
By-Laws of the Bulldog Club of Ontario

Article I: Members

Section 1: Types of Club Memberships

Individual members of the Club shall be unlimited in number, and shall have equal rights, privileges and responsibilities, except as otherwise provided hereinafter.

Club Membership levels are classified as the following:

Standard Membership: Is open to all Canadian residents; are eighteen years of age and over; who have been accepted for membership by the Club and have paid the prescribed fees. Standard members are entitled to all Club privileges, excluding election to office, unless they are also members in good standing of the Canadian Kennel Club.

Family Membership: is limited to 2 family members who are entitled to all Club privileges, are eligible to vote and are eligible to run for office if they are members in good standing of the Bulldog Club of Ontario and the CKC.

Associate Membership: Shall be open to all non-residents of Canada who have been accepted for membership by the Club and have paid the prescribed fees. Non-residents shall be defined as any member who lives the majority of their lives outside of Canada. Associate members will not be entitled to vote or hold an elected position.

Honorary Membership: An Honorary member shall be one of whom the Club deems worthy of recognition. Honorary member names shall be submitted for consideration and approved by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. Honorary members shall have all the privileges of the Club except those of voting or holding office.

Lifetime Membership: May be awarded to those ordinary members who have made an outstanding contribution to the Bulldog breed and/or to the Club. Life members shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the Executive. Life members shall have all of the privileges of the Club including eligibility for election to office.

Section 2: Individual members of the Club shall be unlimited in number, of a single class, and shall have equal rights, privileges and responsibilities, except as otherwise provided hereinafter.

Section 3: The right to cast ballots in Club elections and other votes shall, in any given calendar year, be limited to members who were at least eighteen (18) years of age as of January 1st of that year.

Section 4: The right to hold Club office shall, in any given calendar year, be limited to members who were at least eighteen (18) years of age as of January 1st of that year.

The right to hold Club office shall be limited to members who, at the time of taking office, had been members in good standing of the Club and of the Canadian Kennel Club for at least twelve (12) months.

Section 5: The term of membership shall be one (1) calendar year, from January 1st to December 31st, and shall be renewable without limit.

Section 6: Applications for membership shall be submitted to the Secretary in a form designated by the Executive Committee, stating the applicant's name and address, and shall be accompanied by dues for the current calendar year.

Section 7: The authority to accept or reject applications for membership or membership renewal shall be vested in the Executive Committee to which all such applications shall be presented by the Secretary. Acceptance shall require a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 8: An individual whose application for membership is rejected shall, within thirty (30) days, be provided with a written statement of the reasons for rejection and a refund of dues submitted.

Article II: Dues

Section 1: The Executive Committee shall determine the amount of dues to be charged to individual members.

Section 2: The annual dues of each member shall be payable in January.

Article III: Resignations and Discipline

Section 1: Membership may be terminated by reason of resignation of membership, failure to renew, or expulsion by the Club.

Section 2: Any member may resign by providing written notification to the Secretary and the resignation shall be effective immediately upon receipt of such notification. No refund of dues for any unexpired portion of the year shall be made.

Section 3: The authority to suspend or expel any member of the Club for conduct prejudicial to the Club, its membership or the bulldog breed shall be vested in the Executive Committee. Suspension or expulsion of a member shall require a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

A member who is suspended or expelled shall receive no refund of dues for any unexpired portion of the year and shall have no other claim against the Club.

A member who is suspended or expelled shall be entitled to register an appeal at the next general meeting of the Club. If the appeal is accepted by a two-thirds

majority vote of the members in attendance, the suspension or expulsion shall be overturned.

Section 4: Any member whose dues are in arrears shall be suspended from the privileges of the Club.

If a member's dues are in arrears by thirty (30) or more days, the Secretary shall so notify the member concerned and, if the dues remain in arrears for a further thirty (30) days, the individual's membership shall be terminated.

Section 5: Any member who is suspended from the privileges of the Canadian Kennel Club shall be suspended for the same period from the privileges of the Club.

Section 6: Any member who makes use of the name "Bulldog Club of Ontario" or its acronym "BCO" or any other representation or insignia of the Club in any form of advertising without the prior approval of the Executive Committee may be suspended or expelled from the Club.

Section 7: Any member may prefer a complaint against another member for alleged conduct prejudicial to the Club, its membership or the bulldog breed. The authority to review, assess and act upon such complaints shall be vested in the Executive Committee.

Any such complaint shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary and shall be accompanied by a payment of \$250.00 constituting a non-refundable processing fee. The Secretary shall present the complaint to the Executive Committee and shall provide a copy of the written complaint to the member against whom the complaint has been preferred. The member who is the subject of the complaint shall then be entitled to submit a response in writing to the Secretary within thirty (30) days. The Secretary shall present any such response to the Executive Committee and shall provide a copy to the member preferring the complaint.

The Executive Committee shall review the submissions of all parties and may, at its discretion, undertake further investigation into the matter. A special committee of up to three (3) members of the Club may be appointed to assist in such investigation.

The Executive Committee shall review the available evidence and, if it concludes that conduct prejudicial to the Club, its membership or the bulldog breed has taken place, may suspend or expel the offending member. Suspension or expulsion of a member shall require a majority vote of the Executive Committee. If such action is not approved by a majority of the Executive Committee, the complaint shall be deemed dismissed.

