

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
Of
SEWARD COUNTY KENNEL CLUB

ARTICLE I
Name and Objects

SECTION 1. The name of the Club shall be Seward County Kennel Club.

SECTION 2. The objects of this Club shall be:

- a. To further the advancement of all breeds of purebred dogs.
- b. To further the advancement of obedience training.
- c. To conduct sanctioned and licensed shows and obedience trials under the rules of the American Kennel Club.
- d. To encourage and foster sportsmanlike competition in dog shows and obedience trials.

SECTION 3. The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of or 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 by-laws as may be required to carry out these objects.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I
Membership

SECTION 1. There shall be four types of membership open to all persons 18 years of age and older who are in good standing with American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this club.

Single Membership- Open to those persons 18 years of age and older. They have a vote and can hold office.

Family Membership- Those living in the same household with each one, 18 years of age or over, having a vote.

Honorary Membership- Pays no dues, and they cannot vote. However, each such member should be able to maintain active voting status by payment of dues.

Lifetime Membership- Usually for those serving the club for a long period of time (25 years) they do not pay dues, but they can vote.

SECTION 2. Membership dues shall be \$10.00 for single membership and \$15.00 for family membership, payable on or before the first day of March. The family membership shall be defined as those living in the same household with each one, eighteen years of age or over, having one vote. The single membership is an individual, eighteen years of age or over, having one vote. 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 his dues for the ensuing year.)
Amendment to removed nothing to replace.

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 by-laws 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 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 $\frac{3}{4}$ of the members present and voting at the meeting shall be required to elect the applicant.

SECTION 4. Termination of Membership.

a. By resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon a written notice to the 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 March.

b. By lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 90 days after the date listed in the statement of dues sent by the Treasurer: however. The Board may grant an additional 90 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 the meeting.

c. By expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VII of these constitution and by-laws.

ARTICLE II

Club Meeting & Voting

SECTION 1. Club Meetings. Meetings of the Club shall be held in the greater Seward area.

(Original) Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least 5 days prior to the date of the meeting.

(Amedenment) Meetings will be held every 3rd Thursday of month, with the exception of special meeting. Members will be notified of such meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be 20% 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 Board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board, or by the 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 Seward area and at such hour and place as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least 5 days and not more than 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 20% of the members in good standing.

SECTION 3. Board Meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in the greater Seward area on the 3rd Thursday of each month in each year, at such hour and place as may be designated by the board. (Original) Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least 5 days prior to the date of the meeting. (Amendment the sentence removed and nothing to replace it.) 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 or by the Secretary upon receipt of a written request by at least 3 members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held in the greater Seward area and at such hour and place as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such meeting. (Original) Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least 5 days and not more than 10 days prior to the date of the meeting or telegraphic notice shall be filed at least 3 days and not more than 5 days prior to the date of the meeting. (Amendment) Board members calling special meeting must send notification of such meeting at least 5 days, and not more than 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 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 is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any club meeting or election.

ARTICLE III

Directors & Officers

SECTION 1. Board of Directors. The board shall be comprised of the President, Vice- President, Secretary, Treasurer, and 4 other persons, the 4th being the last

year's Club President, all of whom shall be elected for one- year terms at the Club's annual meeting as provided in Article IV. The immediate past president shall serve as a voting member of the Board. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors. A board member may succeed himself/herself.

SECTION 2. Officers. The Club's officers, consisting of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meetings.

Officers may succeed themselves.

- 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.
- b. The **Vice-President** shall have the powers and exercise the duties of the president in case of the President's death, absence or incapacity.
- c. The **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. They shall have charge of correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify new members of their election to membership, keep a roll of the members of the Club with their addresses and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these constitution and by- laws.
- d. The **Treasurer** shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging satisfactory to the Board, in the name of the Club and along with the President, disburse payments by check. Their books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and they shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item or receipt or payment not before reported; and at the annual meeting they shall render an account of all moneys received and expended during the previous fiscal year. **(No original) (Amendment) The President and 1 volunteer member will conduct an annual audit of the Treasurer's records in the month of March.** The Treasurer agrees to be bonded if the board deems necessary.

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 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 filled by the Board.

ARTICLE IV

The Club Year, Annual Meetings, Elections

(Original) SECTION 1. The Club Year. The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of March and end on the last day of February.

The Club's official year shall begin March 1st and continue to the last day of February.

(Amendment) SECTION 1. The Club and Fiscal Year. The Club's year and fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of March and end on the last day of February.

SECTION 2. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting shall be held in the month of February at which time directors and officers 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/her successor in office all properties and records relating to the office within 30 days after the election.

SECTION 3. Elections. The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The 3 nominated candidates for other positions on the Board who receives the greatest number of votes for such position shall be declared elected.

SECTION 4. Nomination. No person may be a candidate in the Club election who has not been nominated. During the month of November, the Board shall select a nominating committee consisting of 3 members and two alternates, not more than one of who may be a member of the Board, The Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen and alternates of their selection. The Board shall name a chairperson for the Committee and it shall be their duty to call a committee meeting, which shall be held on or before December 1.

- a. The Committee shall nominate on candidate for each office and three candidates for the three other positions on the Board after securing the consent of each person so nominated and immediately report their nominations to the secretary in writing (no original)(Amendment) and recorded in the meeting minutes and printed in the newsletter.
- b. (Orginal) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Secretary shall on or before December 30th notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.
(Amendment) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, nominees shall be included in the January newsletter of the candidates so nominated.
- c. Any person so nominated who refuses to be a candidate of the position to which they have been nominated shall notify the Secretary in writing within 10 days of the date of the Secretary's
- d. Additional nominations may be made at the January meeting by any from the floor (Amendment) 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, his proposer shall present to the secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his willingness to be a

candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position, and the additional nominations, which are provided for here in may be made only from among those members who have not accepted a nomination of the Nomination committee.

- e. Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or in any manner other than as provided in the Section 4 Article IV.

ARTICLE V

Committees

SECTION 1. The Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as specialty show, 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 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 service has been terminated.

ARTICLE VI

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 miss-conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$10. Which shall be forfeited if the Board following a hearing does not sustain such charges. The 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 interest of the club. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct, which should 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 of a hearing by the Board not less than 3 weeks nor more than 6 weeks thereafter. The 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 own defense and bring witnesses if they wish.

SECTION 3. Board Hearing. The Board shall have complete authority to decide whether council 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 by complainant suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six months from the date of the hearing. And, if it deems 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 had reached a decision, its finding shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the Board's decision and penalty if any.

SECTION 4. 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 3 of this Article. Such proceedings may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within 60 days but not earlier than 30 days after the date of the Board's recommendation of expulsion. The Defendant shall have the privilege of appearing on their 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 invite the defendant, if present, 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 VII

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 Secretary signed by twenty percent of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board by the Secretary for a vote within three months of the date when the Secretary received the petition.

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 to each member at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

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 purpose of reorganization, whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of the 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 debts of the, its property and assets shall be given to a 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 a as follows:

- Roll Call
- Minutes of Last Meeting
- Report of President
- Report of Secretary
- Report of Treasurer
- Report of Committees
- Election of Officers and Board (at February 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 a majority of those present, shall be as follows:

- Reading of the Minutes of the last board meeting
- Report of Secretary
- Report of Treasurer
- Reports of committees
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Adjournment

ARTICLE X

SECTION 1. The rules contained in this current edition of Robert's Rules of order's newly revised shall govern the club in all cases to which are applicable; and in which they are not inconsistent with these by – laws and special rules of order the club may adopt.