



## **Rules and constitution of The Large Munsterlander Association (Proposed)**

### **Section 1: About the Association**

- 1.1 The Association shall be called the Large Munsterlander Association (Proposed), referred to as the LMA (Proposed).
- 1.2 At the Large Munsterlander Association (Proposed), our mission is to create an inclusive community for owners, supporters and breed enthusiasts by hosting, supporting and co-ordinating events, providing advice, and preserving the rich history and safeguarding the future longevity of the breed.
- 1.3 To that end the LMA (Proposed) will:
  - Build a community of likeminded owners and enthusiasts dedicated to the Large Munsterlander (LM) breed;
  - Encourage the healthy and reputable breeding of the Large Munsterlander, ensuring that the requirements of the breed standard are met and taking account of temperament and working ability: this to preserve conformation and behaviours that ensure the breed is fit for its primary purpose as an HPR gundog;
  - Maintain an archive which preserves the rich history of the Large Munsterlander;
  - Promote interest in the appropriate training of LMs allowing them to take part in whichever activity the owner(s) choose to engage in;
  - Build a support network for owners that provides appropriate advice and guidance with regard to their LMs;
  - Support research and educational work aimed at reducing or eliminating undesirable hereditary traits within the breed;
  - Always encourage good sportsmanship at competitions and events;
  - Co-operate with other clubs/associations and bodies having similar aims;
  - Educate judges and prospective judges of the breed.
- 1.4 The LMA (Proposed) shall be run for the benefit of the members and not as a trading business. The surplus from any source, function and/or activity of the Association shall be maintained and used for the benefit and/or further education of its members in every aspect of the Large Munsterlander.



## **Section 2: Constitution**

- 2.1 The LMA (Proposed) shall consist of a President, Chairperson, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, plus a Committee of up to 10 members. The number of members is unlimited.
- 2.2 The Club may have a Patron.

## **Section 3: Management of the Association**

- 3.1. Management of the LMA (Proposed) shall be in the hands of a Management Committee consisting of three officers (Chairperson, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer) and up to 10 elected committee members.
- 3.2. The Management Committee will appoint a suitably experienced LMA member as President who shall serve for a five-year term, which can be rolled over for further five-year terms subject to ratification by the Management Committee.
- 3.3. Officers shall serve for a three-year term and retire in rotation. One officer must stand down each year in accordance with the rotation order: Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary. The officer standing down shall be eligible for re-election for further three-year terms.

The initial terms once the LMA becomes a registered breed club will be:

- Chairperson (2 years)
- Treasurer (3 years)
- Secretary (4 years)

After year four the rotation will be as outlined in Rule 3.3.

- 3.4. Committee members will be elected at the AGM to serve for a three-year term. One third of the committee will stand down annually. Committee members standing down will be eligible for re-election for further three-year terms.
- 3.5. Any member of the LMA (Proposed) shall be eligible for election to the Management Committee as a committee member, provided they have been a fully paid-up member for at least one year on 1 January of the year of the election. Members who are nominated for officer positions must have been a member of the LMA (Proposed) for at least three years. The nomination form must be signed by the nominee, and be proposed and seconded by fully paid-up Members. Nomination forms must be received by the Hon Secretary no later than 28 days prior to the date of the AGM.
- 3.6. Candidates standing for election as officers and committee members must attend the AGM in person.



