

Tri-City Kennel Club

Constitution & By-Laws

Constitution

Article I Name and Objects

SECTION 1:

The name of this club shall be the Tri-City Kennel Club, 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 and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows and obedience trial
- (c) to conduct sanctioned matches, dog shows and obedience trials under the rules of the American Kennel Club, Inc.

SECTION 3:

The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or remainder or residue 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 objects.

BYLAWS

Article 1 Membership

SECTION 1: Eligibility

There shall be one type of membership open to persons eighteen years of age and older and who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who agree to abide by the membership policies and bylaws of this Club. 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.

SECTION 2: Dues

Membership dues shall not exceed \$50.00 per year. Payable on or before the first day of January of each year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of November the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of dues for the ensuing year.

SECTION 3: Election to Membership

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 occupation of the applicant 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 Recording Secretary and each application is to be read at the first meeting of the Club following its receipt. At the next club meeting the application will be voted upon and affirmative votes of 2/3 of the members present and voting by secret ballot at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant.

Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the club may not re-apply within six months after such rejection.

SECTION 4: Termination of Membership

Memberships may be terminated:

- (a) by resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the club upon written notice to the Recording Secretary, but no member may resign when in debt to the Club. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club and they become incurred on the first day of each fiscal year.
- (b) by lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid ninety days after the first day of the fiscal year; however, the board may grant an additional thirty 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 that meeting.
- (c) by expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VI of these bylaws.

Article II

Meeting and Voting

SECTION 1: Club Meetings

Meetings of the Club shall be held each month within the greater Quad Cities' area at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Recording Secretary at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be twenty 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 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 within the greater Quad Cities' area 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 by the Corresponding Secretary at least five days, and not more than fifteen 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 percent of the members in good standing.

SECTION 3: Board Meetings

Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held each month within the greater Quad Cities' area at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Recording Secretary at least five 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 Corresponding Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held within the greater Quad Cities' 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 corresponding Secretary at least five days, and not more than ten 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 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 or she is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any club meeting or election.

Article III Directors and Officers

SECTION 1: Board of Directors

The Board shall be comprised of the officers and four other persons all of whom shall be members in good standing and all of whom shall be elected for two year terms at the Club's annual meeting as provided in Article IV, and shall serve until their successors are elected. 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, corresponding and Recording Secretaries, Treasurer, and AKC Delegate 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 the Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President in addition to those particularly specified in these bylaws.
- (b) The Vice-President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in the event of the President's death, absence, or incapacity.
- (c) The Corresponding Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of special meetings, notify new members of their election to membership, notify officers and directors of their election to office, and to carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these bylaws.
- (d) 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, notify member of meetings, keep a roll of the members of the Club with their addresses, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these bylaws.
- (e) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club. Monies shall be deposited in a bank designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. The books shall at all times be open to the inspection of the Board, and a report shall be given at every meeting of the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported; and at the annual meeting an accounting shall be rendered of all monies received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.
- (f) The AKC Delegate shall represent the Club's interests during all meetings of the American Kennel Club, and shall report on such meetings to the membership at the next regular meeting. The AKC Delegate shall be elected for two year terms at the Club's annual meeting as provided in Article IV.

SECTION 3: Vacancies

Any vacancies occurring on the Board or among the offices 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 office of President shall be filled automatically by the Vice-President and

the resulting vacancy in the office of Vice-President shall be filed by the board.

Article IV

The Club Year, Annual Meeting, Elections

SECTION 1: Club Year

The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day 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 July at which, during an election year, officers, Directors, and Delegate to the American Kennel Club for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section Four of this Article. They shall take office immediately upon the conclusion of the election and each retiring officer shall turn over to the successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within thirty days after the election.

SECTION 3: Elections

The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The four nominated candidates for other positions on the Board who receive the greatest number of votes for such positions shall be declared elected.

SECTION 4: Nominations

No person may be declared a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated. During the month of April, the Board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three members and two alternates, not more than one of whom may 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 such person's duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before 1 May.

- (a) The Committee shall nominate one candidate for each office, for Delegate, who may but need not, be an officer or director of the Club, and positions on the Board, and, after securing the consent of each person so nominations to the Recording Secretary in writing.

- (b) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Recording Secretary shall, at least two weeks prior to the June meeting, notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.
- (c) Additional nominations may be made at the June meeting by any member in attendance provided that the person so nominated does not decline when their name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, the proposer shall present to the Recording Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying will willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position, except for the position of Delegate.
- (d) Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or in any manner other than as provided in this Section.

Article V Committees

SECTION 1:

The President 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 he Board may appoint successors to those persons whose services have been terminated.

Article VI Discipline

SECTION 1: American Kennel Club Suspension

Any member who is suspended from the privileges of the American Kennel Club shall automatically be suspended from the privileges of this Club for the like period.

SECTION 2: Charges

Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Corresponding Secretary together with a deposit of \$50.00 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 interests 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 weeks nor more than six weeks thereafter. 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 his or her own defense and bring witnesses if he or she 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 the regard. Should the charges be sustained, after hearing all the evidence and the 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 months from that 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 finding 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 as provided in Section Three of this Article. Such proceedings may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within sixty days, but not earlier than thirty days after the date of the Board's recommendation of expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his or her own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The

President shall read the charges and the Board's finding and recommendation, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his or her own behalf if he or she wishes. The members shall then vote by secret ballot on the proposed expulsion. A two – thirds vote of those present and voting at the meeting shall be necessary fro expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted, the Board's suspension shall stand.

Article VII Amendments

SECTION 1:

Amendments to the constitution and bylaws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by Written petition addressed to the Corresponding Secretary and Signed by Twenty 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 months of the date when the petition was received by the Corresponding Secretary.

SECTION 2:

The constitution and bylaws may be amended by a 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 meetings and mailed to each member at least two weeks prior to 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 VIII 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 given to the charitable organization for the benefit of dogs selected by the Board of Directors.

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 the Committees
- Election of the officers and Board, at Annual Meeting
if an election year
- 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 the minutes
- 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 Rule 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.