

# BY-LAWS OF THE BULLDOG CLUB OF AMERICA

## ARTICLE I MEMBERS

### SECTION 1. Types of membership

- a. Individual members of the club shall be at least eighteen years old, in good standing with the AKC, unlimited in number, and of three (3) classes. All Classes shall have equal rights, responsibilities and beneficial interests, except as described herein.
  - i. Resident members shall be permanent residents of the United States, U.S. Territories or U.S. Possessions. They shall be eligible to vote and hold office as provided herein.
  - ii. Foreign members approved prior to (date of final adoption by BCA) shall be permanent residents of countries other than the United States, U.S. Territories or U.S. Possessions. These foreign members may participate in Club events and may vote in Club elections and other matters; however, they cannot hold office nor vote on the breed standard.
  - iii. Foreign members approved subsequent to (date of final adoption by BCA) shall be permanent residents of countries other than the United States, U.S. Territories or U.S. Possessions. These foreign members may participate in Club events but may not hold office or vote in Club elections or any other matters.
- b. Bulldog Specialty Clubs may be members of the Club and shall have voting rights and responsibilities set forth in this Constitution and By-Laws.

### SECTION 2. Application Procedure

- a. Individual Membership.
  - i. An application for resident membership shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Division in which the applicant permanently resides, in a form designated by the Council. An application for resident membership from a permanent resident of an U.S. Territory or U.S. Possession shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Division in which the sponsor of the applicant permanently resides. The applicant must be proposed for membership by a resident member in good standing. Dues for that calendar year only shall be submitted with the application. Payment shall be returned if the application is rejected. An applicant denied individual membership may not re-apply for membership for a period of six (6) months.
  - ii. An application for foreign membership shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Division in which the sponsor of the applicant permanently resides. The applicant must be proposed for membership by a resident member in good standing. The application procedure shall be the same as for a resident member.
- b. Member Club Membership. An application for Member Club membership shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Division in which the applicant is located, in a form designated by the Council, which shall include a short history of the club, a copy of its Constitution and By-Laws, its bulldog rescue policy statement and a list of its officers and members. Applications shall follow the same procedure as an individual resident membership.
  - i. Member Clubs must be recognized by and remain in good standing with the American Kennel Club and be located within one of the designated Divisions as defined in Article V of the Constitution.

- ii. Subsequent to membership, any amendment to the Constitution or By-Laws of a Member Club shall be submitted to the Division Secretary.
  - iii. Subsequent to membership, the Member Club shall provide annually a list of its current officers and membership with the submission of its dues payment.
- c. The power to consider, accept or reject such applications for individual resident and foreign membership and Member Club membership is hereby delegated to the Division Board where the application is submitted. All applications shall be reviewed for completeness by the Division Secretary upon receipt. Completed applications are to be presented at the next Division Board meeting following receipt. Membership is granted to applicants receiving a majority vote for acceptance by the Division Board voting. Denied applicants shall not be permitted to reapply to membership for a period of six (6) months.
- i. Upon approval of an individual resident or foreign membership application, a copy of the membership application shall be forwarded by the Division Secretary to the Division Treasurer with the attached dues payment. The Division Secretary shall promptly notify the applicant of the Board's action.
  - ii. Upon approval of a Member Club application, a copy of the membership application shall be forwarded by the Division Secretary to the Division Treasurer with the attached dues payment. The Division Treasurer shall retain that percentage of the collected dues as provided for in the Council approved SOPs and promptly forward the application with the remaining portion of the dues to the National Treasurer. The Division Secretary shall promptly notify the applicant of the Board's action. The Division Secretary shall retain in the Division records the Member Club application, history of the club, the copy of its Constitution and By-Laws, the club's bulldog rescue policy statement and the list of its officers and members.

