



CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS - CORNHUSKER KENNEL CLUB OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, INC.

Approved by AKC, March 1, 1973, Revised July 1987 & September 1996

ARTICLE I: - Name & Objects

SECTION 1: The name of the Club (herein also referred to as the Club), shall be the Cornhusker Kennel Club of Lincoln, NE, Inc.

SECTION 2:

The objects of the Club shall be:

- (a) to further the advancement of all breeds of purebred dogs:
- (b) to do all in its power to protect and advance the interest of all breeds of pure-bred dogs and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows and obedience trials:
- (c) to conduct sanctioned matches, dog shows and obedience trials under the rules of the American Kennel Club.
- (d) the purpose of the Club is to educate the public generally as to the habits, characteristics, advantages, training, care and treatment of all breeds of dogs by reasonable and legitimate methods of education and information.

SECTION 3:

The Club shall not be conducted or operated for the profit of any individual or members of the Club.

ARTICLE II - Membership

SECTION 1:

While membership is to be unrestricted as to residence, the Club's primary purpose is to be representative of the breeders and exhibitors in its immediate area. There shall be three types of memberships open to all persons who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this club.

- (a) Regular Members: Members eighteen (18) years and older who enjoy all the rights and benefits of the Club.
- (b) Lifetime Membership: Members with more than twenty-five (25) consecutive years of active membership in the Club who are so elected by the majority vote of the general membership at any regular meeting as Lifetime Members. Lifetime members enjoy all the rights and benefits of regular membership, but are exempt from the payments of dues. These Lifetime Memberships are to be presented at the Annual Meetings.
- (c) Charter Membership: Members who are responsible for the formation of and recognition of the Club, but no longer active within the Club. Charter members cannot vote or hold office but are eligible for other Club benefits and privileges.

SECTION 2:

Membership Dues

Membership dues shall be established as needed in accordance with current economic conditions and voted upon by 2/3 vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, payable on or before the 1st day of January of each year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current fiscal year. During the month of November the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his dues for the ensuing year, or by means of the use of the Clubs Official Bulletin, Wags N' Wiggles, and mailed via first class mail.

SECTION 3:

Election to Membership

Each applicant for membership either Single, or Married Couple memberships shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by these rules and by-laws and the rules of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address, occupation of the applicant(s), breeds(s) of dogs, type of membership desired, and it shall carry the endorsement of two members in good standing. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues payment for the current year. All applications are to be filed with the chairman of the Membership Committee, or the Clubs Recording Secretary. Each application is to be read at the first general meeting following its receipt at which the applicant is present. At the next Club meeting the applicant will be voted upon by secret ballot. Affirmative votes of 2/3 of the members present and voting at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant. The applicant will be notified by either the Corresponding Secretary or Membership Chairman as to the outcome of the vote. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club may re-apply after six (6) months following such rejection. No individual who is indebted to the Club shall be eligible for membership until said indebtedness has been paid.

SECTION 4:

Membership may be terminated

- (a) by resignation. Any member may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary, but no member may resign when in debt to the club.
- (b) by lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid after January 1; however, the Board may grant an additional ninety (90) days of grace to such delinquent
- (c) 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 that meeting.
- (d) by expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in ARTICLE VIII, Section 4 (Expulsion) of these rules and by-laws.

ARTICLE III - Meetings and Voting

SECTION 1:

Club Meeting

Meetings of the Club shall be held in the Greater Lincoln, Nebraska Area on the second Tuesday of the month, at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors. There will be a minimum of ten (10) meetings per year. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Corresponding Secretary or by use of the Club's Official Bulletin or newsletter at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting, via first class mail. The quorum for such meetings shall be twenty (20) percent of the members in good standing.

SECTION 2:

Special Club Meetings

Special Club Meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority vote of the members of the Board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board, and shall be called by the Corresponding Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held in the Greater Lincoln, NE Area within ten (10) days at such place, date, and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed via first class by the Corresponding Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting, and said notice shall state the purpose of the meeting, and no other Club business may be transacted thereat. The quorum for such a meeting shall be twenty (20) percent of the members in good standing.

SECTION 3:

Board Meetings

Meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held within the Greater Lincoln, NE Area, at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board. There will be a minimum of ten (10) Board Meetings each year. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed via first class, by the Corresponding Secretary or use may be made of the Club's Official Bulletin at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 4:

Special Board Meetings

Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President; and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held in the Greater Lincoln, NE Area at such place, date, and hour as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such meeting. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting. Any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business shall be transacted thereat. A quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 5:

Voting

Each regular and life member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the Club at which he/she is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any club meeting or election.

ARTICLE IV - Directors & Officers

SECTION 1:

Board of Directors

The Board shall be comprised of President, Vice President., Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President, and one other person all of whom shall be members in good standing and all of whom shall be elected for two-year (2) terms at the Club's annual meeting as provided in Article V and shall serve until their successors are elected. The election of President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer shall take place in Even Numbered years; the election of Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, and Board Member shall take place in Odd Numbered years. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2:

Officers

The Club's officers, consisting of the President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and Recording Secretary 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 in these by-laws.
- (b) The Vice President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's death, absence, incapacity, or resignation.
- (c) Immediate Past President shall be a voting member of the Board and serve on the Board of Directors for a period of one (1) year. If the President is re-elected, the position of Immediate Past President should remain vacant.
- (d) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging to the Club. He/she shall deposit the same in a bank designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. His/her books shall at all time be open to inspection of the Board and he/she shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt of payment not before reported; and at the Annual Meeting he/she 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. The Treasurer's books shall be audited yearly by the time of the Annual Election. The audit shall be done by either an Auditing Committee of three chosen by the Board of Directors or by a professional auditor named by the Board.
- (e) The Corresponding Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify officers and directors of their election to office, notify new members of their election to membership, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these by-laws.
- (f) The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club, and will also keep a roll of the members of the Club with their addresses, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these by-laws.
- (g) AKC Delegate shall be an elected position for a term of one year. The Delegate shall attend all AKC meetings whenever possible, especially when an important vote is to be taken at the delegates meeting. The Delegate will be instructed by the Club as to the wishes of the Club.

