

**THE ROYAL KENNEL CLUB
YEAR BOOK
PART II
ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION,
RULES AND REGULATIONS
2026/2027**

**Regulation booklets for Show Regulations (F),
Obedience Regulations (G), Agility Regulations (H),
Working Trial Regulations (I), Field Trial Regulations (J),
Heelwork to Music Regulations (L) and Rally Regulations (S)
will be available in January.**

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For the most up-to-date regulations please visit our website: royalkennelclub.com

The convention of “the” Royal Kennel Club (replacing “The”) in the company name will be formally reflected in the next set of amendments to the Articles of Association and the revised version filed at Companies House.

Company No. 8217778

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1985, 1989 AND 2006

PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

- of -

THE ROYAL KENNEL CLUB LIMITED

Adopted on incorporation and amended by special resolutions on 11 June 2024

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PART 1**INTERPRETATION, OBJECTS AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY****1. Defined terms**

1.1 In these Articles, unless the context requires otherwise:

2006 Act means the Companies Act 2006 as modified by statute or re-enacted from time to time;

Affiliate means an affiliate admitted to The Royal Kennel Club in accordance with the Regulations;

Annual General Meeting means the annual general meeting of The Royal Kennel Club;

Appeals Tribunal means any appeals tribunal of the Board formed in accordance with the Rules;

Articles means these articles of association, as may be amended from time to time;

Associate means an associate admitted to The Royal Kennel Club in accordance with the Regulations;

bankruptcy includes individual insolvency proceedings in a jurisdiction other than England and Wales or Northern Ireland which have an effect similar to that of bankruptcy;

Board means the board of directors of The Royal Kennel Club established from time to time in accordance with Article 18, the members of which are the directors of The Royal Kennel Club for the purposes of the Companies Acts;

Chairman means the chairman of the Board as appointed by the Board in accordance with Article 26;

chairman of the meeting has the meaning given in Article 13.2 (in respect of a Board meeting) or Article 44.2 (in respect of a general meeting);

Chief Executive means the person appointed as chief executive in accordance with Article 27;

clear days means a period of days exclusive of the day on which the notice is served and of the day for which it is given;

Club Premises means the clubhouse of The Royal Kennel Club;

Committee means a Committee of The Royal Kennel Club formed in accordance with Article 8;

Companies Acts means the Companies Acts (as defined in section 2 of the 2006 Act), in so far as they apply to The Royal Kennel Club;

Company means The Royal Kennel Club Limited, the company limited by guarantee with registered number 8217778;

Council means a council of The Royal Kennel Club formed in accordance with the Regulations;

Council Associate means a council associate admitted to The Royal Kennel Club in accordance with the Regulations;

director means a member of the Board;

Disciplinary Committee means the Disciplinary Committee formed in accordance with the Rules;

Document includes, unless otherwise specified, any document sent or supplied in electronic form;

Elected Director means a director elected to the Board in accordance with Article 29;

electronic form has the meaning given in Section 1168 of the 2006 Act;

general meeting means an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting;

hard copy form has the meaning given in Section 1168 of the 2006 Act;

Honorary Life Member means a person elected as an honorary life member of The Royal Kennel Club in accordance with Article 33;

Honorary Member means a person elected as an honorary member of The Royal Kennel Club in accordance with Article 34;

meeting means a meeting of the Board, a meeting of a Committee, the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting (as the context may require) properly convened and constituted in accordance with these Articles and the Rules;

- Members** means the Ordinary Members, the Honorary Life Members, the Honorary Members and the Overseas Members;
- Non-Voting Members** means the Honorary Members who are not members of The Royal Kennel Club for the purposes of the Companies Acts;
- Office** means the registered office of The Royal Kennel Club;
- Ordinary Member** means a person elected as an ordinary member of The Royal Kennel Club in accordance with Article 32;
- ordinary resolution** has the meaning given in Section 282 of the 2006 Act;
- Overseas Member** means a person elected as an overseas member of The Royal Kennel Club in accordance with Article 32;
- participate** in relation to a directors' meeting, has the meaning given in Article 11;
- Patron** means the patron of The Royal Kennel Club;
- Performance & Remuneration Committee** means the Committee of that name (or its equivalent) formed in accordance with Article 8;
- poll vote** means a poll vote taken in accordance with Article 49;
- President** means the person elected from time to time as president under Article 24;
- proxy notice** has the meaning given in Article 50.1;
- Regulations** means the regulations and policies of The Royal Kennel Club made by the Board in accordance with Article 17, as amended from time to time;
- Rules** means the rules of The Royal Kennel Club made by the Voting Members in general meeting in accordance with Article 58, as amended from time to time;
- Secretary** means the person appointed from time to time under Article 28 as the secretary of The Royal Kennel Club;
- Special General Meeting** means a special general meeting of The Royal Kennel Club;
- special resolution** has the meaning given in Section 283 of the 2006 Act;
- subsidiary** has the meaning given in Section 1159 of the 2006 Act;
- The Royal Kennel Club** means the Company;
- Vice-Chairman** means the vice-chairman of the Board as appointed by the Board in accordance with Article 26;
- Vice-Presidents** means the people elected from time to time as vice-presidents of The Royal Kennel Club in accordance with Article 25;
- Voting Members** means the Ordinary Members, the Honorary Life Members, the Overseas Members and the Chairman (for the purposes of proxy voting pursuant to these Articles) of The Royal Kennel Club who, under these Articles, are entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote at general meetings and who are members of The Royal Kennel Club for the purposes of the Companies Acts;
- Writing** means the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise;
- Young Kennel Club Member** means a person admitted as a member of the Young Kennel Club in accordance with the Regulations.
- 1.2 Unless the context otherwise requires, other words or expressions contained in these Articles bear the same meaning as in the 2006 Act as in force on the date when these Articles become binding on The Royal Kennel Club.
 - 1.3 Words importing the singular number shall include the plural number and vice versa. Words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender. Words importing persons shall include corporations and unincorporated clubs.
 - 1.4 For the purposes of Section 20 of the 2006 Act, the relevant model articles shall be deemed to have been excluded fully and replaced with the provisions of these Articles.
2. **Name**
The name of the Company is The Royal Kennel Club.