A written statement of the disposition of a complaint shall be provided to both the member preferring the complaint and the member who is the subject of it within ninety (90) days of the Secretary's receipt of the said complaint. If investigation of

the complaint has been delegated to a special committee, the members of the special committee shall be identified in said written statement.

A member who is suspended or expelled as a result of another member's complaint shall be entitled to register an appeal at the next general meeting of the Club. If the appeal is accepted by a two-thirds majority vote of the members in attendance, the suspension or expulsion shall be overturned.

Article IV: Election of Officers

Section 1: Election of officers shall take place biennially at the Club's Annual General Meeting and shall be by secret ballot.

Section 2: All candidates for office must be nominated in accordance with the Club's By-Laws.

The Executive Committee shall choose a Nominating Committee comprised of three (3) members and two (2) alternates from among the current members of the Executive Committee and shall appoint a member of the Nominating Committee members to act as its chairman. The Secretary shall distribute to the membership a call for nominations, to be submitted in writing to the chairman of the Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee shall nominate an eligible candidate for each office and shall obtain each nominee's undertaking to accept office if elected. No candidate may be nominated for more than one (1) office with the exception of the Secretary/Treasurer as they can hold the same position. Any additional eligible candidate whose nomination has been signed by at least two (2) members of the Club shall also be entitled to stand for election.

The Nominating Committee shall submit the slate of candidates, including its own nominees and any additional nominees, to the Secretary not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting at which the terms of the current officers expire. The Secretary shall distribute to the membership the slate of candidates along with ballots in a form designated by the Executive Committee and instructions for their submission. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, balloting may be electronic or paper-based or a combination of both.

Section 3: Ballots shall be tabulated and results announced at the Annual General Meeting. Newly elected officers shall assume their positions at the conclusion of the meeting.

Article V: Appointment of Directors

Section 1: Any member of the Club may nominate a candidate for appointment as a Director. Such nominations shall be submitted to the Secretary who shall distribute them to the Executive Committee.

Section 2: Appointments of Directors shall be made by majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Article VI: Duties of Officers and Directors

Section 1: The duties of the Executive Committee shall be as follows:

The President shall chair all executive and general meetings of the Club and carry out such other duties as specified in the Club's By-Laws;

The Vice-President shall perform duties as assigned by the President and assume the duties and responsibilities of the President in the President's absence;

The Secretary shall keep records of all executive and general meetings of the Club and all votes taken in the course of club business; receive and transmit correspondence including notification to members of meetings, notification to new members of their election to membership and notification to new officers and directors of their election to office; keep a roll of current members of the Club; and carry out such other duties as specified in the Club's By-Laws;

The Treasurer shall collect and receive all revenues of the Club and deposit same in the Club's bank account; keep records of the Club's finances and transactions; and provide a report of the Club's financial position at each executive and general meeting of the Club; ;

The Directors shall provide regional liaison between the Executive Committee and the membership and shall perform other duties as assigned by the President.

Section 2: Officers and directors shall avoid conflicts of interest in the performance of their duties and shall recuse from any deliberations and votes of the Executive Committee in which they have personal interests.

Section 3: Any officer and director who fails to attend three consecutive Executive Committee meetings, unless the Executive has been notified of extenuating circumstances (example: Death of a family member, severe illness) or otherwise fails to perform the duties of his or her position may be removed from office by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 4: If a vacancy arises in any executive position, the Executive Committee shall appoint, by majority vote, any eligible member of the Club to fill the position for the balance of the term.

Article VII: Meetings

Section 1: The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in January.

Section 2: A Special General Meeting of the Club may be called at any time by the President with provision of seven (7) days notice to each member. The President shall be obliged to call a Special General Meeting if requested to do so in writing by six (6) members.

Section 3: Other meetings of the Club shall be held at the discretion of the President.

Section 4: Meetings of the Club shall be conducted according to parliamentary procedure. At all meetings of the Club, seven (7) members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5: Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called at the discretion of the President. Five (5) members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 6: Participation in meetings of the Club and of the Executive Committee may be in person or via electronic or other media, at the discretion of the President.

Article VIII: Committees and Specialty Shows

Section 1: The Executive Committee shall have authority to create and dissolve special committees as it deems necessary to carry out Club functions. All special committees shall present their findings and reports to the Executive Committee for approval.

Section 2: Any records created or held by a special committee shall be turned over to the Secretary upon dissolution of the special committee.

Section 3: All details and decisions for Bulldog specialty shows will be made by the Executive Committee. Judge selection, dates, locations, prizing, budgets, etc. will all be decided by the Executive Committee unless a special show committee is created by the Executive Committee.

Article IX : Dissolution

Section 1: A motion to dissolve the Club may be proposed by any member at a general meeting of the Club. If such a motion is proposed and seconded and is accepted by a two-thirds majority vote of the members in attendance, the Executive Committee shall put the proposal for dissolution of the Club to a vote of the full membership. If approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership, the proposal for dissolution shall be submitted to the Canadian Kennel Club for approval and shall become effective upon receipt of said approval.

“Two-thirds majority vote of the membership” means two-thirds plus one or more votes of the votes actually cast, regardless of the total number of eligible votes in the Club.

Section 2: In the event of dissolution, any assets remaining after payment of the Club’s debts shall be donated to a charity selected by the Executive Committee.