

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
Of the
AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

Adopted May, 1887, To take effect September 1, 1887

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I.

The name of this Association shall be "*The American Kennel Club.*"

ARTICLE II.

The object of this Association shall be the protection of the mutual interests of its members and the adoption and enforcement of such rules as shall tend to uniformity, and the proper conduct of Bench Shows and Field Trials.

ARTICLE III.

All regularly organized Clubs or Associations in the United States or British American Provinces which have held Bench Shows or Field Trials or are formed for the purpose of holding Bench Shows or Field Trials, or for the improvement of any breed of dogs, shall be eligible to membership.

ARTICLE IV.

Sec. 1. The regular annual meeting of this Association shall be held during the Spring of the year at such time and place as shall be designated by the President: ten days' notice whereof shall be given.

Sec. 2. Each member of the Association shall have the right to be represented by one delegate duly authorized and his appointment certified to by the Club Secretary. Before such delegate shall be entitled to represent his club in this Association, he must be accepted by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V.

Sec. 1. The management of this Association shall be entrusted to an Executive Committee consisting of one delegate from each club, who shall hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected.

Sec. 2. Each member of the Executive Committee shall at the time of his election be a regular member in good standing of a Club, one of the members of this Association.

Sec. 3. The Executive Committee shall elect a President and two Vice-Presidents.

Sec. 4. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Secretary and Treasurer, who shall under the direction and supervision of the Executive Committee perform the duties pertaining to the Office.

Sec. 5. Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at the time of the annual meeting, and quarterly thereafter, on such dates as may be designated by the President, thirty days' notice of which shall be given to members.

Sec. 6. The President may call a special meeting of the Executive Committee at such time as he may deem expedient and he shall upon the written request of three members call a special meeting. At such special meeting no business shall be transacted other than that for which such meeting shall be called, and specified on the call, ten days' notice of which shall be given.

Sec. 7. At any regular or special meeting of the Executive Committee five members in person shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall preside at all meetings of this Association, and of the Executive Committee. He shall have power to call a special meeting of the Association at any time, and must do so on the written request of five members.

The Vice-President shall in the absence of the President preside at all the meetings of this Association, and perform the duties pertaining to that office.

ARTICLE VII.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep records of all meetings of this Association and the Executive Committee, make all calls for such meetings, take charge of and keep a roll of membership, and of all papers belonging to the Association, and shall collect all monies belonging to the Association and dispense same under the direction of the Executive Committee, and do any of the business proper to his office, or as directed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII.

Application for membership shall be made in writing to the Secretary of this Association, accompanied by a copy of the applicant's Constitution and By-Laws, and an election shall be held at the next meeting of the Executive Committee, provided said application shall have been filed with the Secretary of least twenty (20) days previous to said election. It shall require two-thirds of members voting to elect.

ARTICLE X.

Sec. 1. The annual dues shall be \$10, payable on or before Dec. 1st, failure to pay said dues shall forfeit all right to vote for executive committee.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall have right to make one assessment during the year, not to exceed \$10.

ARTICLE XI.

The Constitution may be revised or amended at any meeting of the Association, by two-thirds vote, but no such amendment shall be considered unless the same shall have been submitted to the members of the Association at least two weeks prior to such meeting.

BY-LAWS

Sec. 1. The following order of business shall be observed at the meetings of this Association:

1. Roll Call
2. Reading of Minutes of previous meeting
3. Secretary's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Report of Executive Committee
6. General Business
7. Adjournment

Sec. 2. The following order of business shall be observed at the meetings of the Executive Committee of this Association.

1. Roll Call
2. Reading of Minutes of previous meeting
3. Secretary's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Report of Standing Committees
6. Report of Special Committees
7. Unfinished Business
8. Election of Officers
9. New Business
10. Adjournment

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Sec. 3. In the event of an appeal from an order of suspension imposed by a Show Committee, it must be heard at the next regular or special meeting of the Executive Committee, and any person who is proved to the satisfaction of the Committee to have been guilty of any fraudulent or discreditable conduct in connection with Dogs, Dog Shows or Field Trials, may be declared incapable of competing for or winning a prize at any Show held under the rules of this Association for such period as the Executive Committee may decide.

All complaints or disputes between members of this Association shall be decided by those members of the Executive Committee as are in no way connected with the Clubs interested.

Section 4. The President shall appoint from the Executive Committee, a Committee on Credentials, whose duties shall be to investigate the qualifications of all candidates for membership and report the same to the Executive Committee; he shall also appoint such other committees as shall be found necessary.

Sec. 5. These By-Laws may be altered or suspended at any regular meeting of the Executive Committee by two-thirds vote of the members present, without notice, or at any special meeting on notice.