3. Objects

- 3.1 The objects for which The Royal Kennel Club is established (Objects) are:
- 3.1.1 to promote in every way the general improvement of dogs;
 - 3.1.2 without derogating from the generality of Article 3.1.1, the pursuit or carrying out of the following activities:
 - (a) the classification of breeds and their registration;
 - (b) the registration of dogs, transfers of ownership, production of pedigree certificates etc.;
 - (c) the compilation and maintenance of registers of relevant associations, clubs, societies and other organisations (Societies) including registers of:
 - (i) Breed Societies;
 - (ii) General Canine Societies;
 - (iii) Dog Training Societies;
 - (iv) Field Trial Societies;
 - (v) Working Trial Societies; and
 - (vi) any other Societies, recognised as furthering the knowledge and understanding of dogs and their competition.
 - (d) the licensing of shows, trials and other activities;
 - (e) the award of challenge cups;
 - (f) the award of challenge, champion and other certificates and the approval of judges to award them;
 - (g) the publication of an annual stud book containing (inter alia) a record of championship shows, field trials, working trials and obedience tests;
 - (h) the publication of a gazette and journal;
 - (i) the making and giving effect to reciprocal agreements with ruling canine authorities in other countries;
 - (j) the formation and regulation of Councils to consult on subjects on which such Councils shall be considered to have special knowledge;
 - (k) the election of Associates of The Royal Kennel Club; and
 - (l) the maintenance of a junior organisation to foster in young people the knowledge of dogs and their welfare and acceptable standards of personal behaviour.
 - 3.1.3 to provide Club Premises and the means of social activities for Members of The Royal Kennel Club and the making of bye-laws appertaining thereto;
 - 3.1.4 to frame and enforce rules, bye-laws and regulations in furtherance of the Objects;
 - 3.1.5 to provide offices and staff including a Chief Executive, Secretary and other executives to assist in the administration of the Objects;
 - 3.1.6 to take such action from time to time as the Board may consider desirable for the benefit of the Members of The Royal Kennel Club; and
 - 3.1.7 to do all such other things as shall be thought fit to further the interests of The Royal Kennel Club or to be incidental or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the Objects.

4. Powers

- 4.1 The Royal Kennel Club shall have the powers to do all such lawful things as are consistent with the furtherance of its Objects (Powers).
- 4.2 The income and property of The Royal Kennel Club shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its Objects and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly, overtly or covertly by way of distribution, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to the Members of The Royal Kennel Club.
- 4.3 Nothing in Article 4.2 shall prevent the payment in good faith by The Royal Kennel Club:
- 4.3.1 to any Board or Committee or Council member of reasonable and proper out-of-pocket expenses in accordance with Article 22;

- 4.3.2 of reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let by any Member of The Royal Kennel Club; or
 - 4.3.3 of any premium in respect of the purchase and maintenance of indemnity insurance in respect of liability for any act or default of the directors (or any of them) in relation to The Royal Kennel Club.
- 5. Liability of Members**
- 5.1 The liability of each Member is limited to £1, being the amount that each Member undertakes to contribute to the assets of The Royal Kennel Club in the event of its being wound up while he is a Member or within one year after he ceases to be a Member, for any of the items set out in Article 5.2.
 - 5.2 The items for which the Members undertake to contribute are:
 - 5.2.1 payment of The Royal Kennel Club's debts and liabilities contracted before they cease to be a Member;
 - 5.2.2 payment of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and
 - 5.2.3 adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

PART 2 THE BOARD

DIRECTORS' POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

6. Directors' general authority

- 6.1 Subject to these Articles, any Rules and Regulations made pursuant to them and the Companies Acts, management and control of all the affairs of The Royal Kennel Club (including the supply of intoxicating liquor upon the Club Premises) shall be vested in the Board, for which purpose it may exercise all the Powers of The Royal Kennel Club.
- 6.2 No resolution passed by The Royal Kennel Club in general meeting shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if such resolution had not been passed.
- 6.3 Except for: (1) a transaction in the normal course of business; or (2) a purchase, sale or exchange of securities quoted on a recognised Stock Exchange made on the recommendation of The Royal Kennel Club's investment advisers previously given in writing; the Board shall not have power to act in respect of any transaction involving a value in excess of £100,000 without the prior approval of the Voting Members in general meeting.

7. Directors may delegate

- 7.1 Subject to these Articles, the Board may delegate any of the powers which are conferred on it under these Articles:
 - 7.1.1 to such person or Committee;
 - 7.1.2 by such means (including by power of attorney);
 - 7.1.3 to such an extent;
 - 7.1.4 in relation to such matters or territories; and
 - 7.1.5 on such terms and conditions;
 as it thinks fit.
- 7.2 All acts and proceedings delegated under Article 7.1 shall be periodically reported as directed by the Board for ratification by the Board (save for hearing and deciding upon breaches of relevant Regulations).
- 7.3 If the Board so specifies, any such delegation may authorise further delegation of the Board's powers by any person to whom they are delegated.
- 7.4 The Board may revoke any delegation in whole or part, or alter its terms and conditions.

8. Committees

- 8.1 The Royal Kennel Club shall have the Committees set out in the Rules and such other Committees as the Board thinks fit.

- 8.2 Committees to which the Board delegates any of its powers must follow procedures which are based as far as they are applicable on those provisions of these Articles which govern the taking of decisions by the Board as well as any terms of reference issued by the Board from time to time.
- 8.3 The quorum for meetings of any Committee formed pursuant to the provisions of the Articles shall be decided by the Board and the Secretary notified accordingly, save that the quorum for meetings of the Disciplinary Committee and any Appeals Tribunal shall be 3 persons.

DECISION-MAKING BY DIRECTORS

9. Directors to take decisions collectively

- 9.1 Any decision of the Board must be a majority or unanimous decision and each eligible director present shall be entitled to one vote on each motion.
- 9.2 Such a decision may take the form of a resolution in writing. A resolution in writing signed (via email confirmation) by a majority of the Directors who are at the relevant time entitled to receive notice of a meeting of the Board and who would be entitled to vote on the resolution at a meeting of the Board (if that number is sufficient to constitute a quorum) shall be as valid and effectual as a resolution passed at a meeting of the Board properly called and constituted. The resolution in writing may be contained in one document or in several documents in like form each signed (via email confirmation) by one or more of the Directors concerned.
- 9.3 References in this Article to eligible directors are to directors who would have been entitled to vote on the matter had it been proposed as a resolution at a meeting of the Board.
- 9.4 A decision may not be taken in accordance with this Article if the eligible directors would not have formed a quorum at such a meeting.

10. Calling a meeting of the Board

- 10.1 The Board may meet together for the dispatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate its meetings as it thinks fit, provided that at least five such meetings shall be held in each year.
- 10.2 The Board shall report on its activities to the Members at the Annual General Meeting.
- 10.3 Members of the Board shall receive at least 7 days' notice in writing of meetings together with the agenda, unless the Chairman, in his or her sole discretion, considers that the business of the meeting is sufficiently urgent that this notice period should be shortened or removed entirely.
- 10.4 Notice of any meeting of the Board must indicate:
 - 10.4.1 its proposed date and time;
 - 10.4.2 where it is to take place;
 - 10.4.3 the agenda for the meeting; and
 - 10.4.4 if it is anticipated that directors participating in the meeting will not be in the same place, how it is proposed that they should communicate with each other during the meeting.
- 10.5 No matter may be dealt with unless it appears on the agenda of a Board meeting, save matters of ordinary office routine or matters arising out of the minutes of the previous meeting or matters which are urgent in the opinion of the chairman of the meeting.
- 10.6 Notice of a meeting of the Board must be given to:
 - 10.6.1 each director; and
 - 10.6.2 the President and the Vice-Presidents, who shall be entitled to communicate to the Board any information or opinions they have on any particular item of the business of the meeting but who shall not, subject to Article 10.7, be entitled to attend and vote thereat,
 but need not be in writing. A director who is absent from Great Britain shall be entitled to notice of a meeting if he has provided a valid email address.