- 3.7. Candidates seeking election as officers or committee members will be elected by simple majority vote through a show of hands of the members present at the meeting, or by secret ballot. A secret ballot must be requested seven days prior to the AGM.
- 3.8. No officer or committee member of the LMA (Proposed) shall serve simultaneously as an officer or committee member of any other Large Munsterlander breed society, whether Royal Kennel Club registered or not.
- 3.9. Should an officer position become vacant between AGMs, the Management Committee may, by a majority vote, co-opt a suitably qualified and experienced LMA member to serve as Acting Officer until the following AGM. The acting officer would have the same rights as an elected officer but must stand down at the next AGM. The co-opted officer would be eligible for election to the post at that AGM.
- 3.10. The Management Committee has the power to co-opt members onto the committee in the event of specific roles becoming vacant between general meetings, or to maintain quorate. Those co-opted shall only hold office until the next AGM at which an election of officers and committee takes place.
- 3.11. Meetings of the Management Committee shall be held as often as necessary, and at least three times a year, either virtually or in person. A quorum for meetings of the Management Committee will be six, which must include one officer. If a quorum is not achieved the business of the meeting may still be discussed but no decisions can be taken.
- 3.12. The Chairperson will preside over meetings. If the Chairperson is absent, the Management Committee will elect a chair from those present.
- 3.13. The Hon Secretary shall call the meeting after consultation with the committee. Notice of the meeting, with draft minutes of the last meeting, will be emailed to officers and committee members at least 14 days prior to the meeting. These will be approved at the subsequent meeting. At such meetings, if a vote is taken and there is a tie, the Chairperson, if present, or Nominated Chairperson of the meeting, shall have the casting vote.
- 3.14. Draft meeting minutes will be circulated within 28 days of the meeting.



## Section 4: Membership of the LMA (Proposed)

- 4.1. The Large Munsterlander Association (Proposed) may have an unlimited number of members.
- 4.2. Candidates for membership must be proposed by one existing, fully paid-up, member and seconded by another existing, fully paid-up, member.
- 4.3. Membership candidates will be approved by the Management Committee either in-person at the next meeting, or virtually, and shall be accepted as members if at least two thirds of those voting agree. Once a membership has been approved, members are required to pay the correct subscription.
- 4.4. The LMA (Proposed) expects all members to follow the LMA (Proposed) Rules and Code of Ethics.
- 4.5. New members will be asked for their GDPR preferences to consent to marketing and legitimate interest communication.
- 4.6. The Association shall, through its Management Committee, nominate Honorary Life Members from members who have made an outstanding contribution to the breed and/or Association. Acceptance of such nominations shall be via a majority vote of members at the AGM. Honorary Life Members will have the same rights and privileges as ordinary members but will not be required to pay membership subscriptions.
- 4.7. There shall be two types of membership:
  - **Single:** for one person
  - **Joint/Family:** for two people, or a family, all communications will be sent only to the address of the first person in the membership
- 4.8. The LMA (Proposed) must maintain an up-to-date list of members and their addresses and, if so requested, make the list of names available to members of the Association or Royal Kennel Club.
- 4.9. A declaration of the number of members of the LMA (Proposed) must be made with the Annual Return.

## Section 5: Annual General Meeting (AGM)

- 5.1. The purpose of the AGM is to: receive the report of the Officers and Committee, the certified accounts and balance sheet; to elect officers and committee members; to appoint auditors; and to discuss any resolution placed on the agenda of which prior notice has been given to the Hon Secretary.



- 5.2. The AGM shall be held as soon as practicable after 31 January but before 31 May.
- 5.3. Notice of the date of the AGM shall be circulated to all fully paid-up members at least 60 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- 5.4. The AGM will be held in person and livestreamed for members unable to attend. This virtual element will have no voting capability.
- 5.5. Nominations for officers and committee members, as well as any resolution for the agenda of the AGM, must be proposed and seconded by fully paid-up members and be received by the Hon Secretary, by post, or email, not less than 28 days prior to the date of the AGM.
- 5.6. If a proposal from a member is added to the AGM agenda, then the member must attend the AGM in person in order to put forward their case.
- 5.7. The agenda, copy of the certified accounts for the last financial year, and minutes of the last AGM will be available for inspection by members at the meeting and on application to the Hon Secretary 14 days before the meeting.
- 5.8. No business, other than matters on the agenda, shall be transacted at the AGM: the exception being routine matters or those which, in the opinion of Chairperson of the meeting, are urgent.
- 5.9. Only members who are fully paid up 30 days or more prior to the AGM are entitled to attend and vote at the AGM.
- 5.10. Voting at the AGM shall normally be either by secret ballot or a show of hands of those LMA (Proposed) members present. Proxy votes will not be permitted. A secret ballot must be requested seven days prior to the AGM.
- 5.11. A simple majority vote of members present at the AGM is required to carry any proposal (except for changes to the rules or constitution which require a two thirds majority, see rule 5.12). In the event of a tie the Chairperson of the meeting has the casting vote.
- 5.12. Introduction of new rules or reversal of any former decision relating to rules, or any amendment of the constitution shall require a two thirds majority of those present and voting. Any such resolutions, if passed, shall be brought to the notice of the members as soon as practicable after the meeting. Such alterations to the rules shall not be brought into force until the Royal Kennel Club has been advised and has given approval to the alterations.
- 5.13. The quorum for the AGM will be 10 including two officers.
- 5.14. Only members who are fully paid up 30 days or more before the date of the AGM may attend and vote at the AGM.