## **ARTICLE II DUES**

### **SECTION 1. Individual**

- a. The annual dues of each individual member shall be determined annually by the Council for the upcoming calendar year, payable in the month of January of each year, and shall not exceed \$50. Dues notices for renewing members shall be sent by the respective Division Treasurer in December for the upcoming calendar year. To offset higher costs of foreign members, the Club may charge one or more annual assessments against foreign members, set annually by the Council for the upcoming calendar year, payable in the month of January of each year, in an amount not to exceed \$75 USD.
- b. The Council shall determine the allocation of dues between the Club and the Divisions.
- c. Any member who fails to submit his dues to the Division Treasurer in a timely manner will lose his status of membership in The Bulldog Club of America.

### **SECTION 2. Member Clubs**

- a. The annual dues for Member Clubs shall be determined annually by the Council for the upcoming calendar year, payable in the month of March of each year, and shall not exceed \$50.
- b. The Council shall determine the allocation of dues between the Club and the Divisions.
- c. Member club dues not received by the Division Treasurer by April 30 shall be assessed a financial penalty as set forth by the Council which shall not exceed \$200.

### **SECTION 3. There shall be no initiation fee.**

**SECTION 4.** No Division of the Club shall have power to either fix additional dues for membership or make any assessment against its Division membership, except at the direction of the Council.

### **ARTICLE III RESIGNATIONS AND DISCIPLINE**

**SECTION 1.** Any member (including Member Clubs) may resign, but there shall be no refund to such member or Member Club of dues for the unexpired portion of any year, and such member or Member Club shall cease to have any beneficial interest in the Club.

**SECTION 2.** Disciplinary action shall be administered in accordance with instructions contained in the Division By-Laws Article VI, Discipline.

### **ARTICLE IV DUTIES OF NATIONAL OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1.** The National President shall be the principal executive officer of the Club and shall preside at meetings of the Council and the Executive Committee. He shall perform the duties delegated to him by the Council and the Executive Committee. He may appoint, with the approval of the Executive Committee, a Parliamentarian familiar with Robert's Rules of Order (Current Edition). He shall appoint all Committee Chairpersons with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. The President shall be an ex officio member of all Committees.

**SECTION 2.** The National Vice President shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President in the absence or disability of the President.

**SECTION 3.** The National Treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of the Club; he shall receive the dues of members and all other revenues, and deposit the same in the name of the Club in a banking institution approved by the Executive Committee. He shall make all disbursements upon the order of the Executive Committee, but within the limitation of the appropriation by the Council. He shall record the financial accounts of the Club and make such regular and periodic reports as may be required by the Executive Committee and the Council. The Club shall acquire a fidelity bond or an insurance policy in lieu thereof, in any amount fixed by the Council, at the expense of the Club, to protect the Club from any intentional wrongdoings of the Treasurer. He shall submit his records for audit to any auditing committee appointed by the President. He shall keep a record of members.

**SECTION 4.** The National Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Council and the Executive Committee and record the minutes of such meetings. He shall be the custodian of all records of the Club, except the financial records maintained by the Treasurer. He shall keep a record of members reconciled to the list of members maintained by the National Treasurer. He shall notify all other officers, committees, the Council, and the Secretaries of the several Divisions of all matters requiring the attention of any of these. He shall review and sign, as appropriate, all applications for Division-approved Bulldog Specialty Shows.

**SECTION 5.** The Delegate to the American Kennel Club shall represent this Club in the meetings of Delegates of the American Kennel Club. On all matters of which he shall have sufficient notice prior to any meetings, he shall be guided by the advice and instructions of the Executive Committee. In matters pertaining to the American Kennel Club, the Delegate shall render reasonable assistance to Member Clubs and individual members. He shall report quarterly to the Executive Committee and annually to the Council

**SECTION 6.** The outgoing National Officers will transfer all Club property and materials to the new National Officers during January of the even number years.

### **ARTICLE V NATIONAL SHOW APPROVALS**

**SECTION 1.** There will be a National Show held every year consistent with the Council-approved National Show Rules and Procedures set forth in the SOPs.

## **ARTICLE VI DISSOLUTION**

**SECTION 1.** The Club may be dissolved at any time by written consent of not less than 2/3 of the Councilors and a majority of the members in good standing. 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 the payment of the debts of the Club, its property and assets shall be given to a like kind organization for the benefit of dogs selected by the Council.