- 10.7 The Board shall have the power to invite any person or persons whether Members of The Royal Kennel Club or not to attend any meeting to assist the Board or any Committee but such person or persons shall not be entitled to vote thereat.
- 10.8 The subject matter of a resolution passed at a Board meeting shall not be reconsidered within 3 months of such resolution being passed save that this Article shall not apply to resolutions passed pursuant to Article 38 or Rule A (Discipline).

11. Participation in meetings of the Board

- 11.1 Subject to these Articles, directors participate in a meeting of the Board, or part of a meeting of the Board, when:
 - 11.1.1 the meeting has been called and takes place in accordance with these Articles, and
 - 11.1.2 they can each communicate to the others any information or opinions they have on any particular item of the business of the meeting, provided that they may only participate in the meeting by telephone, video conferencing or any other mode of electronic communication with the consent of the Board.
- 11.2 In determining whether directors are participating in a meeting of the Board, it is irrelevant where any director is or how they communicate with each other.
- 11.3 If all the directors participating in a meeting of the Board are not in the same place, they may decide that the meeting is to be treated as taking place wherever any of them is.

12. Composition of the Board and Quorum

- 12.1 At a meeting of the Board, unless a quorum is participating, no proposal is to be voted on, except a proposal to call another meeting.
- 12.2 The quorum for meetings of the Board shall be 14, except that the quorum for a disciplinary hearing held pursuant to the Rules shall be 3 persons.
- 12.3 Subject to Article 12.4, the Board may act notwithstanding any vacancy in their body.
- 12.4 If the total number of directors for the time being is less than the quorum required, the directors must not take any decision other than a decision to call a general meeting so as to enable the Voting Members to fill a vacancy arising among the directors in accordance with Article 30.

13. Chairing of meetings of the Board

- 13.1 The Chairman shall chair meetings of the Board if present and willing to do so. If the Chairman shall be absent, or if at any meeting he is not present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the same, the Vice-Chairman shall preside. If the Vice-Chairman is also not present or is unwilling to preside within fifteen minutes of the time at which a meeting was due to start the members of the Board present must appoint one of their number to chair the meeting, and the appointment of the chairman of the meeting must be the first business of the meeting.
- 13.2 The person chairing a meeting in accordance with this Article is referred to as "the chairman of the meeting".

14. Casting vote

If the numbers of votes for and against a proposal are equal, the chairman of the meeting of the Board shall have a second or casting vote. This does not apply if, in accordance with these Articles, the chairman of the meeting is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.

15. Conflicts of interest

- 15.1 Subject to Article 15.2, if a proposed decision of the Board is concerned with an actual or proposed transaction or arrangement with The Royal Kennel Club in which a director is interested, including, without limitation, any matter which relates to a situation in which a director has, or can have, an interest which

conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interests of The Royal Kennel Club, that director is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.

15.2 The prohibition under Article 15.1 shall not apply when:

15.2.1 the Board authorises the director counting towards the quorum and voting on the matter, transaction or arrangement in accordance with Section 175 of the 2006 Act notwithstanding such interest;

15.2.2 the director need not declare an interest pursuant to Section 177 or 182 of the 2006 Act; or

15.2.3 the director's conflict of interests arises from a permitted cause.

15.3 For the purposes of Article 15.2, the following are "permitted causes":

15.3.1 a guarantee, security or indemnity given, or to be given, by or to a director in respect of an obligation incurred by or on behalf of The Royal Kennel Club or any of its subsidiaries (if any); and

15.3.2 arrangements pursuant to which benefits are made available to employees and directors or former employees and directors of The Royal Kennel Club or any of its subsidiaries (if any) which do not provide special benefits for directors or former directors.

15.4 For the purposes of this Article 15, references to proposed decisions and decision-making processes include any meeting of the Board or part of a meeting of the Board.

15.5 Subject to Article 15.6, if a question arises at a meeting of the Board or of a Committee as to the right of a director to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes, the question may, before the conclusion of the meeting, be referred to the chairman of the meeting whose ruling in relation to any director other than himself is to be final and conclusive.

15.6 If any question as to the right to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) should arise in respect of the chairman of the meeting, the question is to be decided by a decision of the directors at that meeting, for which purpose the chairman of the meeting is not to be counted as participating in the meeting (or that part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes.

15.7 A director may vote, and count towards the quorum, in regard to any matter, transaction or arrangement in which he has, or can have, a direct or indirect conflict of interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict with the interests of The Royal Kennel Club only where such matter has been authorised in accordance with Article 15.2.

15.8 The Royal Kennel Club may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax to any extent, either generally or in respect of any particular matter, any provision of these Articles prohibiting a director from voting at a meeting of the Board or a Committee formed under Article 8.

16. Records of decisions to be kept

16.1 The Board must ensure that The Royal Kennel Club keeps a record, in writing, for at least 10 years from the date of the decision recorded, of every appointment by the Board and of every unanimous or majority decision taken by the Board (and all Committees) and by The Royal Kennel Club at general meeting.

16.2 Any such records, if purporting to be signed by the chairman of the meeting, or by the chairman of the next succeeding meeting, shall be sufficient evidence without any further proof of the facts therein stated.

17. Amendment of the Regulations

The Board shall have power to make, alter or revoke such Regulations as it may consider necessary for the good governance and well being of The Royal Kennel Club and for the carrying out of the Objects, including Regulations setting out the function, role and operation of the Committees to assist the Board in the better administration of The Royal Kennel Club.

APPOINTMENT OF THE BOARD**18. Methods of appointing directors**

- 18.1 The number of directors shall be not less than 14 and shall be subject to a maximum of 24.
- 18.2 The Board shall comprise only Elected Directors.
- 18.3 Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 18.1 and 18.2, the former Trustees, Stephen Alan Croxford and Simon Coryndon Luxmoore shall remain on the Board; in the case of Stephen Alan Croxford until the expiry of his term as an Elected Director and in the case of Simon Coryndon Luxmoore until the Annual General Meeting following the adoption of these Articles and thereafter both shall be eligible to stand for election as an Elected Director.
- 18.4 All acts carried out in good faith at any meeting of the Board or of any Committee, or by any person acting as a director, shall, notwithstanding it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment or continuance in office of any such person be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed or had duly continued in office.

19. Elected Directors

Subject to Article 30.2, each Elected Director shall serve for a 3 year term from the Annual General Meeting at which he is elected to the Annual General Meeting in the third year after his election. One third of the Elected Directors for the time being (or, if their number is not a multiple of 3, then the number nearest one third) shall retire by rotation each year at the Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for re-election. The election of Elected Directors shall be conducted in accordance with Article 29.

