

GRAND ISLAND KENNEL CLUB CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Article 1

Name and Object

SECTION 1: The name of the Club shall be “Grand Island Kennel Club, Inc.”

SECTION 2: The objects of the Club shall be:

- a) To further the advancement of all breeds of purebred dogs.
- b) To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of all breeds of purebred dogs and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, performance competitions and other activities.
- c) To conduct AKC sanctioned matches, dog shows, obedience, rally and agility trials, all Canine Good Citizen certification tests, and other competition or performance activities under the rules and guidance of the American Kennel Club.
- d) To provide training classes for dog owners in the area. These classes will be designed to provide the dog owners education in conformation, activities described in “c” above, health care and safety of their dogs, as well as specialized educational programs.
- e) To promote the general well-being and prevention of cruelty of dogs and to educate owners to make their dogs better community citizens.
- f) To sponsor 4-H dog clubs and make the building and grounds available for their educational purposes.
- g) To educate dog owners in how to properly train and use their dogs as therapy dogs in nursing homes, hospitals and similar facilities.
- h) To support canine law enforcement officials.

SECTION 3: The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profit or remainder of residue from dues, classes or other sources of income shall benefit 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 these objects.

BY-LAWS

Article 1

Membership

SECTION 1: Eligibility—There shall be one type of membership open to all persons 18 years of age and older who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club. While membership is to be unrestricted as to residence, the Club's primary purpose is to be representative of the breeders, exhibitors and dog fanciers in the area.

SECTION 2: Dues—Membership dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors on a year-to-year basis. The dues shall be established prior to August 1st, payable on or before the 1st day of October each year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of August, the Club Secretary shall send a statement of his/her dues for the ensuing year for each member. The family membership shall include all members of the immediate family and shall give them two (2) votes at any membership meeting. In case of a single person, there shall be one (1) vote.

SECTION 3: Election to membership—Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors, which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by the constitution, by-laws, building/grounds rules, code of ethics and rules of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address and occupation of the applicant, and shall carry the endorsement of two Club members. The application shall be accompanied by payment of dues for the current year by the prospective member. All applications are to be filed with the Treasurer and read at the first Board meeting following its receipt. At the next Board meeting, the application will be voted upon and affirmative votes of three-fourths of the Board (to include officers and Board members present and voting) shall be required to elect the applicant. Applicants for membership who were not accepted by the Club may not re-apply within six months after such unsuccessful application.

SECTION 4: Termination of Membership

a) By resignation. Any Club 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. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club and they are incurred on the first day of each fiscal year.

b) By lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member dues remain unpaid sixty (60) days after the first day of the fiscal year. The Board may grant an additional ninety (90) days of grace to such delinquent members in meritorious cases. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting whose dues are unpaid as of the date of that meeting.

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

ARTICLE II

Meetings and Voting

SECTION 1: Club Meetings—Meetings of the Club shall be held in (or within 25 miles of) the City of Grand Island, Nebraska at such hour and place as designated by the Board of Directors. Notice of such meeting shall be made by the Secretary prior to the date of the meeting.

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 voting at any regular or Special meeting of the Board of Directors, and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held in (or within 25 miles of) the City of Grand Island, Nebraska at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person(s) authorized herein to call such meetings. Notice of such a meeting shall be made by the Secretary prior to the date of the meeting, and said notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other Club business shall be transacted thereat.

SECTION 3: Board Meetings—Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held within (or within 25 miles of) the City of Grand Island, Nebraska at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board. Notice of such meeting shall be made by the Secretary prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be the majority of the Board.

SECTION 4: Special Board Meetings—Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three (3) members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held in (or within 25 miles of) the City of Grand Island, Nebraska at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such a meeting. Notice of such meeting shall be made by the Secretary prior to the date of the meeting. Any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business shall be transacted thereat. A quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 5: Voting—Each member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to two (2) votes at any meeting of the Club at which a member of the family is present. Single members shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the Club at which he/she is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any Club meeting or election. Absentee ballots will be provided by the Secretary on request for the annual election only.

ARTICLE III

Directors and Officers

SECTION 1: Board of Directors—The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and five (5) other persons all of whom shall be members in good standing. All shall be elected for one year terms 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 Club's officers, consisting of the President, Vice president, Secretary and Treasurer, shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meetings.

a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board, and shall have the duties and power normally appurtenant to the officer of President in addition to those specified in the By-Laws.

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

c) The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and Board and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. He/she shall notify members of the meetings and notify officers and directors of their election to office. The Secretary will keep roll of the members of the Club, including their contact information, and will take roll at all meetings of the Club and Board. The Secretary shall complete needed correspondence as directed by the President and the Board of Directors and carry out such other duties as prescribed in the Constitution and By-Laws.

d) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club and make deposits of such monies in a bank designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. He/she shall have the books of the Club at all times open to the inspection of the Board, and shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances, and every item of receipt or payment not before reported. At the annual meeting, he/she shall render an account of all monies received and expended during the previous fiscal year.

e) The five (5) other persons on the Board shall be designated as Directors and shall coordinate standing committees including but not limited to:

- 1) Communications (Newsletter, etc)
- 2) Shows (Sanctioned matches, AKC shows and performance events)
- 3) Education (Training classes, seminars, membership education programs, other educational activities as needed)
- 4) Building and Grounds (Cleaning of building, mowing, etc)
- 5) Entertainment

SECTION 3: Vacancies—Any vacancies occurring on the Board or among the officers 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 a special Board meeting called for that purpose. 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 September and end on the 31st day of August. The Club's official year shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the election at the annual meeting and shall continue through the election at the next annual meeting.

