**THE POINTER CLUB**



**RULES OF THE POINTER CLUB 2019 - 2020**

**TITLE AND OBJECT**

1. The Club Shall Be Called **THE POINTER CLUB.**
2. The Object of the Club shall be to hold shows and Field Trials in the interest of the Pointer breed, and to adopt any other means for the improvement and benefit of the breed.
3. To review the breed standard as necessary and urge its adoption by Breeders, Exhibitors and Judges, as the standard of excellence by which the breed should be judged.
4. To compile and publish lists of suitable breed judges who meet the specified minimum criteria laid down by the Committee for each section of the list, and who are approved by the Committee for inclusion.

**MEMBERSHIP**

1. Candidates for membership of the Club shall be proposed by one member and seconded by another, and approved by vote of the Committee at one of their meetings.  Two negatives shall exclude.
2. Members, who are deemed to have given outstanding service to the club, may be nominated for Life Membership, by the Executive Committee and be elected by them at the next Annual General Meeting following nomination.
3. The Annual subscription shall be payable to the Honorary Treasurer by 1st January each year or within one week of the election of the Member. No Member whose subscription is unpaid shall be entitled to any of the privileges of membership, and if any member shall fail to pay the Annual subscription by 1st March, the Committee shall have the power to erase their name from the list of Members.  If the Committee receive a satisfactory explanation, the Member may at the discretion of the Committee and on payment of arrears, be admitted again to the Membership.  The Annual Subscription shall be fixed by the Committee on a yearly basis. Members Annual subscription must be received by 1st February in order to receive a ballot form.
4. No Member shall make use of the title of the Club for the purpose of private advertisement nor in personal letters to the press without the consent of the Committee.  No Member, except the Honorary Secretary or Press Officer acting in accordance with the authority of the Committee, shall give publicity in the press to matters relating to the management of affairs of the Club, or to proceedings at Club Meetings.
5. Anyone ceasing to be a Member of the Club shall forfeit all rights to any money they have paid to the Club, whether as subscription or otherwise, and shall have no claims in respect of their Membership on the funds or property of the Club.

**COMMITTEE**

1. The management of the Club be in the hands of an Executive Committee consisting of a President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and a Field Trials Secretary, (all of whom shall be ex-officio unless also elected as a Committee member when the normal Committee voting rights will apply), and 15 Members: all of the above shall be elected by the Membership. To ensure the continuity of the management of the Club the Honorary President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Field Trials Secretary may each serve for a three year period and be eligible for re-election.
2. No two members of the same family, household or affix may be elected to serve simultaneously for the positions of Executive Officers of The Pointer Club.
3. Honoraria shall be paid annually to the Secretary, Treasurer, Field Trial Secretary, Veterinary Surgeon, Membership and Publications Editor, the amounts to be reviewed annually by the Committee.
4. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt as required – Co-opted Members of the Committee will be asked to serve until the next Annual General Meeting and are then eligible for election by the Membership.
5. The Committee shall annually, from amongst themselves, elect a Committee Chair and Vice Chair. The Committee shall have the power to decide on any matter not provided for in these Rules, and in the event of a situation arising to which these Rules are not applicable, the Committee is empowered to take such action and decisions as may seem to them the best calculated to protect the interests of the Club.
6. Any Committee Member failing to attend three consecutive events (comprising Shows, Committee Meetings or Club Annual General Meetings) without a reasonable explanation shall be called upon to resign from the Committee and shall not be eligible for re-election until their term of office has elapsed. (For the purpose of this Rule an attendance at a Field Trial by a Committee Member who is also a member of the Field Trial Sub Committee is taken as an attendance at an event).
7. The Field Trials Standing Committee shall consist of The Field Trials Secretary and up to six Members appointed by the Field Trials Secretary, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.
8. A Treasurer’s Report together with reports by the **Committee Chair**, Honorary Secretary and Field Trials Secretary if required, shall be prepared each year on the activities of the Club. These reports shall be submitted for approval to the Annual General Meeting next following.
9. Any Member of the Club shall be entitled to propose for the position of Officer or Member of the Committee any other Member of the Club who is willing to stand for election.  Any nomination must be seconded by another Member and be sent in writing to reach the Honorary Secretary by 1st December each year.  No individual member who has been a member of the Club for less than five continual years immediately prior to nomination may be elected to the Committee or serve as an officer of the Club. No Person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society. Any Member standing for election to The Pointer Club Executive Committee shall not, at the same time, be a serving Member of the Executive Committee of another Pointer Breed Club and, if elected to the Pointer Club Executive Committee, shall not stand for election to any other Pointer Club Executive Committee.  This Rule does not apply to persons elected for the sole purpose of Running Field Trials and thereby not a full voting Member of the Executive Committee.
10. A Postal Ballot of the Members shall be held, prior to the Annual General Meeting in respect of all nominations received. Committee Members are elected for a three-year term and will retire annually on a rotational basis and be eligible for re-election. Each Member shall be entitled to one vote, in the case of joint Membership, one vote per each Member of the partnership (maximum two). New Members shall be entitled to vote after six months has elapsed from acceptance of their application for membership by the Committee.  Proxy votes will not be allowed.  Any Member under eighteen years shall be classed as a Junior Member and as such shall pay a reduced subscription.  Junior Members shall not be entitled to voting rights and are not eligible for election to the Committee.
11. The Club must maintain an up to date list of Members names and their addresses, and make the list of names available for inspection if so requested by the Members of the Club or the Kennel Club. The Club must send the total number of Members to the Kennel Club with their Annual Returns