20. Termination of director's appointment

- 20.1 Without prejudice to the provisions of Section 168 of the 2006 Act, a person shall cease to be a director of The Royal Kennel Club as soon as:
 - 20.1.1 that person ceases to be a director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Act 2006 or is otherwise prohibited from being a director by law;
 - 20.1.2 a bankruptcy order is made against that person;
 - 20.1.3 a composition is made with that person's creditors generally in satisfaction of that person's debts;
 - 20.1.4 a registered medical practitioner who is treating that person gives a written opinion to The Royal Kennel Club stating that that person has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a director and may remain so for more than 3 months;
 - 20.1.5 whether following receipt by the Board of a written opinion pursuant to Article 20.1.4 or otherwise, is in the opinion of the Board incapable, whether mentally or physically, of managing his or her own affairs and the Board resolves that his or her office be vacated;
 - 20.1.6 unless the Board resolves otherwise, that person shall without sufficient reason for more than 3 consecutive Board meetings have been absent without permission of the Board;
 - 20.1.7 that person is requested to resign by all the other members of the Board acting together;
 - 20.1.8 that person reaches the age of 75 years except that he may continue to serve only until the next Annual General Meeting;
 - 20.1.9 that person ceases to be a Member; or
 - 20.1.10 notification is received by the Board from the director that the director is resigning from office, and such resignation has taken effect in accordance with its terms.
- 20.2 A person serving as Chairman or Vice-Chairman who is removed from office as a director for whatever reason shall be deemed to have resigned from his position as Chairman or Vice-Chairman (as appropriate) and the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with these Articles.

21. Directors' remuneration

- 21.1 No director shall take any loan from The Royal Kennel Club.
- 21.2 No payment shall be made by way of remuneration to a director.

22. Expenses

The Royal Kennel Club may pay any expenses wholly and necessarily incurred by members of the Board or any Committee or any Council in connection with the exercise of their powers and the discharge of their responsibilities in relation to The Royal Kennel Club.

23. Patron

The Royal Kennel Club may have a Patron who shall be appointed by the Board for such term as it considers fit and may be reappointed on any number of occasions.

24. President

There shall be a President who shall be elected by the Voting Members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting on the recommendation of the Board and who shall remain in office during pleasure. Such person shall on acceptance of the office automatically become an Honorary Life Member of The Royal Kennel Club. The election for the office of President shall be conducted in accordance with Article 29.

25. Vice-Presidents

There shall be as many Vice-Presidents as the Voting Members shall determine. All Vice-Presidents shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting by the Voting Members present and voting. Vice-Presidents shall on acceptance of office automatically become Honorary Life Members of The Royal Kennel Club. The election for the offices of Vice-Presidents shall be conducted in accordance with Article 29.

26. Chairman and Vice-Chairman

- 26.1 The Board at its first meeting held after the Annual General Meeting in each year shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from its own number. The election shall be by secret ballot if more than one nomination is received for either post.
- 26.2 The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall have such rights and privileges as the Articles and Rules shall from time to time prescribe.
- 26.3 The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be eligible for re-election.

27. Chief Executive

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Chief Executive shall be appointed by the Board having considered advice provided by the Performance and Remuneration Committee for such term at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit and any Chief Executive appointed may be removed by them.

28. Secretary

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Secretary shall be appointed by the Board having considered advice provided by the Performance and Remuneration Committee for such term at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit and any Secretary appointed may be removed by them.

29. Elections

- 29.1 Election of members of the Board shall be by ballot of the Voting Members present and voting in person or by proxy at the Annual General Meeting.
- 29.2 Nominations of any new Board candidates must be signed by a Member of The Royal Kennel Club. No Member may nominate more than one candidate for election to the Board in any calendar year.
- 29.3 New Board candidates and those members of the Board standing for re-election must submit on the form prescribed from time to time by the Board comprehensive biographical notes of no more than 1,000 words which must include a declaration of professional and/or commercial interest in canine affairs. The form must be completed and reach the Secretary at least 35 clear days before the Annual General Meeting.

30. Vacancies

- 30.1 A vacancy arising among the offices of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Chief Executive or Secretary may be filled by the Board.
- 30.2 Where a director ceases to be a director of The Royal Kennel Club, the vacancy arising shall be filled at the next Annual General Meeting or (if sooner and the total number of directors for the time being is less than the quorum required) Special General Meeting convened for that purpose provided that the person so elected will only serve for the term of the person he replaces.

PART 3 MEMBERS

BECOMING AND CEASING TO BE A MEMBER

31. Applications for membership

- 31.1 The subscribers to the Memorandum of Association of The Royal Kennel Club as at the date of incorporation, the members of the unincorporated association known as The Royal Kennel Club and such other persons as are admitted to membership by the Board or The Royal Kennel Club in general meeting in accordance with these Articles (and any applicable Rules), shall be the Members of The Royal Kennel Club.
- 31.2 The Royal Kennel Club shall consist of Ordinary Members (of whom there shall not be more than 1500 at any one time), Honorary Life Members, Honorary Members and Overseas Members (of whom there shall not be more than 200 at any one time).
- 31.3 No person shall become a Member of The Royal Kennel Club unless:
 - 31.3.1 that person has completed an application for membership in such form as required by the Board, and
 - 31.3.2 the Board (or in the case of an Honorary Life Member, the Voting Members) has approved the application.

32. Ordinary Members

- 32.1 The election of Ordinary Members shall be vested in the Board and shall be by ballot. The candidate is required to receive a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at the Board meeting to which his name is submitted. The candidate must be proposed and seconded by Voting Members of The Royal Kennel Club who have at least one year's standing, unless the candidate is an Associate (or a Council Associate) of The Royal Kennel Club of at least 5 years' standing, or the candidate has been an Affiliate and an Associate for at least 2 years and 3 years respectively, or the candidate has been a Young Kennel Club Member at 'Senior' level for a continuous period of at least 5 years, in which case no proposer or seconder shall be required.
- 32.2 No Voting Member may propose or second more than 3 candidates in any one calendar year. A proposer and seconder warrant the eligibility of their candidate. In all cases the candidate's name must be prominently displayed in the Club Premises for not less than 28 days before the day of the Board ballot. The names of all candidates will additionally be notified in writing to all Members not less than 28 days before the day of the Board ballot. The Board may require a candidate to prove that he has an active interest in dogs and/or the canine world. Upon election the new Member will be notified accordingly by the Secretary in writing and will be supplied with a copy of these Articles, the Rules and the Regulations (by which Articles, Rules and Regulations the Member upon election expressly agrees to be bound). Upon election the name and address of the Member will be published in the Kennel Club Journal.

33. Honorary Life Members

A person may be elected an Honorary Life Member of The Royal Kennel Club at a general meeting on the recommendation of the Board. A Member who has paid his subscription for 40 or more years may be proposed as an Honorary Life Member

by any Voting Member of The Royal Kennel Club (subscriptions paid to the former Ladies Branch shall be counted for the purpose of this Article). Notice of a proposal to elect an Honorary Life Member must appear on the agenda of a general meeting of The Royal Kennel Club. Honorary Life Members shall have all the rights and privileges of membership but shall not be liable to pay subscriptions.

34. Honorary Members

The election of Honorary Members shall be vested in the Board. Such Members shall be exempted from paying the entrance fee or subscription but nevertheless shall be entitled to all the privileges of Voting Members save the right to vote at general meetings of The Royal Kennel Club and eligibility for election to the Board or any Committee.

35. Overseas Members

A person permanently resident overseas, whether a foreign or British national, may be elected an Overseas Member. The election of Overseas Members shall be conducted in accordance with Article 32 and Overseas Members shall enjoy all the privileges of Ordinary Members.