## **Section 6: Voting rights**

The following members of the Management Committee shall have full voting rights at committee and general meetings:

- Hon Secretary
- Hon Treasurer
- Committee Members
- Co-opted Members

In addition, the President will be entitled to attend and vote at committee meetings.

- 6.1. Each member of The LMA (Proposed) shall be entitled to one vote immediately on acceptance of membership.
- 6.2. Postal votes/proxy votes are not allowed.
- 6.3. The voting rights for joint/family members are one vote for each member of the partnership.

## **Section 7: Property**

- 7.1. The property of the LMA (Proposed) shall be vested in the Management Committee.
- 7.2. In the event of the LMA (Proposed) ceasing to exist, a final general meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the LMA (Proposed)'s assets and to meet any liabilities.
- 7.3. If the LMA (Proposed) is wound up or ceases to operate, a final statement of accounts, with a record of the disposal of the property of the LMA (Proposed), shall be issued to the membership within six months.
- 7.4. The persons named as the officers and committee of the LMA (Proposed) will be responsible for the proper winding up of the LMA (Proposed).
- 7.5. Cups and trophies shall be the property of the LMA (Proposed) and only awarded to current members.
- 7.6. The LMA (Proposed) will keep a register of all club property.

## **Section 8: Accounts, banking and finance**

- 8.1. The banking account may only be operated by any two of the three following: Chairperson, Honorary Treasurer or Honorary Secretary.



- 8.2. The financial year of the LMA (Proposed) shall be from 1 January to 31 December.
- 8.3. A banking account shall be opened in the name of the LMA (Proposed); all revenue received on behalf of the LMA (Proposed) shall be paid into this account.
- 8.4. The accounts shall be kept by the Treasurer. Auditors, appointed at each Annual General Meeting, will audit the LMA (Proposed)'s accounts for the following year.
- 8.5. The accounts will be certified annually and presented to members at the Annual General Meeting. Certification of accounts will be carried out by one qualified accountant or two unqualified individuals with accountancy experience, who are independent of the Management Committee.
- 8.6. The Treasurer shall present a report of accounts at every Management Committee Meeting.

## **Section 9: Subscriptions**

- 9.1. The annual membership subscriptions for Single and Joint/Family shall be such sum as may be decided a General Meeting and notified to the Royal Kennel Club. The amount may be varied as deemed necessary.
- 9.2. All subscriptions, to be paid to the Treasurer, are due on 1 January each year for the following 12 months, ending 31 December.
- 9.3. No member whose subscription is unpaid shall be entitled to any of the privileges of membership.
- 9.4. Any member failing to pay the annual subscription by 1 March in the year in which the subscription was due will be deemed to be a lapsed member and may have their name(s) erased from the list of members at the discretion of the Management Committee.
- 9.5. Members may, at the discretion of the Management Committee, be re-admitted to membership on payment of the current year's fees.
- 9.6. Only fully paid-up members may attend and vote at a SGM of the Association.

## **Section 10: Expulsion of members and termination of membership**

- 10.1. 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 society. If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the committee of the society, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the society, the committee of the society 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 society shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel them.

- 10.2. 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 they may attend and offer an explanation.
- 10.3. If at the meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, their name shall forthwith be erased from the list of members, and they shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a member of the society except that they may, within two calendar months from the date of such meeting, appeal to the Royal Kennel Club upon and subject to such condition as the Royal Kennel Club may impose.
- 10.4. If the society expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, dog shows, trials or competitions, the society must report the matter in writing to the Royal Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.
- 10.5. Any complaint concerning any member must be made in writing and signed by the complainant(s). No action can be taken until such a letter/email has been received by the Hon Secretary.
- 10.6. Written complaints should be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary so that the matter can be addressed at a Management Committee meeting, which may be called specifically to address the complaint.

