

CONSTITUTION

EAST TENNESSEE BOXER CLUB

1 ARTICLE I-NAME AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1- The name of the club shall be the **EAST TENNESSEE BOXER CLUB**.

Section 2- The purposes of the Club shall be:

to encourage and promote quality in the breeding of purebred Boxers and to do all possible to bring their natural working qualities to perfection;

to urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the Boxer as approved by the American Kennel Club, and the parent breed club, American Boxer Club, as the only standard of excellence by which the Boxer shall be judged;

to do all in its power to protect and advance interest in the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, obedience trials, tracking and performance events under the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club;

to conduct sanctioned and licensed specialty shows, obedience trials, agility trials, and any other sanctioned events under the rules and regulation of the American Kennel Club;

to initiate educational programs and promotional activities which will stimulate and extend public interest in the Boxer;

for members of the East Tennessee Boxer Club to abide by those portions of the American Boxer Club Bylaws and Code of Ethics which are applicable to members of member clubs.

Section 3- The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no 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.

Section 4- The members of the Club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such By-Laws as may be required to carry out the above-described purposes.

BY-LAWS

EAST TENNESSEE BOXER CLUB

ARTICLE I—Membership

Section 1—Classes of Membership and Eligibility: There shall be three (3) types of membership.

INDIVIDUAL: 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 purpose of this Club. 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.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP: available to persons under the age of eighteen (18) years old. Junior members cannot hold office or be seated on the board, vote, and cannot be counted toward a quorum at any meeting. They shall not pay yearly dues and are entitled to all others privileges of the club, including awards. Upon turning eighteen (18), a junior member may apply for regular membership provided the person's dues are current and there are no disciplinary actions affecting the person.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP: The Board of Directors may elect by two-thirds (2/3) vote any member who has contributed to the Club for twenty-five (25) consecutive years or more to a Life Membership status. Life members enjoy full privileges of the Regular Active Membership except he/she does not pay dues.

Section 2—Dues: Membership dues shall be a maximum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) per year for each member, payable on or before the first day of January of each year after which dues are delinquent. Membership dues must be received by January 1 of each year and dues that remain unpaid by January 31st of each year will result in the member being considered lapsed and terminated.

New members joining after June shall pay one-half (1/2) the annual dues for the current year, in addition to the non-refundable application fee (one-half (1/2) of the total yearly dues). No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of October, the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his dues for the upcoming year. This notice shall be sent in compliance with Art. II, Section 6, Notices.

Dues will be recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the majority vote of the members at a regular club meeting.

Section 3—Election of 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 By-Laws and the rules of the American Kennel Club and the American Boxer Club. Applications are to be filed with the Secretary. All information outlined on the application must be supplied by the applicant, including such items as their name, address, all contact information and occupation, and it must be endorsed by two (2) members in good standing. Accompanying each application of the prospective member will include submission of dues and non-refundable application fee for the year. The dues will be held in escrow until the applicant is voted in as a member of the Club.

Each application shall be read at the first meeting of the Club following its receipt and applicant shall attend this meeting. Within a consecutive six (6) month period the application of the prospective member will be read again, and a secret ballot vote taken. Affirmative votes of three-fourths (3/4) of the

members present and voting by secret ballot shall be required to elect the applicant. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club may not reapply within six (6) months of such rejection.

Section 4- Termination of Membership: Memberships may be terminated, as follows:

By 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. Yearly dues are considered a debt to the Club, as well as any other debt owing to the Club, such as trophy donations. These obligations must be paid in full before the resignation will be considered final

By lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain by January 31st of each year.

By expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VI of these By-Laws.

Section 5- Return of Property: In the event that any member of the club resigns or is expelled, such member shall have sixty (60) days in which to return any and all club property, including but not limited to computers, ring equipment, or any other property. In the event that the former member fails to act in accordance with the above-stated agreed upon requirement, such former member shall be liable for sanctions within the American Kennel Club, including costs of the property and legal costs resulting from the collection thereon, including reasonable attorney's fees.