36. Members temporarily residing abroad

36.1 Any Member who is ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom and who finds it necessary after election to reside outside the United Kingdom for a period of more than 1 but not exceeding 3 years may elect to retain his membership as an Ordinary Member on the payment per annum of one-tenth of the annual subscription payable by Ordinary Members for such time as he resides outside the United Kingdom. He must give written notice of his departure from and return to the United Kingdom to the Secretary and he must resume his membership as an Ordinary Member within 3 months of his return to the United Kingdom.

36.2 Members claiming the privilege of this Article shall not be entitled to receive free any of The Royal Kennel Club publications referred to in Rule A (Membership). Any Member invoking this Article, who is still resident abroad after 3 years, is required to revert to being an Ordinary Member or may apply for a vacancy as an Overseas Member.

37. Conditions of membership

37.1 All Members shall be subject to the Rules and Regulations.

37.2 The Members shall pay any annual subscriptions set by The Royal Kennel Club in general meeting.

37.3 If a Member's subscription remains unpaid 14 days after it has become due the Board shall have power to strike that Member's name from the list of membership and he thereupon ceases to be a Member.

37.4 If a Member does not pay the first subscription within 2 months of election his membership shall be void, unless he satisfies the Board that delay in payment was due to absence from the United Kingdom or other sufficient cause.

38. Termination of membership

38.1 It shall be the duty of the Board, if at any time it shall be of the opinion that the interests of The Royal Kennel Club so require, by notice in hard copy form sent by recorded delivery to a Member's address, to request that Member to withdraw from membership of The Royal Kennel Club within a time specified in such notice. No such notice shall be sent except on a two-thirds majority vote of the Board present and voting.

38.2 If, on the expiry of the time specified in such notice, the Member concerned has not withdrawn from membership by submitting notice in hard copy form of his resignation, or if at any time after receipt of the notice requesting him to withdraw from membership the Member shall so request in hard copy form, the matter shall be submitted to a properly convened and constituted meeting of the Board or such Committee to which it has delegated its powers. The Board or Committee and the Member whose expulsion is under consideration shall be given at least 14 days'

notice of the meeting, and such notice shall specify the matter to be discussed. The Member concerned shall at the meeting be entitled to present a statement in his defence either verbally or in hard copy form, and he shall not be required to withdraw from membership unless a two-thirds majority of the Board or Committee members present and voting shall, after receiving the statement in his defence, vote for his expulsion, or unless the Member fails to attend the meeting without sufficient reason being given. If such a vote is carried, or if the Member shall fail to attend the meeting without sufficient reason being given, he shall thereupon cease to be a Member and in the case of a Voting Member his name shall be erased from the register of members. The Board may exclude the Member from the Club Premises until the meeting considering his expulsion has been held. For the avoidance of doubt, the Member shall be entitled to attend the Club Premises to attend that meeting (if it is held at them) for the purpose of making his representations.

- 38.3 A Member may resign his membership of The Royal Kennel Club by giving 7 clear days' notice to the Secretary in writing to that effect.
- 38.4 A membership terminates automatically when a person dies or on the failure of the Member to comply or to continue to comply with any condition of membership set out in these Articles or the Rules or Regulations.
- 38.5 Membership is not transferable.
- 38.6 Any person shall, upon ceasing to be a Member, forfeit all rights in relation to and claims upon The Royal Kennel Club, its property and its funds and have no right to the return of any part of his subscription.

ORGANISATION OF GENERAL MEETINGS

39. Notice of General Meetings

General meetings are called on at least 14 clear days' written notice.

40. Special General Meetings

- 40.1 A Special General Meeting may be called at any time by the Board or by the Secretary acting on behalf of the Board or may be called on a written request to the Secretary acting on behalf of the Board from at least 5% of the Voting Members.
- 40.2 On receipt of a written request made pursuant to Article 40.1, the Secretary must call a Special General Meeting within 21 days and the Special General Meeting must be held not more than 28 days after the date of the notice calling the Special General Meeting.
- 40.3 In the event of the Board failing to call a Special General Meeting within 21 days of the receipt by the Secretary of a requisition for such meeting, the requisitionists may call a Special General Meeting to be held not later than 3 months after the deposit of the requisition with the Secretary.

41. Annual General Meetings

- 41.1 The Annual General Meeting may only be called by the Board or by the Secretary acting on behalf of the Board.
- 41.2 The Royal Kennel Club shall hold an Annual General Meeting on a date fixed by the Board not later than 30 June in every calendar year as its Annual General Meeting (provided that not more than 15 months shall elapse between each Annual General Meeting) and shall specify the meeting as such in the notices calling it.
- 41.3 The Annual General Meeting shall be held for the following purposes:
 - 41.3.1 to receive a report from the Board in respect of the activities of The Royal Kennel Club since the previous Annual General Meeting;
 - 41.3.2 to receive from the Board and consider The Royal Kennel Club's audited accounts for the preceding financial year;
 - 41.3.3 to appoint The Royal Kennel Club's auditors;
 - 41.3.4 to elect the President (if the office be vacant) and the Vice-Presidents;
 - 41.3.5 to elect the Elected Directors in place of those Elected Directors who are retiring or have ceased to be Elected Directors for any reason; and
 - 41.3.6 to transact such other business as may be brought before it.

- 41.4 Members shall receive 42 days' notice in writing of the Annual General Meeting. No Member save with the consent of the chairman of the meeting may bring any matter before the meeting unless he has given notice in writing to the Secretary in respect of such matter not less than 35 days prior to the meeting. The agenda of business shall be dispatched to Members not less than 14 days prior to the meeting (although points for discussion may be received up to 48 hours prior to the meeting).
- 42. Exercise of voting rights at general meetings**
- 42.1 A person is able to exercise the right to vote at a general meeting when:
- 42.1.1 that person is able to vote, during the meeting, on resolutions put to the vote at the meeting; and
- 42.1.2 that person's vote is taken into account (at the same time as the votes of all the other persons attending the meeting are taken into account) in determining whether or not such resolutions are passed.
- 43. Quorum for general meetings**
- 43.1 No business other than the appointment of the chairman of the meeting is to be transacted at a general meeting if the persons attending it do not constitute a quorum.
- 43.2 Subject to Article 46.7, 50 Voting Members present in person or by proxy within half an hour after the time fixed for the general meeting shall be a quorum.
- 44. Chairing general meetings**
- 44.1 The Chairman shall chair general meetings if present and willing to do so. If the Chairman shall be absent, or if at any meeting he is not present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the same, the Vice-Chairman shall preside. If the Vice-Chairman is also not present or is unwilling to preside within fifteen minutes of the time at which a meeting was due to start the Elected Directors present must appoint a member of the Board to chair the meeting, and the appointment of the chairman of the meeting must be the first business of the meeting.
- 44.2 The person chairing a meeting in accordance with this Article is referred to as "the chairman of the meeting".
- 45. Attendance and speaking by directors**
- 45.1 Directors may attend and speak at general meetings.
- 45.2 The chairman of the meeting may permit other persons who are not Voting Members of The Royal Kennel Club to attend and speak at a general meeting of The Royal Kennel Club.
- 46. Adjournment**
- 46.1 If the persons attending a general meeting in person or by proxy within half an hour of the time at which the meeting was due to start do not constitute a quorum, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, in the case of a general meeting requisitioned by the Voting Members, it shall stand dissolved and in the case of a general meeting convened by order of the Board, it shall automatically stand adjourned to the week following at the same day and time.
- 46.2 If a quorum is not present at the general meeting adjourned in accordance with Article 46.1, the general meeting shall stand dissolved. Any other adjournment of a general meeting shall be on 5 clear days' notice.
- 46.3 The chairman of the meeting may adjourn a general meeting at which a quorum is present if:
- 46.3.1 the meeting consents to an adjournment, or
- 46.3.2 it appears to the chairman of the meeting that an adjournment is necessary to protect the safety of any person attending the meeting or ensure that the business of the meeting is conducted in an orderly manner.
- 46.4 The chairman of the meeting must adjourn a general meeting if directed to do so by the meeting.

