

# **THE NORTHERN & MIDLAND COUNTIES BEAGLE CLUB**

## **CONSTITUTION** (REVISED 2002)

1. The name of the Club shall be The Northern and Midland Counties Beagle Club. “The object of the Club is for the benefit of its members and will not be classed as a trading business, so that all profits from any source, functions

8. The Hon. Secretary shall call Committee Meetings as required after consultation with the Committee. Any Club member, Committee member, or officer wishing to place any matter before the Committee must inform the Hon. Secretary at least 21 days before any Committee Meeting, so that the matter is placed on the agenda otherwise it shall be within the discretion of the Chairman alone to accept for discussion any item not included in the agenda. Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as deemed necessary but at least every six months.
9. The President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary, Assistant Secretary and half the Committee shall be elected annually prior to the A.G.M. by postal ballot. Proxy Votes are not allowed. The retiring half of the committee are those who have been in office for 2 years. Members of the Club 12 months standing only eligible to hold office. The offices of Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary shall not be held by the same person. Candidates for officers and committee must be duly proposed and seconded in writing and such nominations forwarded to the Hon. Secretary 21 clear days prior to the A.G.M.. The retiring officers and committee shall be eligible for re-election without such nomination. If any office bearer or committee member shall have been absent from three consecutive meetings or events of the said Club without having submitted a satisfactory explanation, the management committee shall strike his/her name off the list of members of the same committee and fill up the vacancy. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members on to the Committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between General Meetings. Those co-opted shall only hold office until the next General Meeting of the Club at which an election of Officers and Committee takes place. At Committee meetings any committee members can request a secret ballot to decide a proposition if agreed by the Chairman.
10. The Annual General Meeting shall be held before April 30<sup>th</sup> each year to receive the result of the postal ballot for the election of Officers and Committee and to receive and pass the Balance Sheet of the Club. Notice of such meeting to be given to every member at least 28 days beforehand, in writing. Items for inclusion on the Agenda to be with the Hon. Secretary at least 14 days before the Meeting. Agendas will be circulated at the Meeting. A copy of the Audited Accounts will be posted to all members not attending the A.G.M., with the next mailing. No business shall be transacted at an Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof appears on the agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those, which in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting are urgent.
11. The financial year shall end on December 31<sup>st</sup>, and the annual report, with a statement of the financial position of the Club, shall be drawn up by the retiring Committee and presented at the Annual General Meeting. NOTE: Certification of accounts must be carried out by one qualified Accountant or two unqualified individuals with accountancy experience.
12. A Special General Meeting of the club may be held on the written requisition of 10 members stating the object of such meeting. The Hon. Secretary shall give members 14 days notice of such meeting by publication in the canine press (Doghe written requisi 9 09 Tw leeting by u given

14. 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 these Regulations a final statement of accounts with a record of the disposal of the property of the Society 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.)
15. The winner of a cup or trophy, who must be a member of the Club, shall be allowed to hold the same until the next show. Each holder of a cup or trophy shall be responsible for its safekeeping, and for its return in good condition on demand.
16. All expenses incurred on behalf of the Club by the Hon. Secretary or Hon. Treasurer or any member of the Committee shall be defrayed out of the Club's funds, unless not approved by the Committee.
17. The Committee is empowered to award an honorarium annually to the Secretary and Treasurer having regard to the volume of work and activities of the preceding year and the financial position of the Club.
18. The liability of members shall be limited to their annual subscriptions except as otherwise directed by the rules.
19. Any member who shall be suspended under Kennel Club Rule A42j (4) and/or any member whose dog (s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A42j (8) shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the society for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification.

If the conduct of any member shall in the opinion of the Committee of the Society be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Society, the Committee of the Society 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 Society 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 the 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-purpose to be a Member of the Society 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 condition as the Kennel Club may impose. If the Society expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, Dog Show, Trials or Competitions, the Society must report the matter in writing to the Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.

20. The Club shall not join any Federation of Clubs or Societies, unless approved by the Kennel Club.
21. The Club shall be registered at the Kennel Club and shall recognise the Kennel Club as the Final Court of Appeal.
22. ANNUAL RETURNS TO THE KENNEL CLUB. 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 continuance of Registration and that by 31<sup>st</sup> July each year, other returns as stipulated in 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 of the Society which may occur during the course of the year.

23. Owners should not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties. When their dogs are away from home ensure that the dog shall wear properly tagged collars and shall be kept fully leashed or under effective control. Acknowledge responsibility to clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere where their dogs are being exhibited.
24. Registered Breed Societies must produce a list of Judges each year which must be submitted to The Kennel Club as part of the Societies' Annual Returns. The purpose of Breed Club Judges' Lists is to indicate to interested parties those persons a Breed Club would support at differing levels of judging. Societies must clearly indicate the method by which persons may be nominated for inclusion on the list and indicate the judging experience required for inclusion of a person's name on each of the five lists. Membership of the Club must not be a prerequisite for inclusion on the lists. Judges lists should be divided into five parts, namely A1, A2, A3, B and C and must be compiled annually stating the date on which they expire.

A1 List – Must indicate all persons whom the Club would support and who have previously been approved by The Kennel Club to award Challenge Certificates in the breed and have carried out the appointment.

A2 List – Must indicate all persons whom the Club would support to award Challenge Certificates, and who, if invited to judge by a Society, would in principle be approved by The Kennel Club to award CCs in the breed for that occasion. The Club must apply to The Kennel Club for approval to promote a judge from its A3 list to its A2 list.

A3 List – Must indicate all persons whom the Club would support and who are recommended by the club as being suitable to award CCs in the breed, but are not yet approved by The Kennel Club for inclusion on the A2 list.

B List – Must indicate all persons whom the Club would support to judge the breed at Shows without CCs or Open Shows.

C List – This list should comprise aspirant judges who do not fall into any of the above categories, and are approved by the Club..

It is recommended that such lists be prepared by Secret Ballot of the Club's Committee and the Club must clearly state to members the method by which persons may be nominated for inclusion in the Ballot and indicate the judging experience for inclusion of a person's name in the five lists.

25. Decisions by the Committee on all matters not covered by these rules shall be final.
26. The Society must send a list of members and their addresses to the Kennel Club with their Annual Returns, and, if so requested, make an up to date list of members available for inspection by The Kennel Club and members of the Society.