ARTICLE II-Meetings and Voting

Section 1-Club Meetings: Meetings of the Club shall be held in the greater Knoxville area a minimum of six (6) times yearly at such date, time and place as may be designated by the Club members. Written and/or electronic notice of each such meeting shall be sent in compliance with Art. II, Section 6-Notices. The Secretary shall send notice at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meeting shall be twenty percent (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. A Petition must be sent to the Secretary and signed by five (5) members of the Club in good standing, setting forth the date, place, time and purpose of the meeting. The Secretary shall notify members upon receipt of the Petition at least five (5) days and not more than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting and state the date, time, place and the purpose of the Specially-called Club Meeting. This Notice shall be made by means designated in Art. II, Section 6 - Notices. No other club business shall be transacted at such meeting. Meeting are to be held in the greater Knoxville area. The quorum for such meeting shall be twenty percent (20%) of the members in good standing in attendance at the meeting.

Section 3- Board Meetings: Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in the greater Knoxville area at least four (4) time per year at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board. Written and/or electronic notice of each meeting shall be sent by the Secretary, pursuant to Art. II, Section 6 – Notices and Art. II, Section 5 – Conduct of Business, at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meeting shall be a majority of the Board. If more frequent regular Board

meetings are to be called, a majority vote of the Board members is required to call such meetings. The Board may hold meetings via teleconference or videoconference.

Section 4- Special Board Meetings: Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President and the Secretary shall notify Board members upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three (3) members of the Board. Such Special Meetings shall be held in the greater Knoxville area at such date, place and time as may be designated by the person authorized to call such meeting. Written and/or electronic notice of such meeting shall be sent by the Secretary by means in compliance with Art. II, Section 6, Notices and Art. II, Section 5 – Conduct of Business, at least three (3) days and not more than five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting, stating the purpose of the meeting and no other business shall be transacted thereat. A quorum for such meeting shall be a majority of the Board. The Board may hold meetings via teleconference or videoconference.

Section 5- Conduct of Business: The Board of Directors may conduct its ordinary business by mail, fax, electronic mail, or telephone. When business is conducted via electronic mail, every Board member must be provided with the means to participate, must identify themselves and verify that they are eligible Board members, and all Board members must agree to participate in this fashion.

Section 6- Notices: "Notices" include: club and board of directors meeting notices, club and board meeting minutes, dues invoices and any club-issued announcements or correspondence. Such notices will be sent to members by email or by postal service in accordance with AKC policies for electronic communication.

Section 7 - Voting Eligibility: In order to be eligible to vote, nominate, make a motion ,or second a motion on any issue, a Regular member must have attended a minimum of two (2) meetings or events supported by the club during the preceding twelve (12) months prior to said meeting that the member desires to vote, nominate, make or second a motion. Also, a member whose dues are in arrears prior to that meeting shall not be entitled to vote, nominate, make, or second motion unless the dues are paid prior to the calling of the meeting to order. A Regular member who is eligible to vote shall be considered "a member in good standing". The secretary shall furnish the President or have available a list of members "in good standing" at each meeting. Each Regular member in good standing under Article II, Section 7 shall be entitled to cast one vote on each issue presented at the meetings. Voting by mail and/or proxy shall not be permitted nor shall blank ballots signed by a member be given to another to fill in and cast.

ARTICLE III–Directors and Officers

Section 1- Board of Directors: The Board shall be comprised of the Officers and three (3) other persons, all of whom shall be members in good standing and all of whom shall be elected for a ~~one (1)~~ two (2) year term at the Club's annual meeting as provided in Article IV and shall serve until their successors are elected. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

Section 2- Officers: The Officers of the Club shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. They shall be elected at the annual meeting in December and their term shall be for two years, beginning at the conclusion of the December meeting.

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 President, in addition to those particularly specified in these By-Laws.

The Vice President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's death, absence or incapacity.

The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. He/she shall have charge of the correspondence, notification of 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 by these By-Laws.