- 46.5 When adjourning a general meeting, the chairman of the meeting must:
 - 46.5.1 either specify the time and place to which it is adjourned or state that it is to continue at a time and place to be fixed by the Board, and
 - 46.5.2 have regard to any directions as to the time and place of any adjournment which have been given by the meeting.
- 46.6 If the continuation of an adjourned meeting is to take place more than 14 days after it was adjourned, The Royal Kennel Club must give at least 7 clear days' notice of it:
 - 46.6.1 to the same persons to whom notice of The Royal Kennel Club's general meetings is required to be given; and
 - 46.6.2 containing the same information which such notice is required to contain.
- 46.7 No business may be transacted at an adjourned general meeting which could not properly have been transacted at the meeting if the adjournment had not taken place provided that if at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for holding the meeting 25 Voting Members shall be a quorum.

VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

47. Voting: general

- 47.1 Every Voting Member shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend general meetings and cast one vote on each resolution put to the vote of a general meeting, except the chairman of the meeting who shall have a casting vote only.
- 47.2 A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is duly demanded in accordance with these Articles (save for resolutions in respect of the election of members to the Board pursuant to Article 29, in respect of which a vote by poll will always be held). Except where otherwise provided by the Companies Acts and these Articles, every resolution must be decided by a majority of votes cast.
- 47.3 The subject matter of any resolution passed by a majority of votes cast by Voting Members at a general meeting of The Royal Kennel Club shall not be reconsidered until the next but one general meeting of The Royal Kennel Club.

48. Errors and disputes

- 48.1 No objection may be raised to the qualification of any person voting at a general meeting except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting is valid.
- 48.2 Any such objection must be referred to the chairman of the meeting whose decision is final.

49. Poll votes

- 49.1 A poll on a resolution may be demanded:
 - 49.1.1 in advance of the general meeting where it is to be put to the vote, or
 - 49.1.2 at a general meeting, either before a show of hands on that resolution or immediately after the result of a show of hands on that resolution is declared.
- 49.2 A poll may be demanded by:
 - 49.2.1 the chairman of the meeting;
 - 49.2.2 the Board; or
 - 49.2.3 5 or more Voting Members present in person or proxy having the right to vote on the resolution or, if less, a person or persons representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the Voting Members having the right to vote on the resolution.
- 49.3 A demand for a poll may be withdrawn if:
 - 49.3.1 the poll has not yet been taken, and
 - 49.3.2 the chairman of the meeting consents to the withdrawal.
- 49.4 Polls shall be taken as the chairman of the meeting directs and he may appoint scrutineers (who need not be Members) and fix a time and place for declaring the result of the poll. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.

- 49.5 A poll demanded on the election of a chairman or on a question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken either forthwith or at such time and place as the chairman of the meeting directs not being more than thirty days after the poll is demanded. The demand for a poll shall not prevent the continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll was demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result of a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.
- 49.6 No notice need be given of a poll not taken forthwith if the time and place at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting at which it is demanded. In any other case at least 7 clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place at which the poll is to be taken.

50. Content of proxy notices

- 50.1 Proxies may only validly be appointed by a notice in writing (**proxy notice**) which:
- 50.1.1 states the name and address of the Voting Member appointing the proxy;
 - 50.1.2 identifies the person (who must also be a Voting Member) appointed to be that Voting Member's proxy and the general meeting in relation to which that person is appointed;
 - 50.1.3 is signed by or on behalf of the Voting Member appointing the proxy, or is authenticated in such manner as the directors may determine; and
 - 50.1.4 is delivered to the Office in accordance with these Articles and any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting to which they relate.
- 50.2 The Board may require proxy notices to be delivered in a particular form, and may specify different forms for different purposes.
- 50.3 Proxy notices:
- 50.3.1. in the case of a vote or votes in respect of an election of Elected Directors must; and
 - 50.3.2. in the case of any other vote or votes may, specify how the proxy appointed under them is to vote (or that the proxy is to abstain from voting) on one or more resolutions.
- 50.4 Unless a proxy notice indicates otherwise, it must be treated as:
- 50.4.1 (except in relation to a vote or votes in respect of an election of Elected Directors) allowing the person appointed under it as a proxy discretion as to how to vote on any ancillary or procedural resolutions put to the general meeting; and
 - 50.4.2 appointing that person as a proxy in relation to any adjournment of the general meeting to which it relates as well as the meeting itself.

51. Delivery of proxy notices

- 51.1 A person who is entitled to attend, speak or vote (either on a show of hands or on a poll) at a general meeting remains so entitled in respect of that meeting or any adjournment of it, even though a valid proxy notice has been delivered to the Office by or on behalf of that person.
- 51.2 An appointment under a proxy notice may be revoked by delivering to the Office a notice in writing given by or on behalf of the person by whom or on whose behalf the proxy notice was given.
- 51.3 A notice revoking a proxy appointment only takes effect if it is delivered before the start of the meeting or adjourned meeting to which it relates.
- 51.4 If a proxy notice is not executed by the person appointing the proxy, it must be accompanied by written evidence of the authority of the person who executed it to execute it on the appointor's behalf.

52. Amendments to resolutions

- 52.1 An ordinary resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution if:

- 52.1.1 notice of the proposed amendment is given to The Royal Kennel Club in writing by a person entitled to vote at the general meeting at which it is to be proposed not less than 48 hours before the meeting is to take place (or such later time as the chairman of the meeting may determine), and
- 52.1.2 the proposed amendment does not, in the reasonable opinion of the chairman of the meeting, materially alter the scope of the resolution.
- 52.2 A special resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution, if:
 - 52.2.1 the chairman of the meeting proposes the amendment at the general meeting at which the resolution is to be proposed, and
 - 52.2.2 the amendment does not go beyond what is necessary to correct a grammatical or other non-substantive error in the resolution.
- 52.3 With the consent of the chairman of the meeting, an amendment may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before the resolution is voted upon.
- 52.4 If the chairman of the meeting, acting in good faith, wrongly decides that an amendment to a resolution is out of order, the chairman's error does not invalidate the vote on that resolution.
- 53. Written resolution**
- 53.1 Subject to Article 53.3, a resolution in writing agreed by the Appropriate Majority of Voting Members who would have been entitled to vote upon it had it been proposed at a general meeting shall be effective provided that a copy of the proposed resolution has been sent to every eligible Voting Member and the Appropriate Majority of Voting Members has signified its agreement to the resolution in an authenticated document which has been received at the Office within the period of 28 days beginning with the circulation date. A resolution in writing may comprise several copies to which one or more Voting Members have signified their agreement.
- 53.2 In Article 53.1, the "Appropriate Majority" is:
 - 53.2.1 in the case of an ordinary resolution, a simple majority of the Voting Members;
 - 53.2.2 in the case of a special resolution, 75% or more of the Voting Members.
- 53.3 The following may not be passed as a written resolution:
 - 53.3.1 a resolution to remove a director before his period of office expires; or
 - 53.3.2 a resolution to remove an auditor before his period of office expires.