SECTION 2: Annual Meeting—The annual meeting shall be held in the month of September at which Officers and Directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret written ballot from among those nominated in accordance with SECTION 4 of this ARTICLE. They shall take office immediately upon the conclusion of the election and each retiring officer shall turn over to his successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within thirty (30) days after the election.

SECTION 3: Elections—The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected.

SECTION 4: Nominations—No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated. During the month of July, the Board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three members and two alternates. 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 August 1st.

a) The Committee shall nominate one (1) candidate for each office, and five (5) candidates for the Director positions on the Board, and after securing the consent of each person so nominated, shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing.

b) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Secretary shall, before August 15th, notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.

c) Additional nominations may be made at the Annual Meeting by any member in attendance, provided that the person so nominated does not decline when his/her name is proposed. If the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, his/her proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his/her willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position, and the additional nominations which are provided for herein may be made only from among those members who have not accepted a nomination of the Nominating committee.

ARTICLE V

Committees

SECTION 1: The Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as dog shows, performance events, training classes, community service, trophies and annual prizes, membership and other such fields which may be 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. The Directors and Officers of the Club will be in charge of the coordination of the committees. Members of the Club will belong to at least one (1) committee established by the Board. This committee involvement will be by family, thus one member from each family will be considered involvement. Committee sign-up will be at the Annual General Membership Meeting. If a member does not choose a committee, the Board will assign members to standing committees.

SECTION 2: Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership or the Board upon written notice to the appointee, and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose services have been terminated.

ARTICLE VI

Discipline

SECTION 1: American Kennel Club (AKC) Suspension—Any member who is suspended from the privileges of the AKC shall automatically be suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period of time.

SECTION 2: Charges—Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the interest of the Club. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$100.00 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. The Board shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club. 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 nor more than six (6) weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his 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 the complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in that regard. After hearing all evidence and testimony presented by the complainant and defendant, should the charges be sustained, the Board may, by a majority vote of those present, suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six (6) months from the date of the hearing. If the Board 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 fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board's recommendation. Immediately after the Board has reached a decision, its finding shall be put into written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary shall then 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 proceedings 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 own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and Board's findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his/her own behalf, if he/she wishes. The Club shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A 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 be promptly considered by the Board 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 2/3 vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for the purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and provided 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 the written consent of 100% of the members. In event of the dissolution of the Club, whether voluntary or involuntary by the operation of the 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. After payment of the debts of the Club, its property and assets shall be given to charitable organizations for the benefit of dogs selected by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX

Order of Business

SECTION 1: At meetings of the Club, the order of business as far as the character and nature of the meetings may permit, shall be as follows:

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Minutes of Last Meeting

Report of President, Secretary, Treasurer

Report of Committees

Election of Officers and Board (at Annual Meeting)

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 the Minutes of Last Meeting

Report of Secretary, Treasurer

Reports of Committees

Unfinished Business

New Business

Adjournment

Grand Island Kennel Club

Code of Ethics

This code is established in accordance with the objectives of the Grand Island Kennel Club (GIKC) as state in the Club Constitution and By-Laws. It is presented as a guideline for the use of GIKC members when buying, breeding, selling and exhibiting purebred dogs. Adherences will be by Article VI of the GIKC Constitution.

- 1) Abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the GIKC and the rules of the American Kennel Club (AKC).
- 2) Keep accurate breeding records, registration papers and pedigrees in accordance with AKC Rules and Regulations. Furnish records to buyer of all shots and wormings, pedigree and AKC registration or transfer document, unless written agreement is made at the time of sale that papers be withheld.
- 3) All services and sales arrangements shall be mutually agreed upon, stated in writing and signed by all parties involved.
- 4) All advertising should be honest and in no way be misrepresentative or fraudulent.
- 5) Support and conduct only ethical trade practices.
- 6) Maintain the best possible standards of canine health, cleanliness and care.
- 7) Encourage the certification of Parent Breed Club recommended genetic health testing.
- 8) All dogs offered at stud shall be in good health and free from canine communicable diseases as confirmed by a DVM within 15 days prior to breeding. Dogs used for stud shall be certified free of disqualifying genetic faults.
- 9) No bitch shall be bred more than once a year, nor prior to one and one-half years of age. The bitch shall be in good health and free from communicable diseases as confirmed by a DVM within 20 days prior to breeding. A bitch with disqualifying genetic faults shall not be bred.
- 10) All breeders shall strive to produce puppies which promote the breed standard.
- 11) Honestly evaluate all dogs sold, and fairly represent that evaluation.
- 12) Pet quality, per breed standard, shall be sold on spay or neuter contract.
- 13) No litter lot sales of any type.
- 14) All members shall conduct themselves at all times in such a manner as to reflect credit on the sport of purebred dog competition and the Grand Island Kennel Club in particular.