The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club, and disburse payments on the club's behalf when due. He/she shall deposit all funds received on behalf of the Club in a bank designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. His/her books and all related items shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and he/she shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt of payment not before reported; and at the January Board meeting, he/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 Officers shall be assigned as co-signer on the account, in the event the Treasurer is unavailable to perform his/her job.

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.

Section 3- Vacancies: Any vacancies occurring on the Board or among the offices during the year shall be filled until the next annual election by a majority vote of all the then members of the Board at its first regular meeting following the creation of such vacancy, or at any special board meeting called for that purpose; except that a vacancy in the office of President shall be filled automatically by the Vice President and the resulting vacancy in the office of Vice President shall be filled by the Board.

ARTICLE IV—The Club Year, Annual Meeting, Elections:

Section 1- Club Year: The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of January. The Club's official year shall begin at the annual meeting or, on an election of Officers and Directors year, immediately at the conclusion of the election at the annual meeting. The Club's official year shall end at the beginning of the annual meeting or shall continue through the election at the next annual meeting when ending on an election year.

Section 2- Annual Meeting: The annual meeting shall be held in the month of December. At an annual meeting occurring on an election year, Officers and Directors for the ensuing two (2) years shall be elected by secret, written ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 4 of this Article. Each retiring officer shall turn over to his/her successor in office all properties and records relating to that office at the January Board meeting, to be held jointly with old and new Board members. The new officers shall take office at the conclusion of the election year December meeting.

Section 3- Term of Office: Officers and Directors will serve a two (2) year term and may be nominated for re-election at the end of their term.

Section 4- Elections: The nominated candidate(s) receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The nominated candidates for other positions on the Board who receive the greatest number of votes for such positions shall be declared elected.

Section 5- Nominations: On an election year, the following applies to Nominations.

No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated. During the month of September, the Board shall select a nominating committee consisting of three (3) members and two (2) alternates, not more than one (1) of whom may be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committee persons and alternates of their selection. The Board shall name a chairperson for the committee and it shall be his/her duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before October 1st.

The committee shall nominate one (1) candidate for each office and three (3) candidates for the three (3) positions on the Board. After securing the consent of each person so nominated, the Chairperson shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing.

Upon receipt of the nominating committee's report, the Secretary shall, at least two (2) weeks before the November meeting shall notify (see Art. II, Section 6) each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.

Additional nominations may be made at the November meeting by any member in attendance provided that the person so nominated does not decline when his/her name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, his/her proposer shall present to the Secretary his/her willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position.

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, performance events, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other fields which may be well 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 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.

ARTICLE VI—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 bring charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club, or to the Boxer breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of One Hundred Dollars (\$100), 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. The Board may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date of a hearing by the Board, not less than three (3) weeks and not 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/her own defense and bring witnesses if he/she 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 reprimand or 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/her 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 may be accomplished only at a meeting of the Club following a Board hearing and upon the Board's recommendation as provided in Section 3 of

this Article. Such proceeding 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/her own behalf, though no evidence shall 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/her own behalf if he/she wishes. The members shall then vote by secret ballot on the proposed expulsion. A two-third (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 By-Laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by twenty percent (20%) of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall promptly be 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 By-Laws may be amended by a two-third (2/3) SECRET vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and provide 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 written consent of not less than two-third (2/3) vote of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club other than for purposes of reorganization, whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the Club nor any proceeds thereof nor any assets 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 as selected by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX—Order of Business:

Section 1- At 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

Reading of last meeting minutes

Report of President

Report of Secretary

Report of Treasurer

Reports of Committees

Election of Officers and Board (at annual meeting)

Election of New Members

Unfinished Business

New Business

Adjournment

Section 2- At meetings of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

Reading of last meeting minutes

Report of Secretary

Report of Treasurer

Reports of Committees

Unfinished Business

New Business

Adjournment

ARTICLE X—Parliamentary Authority:

Section 1- The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised, shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws and any special rules of order the Club may adopt.

SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION

Bryan McMillen

Bryan McMillen

Vice President

East Tennessee Boxer Club

02/23/2020