



**LAS VEGAS BULLDOG CLUB**

**CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE I**

**SECTION 1.** The name of the club shall be the **LAS VEGAS BULLDOG CLUB**.

**SECTION 2.** The objects of the Club shall be:

- (a) To promote purebred Bulldogs and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection.
- (b) To urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB as the only standard of excellence by which Bulldogs shall be judged.
- (c) To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanship-like competition at dog shows and obedience trials.
- (d) To conduct sanctioned and licensed specialty shows and obedience trials under the rules of THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB.

**SECTION 3.** The club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or remainder or residue for 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 I**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 1.** **ELIGIBILITY:** There shall be two types of Las Vegas Bulldog Club memberships available.  
**FULL MEMBERSHIP** (with full voting rights) will be available to those who reside in So. Nevada within a radius of 100 miles of Las Vegas, NV.  
**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** (nonvoting) is open to all without restriction of boundaries.  
 Both **FULL** and **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS** are open to all persons eighteen (18) years of age and older who are in good standing with THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB and who subscribe to the Bulldog Club of America's Code of Ethics. 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 are as follows:  
**FULL MEMBERSHIP** shall be \$20.00 per year, per person, \$30.00 per couple. Each party for a couple shall be entitled to full membership privileges, including individual votes.  
**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** shall be \$10.00 per year, per person, for nonvoting associate membership which entitles the associate member to receive the Club newsletter.  
 All dues are 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. Associate members are not entitled to vote. During the month of December or prior, the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his 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 and address of the applicant and shall carry the endorsement of two members. 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 3/4 of the members present and voting at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant.

Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club may not reapply within six (6) months after rejection.

**SECTION 4. REINSTATEMENT OF MEMBERSHIP:** A member whose dues have elapsed may be reinstated to membership by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, and not have to go through the procedures stated in Article I, Section 3.

**SECTION 5. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:** Membership may be terminated by;

- (a) **Resignation.** Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon 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 each fiscal year. However, the Board may grant an additional 90 days grace to such delinquent members in meritorious cases. In no case may a member be entitled to vote at any Club meeting whose dues are unpaid as of the date of that meeting.
- (b) **Expulsion.** A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided for in Article VI of these bylaws.

## ARTICLE II MEETINGS AND VOTING

**SECTION 1. CLUB MEETINGS:** Meetings of the Club shall be held in (or within 25 miles of) the city of LAS VEGAS, NEVADA once monthly, at such time and place as shall be decided by a vote of the general membership. Notice of all regular meetings shall be given by the Secretary in writing to the last known address of each member in good standing at least five days before the said meeting. The quorum for such meeting 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 members of the Board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five (5) members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held in (or within 25 miles of) the city of LAS VEGAS, NEVADA at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meeting. Written notice shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than fifteen (15) days prior to the date 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 (or within 25 miles of) the city of LAS VEGAS, NEVADA at least six (6) times per year, at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the Board. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board. The President shall cast a vote only in the case of a tie of the members of the Board that are present and voting.

**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 (3) members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held in (or within 25 miles of) the city of LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 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, or telegraphic notice shall be filed at least three (3) days and not more than five (5) 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. The President shall cast a vote only in the case of a tie of the members of the Board that are present and voting.

**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 general membership of the club at which he is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any Club meeting or election.

**A. Conduct of Election of Officers:**

1. The election shall be conducted by two election tellers, appointed prior to the election, neither of whom shall be a candidate for any office.
2. The election tellers shall:
  - a. Furnish blank ballots to members requesting them.
  - b. Collect ballots after they are marked.
  - c. Determine that the number of ballots cast in person does not exceed the number of members present eligible to vote.
  - d. Count all ballots cast.
  - e. Report the results of the election to the President.
3. The President shall announce the result of the election to the members and declare those candidates elected who have received a plurality of the votes cast.

**ARTICLE III  
DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1. BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and three (3) other persons, all of whom shall be elected for one-year terms at the Club's annual meeting as provided in Article IV and shall service 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, Secretary and Treasurer shall service in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meetings.

- (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 the 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 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 matter of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. He or she shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify new members of their election to membership, notify officers and directors of their election to office, keep a roll of the members of the Club with their addresses and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these bylaws.

- (d) The **TREASURER** shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club. He or she shall deposit the same in a bank designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. His or her books shall be at all times open to inspection by the Board and he or she shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item or receipt or payment not before reported; at the annual meeting he or she shall render an account 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. The said bond shall be by an accredited bonding company in an amount to be not less than twice the amount for which he is responsible. The premium for the bond to be paid by the Club. Checks must be endorsed with two signatures, one of the Treasurer, and the second by either the President or the Secretary.
- (e) The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person in which case the Board shall be comprised of the officers and four (4) other persons.
- (f) Should a vacancy occur in the list of officers the vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the terms by election by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **THE CLUB YEAR, ANNUAL MEETINGS, ELECTIONS**

- SECTION 1.** **CLUB YEAR:** The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the first day of January and end on the 31<sup>st</sup> 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 MEETINGS:** The annual meeting shall be held in the month of January at which Officers and Directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret, written ballot from among the 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. The three (3) nominated candidates for other positions on the Board who receive the greatest number of votes for such position shall be declared elected.
- SECTION 4.** **NOMINATIONS:** No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated. To be eligible for nomination, a member must be:
  - 1. In good standing with the AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB.
  - 2. Live within a 100-mile radius of the city of LAS VEGAS, NEVADA.

During the month of October, the Board may select a Nominating Committee consisting of three members and two alternates, not more than one of whom shall be a member of the Board. The 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 duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before November 1<sup>st</sup>.

- (a) The Committee shall nominate one candidate for each office and three (3) other positions on the Board and, after securing the consent of each person so nominated, shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing.
- (b) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Secretary shall, before November 15, notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.

- (c) Additional nominations may be made at the December meeting by any member 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 nominator 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 herein may be made only from among those members who have not accepted a nomination of the Nominating Committee. 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 Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as specialty 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 of the appointee and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose services have been terminated.

## **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 or the breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the 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 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 prejudicial to the interests of the Club or the breed. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed, it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the of the charges, it shall fix a date of a hearing by the Board not less than three (3) weeks nor more than six (6) weeks thereafter. The 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 Secretary. The 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 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 sixty (60) days, but not earlier than thirty (30) days after the date of the Board's recommendation of expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his own behalf, though no evidence will be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the defendant, if present, to speak in his own behalf if he wishes. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A two-thirds (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 Bylaws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or written petition addressed to the 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 Secretary for a vote within three (3) months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

**SECTION 2.** The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (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 (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

## **ARTICLE VIII DISSOLUTION**

**SECTION 1.** **DISSOLUTION:** The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, whether voluntary or involuntary, or by operation of the law, none of the property of the Club nor any proceeds thereof nor any asset 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 IX ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**SECTION 1.** At the 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 Secretary
- Report of Treasurer
- Report of Committee
- Election of Officers and Board (At Annual Meeting)
- Unfinished Business
- Adjournment

**SECTION 2.** At the 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 Secretary
- Report of Treasurer
- Report of Committees
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Adjournment

**DATE OF REVISED VERSION:**

January 22, 2010

**APPROVED BY AKC:**