RULES

AS ADOPTED BY THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, DECEMBER 6, 1887

1. The word dog where used in these rules includes both sexes.
2. Every dog entered at any show held under these rules must be the bona-fide property of the person making such entry, on the day of closing the entries, and must be registered in the American Kennel Club Stud Book. In case a dog has not been registered previous to date of entry, owner must fill out a registration blank and forward same, with fee of 50 cents, together with show entry to the Secretary of the Show, who shall mark the dog as registered and forward blank with registration fee to the Secretary of the American Kennel Club. Dogs registered in the American Kennel Club Register previous to Jan. 1st, 1888, may be registered free of charge in the A.K.C. Stud-Book. (The above to take effect January 1st, 1888). The entry must clearly identify the dog to be exhibited by name, and, if known, its date of birth, name of its Sire and Dam, and the name of its breeder, should any of these particulars be unknown to the exhibitor it must be so stated on the entry blank and inserted in the Catalogue.
3. If the name of a dog which has won a prize has been changed, the old name must be given on the entry blank and inserted in the Catalogue, together with a list of all prizes won by the dog, until such time as it wins a prize under its new name.
4. If a dog has been entered without being clearly identified, as directed un Rules 2 and 3, it shall be disqualified and forfeit any prize which may have been awarded to it.
5. The breed of a dog is the person owning or leasing the bitch at the time of her being bred.
6. A puppy is eligible for competition in the Open Class as well as the Puppy Class, but a separate entry must be made for each class.
7. The authorities of any Show may reserve to themselves the right of declining any entries they may see fit, or of removing any dog on account of disease, vice or other cause.
8. A castrated dog or spayed bitch shall be disqualified, and forfeit any prize which may have been awarded to it.
9. Total blindness, deafness or lameness shall absolutely disqualify. If the judge or veterinary surgeon is satisfied that the deafness or lameness is temporary, the dog shall be allowed to compete.
10. A dog suffering from mange or any contagious disease shall be disqualified, and forfeit any prize which may have been awarded to it, and shall be removed at once from the show building. The regularly appointed veterinary surgeon shall alone decide as to mange or contagious disease, and his decision must be given in writing.
11. A judge may disqualify a dog which in his opinion has been improperly tampered with, subject to the decision of the veterinary surgeon. Should the judge's disqualification not be sustained, the class must be immediately rejudged.
12. Full discretionary power

BENCH SHOW RULES

September 1, 1887

1. The word Dog where used in these rules includes both sexes.
2. All dogs entered for competition, or exhibition only, shall be entered in the name of the bona fide owner, The entry must clearly identify the Dog to be exhibited, by name, if known its date of birth, name of its Sire and Dam, and the name of its breeder, should any of these particulars be unknown to the exhibitor it must be so stated on the entry blank and inserted in the Catalogue.
3. If the name of the Dog which has won a prize has been changed, the old name must be given on the entry blank and inserted in the Catalogue, until such time as it wins a prize under its new name.
4. If Dog has been entered without being clearly identified, as directed in Rules 2 and 3, it may be disqualified and forfeit any prize which may have been awarded to it.
5. The breeder of a Dog is the person owning the bitch at the time of her being bred.
6. A Puppy is eligible for competition in the Open Class, as well as the Puppy Class, but a separate entry must be made for each Class.
7. The authorities of any Show may reserve to themselves the right of declining any entries they may see fit, or of removing any Dog on account of disease, vice or other cause.
8. A castrated Dog or spayed Bitch shall be disqualified, and forfeit any prize which may have been awarded it.
9. Total blindness, deafness or lameness shall absolutely disqualify. If the judge or veterinary surgeon is satisfied that the deafness or lameness is temporary, the dog shall be allowed to compete.
10. A Dog suffering from mange or any contagious disease shall be disqualified, and forfeit any prize which may have been awarded to it, and shall be removed at once from the show room. The regularly appointed veterinary surgeon shall alone decide as to mange or contagious disease, and his decision must be given in writing.
11. A judge may disqualify a Dog which in his opinion has been improperly tampered with, subject to the decision of the veterinary surgeon, should the judge's disqualification not be sustained, the class must be given in writing.
12. Full discretionary power is given to the judge of each class to withhold any or all prizes for want of merit. The judge's decision will be final in all cases affecting the merits of the Dog, and appeals can only be entertained where representation or breach of the rules is discovered.
13. Should an appointed judge be unable to fulfill his engagements the Committee shall have the right to fill the vacancy in such manner as they see fit.
14. In any class where there is a limit of weight, the person in charge of a Dog entered in such a class may claim the right, at any time before the judging, to have his Dog weighed and the weight of the dog shall be registered.
15. A Dog to compete in a Champion Class must have won three first prizes, exclusive of Puppy Classes and Miscellaneous Classes, at Shows recognized by

the American Kennel Club, a list of which must be published in the Premium List of each Show.

