

Constitution and By-Laws of the Ottawa Valley Border Collie Club

Last updated October 2025

CONSTITUTION

Article 1 Name

The name of this club shall be OTTAWA VALLEY BORDER COLLIE CLUB.

Article 2 Objectives

To encourage responsible ownership and educate the public on the versatility of the Border Collie. To promote the traditional herding ability of the Border Collie through working livestock. To promote the working and sporting abilities of the Border Collie. To encourage sound breeding practices and the development of physically and mentally sound animals.

Article 3 Membership

Membership is open to anyone interested in joining the Club. Membership may be refused or withdrawn by a majority vote of the Executive.

Article 4 Officers

The Executive is composed of: President, Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer and Communications Officer. All are elected for a one-year term.

Article 5 Eligibility of Officers

Candidates for Officers in the Club must have been voting members in good standing for at least one year prior to their nomination and reside within the area of activities of the Club. Candidates for officers in the Club must have worked or be working their Border Collie.

Article 6 Election of Officers

Officers are elected at the Annual Meeting. A member shall be considered a candidate for election once he or she has been nominated, the nomination has been seconded at the Annual Meeting and the member agrees to stand for election. A member willing to stand for election shall either be present at the Annual Meeting or shall, at least four weeks in advance of the Annual Meeting, provide the Secretary with written confirmation of his or her willingness to stand for election for a named office. The candidate for a particular office who receives the most votes by voting members present at the Annual Meeting shall be elected to that office.

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Article 7 Duties of Officers

President: The President is responsible for co-ordinating and directing the activities of the Club.

Vice President: The Vice President is responsible for assisting the President and will assume the duties of the President should this office become open prior to the normal election time.

2nd Vice President: The 2nd Vice President shall assist the President and Vice President in promoting, co-ordinating and directing club activities.

Treasurer: The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining the membership list, sharing the membership list with the Communications Officer, collecting dues, and controlling Club finances. The Treasurer shall ensure that financial records are kept in accordance with acceptable accounting practices and that current membership lists are regularly forwarded to the President and secretary and distributed to the membership at least once a year.

Communications Officer: The Communications Officer is responsible for receiving and sending correspondence, preparing notices of meetings, taking minutes at meetings of the membership and the Executive, and maintaining a file of all minutes taken at meetings. The Communications Officer will maintain the website and will grant access to Members Only features of the website. The Communications Officer also acts as a liaison between new members and members involved in organizing activities of the Club.

Article 8 Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws

The main body of the Constitution can be altered with the approval of two-thirds of the votes cast by voting members present at the Annual General Meeting. Notification of proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be provided to all voting members at least six weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting. The Bylaws can be altered with the approval of two-thirds of the voting members present at the Annual Meeting or at a special meeting called by the Executive. Notification of proposed amendments to the Bylaws shall be provided to all voting members at least two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting or the special meeting called by the Executive.

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Article 9 Dissolution

The Club can be dissolved with the approval of two-thirds of the votes cast by voting members. Notification of the proposed dissolution of the Club, along with a ballot, shall be provided to all voting members at least six weeks prior to the deadline for returning ballots to the Secretary. Any Club assets remaining upon dissolution, and after the payment of all debts, will be donated to a registered Canadian charity or charities with preference being given to charities which are canine oriented.

BY-LAWS

1. Membership

There are three types of memberships:

Active - Those who own (have owned) and work (have worked) a Border Collie. Each active member has full voting privileges and may run for the Executive.

Family - Active members with a second person in the household who is also working the Border Collie. Both persons have full voting privileges and may run for the Executive.

2. Annual Meeting

An Annual Meeting shall be held once each year at a location selected by the Executive. Notice of this Meeting will be sent to each member at least two weeks in advance. Election of Officers will be conducted at this meeting.

3. Dues

Membership expires on January 1 of the year following payment of dues. Dues are fifteen dollars per year. The fee paid for dues is to be reviewed annually at the Annual Meeting and revised if necessary. A two-thirds majority vote of those present at the Annual Meeting is required to amend the dues.

4. Termination of Membership

Any member can have his/her membership terminated by two-thirds of the votes returned. Notification of termination of membership is to be published at least four weeks before the vote and mailed to all voting members.

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5. Communication

The Club will distribute information as required across various communication channels (e.g. email, website, social media). The intent of club communications is to keep the membership informed of Club activities and to present any other pertinent information.

6. Terms of Officers

Officers' responsibilities shall begin and end with the Annual Meeting.

7. Termination of Office

The Office of any Executive member can be terminated by two-thirds of the vote returned. Notification of termination of office is to be published at least four weeks before the vote and mailed to all voting members.

8. Auditing Financial Records

The Executive may appoint auditors to audit the financial records at any time.

9. Breed Demonstrations

Only purebred Border Collies as defined in Bylaw Ten can be used in any public demonstration designed to represent the Border Collie Breed.

10. Club Designation of the Words Border Collie

In all cases where the words "Border Collie" are used in the Constitution it shall be deemed to mean a registered Border Collie, or a dog deemed to be a Border Collie by a majority vote of the Executive.

POINTS OF ETIQUETTE

The Annual Meeting will be held in November each year on a day that is mutually agreeable with the Executive.

No Club funds may be committed or spent without the knowledge of the Treasurer.

Members of the club are encouraged to organize club events, whether social, training, or competitive (e.g. agility, flyball, disc, herding, dog walks etc.), in which all members and their families are welcome to participate.

The Club's official colours will be grass green, sky blue and, black and white.