**MEETINGS**

1. The Annual General Meeting of all Members shall be held as early as practicable after January 1st each year, 14 clear days’ notice of the meeting being given to each Member in writing by the Honorary Secretary.  Any Member wishing to place any business on the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting must give notice in writing, proposed and seconded by members, to the Secretary prior to the date as specified on the notice of the Meeting.
2. A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Honorary Secretary if forty Members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so. The Committee of The Pointer Club is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting. No other business other than that detailed on the Agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting.
3. The Committee shall meet, as often as may be deemed necessary, six in number shall constitute a quorum of the Committee.  If a Committee Meeting has been called giving the required fourteen days notice, and an emergency occurs, then any three of the Officers of the Club (President, Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer) and any three Committee Members may act as a quorum to discuss urgent business and report back to the full Committee at the earliest opportunity.
4. The Rules of the Club shall not be altered except at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting, the notice for which contains specific proposals to amend the rules.  Any alteration to the Rules, passed at such a meeting, shall not be brought into force until the Kennel Club has been advised and has given its approval. New Rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately and be included in the Club Constitution with effect from the Club’s next Annual General Meeting.
5. The Honorary Secretary shall call a Meeting of the Committee whenever requested to do so by nine Committee Members.  In the event of his/her failing to call a Meeting to be held within one calendar month of the request, then nine Committee Members may depute and authorise one of their number to call a Special General Meeting of the Committee and such Special Meeting shall be competent to act and decide as though the Meeting had been summoned in the normal way by the Honorary Secretary.
6. The Honorary Secretary shall keep minutes of all Meetings of the Club and a book of accounts of the monies of the Club shall be kept.

**EXPULSION OF MEMBERS**

1. Any Member who shall be disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(5) and/or Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a Member of the Club. If the Club expels any Member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, dog shows, trials or competitions, the Club must report the matter in writing to the Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.
2. If the conduct of any Member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Club, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Club, the Committee 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 Club 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, then his/her name shall be erased from the list of Members, and he/she will there upon cease for all purposes to be a member of the Club except that he/she may, within two calendar months from the date of such Meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon the subject and to such condition as the Kennel Club may impose.

**CLUB FUNDS AND PROPERTY**

1. A Banking Account shall be opened in the name of the Club into which all revenue of the Club shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall only be made on the signature of two or more Officers, one of whom shall be the Honorary Treasurer.  The Account shall be kept by the Treasurer and an auditor shall be appointed who shall audit the Club’s accounts from the ensuing year before the Annual General Meeting. Those certifying the accounts must be independent of the committee. The certified accounts will be made available on request to members fourteen days prior to the AGM.
2. Management and property of the Club shall be vested in the Executive Committee and in the event of the Club being dissolved for any reason all Cups and Trophies which have not been won outright shall be returned to the donors, or if that is not possible, handed to the Kennel Club to be dealt with at their discretion. If the Club is wound up or ceases to be a Registered Club under Kennel Club Regulations, a final statement of audited accounts with a record of the disposal of property of the Club shall be forwarded to the Kennel Club within six months and the persons named as Officers and Committee of the Club on the last return furnished to the Kennel Club, will be held responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the Club.
3. The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting Rules and Regulations of the Club in all cases relative to canine or Club matters.
4. The Club shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.