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 a majority vote of all the then members of the Board at its first regular meeting following the creation of such vacancy, or at a Special Board Meeting called for that purpose; except that a vacancy in the President and the resulting vacancy in the office of Vice President shall be filled by the Board.

ARTICLE V - The Club Year/Annual Meeting/Elections

SECTION 1:

Club Year

The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of January and end on the 31st of December. The Club's official year shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the election at the Annual Meeting and shall continue through the election at the next Annual Meeting.

SECTION 2:
Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting shall be held in the month of January when Officers, Delegate to the American Kennel Club, and Directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret, 'written ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 4 of this Article. They shall take office immediately upon the conclusion of the election and each retiring officer shall turn over to his successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within thirty (30) days after the election.

SECTION 3:
Elections

The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected.

SECTION 4:
Nominations

No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated. During the month of September, the Board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three (3) members and two (2) alternates, not more than one of whom shall be a member of the Board. The Corresponding Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen and alternates of their selection. The Board shall name a Chairman for the Committee and it shall be his/her duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before November 1st. The Committee shall nominate one candidate for each of three (3) offices, for a two (2) year term. In even years the vote will be for the positions of President, Recording Secretary, & Treasurer. In the odd numbered years the vote will be for the positions of Vice President, Corresponding Secretary and Board Member. The Committee after securing the consent of each person so nominated shall immediately report their nominations in writing to the Corresponding Secretary and Editor of the Official Club Bulletin.

The Committee may nominate one (1) candidate for the position of:

- (a) Club's AKC Delegate. This may be one who may but need not be an officer or director of the Club. The AKC Delegate will be elected to serve on a year to year basis.
- (b) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report the Corresponding Secretary or Editor of Official Bulletin shall at least two weeks before the December meeting notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.
- (c) Additional nominations may be made at the December meeting by any member in good standing in attendance provided that the person so nominated does not decline when his name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, his proposer shall present to the Corresponding Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his willingness to be a candidate. Except for the position of Delegate, no person may be a candidate for more than one position, and the additional nominations are provided for herein may be made only from among those members who have not accepted a nomination of the Nominating Committee. No husband and wife shall serve in office at the same time, and no member may be a candidate for office or position on the Board who then holds office in another all-breed club.
- (d) All nominees shall be listed in the December issue of the Club's official bulletin which shall be mailed to the membership not less than 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting in January.
- (e) Nominations cannot be made at the Annual Meeting or in any manner other than as provided in this section.

ARTICLE VI - Committees

SECTION 1:

The Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as dog shows, obedience trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other fields which may well be served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board. Special committees may also be appointed by the Board to aid it on particular projects.

SECTION 2:

Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board upon written notice to the appointee; and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose services have been terminated.

ARTICLE VII - Discipline

SECTION 1:

American Kennel Club Suspension

Any member who is suspended from the 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. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Corresponding Secretary together with a deposit of \$10.00 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the Board following a hearing. The Corresponding 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 interests of the club. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interest of the club, 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 not less than three (3) weeks no more than six (6) weeks thereafter. The Corresponding Secretary shall promptly send one (1) 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 his own defense and bring witnesses if he wishes.

SECTION 3:

Board Hearing

The Board shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the hearing, but both complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in that regard. Should the charges be sustained, after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by complainant and defendant, the Board may by a majority vote of those present suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six (6) months from the date of 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 his fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board's recommendation. Immediately after the Board has reached a decision, its findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Corresponding Secretary. The Corresponding Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the Board's decision and penalty, if any.

SECTION 4:
Expulsion

Expulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only at a meeting of the Club following a Board hearing and upon the Board's recommendation of expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his/her own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the Board's findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his/her own behalf if he/she wishes. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A 2/3 vote of those present and voting at the meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted, the Board's suspension shall stand.

ARTICLE VIII - Amendments

SECTION 1:

Amendments to the constitution and by-laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Corresponding Secretary signed by twenty (20) 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 with recommendations of the Board by the Corresponding Secretary for a vote within three (3) months of the date when the petition was received by the Corresponding Secretary.

SECTION 2:

The constitution and by-laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for the purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed via first class to each member at least two (2) week prior the date of the meeting.

SECTION 3:

No amendment to the constitution and bylaws that is adopted by the Club shall become effective until it has been approved by the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club.

ARTICLE IX - Dissolution

SECTION 1:

The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than 2/3 of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club other than for purposes of reorganization whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the Club nor any proceeds thereof nor 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.

ARTICLE X - 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 last meeting
- Report of President
- Report of Secretaries
- Report of Treasurer
- Report of Committees
- Election of Officers, Board & AKC Delegate
(At Annual Meeting)
- Election of new members
- 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:

- Reading of minutes of last meeting
- Report of Secretaries
- Report of Treasurer
- Reports of Committees
- Unfinished business
- New Business
- Adjournment

ARTICLE XI - 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 by-laws and any other special rules of order the Club may adopt.