PART 4

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

- 54. Means of communication to be used**
- 54.1 Subject to these Articles, anything sent or supplied by or to The Royal Kennel Club under these Articles may be sent or supplied in any way in which the 2006 Act provides for documents or information which are authorised or required by any provision of the 2006 Act to be sent or supplied by or to The Royal Kennel Club.
- 54.2 The applicable address shall be:
 - 54.2.1 in the case of a Voting Member at his registered address as it appears in the register of members or by giving notice using electronic communications to an address for the time being notified to The Royal Kennel Club by the Voting Member; and
 - 54.2.2 in the case of a Non-Voting Member, at his last known address.
- 54.3 Subject to these Articles, any notice or document to be sent or supplied to a director in connection with the taking of decisions by the Board may also be sent or supplied by the means by which that director has asked to be sent or supplied with such notices or documents for the time being.
- 54.4 A director may agree with The Royal Kennel Club that notices or documents sent to that director in a particular way are to be deemed to have been received within a specified time of their being sent, and for the specified time to be less than 48 hours.

- 54.5 Any notice, if served by first class (or equivalent) post, shall be deemed to have been served on the third day following that on which the letter containing the same is put into the post, and in proving such service it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter containing the notice was properly addressed and put into the post as a prepaid letter. Any notice, if served by electronic communications, shall be deemed to have been given at the expiration of 48 hours after the time it was sent.

55. No right to inspect accounts and other records

Except as provided by law or authorised by the Board or an ordinary resolution of The Royal Kennel Club, no person is entitled to inspect any of The Royal Kennel Club's accounting or other records or documents merely by virtue of being a Member.

INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE

56. Indemnity

- 56.1 Subject to Article 56.2, members of the Board and of any Committees and officials of The Royal Kennel Club or an associated company shall be indemnified out of The Royal Kennel Club's assets against:

- 56.1.1 any liability incurred by them in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to The Royal Kennel Club or an associated company;
- 56.1.2 any liability incurred by them in connection with the activities of The Royal Kennel Club or an associated company in its capacity as a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in Section 235(6) of the 2006 Act);
- 56.1.3 any other liability incurred by them as a member of the Board or of any Committee or as an official of The Royal Kennel Club or an associated company.

- 56.2 This Article does not authorise any indemnity which would be prohibited or rendered void by any provision of the Companies Acts or by any other provision of law.

- 56.3 In this Article:

- 56.3.1 companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate, and
- 56.3.2 "members of the Board and of any Committees and officials" means any members or former members of the Board and of any Committees and officials of The Royal Kennel Club or an associated company.

57. Insurance

- 57.1 The Board may decide to purchase and maintain insurance, at the expense of The Royal Kennel Club, for the benefit of any relevant director in respect of any relevant loss.

- 57.2 In this Article:

- 57.2.1 a "relevant director" means any director or former director of The Royal Kennel Club or an associated company;
- 57.2.2 a "relevant loss" means any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by a relevant director in connection with that director's duties or powers in relation to The Royal Kennel Club, any associated company or any pension fund or employees' share scheme of The Royal Kennel Club or associated company; and
- 57.2.3 companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate.

58. Amendment of the Rules

The Rules may be added to, amended or repealed by at least two-thirds of the Voting Members present and voting at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose, provided that notice of the motion

has been given by the Board or deposited with the Secretary at least 35 clear days' prior to such meeting and signed by at least 2 Voting Members. In discussion of any such motion, any proposed amendment of the motion should be restricted to the improvement of language or the removal of ambiguity. Any such amendment may be carried by a simple majority of Voting Members present and voting.

59. Rules and Regulations

59.1 The Rules and Regulations shall be published annually.

59.2 Rules made under Article 58 and Regulations made under Article 17 must be compliant with the Companies Acts and these Articles in order to be valid.

60. Dissolution

If upon the winding-up or dissolution of The Royal Kennel Club there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, the proceeds of any property whatsoever, the same shall be paid or distributed to such organisation(s) established with objects similar to the Objects as the Voting Members at the date of the resolution for winding-up or dissolution and those who have been Voting Members during the twelve month period preceding such resolution who are present and voting at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose shall resolve.

Annex – Form of Proxy Notices

Company No. 8217778

THE ROYAL KENNEL CLUB LIMITED**("The Royal Kennel Club")*****[Insert name and address of Voting Member]***

Before completing this form, please read the explanatory note below.

I/We being a Voting Member of The Royal Kennel Club appoint the chairman of the meeting or (see note 3)

--

as my/our proxy to attend, speak and vote on my/our behalf at the [☐ annual] [☐ special] general meeting of The Royal Kennel Club to be held on ***[insert date]*** at ***[insert time]*** and at any adjournment of the meeting.

[In the case of any vote in respect of an election of Elected Directors] I/We direct my/our proxy to vote on the following resolutions as I/we have indicated by marking the appropriate box with an "X".

[In the case of any vote other than in respect of an election of Elected Directors] I/We direct my/our proxy to vote on the following resolutions as I/we have indicated by marking the appropriate box with an "X". If no indication is given, my/our proxy will vote or abstain from voting at his or her discretion and I/we authorise my/our proxy to vote (or abstain from voting) as he or she thinks fit in relation to any other matter which is properly put before the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS	For	Against	Abstain
[ORDINARY BUSINESS]			
1. <i>[insert text of resolution]</i>			
2. <i>[insert text of resolution]</i>			
[SPECIAL BUSINESS]			
3. <i>[insert text of resolution]</i>			
4. <i>[insert text of resolution]</i>			
Signature	Date		

