

CONSTITUTION AND BY~LAWS
of the
DOBERMAN PINSCHER CLUB OF THE INDIAN NATION, INC.

CONSTITUTION

Article I

Name and Objectives

Section 1

The name of the Club shall be F qdgtto cp'Rkpuelj gt'Emxd"qh'vj g'Kpf kcp'P cvkqp, Inc.

Section 2

The objectives of the Club shall be:

- (a) to further the advancement of all breeds of purebred dogs at American Kennel Club confirmation events while encouraging sportsmanlike conduct;
- (b) to do all in its power to protect and advance the interest of all breeds of dogs and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, obedience trials, and performance sport events; to hold all events for which the club is eligible under the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club.

Section 3

The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits, remainder or residue from any funds or donations received by 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 these objectives.

BY~LAWS

Article I

Membership

Section 1

Eligibility: Membership is open to all persons at least eighteen years of age, in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes and objectives of this Club.

Section 2

Dues: Dues are payable on or before the first day of January and delinquent on the first day of March. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for all previous years and/or the current year. The Secretary/Treasurer shall send each member or family a statement of their dues. Dues will be paid by prospective members prior to their election into the Club. Dues are refundable if the prospective member fails to meet the requirements of Article I, Section 3, or these by-laws, or if the prospective member withdraws his or her application prior to election into the Club. Annual dues for individual members shall be \$15. Annual dues for two or more members residing in the same household is \$25 per family. Dues are subject to change by majority vote of the Board in attendance and final vote by the General Membership in attendance at the following meeting **LIFETIME MEMBERS MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR INTEREST IN WRITING EACH JANUARY TO BE CONSIDERED UNINTERRUPTED.**

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 these Constitution and By-Laws and by the rules of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address, telephone number, e-mail and occupation of the applicant and it shall carry the endorsement of two members. All applications are to be filed with the Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Board of Directors may not re-apply within six months after such rejection and all monies paid by the applicant shall be refunded minus processing fees.

Section 4

Termination of Membership:

Membership may be terminated;

(a) by resignation.

Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary/Treasurer.

(b) by lapsing.

A membership will be considered lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid or such lifetime member's written acknowledgement of interest has not been received. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting.

(c) by expulsion.

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

(d) by non-participation.

A membership may be terminated if less than 5 hours of club participation has been met. Participation hours can be accumulated by any of the following: attending meetings, taking classes/workshops, or by volunteering at club sponsored event.

Section 5

Reinstatement of Membership:

Membership may be reinstated if the member left the club in good standing. The member must submit dues and will be reinstated without approval from the Board of Directors.

Article II

Meetings and Voting

Section 1

General Meetings:

General meetings shall be held a minimum of six times per year. Dates and times will be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 2

Board Meetings:

Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held a minimum of six times per year. Dates and times will be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 3

General Voting:

Each member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to one vote at any General Meeting at which he/she is present. A majority vote of those voting will determine the outcome of any matter being presented.

Section 4

Board Voting:

Email voting will be permitted by Board Members and only when voting on matters pertaining to Club business. A majority of Board Members voting will constitute a quorum.

Article III Officers and Directors

Section 1

Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors will be comprised of no less than 5 persons and no more than 7 persons. Officer positions will consist of: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer positions may be held by the same person in the event either cannot be filled individually but would only have a single vote. When the number of the persons holding Officer positions is 4, then the number of Director positions would be either 1 or 3. When the number of persons holding Officer positions is 3, then the number of Director positions would be either 2 or 4. Thus always ensuring there is an odd voting quorum.

Any persons serving on the Board of Directors shall be members in good standing, current on their dues, and may not be absent from either Board meetings or General meetings more than twice during their term. Additional absences may result in a vacancy of their position. All the Board members shall be elected for one-year terms at the Club's Annual Meeting as provided in Article IV. Management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

Section 2

Officers:

The Club's Officers shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its general meetings and the Board and its meetings.

