



CONSTITUTION

THE MAINLAND STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER SOCIETY

(Version 3 – Last Update June 12 2018)

1. NAME

The club shall be called "The Mainland Staffordshire Bull Terrier Society" hereinafter referred to as the club.

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the club shall be:

- 2.1.** To encourage breeding and exhibition of dogs conforming to Dogs New Zealand Breed Standards.
- 2.2.** To hold recognised Shows, and meetings.
- 2.3.** To hold regular breed specific education and fun events for members.
- 2.4.** To provide or assist in the provision of facilities to hold Shows, and meetings.
- 2.5.** To promote friendship and mutual support among dog owners and fanciers.
- 2.6.** To support other clubs recognised by Dogs New Zealand
- 2.7.** To promote the well-being of dogs in general

3. MEMBERSHIP

The club shall consist of an unlimited number of persons as Active Members.

4. ELECTION OF MEMBERS

4.1. Honorary Life Members:

The Annual General Meeting may by resolution elect Honorary Life Members to the club, provided that the committee has received at least **30 days** prior notice from the proposer and seconder who shall both be financial members of the club and provided that the committee has approved such nomination. Such Honorary Life members shall be exempt from all subscriptions and enjoy full membership privileges.

4.2. Active Members:

Any person may be proposed and seconded by two financial members of the club. Election shall be by vote at an ordinary committee meeting and membership shall commence from payment of the appropriate fee.

4.3. Junior Membership:

Any person under the age of 18, elected in same manner as above. Junior members shall not have voting rights at any General Meeting nor can they hold executive office.

4.4. Family Members:

Two Adults from the same household and residing at the same address and their children under the age of 18 can join as family members and pay the family member subscription. Those family members under the age of 18 years shall have the same rights as junior members. Family members shall have the same rights as Active Members.

4.5. Breeders Membership:

Active members who breed litters may join their new owners up at a special rate to be decided annually by the committee for their first year payable by the breeder. If these members decide to renew thereafter it would be at the normal rates. Breeder's memberships do not have voting rights for their first year nor can they hold executive office.

4.6. Renewal of Membership:

The Committee reserves the right to offer membership renewals on the 1st April of each financial year to any previous active members. Membership renewals will be voted on by the standing committee at their last meeting preceding the first day of April in each financial year.

5. FINANCIAL YEAR

The club's financial year shall commence on the first day of April and end on the thirty-first day of March each year.

6. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscription for members for the ensuing year will be determined by the committee at their last meeting preceding the first day of April in each year.

7. MANAGEMENT

The executive officers of the club shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by one person

The committee shall consist of a minimum of seven and no more than ten active members of the club (including the executive officers).

The executive officers shall be deemed to be members of the committee and the word "committee" in these rules shall hereinafter be understood to mean the officers and committee jointly unless otherwise stated.

The honorary officers, who shall not be ex officio members of the committee, shall consist of a Patron, any number of Vice-Patrons, an Auditor, a Legal Advisor and a Veterinary Surgeon.

8. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

Only members who have been financial for the previous year are eligible for election as executive officers or committee members.

They shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting and must be either nominated in writing prior to the Annual General Meeting or nominated from the floor at the Annual General Meeting.

Each candidate must be duly proposed and seconded by financial members of the club and the candidate need not necessarily be present at the Annual General Meeting provided he or she has signified in writing his or her consent to nomination.

Where the number of candidates who have been duly proposed and seconded exceeds the number to be elected, a secret ballot shall be held amongst those financial members present at the Annual General Meeting.

The honorary officers need not be financial members of the club and shall be elected by the same procedure as for executive officers and committee as outlined above.

9. VACANCIES

In the case of a vacancy arising on the committee from any cause whatsoever, that body shall have power to fill such vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting.

10. DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

The officers and committee as a whole are charged with full control and management of the affairs and business of the club.

10.1 Duties of President:

- To Chair at all general and committee meetings.

10.2 Duties of Vice-President:

- To stand in for President as required.

10.3 Duties of Secretary:

- To keep minutes of all general and committee meetings.
- To keep a register of all members.
- To read and file all communications and present same to next committee meeting.
- To issue notices of meetings.
- To conduct correspondence as directed by committee.

10.4 Duties of Treasurer:

- To receive all monies and issue receipts.
- To pay all money promptly into the club's banks.
- To pay all accounts passed by the committee.
- To keep full accounts of all monies received and paid out.
- To have receipt books, bank deposit book, cheque book and all account books available at each committee meeting or at any time for the Honorary Auditor.
- To present to the Annual General Meeting a duly audited statement of income and expenditure, and a balance sheet showing assets, liabilities and accumulated funds.

10.5 Duties of Committee:

- To meet regularly to conduct club's affairs.

10.6 Duties of Auditor:

- To examine accounts at any time.
- To audit accounts and balance sheet prior to presentation at Annual General Meeting.

10.7 Duties of Legal Advisor & Honorary Veterinary Surgeon:

- To assist the club as and when required.

11. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The committee shall meet as often as it shall deem necessary, but a minimum of six times a year. Five clear days' notice of any committee meeting shall be given by the Secretary to all its members.

The President, Secretary or three ordinary committee members may call a committee meeting.

In absence of the President and Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a Chairperson from among their number.

A quorum shall consist of five members.

