

**Constitution and By-Laws of the
Bulldog Club of San Diego County, Inc.**

Article 1

Name and Objects

1. The name of this Club shall be the Bulldog Club of San Diego County, Inc.
2. The objects of this club shall be:
 - a. To encourage and promote quality in the breeding of purebred Bulldogs and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection.
 - b. To urge members and breeder 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 sportsmanlike 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.
2. The Club shall not be conducted or operate for profit and not 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.
3. 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.

Article II

Membership

Section I

There shall be three classes of membership: active, junior, and honorary. An active member shall be at least eighteen years of age. Junior members shall be children under eighteen years of age who are sponsored/mentored by an active club member in good standing. A junior or honorary member shall pay no dues, shall not be eligible to vote or hold elective office, but shall be entitled to all other benefits of the Club.

Section II

Application for membership shall be made upon an application form provided for that purpose. The applicant shall be sponsored by a member in good standing. Dues for one year shall accompany the application, such payment to be returned if, for any reason, the application is rejected by the Board. There shall be no initiation fee.

Section III

Application for membership shall be read in a regular meeting and submitted to the Board of Directors for investigation and approval: each application shall be held until the applicant attends at least one general meeting and shall then be acted upon at the following meeting of said Board. This requirement may be waived upon written request to the Board. The applicant shall be notified by the Secretary of the action taken prior to the next General Club meeting.

Section IV

Renewal of membership shall require attendance at one Club function during the due's year. This requirement may be waived upon written application to the Board.

Section V

Resignation from the Club must be by written notice to the Secretary. No member who shall have obligation to the Club, financial or otherwise, may resign.

Section VI

In case of death, resignation, or expulsion of any members, all rights and privileges of membership shall cease. There shall be not refund of unexpired due.

Article III **Organization**

Section I

The Club should be governed under its Constitution and By-Laws by a Board of Directors consisting of the Executive Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer), the immediate past President, and two other members of the Club. Should the Club membership exceed 75 at the time of the nomination for office, and additional two members will be elected to the Board of Directors.

Section II

Elections shall be held annually. Election of the Executive Officers and Board Members shall be held in December. Newly elected officers and Members of the Board shall take office upon adjournment of the meeting in which they are elected.

Section III

The Board of Directors shall have general administrative charge of the affairs of the Club, but it shall not have the power to overrule the wishes of the Club as expressed by a majority vote. The Board of Directors may not elect to spend more than \$2500 without the approval of the general membership.

Section IV

The Board of Directors shall hold meeting at least quarterly and make such plans a necessary for the welfare of the Club. The quorum of the Board shall be a majority. The President shall have the power of appointing such committees as, at his or her discretion may be necessary for the best interests of the Club.

Section V

- a. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club. He or she shall be the general administrative officer of the Club as a member ex-officio of all committees. He or she shall have such further powers and duties as may be provided for within these By-Laws.
- b. The Vice-President shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President in the absence or disability of the President or at his or her request.
- c. The Secretary shall keep a record of all meeting of the Club and shall be custodian of all files pertaining to the Club business. All Club records shall be made available for inspection to any Club member upon request. He or she shall be made available for inspection to any Club member upon request. He or she shall conduct the correspondence of the Club, maintain a membership roster together with addresses and telephone numbers, furnish each member with a copy of the Club By-Laws and the Bulldog Club of America standard of Excellence, shall notify members of meetings and shall have such other and similar duties as may be requested by the Present or contained in these By-Laws.
- d. The Treasurer shall collect all revenues and have custody of all funds of the Club and shall deposit the same in the name of the Club in a bank approved by the members. Checks shall be signed by any one of the following three officers: President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Dual check signatures shall be required for amounts exceeding \$2,500. The Treasurer shall be responsible for payment of all Club fund, of all expenses incurred in carrying out routine business of the Club and any other bills specifically authorized by vote of the membership. He or she shall maintain adequate records of account and report the financial condition of the Club upon request. He or she shall render an annual account at the end of each fiscal year and shall submit such records to any auditing committee appointed by the President.