- (a) President; shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of 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.
- (b) Vice-President; shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's death, absence, or incapacity.
- (c) Secretary; shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and the Board and all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. He/She shall have charge of the correspondence, notify new members of their membership status, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed by these by-laws.
- (d) Treasurer; shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club. He/She shall deposit same in a bank designated by the Board in the name of the Club. His/Her books shall be always open to inspection by the Board and he/she shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not previously reported. At the Annual Meeting he/she shall render an account of all monies received and expended during the previous fiscal year. An audit committee may be appointed by the Board if deemed necessary to perform a yearly audit prior to the Club's annual meeting. The Club shall maintain an insurance policy protecting the Club from theft of any funds by any Officer or Board member. In addition, the Treasurer shall maintain, and distribute to members, a roster of members in good standing upon request.

Section 3 Vacancies:
Any vacancies occurring among the Officers or Directors of the Board shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Board until the next annual election. A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled automatically by the Vice President and the resulting vacancy in the office of the 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 and end on the 31st day of December.

Section 2 Annual Meeting:
The Annual Meeting shall be held in the month of April 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 conclusion of the election and each retiring officer shall turn over to his successor all properties and records relating to that office within ten (10) days after the election.

Section 3 Elections:
The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each Officer position shall be declared elected. The nominated candidates for Director positions on the Board who receive the greatest number of votes for such positions shall be declared elected.

Section 4 Nominations: No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated.

Nominations will be made at the February general meeting by any member in attendance provided that the person so nominated does not decline when his/her name is proposed. and is in good standing with the Club. Self-Nominations will be accepted. No person may be a candidate for more than one position except for Secretary/Treasurer.

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, obedience trials, membership and other fields which may well 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 to aid it on projects.

Section 2 Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of 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 Suspension

Any member who is suspended from any privileges of the American Kennel Club automatically shall be suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period and shall be so notified, in writing, by the Secretary/Treasurer.

Section 2

Charges: Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary/Treasurer together with a deposit of \$25 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the Board following a hearing. The Secretary/Treasurer 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. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the Club, it 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 nor more than six (6) weeks thereafter. The Secretary/Treasurer shall promptly send one 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 own defense and bring witnesses if he 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, suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six (6) months from the date of the hearing. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board's decision. Immediately after the Board has reached a decision, its findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary/Treasurer who, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the Board's decision and penalty, if any. If the Board deems that suspension is insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion.

Section 4

Expulsion: Expulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only at a meeting of the Club following a Board meeting 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 60 days but not earlier than 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 the Board's findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his own behalf if he wishes. The meeting 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 unless the members by a 2/3 vote revoke the suspension.

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/Treasurer signed by twenty percent (20%) of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the members, with the Board's recommendations, by the Secretary/Treasurer for a vote within three (3) months of the date the petition was received by the Secretary/Treasurer.

Section 2

The Constitution and By-laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the members present. Voting will occur at any regular or special meeting, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and emailed to each member at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 3

The By-laws, updated and revised, as appears in this version shall supersede all previous versions.

Article VIII

Dissolution:

The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than 2/3 of the votes returned. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, whether voluntary, involuntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the Club shall be distributed to any member or members of the Club. After payment of the debts of the Club, its property and assets shall be sold, and revenue shall be donated to a charitable organization selected by the Board of Directors for the benefit of dogs.

Article IX

Order of Business:

Section 1

At meetings of the Club, the order of business shall be as follows:

- Call to Order/Report of President
- Introduction of Guests
- Roll Call
- Report of Secretary/ Minutes of the Last Meeting – sent/approved electronically
- Report of Treasurer – sent electronically
- Report of Committees
- Election of Officers & Board (Annual Meeting only)
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Adjournment

Section 2.

At meetings of the Board of Directors, the order of business shall be as follows:

- Call to Order/Report of President
- Report of Secretary/ Minutes of Last Meeting – sent/approved electronically
- Report of Treasurer – sent electronically
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Adjournment

Section 3

"Robert's Rules of Order", revised edition, shall govern in any case not covered by these Bylaws.