## **Section 11: Special General Meeting (SGM)**

- 11.1. A special general meeting shall be convened by the Hon Secretary if 30 members send a signed request stating the subject to be discussed.
- 11.2. The LMA (Proposed) Management Committee is also empowered to call an SGM.
- 11.3. No business other than that detailed on the agenda can be discussed at an SGM.
- 11.4. The SGM will be called at the earliest practicable date following receipt of the request. Members will be given not less than 14 days' notice of an SGM via email stating the subject to be discussed.
- 11.5. The quorum for an SGM shall be 30 members and two officers. If a quorum is not achieved the business of the meeting may still be discussed, but no decisions can be taken.
- 11.6. A simple majority vote of those present at the SGM is required to carry any proposal. In the event of a tie the Chairman of the meeting has the casting vote. Voting will be by a secret ballot. Proxy or postal votes will not be allowed.





## **Section 12: Notices to members**

Notices sent to member(s) will be considered delivered following publication, by any of the following methods, as deemed appropriate by the Management Committee:

- By email to the last known email address
- By posting a notice on the home page of the LMA (Proposed) website and relevant social media sites operated by the LMA (Proposed)

## **Section 13: Rule amendments**

- 13.1. New rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Royal Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately.
- 13.2. The Rules of the LMA (Proposed) shall not be altered except at a General Meeting, the notice for which contains specific proposals to amend the rules.
- 13.3. Any proposed alterations to the rules shall not be brought into effect until the Royal Kennel Club has been advised and given its approval.

## **Section 14: Maintenance of title and annual returns**

- 14.1. The officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Royal Kennel Club by the Secretary for the continuance of the registration.
- 14.2. By 31 July each year, other returns, as stipulated in the Royal Kennel Club regulations for the Registration & Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities be forwarded to the Royal Kennel Club.
- 14.3. The officers acknowledge their duty to inform the Royal Kennel Club of any change of Secretary of the LMA (Proposed), which may occur during the LMA (Proposed) year.

## **Section 15: Rules from the Royal Kennel Club**

- 15.1. No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the LMA (Proposed) Management Committee or hold any office or appointment within the LMA (Proposed).
- 15.2. The LMA (Proposed) shall not join any federation of societies or clubs.



15.3. The Royal Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the Rules and Regulations of the Society in all cases relative to Canine or Society matters.

## Section 16: Judging Lists

**This rule will come into effect when the LMA (Proposed) is registered.**

Registered breed societies must produce a list of judges each year, which must be submitted to the Royal Kennel Club as part of the society's annual returns. The purpose of breed society judges lists is to indicate to interested parties those persons a breed society would support at differing levels of judging.

Membership of the society must not be a prerequisite for inclusion in the lists. Judges lists should be divided into five parts namely, A1, A2, A3, B and C, and must indicate the date on which the list will expire. On expiry a new list must be completed.

- A1 List – Judges who have previously been approved to award CCs in a given breed and have carried out the appointment.
- A2 List – Judges who, if invited to judge by a society, would in principle be approved by the Kennel Club to award CCs in a given breed for that occasion.
- A3 List – Judges who are recommended by a society as being suitable to award CCs in the breed, but not yet approved by the Kennel Club for inclusion on an A2 list.
- B List – Judges who have been approved by breed societies to judge at shows without CCs or open shows.
- C List – Any C List drawn up by a breed society should comprise aspiring judges who do not fall into any of the above categories. Such lists should be prepared by a judges sub-committee, consisting of at least 75% CC judges for the breed, appointed by the committee of the society.

For breeds without CCs, the judges sub-committee members should be experienced judges within the breed. Judges subcommittee members need not be members of the society committee. Lists compiled are not subject to ratification by the committee or membership of the society. It is recommended that such lists be prepared by secret ballot of the society's judges sub-committee, and societies must clearly indicate to members the method by which persons may be nominated for inclusion in the ballot and indicate the judging experience necessary for inclusion of a person's name in the lists.