitution),
2. Joint membership: two individuals in the same family or two individuals with a joint registered interest in an affix or hound, proposed by one existing member then elected by the Committee and having the right of appeal to an Annual General Meeting if not elected. Joint members have full rights of membership and are entitled to a single vote. Either individual is eligible to serve on Committee (subject to the rules as set out in the Constitution.)
3. Family membership: Two or more individuals in the same family with family members under the age of 18 proposed by one member then elected by the committee and having the right of appeal to an Annual General Meeting if not elected. Family members have full rights of membership and are entitled to a single vote. Family members under the age of eighteen years have full rights of membership but no vote, none are they eligible to serve on Committee.
4. Junior membership: under 18 years of age on 1st January, proposed by one existing member then elected by the Committee and having the right of appeal to an Annual General Meeting if not elected. Junior members have full rights of membership but no vote, nor are they eligible to serve on Committee.
5. Honorary membership: given for a fixed period not exceeding two years for services to the Club, or given to the holder of a post in another club devoted to Bloodhounds. Proposed by two members of Committee then elected by the Committee. Honorary members shall receive Club circulars and may attend General Meetings but are not eligible to vote or to serve on Committee.
6. The Committee have the power to appoint a President. The President shall preside at social gatherings at the invitation of the Committee. Terms of tenure to be at the discretion of the committee.

### **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS**

From 1st January 1993: Single - £10.00, Joint - £15.00, Junior - £5.00. Family - £20.00