**ANNUAL RETURNS TO THE KENNEL CLUB**

1. The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, Maintenance of Title fees will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Honorary Secretary for continuance of Registration and that by the 31st July each year, other returns, as stipulated in Kennel Club Regulations and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities be forwarded to the Kennel Club.  The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Honorary Secretary of the Club which may occur during the year.

**CODE OF ETHICS OF THE POINTER CLUB**

**CONDUCT**

1. Members shall not malign judges, fellow competitors, breeders and owners by making false or misleading statements.
2. Members shall not exhibit or enter for competition in field Trials dogs/bitches of unreliable temperament with people or other dogs.
3. All exhibitors and competitors will act at all times in a polite and sportsmanlike manner and with courtesy to judges, officials and fellow exhibitors or competitors and will accept decisions with good grace and dignity.
4. Members will at all times conduct themselves in such a way as to not bring discredit to the Club.
5. Members will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
6. Members will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, may report such operation to the Kennel Club.
7. Members will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
8. Members will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
9. Members will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
10. Members will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.
11. Members will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
12. Members will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
13. Memberswill clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
14. Members will only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and will help with the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change.
15. Members will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
16. Members will ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents at the earliest opportunity, if not immediately available.
17. Members will not sell any dog to commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind.
18. Members will not sell by sale or auction Kennel Club registration certificates as stand alone items (not accompanying a dog).
19. Members will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise dogs nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog.

**BREEDING**

The primary aim will be to produce Pointers, which are structurally and temperamentally sound, and conform to the breed standard. To this end, the breeder shall only breed from Kennel Club registered animals, which conform to the breed standard. Consideration must be given to temperament, soundness, health and type.

**CARE OF BITCHES**

Ideally bitches should not be bred from:

(a)    When under the age of 2 years

(b)   When over 8 years of age

(c)    On two consecutive seasons

(d)   More than once in a period of twelve months

 **STUD DOGS**

 (a)     It will be as much the stud dog owner’s responsibility as that of the brood bitch owner to ensure that the above guidelines are observed.

 (b)   Stud dog owners must refuse the services of their dog if there is any doubt as to the intentions or ability of the breeder.

 (c)    Stud dog owners must satisfy themselves as to the suitability and condition of any bitch presented to them and also as to the conditions under which the resultant littler would be reared.

 (d)   Stud dog owners should be available to give help and advice, particularly to novice breeders.

 **CARE OF LITTER**

 (a)     A Member should not breed a litter unless he/she has the time and facilities to devote proper care and attention to the rearing of the puppies and the well being of the dam

 (b)   A Member should not breed a litter unless reasonably sure of finding homes for the puppies or be prepared to keep them until suitable homes are found.

 **SALE OF PUPPIES**

 (a)     In normal circumstances puppies should not leave the breeder until eight weeks of age, and the breeder should only sell puppies, which to the best of his/her knowledge are in good health.

 (b)   A puppy which has any evident physical defect should not be sold without the buyer being made fully aware of such a defect and its possible consequences.

 (c)    Ensure that the prospective owners are informed of the special characteristics and requirements of a Pointer ­and provide any The Pointer Club literature available to assist in this information.

 (d)   It may be useful to provide the new owner with a membership application form for the Pointer Club

 (e)    A breeder should not sell or offer a puppy as a prize in a raffle or competition and should be wary of anyone buying a puppy as a present for a third party especially at Christmas.

 **ADVERTISING**

 (a)    Members should be as factual as possible when advertising

 (b)   Misleading statements, exaggeration or unfounded implications of superiority should not be used.

*This Code of Ethics is devised in accordance with the aims of The Pointer Club.  On becoming a Member the Club expect all Members to conduct themselves in accordance with this Code of Ethics. Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.*

 5 December 2019