16. In estimating the number of prizes a Dog has won with reference to whether it should compete in a Champion Class or not, the number of prizes won shall be calculated upon to 12 noon of the day preceding the closing of the entries of the Show. If a Dog wins a first prize that will make it eligible to the Champion Class, between the date of closing of entries and the day previous to the opening of the Show, the Dog shall be transferred to the said Champion Class.
17. In entering a Dog in a Champion Class it is necessary to specify on the entry blank a sufficient number of first prize winnings to entitle him to compete in such classes, and this record must be given in the Catalogue.
18. Dogs to be eligible for special prize must in all cases be entered in their regular classes, and no Dog eligible for special prizes can be withdrawn from competition, unless it has been stated on entry blanks, "Will not compete for special prizes." Stud dogs and brood bitches, with their progeny, may compete for such special prizes a may be offered, but the progeny must be entered in regular classes, and may be entered, not for competition.
19. No special prizes can be accepted or offered by a Show Committee after the regular judging has commenced.
20. The age of a Dog shall be calculated up to and inclusive of the day preceding the Show. A Dog whelped April 30th shall not be eligible on May 1st of the following year to compete in a Class for Dogs under 12 month of age.
21. An objection to a Dog may be made by any exhibitor, or any member of a club, a member of this Association, but must be in writing, and be lodged with the Secretary within seven days of the last day of the Show. The Committee shall at once meet and decide upon any objection lodged during the Show, and from their decision an appeal may at once be taken to the local delegate, if present, available, provided any such member of the Executive Committee of the American Kennel Club who may be available, provided any such member is not on the Show Committee. If the objection is lodged subsequent to the show, it must be decided by the Committee within twenty days from its receipt. From the decision of the Show Committee, appeal may be taken to the Executive Committee of the American Kennel Club, in the manner already provided for.
22. Any person who has been guilty of misconduct of any kind in connection with Dogs, Dog Shows or Field Trials, may be disqualified by the Committee of any Show where the fault if committed. Notice of such disqualification must be forwarded within twenty-four hours to the Secretary of the American Kennel Club. The Secretary of the American Kennel Club shall at once notify the President, or in his absence the Vice-President, who shall investigate the case, and, if he sees fit, suspend the penalty until the next meeting of the Executive Committee, when the Committee must either remove the penalty, or impose a penalty of disqualification for such a period as they may decide upon. The disqualification of an owner shall apply to all Dogs connected with the perpetration of a fraudulent act.
23. Entries made in the name of a Kennel must be accompanied by the name of the actual proprietor or proprietors, but not necessarily for publication.

24. The Secretary of every Show must forward to the Secretary of the American Kennel Club a copy of the Premium List of the proposed Show, which must contain a list of officials under whose management the Show is to be held.
25. All Club members of this Association shall be required in future to pay all regular prizes strictly in accordance with the description given of them in the published Premium List. Where medals are awarded, if they are described as gold or silver, their purity shall be that of United States coin. If manufactured of any other material, no description shall be given of its material; it shall be merely called the Club Medal.
26. Show Committee may adopt such regulations to govern their Show as they deem fit, provided they do not conflict with any of the foregoing rules.

Awards at the following Shows will be recognized by the American Kennel Club:

- Chicago, 1876
- Washington, 1883 and 1884
- St. Louis Kennel Club, prior to 1885
- Massachusetts Kennel Club, prior to 1885
- Baltimore Kennel Club, prior to 1885
- Meriden Shows, prior to 1885
- Former members of the American Kennel Club, whose wins are recognized, prior to their withdrawal from same:
- N. B. Kennel Club, St. Johns, N.B.; withdrew March 24, 1886
- London Kennel Club, London, Canada; withdrew March 24, 1886
- Eastern Field Trials Club; withdrew March 24, 1886
- Baltimore Bench Show Assn., Baltimore, Md.; withdrew March 24, 1886
- Montreal Kennel Club, Montreal, Canada; withdrew March 24, 1886
- St. Louis Gun Club, St. Louis, Mo.; withdrew March 24, 1886
- National Field Trials Clubs; withdrew May, 1887
- Illinois Kennel Club, Chicago, Ills.; withdrew March 24, 1887
- Kentucky Kennel Club, Louisville, Ky.; withdrew December 16, 1885
- Manitoba Pet Stock Ass., Winnipeg, Canada; withdrew March 24, 1886