The Chairperson shall have a deliberative vote and in the case of an equality of votes, shall also have a casting vote.

The agenda for the meeting shall consist of:-

- Apologies
- Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising
- Correspondence
- Accounts
- Approval of new Members (as per 4.1)

General business in which any member may introduce any matter pertaining to the management of the club and its affairs.

12. GENERAL MEETINGS

12.1 Annual General Meetings

- 12.1.1** Annual General Meeting to be held not later than two calendar months after the end of the financial year.
- 12.1.2** Annual reports and audited balance sheets must be tabled.
- 12.1.3** Members to be advised in writing of Annual General Meeting at least 14 days prior to meeting.
- 12.1.4** Order of business shall be:
 - Roll Call
 - Apologies
 - Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
 - President's Report
 - Financial Report and Balance Sheet
 - Subscriptions for ensuing year
 - Election of Honorary Officers, Executive Officers and Committee
 - Notices of Motion
 - General Business

12.2 Special General Meeting

- 12.2.1** A Special General Meeting may be called by resolution of the committee or on request in writing to the Secretary signed by any fifteen financial members.
- 12.2.2** Special General Meeting must be held within 21 days of such request.
- 12.2.3** Members must be advised in writing of Special General Meeting and the business to be conducted at it and at least 14 days prior to meeting.
- 12.2.4** No business other than that for which due notice has been given shall be transacted.

12.3 Chairperson

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall act as Chairperson at either the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.

If both the President and Vice-President are absent, the Chairperson shall be elected from among the officers/committee present.

13. QUORUM

At any committee meeting, five members shall form a quorum. At any general meeting ten financial members shall form a quorum.

If a quorum is not present, the meeting shall be reconvened within 14 days and any business set down for that reconvened meeting shall be conducted as if those present constituted a quorum.

14. VOTING

At all meetings of the club, only financial members in attendance are eligible to vote.

In all voting, a simple majority shall determine the result. In the case of elections, the highest polling candidate(s) shall be elected.

In all elections where the number of candidates exceed the number of positions available, voting shall be by secret ballot

All voting other than elections shall be by voices, by show of hands, or by secret ballot if any two members so require.

Before a secret ballot is held, two scrutineers shall be appointed to count the votes.

In all voting the chairperson shall have a deliberative as well as a casting vote.

15. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

15.1 Resignation:

A member may resign at any time by giving notice in writing to the committee.

15.2 Expulsion:

The committee shall have power to cancel the membership of any member who either:

Is in arrears of subscription for longer than one year, provided 14 days' notice in writing has been given of the committee's intention to cancel membership; or

Who has been found by the committee to have acted in an undesirable or dishonourable manner concerning matters affecting the club, or acting in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the club?

15.3 Hearing to Expel Member:

Where 15.2.2 is applicable the committee must request the member concerned to attend a special committee meeting and be allowed an advocate to speak upon the matter. The member must be given seven clear days' notice in writing. The notice must specify and give full details of the charge and the actions giving rise to the charge and state the possible penalties that could be imposed. A member expelled under this rule shall have the power of appeal at a Special General Meeting of members called for this purpose. Such member shall have further right of appeal to the New Zealand Kennel Club.

15.4. Liabilities of Member Ceasing Membership:

Any member resigning or expelled shall within seven days return all club property. Expulsion or resignation does not release the member from liability for monies due to, or entitle the member to receive back any money paid to the club.

15.5 Claim on Club Property

Any member resigning or expelled has no claim on any property owned by the club

16. ALTERATION TO RULES

16.1 The rules of the club may be altered, added to, or rescinded on the resolution of a majority of members present at any General Meeting of which at least 14 days' notice has been given in writing to all members.

16.2 No addition to or alteration or revision of the Pecuniary Profit clause or the Winding Up clause shall be approved without the approval of the Inland Revenue Department.

16.3 All alterations shall be notified and approved by Dogs New Zealand before the general meeting.

17. COMMON SEAL

The common seal shall be under the control of the committee and in the custody of the Secretary. It shall be affixed by the Secretary to such documents as the committee shall direct.

18. PECUNIARY PROFIT

No member or person associated with a member of the club shall derive any income, benefit or financial advantage from the club where they can materially influence the payment of the income, benefit or advantage. Except where the income, benefit or advantage is derived from:

Professional services to the organisation rendered in the course of business charged at no greater rate than the current market rates; or

Interest on money lent at no greater rate than current market rates.

AND all members who may be interested or concerned directly or indirectly shall disclose the nature and extent of their interest to the committee.

19. WINDING UP

19.1 The club may be wound up if the members at any general meeting pass a resolution requiring the club to be dissolved and this resolution is confirmed at a subsequent general meeting called for that purpose.

19.2 Upon the dissolution of the club, any assets after payment of all liabilities shall be forwarded to Dogs New Zealand to be held in trust for a future club which may be formed to meet objectives similar to those of the club.

19.3 On any dissolution or winding up of the aforesaid no payment in money or distribution of assets or other benefits whatsoever shall be paid, applied or distributed to any member past or present for the personal benefit of such member or members.

20. BORROWING POWERS

Monies borrowed in the club's name shall require approval at a Special General Meeting by at least a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of members present.

21. GENERAL

If any case occurs which is not provided for in these rules a course of action shall be determined by the committee and their decision will be final.