

KENT WORKING SPANIEL CLUB – CONSTITUTION & RULES (Version July 2023)

<p>1. <u>NAME AND OBJECTIVES</u> The Club shall be called Kent Working Spaniel Club and its objectives shall be to promote and improve Spaniels as working Gundogs by means of field trials and working tests.</p> <p>2. <u>OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE</u> The Club shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary, Field Trial Secretary, and a Committee of 7 and an unlimited number of Members.</p> <p>3. <u>COMMITTEE</u> The management of the Club shall be in the hands of the Officers of the Club and Committee of 7 members, with one Officer and two Committee Members retiring annually by rotation. Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as deemed necessary. A Committee Member who does not attend three consecutive Club Committee Meetings, without reasonable cause, will have deemed to have resigned. A quorum for Committee meetings shall be 4 Members and 2 Officers. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt Members onto the Committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between General Meetings. Those co-opted shall only hold office until the next General Meeting of the Club, at which election of Officers and Committee takes place. No individual who has been a Member for less than one year shall be elected onto the Committee. Individuals may not be elected on to the Committee if they are deemed to have conflicting interests.</p>	<p>4. <u>ELECTION OF MEMBERS</u> Candidates for Membership shall be accepted on approval of the Committee and payment of the subscription. Applications received between 01 Sep – 31 Jan will not be considered until the following Membership Year when the Committee hold their first Committee Meeting. Upon acceptance of the application, the Member will be contacted by Hon. Secretary and invited to make payment of the Membership and Joining Fee.</p> <p>5. <u>VOTING RIGHTS</u> Each Member shall be entitled to one vote after a period of six months membership of the Club. Proxy votes are not allowed. Voting shall be as decided by majority at meeting. Officers and Committee shall have full voting rights. In the case of joint membership, one vote for each member of the partnership will be allowed. Junior members (under 17) will have no voting rights.</p> <p>6. <u>CLUB PROPERTY</u> The property of the Club shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Club ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the Club's assets and the outcome of the meeting notified to the Kennel Club. The Club will obtain written acknowledgements from donors of cups and trophies that they are outright gifts to the Club.</p>	<p>7. <u>CLUB ACCOUNTS/ AUDITORS</u> A banking account shall be held in the name of the Club into which all revenue of the Club shall be paid and from which withdrawal shall only be made on the signatures of the Treasurer plus the Chairman, or the Treasurer plus one named Officer/ Committee Member. The Treasurer shall maintain the accounts and an Auditor shall be appointed at each Annual General Meeting for the purpose of auditing the Clubs accounts for the ensuing year. The appointment will be either one fully qualified auditor or two unqualified auditors.</p> <p>8. <u>SUBSCRIPTIONS</u> The annual subscription shall be such amount as agreed by Members in General Meetings and notified to the Kennel Club.</p> <p>No Member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any of the privileges of membership and if any Member shall fail to pay outstanding subscriptions by 31 August, his/her name shall be automatically erased from the register. Acceptance back on the register will be dependent upon a new application being received and put before the committee; but this will not be considered until the following Membership Year when the Committee hold their first Committee Meeting. Upon acceptance of the application, the Member will be contacted by the Hon. Secretary and invited to make payment of the Membership and Joining Fee.</p> <p>Honorary Membership shall be available to full time employed Gamekeepers resident in the County of Kent.</p>
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<p>9. <u>EXPULSION OF MEMBERS</u> In accordance with Kennel Club Regulations C3a(6) any Member who shall be suspended by the Kennel Club under Rule A42j(4) and/or any Member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A42j(8) shall ipso facto cease to be a Member of the Club for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification. 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 of the Club may, at a Meeting, give 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.</p> <p>10. <u>JOINT MEMBERSHIP</u> Joint Membership will allow both parties access to all Club activities, i.e., Working Tests, Training Classes, etc. This class of membership will, however, only allow one party entry into Field Trials. Full Membership is therefore required if both parties wish to enter dogs into Field Trials. The Registered Owner of a dog entered in a Field Trial must be a Full Member in their own right.</p> <p>11. <u>FINANCIAL YEAR/ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</u> The financial year of the Club shall be from 01 February to 31 January. The Annual General Meeting shall be held within 4 months of the end of the financial year to receive the report of the Committee and Balance Sheet, to elect Officers and to discuss any resolution placed on the Agenda, of which prior notice has been given to the Hon. Secretary.</p>	<p>No business shall be transacted at an Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof appears in the Agenda; with the exception of routine matters or those which, in the opinion of the Chairman of the Meeting, are urgent.</p> <p>To discuss resolutions placed on the Agenda, which must be submitted in writing to the Hon. Secretary no less than four weeks before the date of the Annual General Meeting.</p> <p>12. <u>SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS</u> A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Hon. Secretary if twenty-five Members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so. No business other than that detailed on the Agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting. The Committee of the Club is empowered to call a Special General Meeting twenty-one days prior to the Meeting.</p> <p>13. <u>AMENDMENTS TO RULES</u> The Rules of the Club may not be altered except at a General Meeting, the Agenda for which contains specific proposals to amend the Rules. Any proposed alteration to the Rules may not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has been advised and approved the alteration.</p> <p>14. <u>ANNUAL RETURNS TO THE KENNEL CLUB</u> The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, Maintenance of Title Fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Hon. Secretary for continuance of registration and that by the end of the month following that in which the Annual General Meeting is held other Returns,</p>	<p>as stipulated in Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Registered Societies, be forwarded to the Kennel Club. The Officers acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of the month in which the Clubs Annual General Meeting is to be held and to notify the Kennel Club of any subsequent amendments to that date. The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any change of Secretary of the Kent Working Spaniel Club, which may occur during the course of the year.</p> <p>15. <u>KENNEL CLUB FINAL COURT OF APPEAL</u> The Kennel Club shall be the final court of appeal in all matters of dispute.</p> <p>16. <u>AFFILIATION TO OTHER BODIES</u> The Club shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.</p> <p>17. <u>MEMBERSHIP LIST</u> The Club must make a list of Members and their addresses available for inspection, if so requested, by the Members of the Club or by the Kennel Club.</p> <p>18. <u>UNDISCHARGED BANKRUPT</u> No person, whilst an undercharged bankrupt, may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society.</p>
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