Section VI

Officers and Board Members shall attend all meetings of the Club and Board. Absence from three consecutive meeting shall be cause for forfeiture of office.

Section VII

When a vacancy in any of the Executive Officers or the Board of Directors occurs, election to fill said vacancy shall be held at the next regular meeting of the Club. A vacancy occurring in the last three months of the year shall be filled by Board appointment.

Section VIII

Amendments to these By-Laws may be proposed in writing by:

- a. The Board upon majority vote, or
- b. Members of the Club upon presentation of a petition bearing the signatures of ten percent of the current membership.

Amendments to these By-Laws must first be presented at a general meeting, printed, and distributed to the general membership, and voted on at the following general meeting. Ratification of amendments shall require a two-thirds vote of such members in good standing in attendance at the meeting.

Section IX

The deliberations of this organization not specifically covered by these By-Laws shall be governed by standard parliamentary procedure as set forth by Robert's Rule of Order.

Article IV **Election Procedure**

Section I

To be eligible for office, a nominee shall have been a member in good standing of this Club for a least three months prior to the date of election.

Section II

To be eligible to vote in an election of officers, a person shall have been a member in good standing of this Club for three months preceding election date.

Section III

Nominations for the Executive Officers and the Board of Directors shall be made from the floor at the regular November meeting. Election to office shall be by ballot at the regular December meeting.

Section IV

The Secretary shall, fifteen days or more prior to the December meeting, mail to each member eligible to vote a list of all candidates nominated for the office. Such members may each cast one vote for one candidate for each elective office. The Secretary shall also prepare blank ballots for the election tellers and a list of all members eligible to vote.

Section V

The election shall be conducted by tellers appointed by the President, none of whom shall be candidates for office. Tellers shall furnish ballots to all eligible members, collect marked ballots from members, determine that the number of ballots cast does not exceed the number of members eligible to vote, count all ballots cast, and report election results to the President. The President shall announce the election results, and declare those candidates elected who have received a plurality of votes cast.

Article V

Dues

Section I

The annual dues of individual active members are payable for the fiscal year on January 1. Fiscal year is January 1 through December 31.

Section II

The Treasurer shall notify in writing such member as are delinquent in dues by March 15. Any member, who shall fail to pay his dues by March 30, shall forfeit his rights of membership. Reinstatement can be made by payment of delinquent dues and upon approval by the Board of Directors or upon reapplication for membership.

Article VI

Discipline

Section I

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 like period.

Section II

Charges. Any member may present 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, 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 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 the jurisdiction. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it will fix a date of a Board hearing not less 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 this or her own defense and bring witnesses, if he or she wishes.

Section III

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 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 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 IV

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 III 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 in his or her own behalf, though no evidence will be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the Board's findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his or her own behalf if he or she wishes. Those in the meeting shall then vote by secret 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

Meetings

Section I

- a. Regular meeting shall be held at least quarterly and at a time and place determined by the Club officers and the Board. Notice shall be given by the Secretary or through the Bulletin to all members in good standing at least three days in advance of the date. The quorum for such meeting shall be three.
- b. Special meetings may be called by the President, by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, or upon the written request of any five members for any purpose of general interest to the membership at large. The Secretary shall give written notice of special meetings to all members at least five days prior to the meeting date and such notice shall specify the purpose of the meeting: no other business may be transacted at such special meetings. The quorum shall be the members present.

Section II

Guidelines for the order of business shall be as follows.

1. Roll call or Registration
2. Introduction of guests and new members
3. Reading of Minutes
4. General Business:
 - a. Treasurer's Report (Annual Report in December)
 - b. Applications, Correspondence, Bills
 - c. Reports: President, Committee Chairpersons
5. Unfinished Business
6. New Business
7. Nominations (November) & Elections (December)

8. Program
9. Adjournment

Article VIII
Ratification and Dissolution

Section I

This Constitution and By-Laws shall become effective December 31, 2003, upon approval by a majority vote of Members.

Section II

This Club may be dissolved at any time upon the written consent of two-thirds of the active members. After the payment of all debts and obligations of the Club, any remaining assets shall be given, by the Board of Directors, to some worthy organization designated at that time by a vote of the Club.