Notes to the proxy form

- 1 As a Voting Member of The Royal Kennel Club you are entitled to appoint another Voting Member of The Royal Kennel Club as your proxy to exercise all or any of your rights to attend and to speak and vote at the meeting.
- 2 If appointing a proxy to vote on your behalf in respect of an election of directors, however, you may not afford your proxy any discretion as to how your vote should be exercised.
- 3 The appointment of a proxy will not prevent you from subsequently attending and voting at the meeting in person. If you have appointed a proxy and attend the meeting in person, your proxy appointment will automatically be terminated.
- 4 A proxy must be a Voting Member of The Royal Kennel Club and must attend the meeting to represent you. To appoint as your proxy a person other than the chairman of the meeting, insert their full name in the box. If you sign and return this proxy form with no name inserted in the box, the chairman of the meeting will be deemed to be your proxy. Where you appoint as your proxy someone other than the chairman of the meeting, you are responsible for ensuring that they attend the meeting and are aware of your voting intentions.
- 5 To direct your proxy how to vote on the resolutions mark the appropriate box with an "X". In the case of any vote other than in respect of an election of directors, if no voting indication is given, your proxy may vote or abstain from voting at his or her discretion. Your proxy may vote (or abstain from voting) as he or she thinks fit in relation to any other matter which is put before the meeting. If you appoint a proxy to vote in respect of an election of directors and you do not direct your proxy how to vote, the appointment (in respect of the vote on the election only) will not be valid and any vote cast by your proxy in respect of the election will not be counted. The appointment and any votes cast by your proxy in respect of any other matters shown on the proxy form or otherwise put before the meeting will be valid.
- 6 To appoint a proxy using this form, the form must be:
 - completed and signed;
 - sent or delivered to The Royal Kennel Club at 10 Clarges Street, London W1J 8AB; and
 - received by The Royal Kennel Club no later than **[insert date and time]**.
- 7 Any power of attorney or any other authority under which this proxy form is signed (or a duly certified copy of such power or authority) must be included with the proxy form.
- 8 If you submit more than one valid proxy appointment, the appointment received last before the latest time for the receipt of proxies will take precedence.
- 9 To terminate a proxy appointment you will need to send a signed hard-copy notice clearly stating your intention to terminate your proxy appointment to 10 Clarges Street, London W1J 8AB. Any power of attorney or any other authority under which the revocation notice is signed (or a duly certified copy of such power or authority) must be included with the revocation notice. The revocation notice must be received by The Royal Kennel Club no later than 24 hours before the meeting.

Royal Kennel Club Year Book 2026/2027

A Regulations - Errata Correction

The amendments to the A Rules which reflected the changes to composition of RKC Committees, as approved by members at the Special General Meeting on 19 November 2025, were not included in the printed version of the current Year Book.

These amendments are now incorporated in the updated digital version. A printed supplement will be available in due course.

RULES OF THE ROYAL KENNEL CLUB

As at 1st July 2026

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These Rules are made and may be amended pursuant to Article 58 of the Royal Kennel Club's Articles of Association. The terms used shall have the same meaning as in the Articles of Association. Where there is any inconsistency between these Rules and the Articles of Association, the provisions of the Articles of Association shall prevail.

If any question or dispute arises as to the meaning or interpretation of these Rules or of any bye-laws or regulations made there under, the matter must be submitted to the Board for a ruling thereon.

RULE A: MEMBERSHIP

1. Rights and privileges of members

An Ordinary Member's privileges shall include the use of the Club premises, copies of each publication of the Royal Kennel Club Stud Book, Year Book, Breed Records Supplement to the Stud Book, the Kennel Gazette, the Kennel Club Journal and a membership card (non transferable) entitling the Ordinary Member access to Crufts and Discover Dogs shows and discounts as set by the Royal Kennel Club Board.

2. Intentionally Deleted

3. Subscriptions

- a. The annual subscription for Ordinary Members shall be such sum as the Voting Members shall determine from time to time at a General Meeting of the Company. All such subscriptions shall become payable on the anniversary of election to membership. (For Members elected prior to July 2019, the renewal date will remain as 1 January.)
- b. In special cases the Board shall have power to remit the whole or part of a Member's annual subscription.
- c. No newly elected Member shall be entitled to any of the privileges of membership until he has paid the first subscription. The newly elected Member shall be liable for the full amount of the annual subscription no matter on which date of the year he is elected.

4. Restrictions on Members

No Member shall:

- a. use the Royal Kennel Club for the purpose of business neither shall he allow his name, with the name of the Royal Kennel Club or its address attached, to appear in any advertisement or use the Royal Kennel Club address for the purpose of his profession or business. If any Member should give the Royal Kennel Club as his address in connection with any legal proceedings the Board shall automatically invoke the provisions of paragraph 5 below;
- b. directly or indirectly appear or act in any disciplinary proceedings instituted under Rule A (Discipline) or before the Board or before any Special or General Meeting of the Royal Kennel Club in any professional capacity for any client other than the Board. Neither shall any Member enter into any business contract or relationship with the Royal Kennel Club without making disclosure of his interest to the Board and if the business represents for the Royal Kennel Club a value of more than £25,000 to the Members at a General meeting of the Company or exercise any vote in connection therewith; or
- c. cause or permit publicity to be given to the press or television or other media concerning any Royal Kennel Club matter insofar as it relates to the management of the Royal Kennel Club, the proceedings of any Royal Kennel

Club meeting or disciplinary proceedings brought or to be brought by the Royal Kennel Club without the prior permission of the Board. This Rule shall apply, however, neither to the official reports in the Kennel Club Journal nor to any matter which the Board may desire to publish.

5. Suspension and expulsion of Members

The Board has power under the Articles to suspend for a period not exceeding 12 months or to expel a Member in accordance with Article 38. A suspended Member shall not be entitled to hold any office of the Company during his suspension (which shall begin upon his receiving notice from the Board in accordance with Article 38.1 and end when the Board or Committee meeting at which his expulsion is considered is held), but he shall remain liable to pay his subscription.

6. Members convicted of a criminal offence or adjudged bankrupt

If a Member shall be convicted on indictment of any criminal offence, or adjudged a bankrupt, or make a composition or arrangement with his creditors under the provisions of any statute, he shall thereupon cease to be a Member of the Company; but the Board shall have power in its discretion to reinstate him without entrance fee.

RULES APPLYING TO COMMITTEES

7. Rules applying to Committees

The following specific rules shall apply to Committees:

- a. the membership of each Committee shall be subject to ratification by the Board;
- b. the Committees shall include:
Committees
 - (1) an Activities Committee
 - (2) a Breed Standards and Stud Book Committee
 - (3) a Business Committee
 - (4) a Club Committee
 - (5) a Crufts Show Committee
 - (6) a Disciplinary Committee
 - (7) a Field Trials Committee
 - (8) a Judges Committee
 - (9) a Performance and Remuneration Committee
 - (10) a Risk and Audit Committee
 - (11) a Show Executive Committee
- c. each Committee shall operate in accordance with Terms of Reference issued by the Board from time to time.
- d. the composition and function of each Committee is included in its Terms of Reference;
- e. the chairman and vice-chairman of any Committee shall be Members of the Royal Kennel Club;
- f. in addition to these provisions, the Board may from time to time appoint such ad hoc Committees as it may deem necessary.

FINANCIAL POWERS**8. Power to Borrow Money**

The Board shall have power to borrow money. The Board may in its discretion establish and maintain a sinking fund or a reserve fund for such purposes as it shall think fit.

9. Fees

The fees in force are set out in Rule A (C). Fees will increase in line with inflation, based on the Consumer Prices Index (CPI). The increases will be published in July, using the CPI percentage from May of that year. For increases above CPI, members in general meeting will determine the fees based on the Board's recommendation.

10. Accounts

The financial year of the Royal Kennel Club shall end on the 31 December. The accounts of the Royal Kennel Club (and of any wholly owned undertaking) shall be audited and certified as soon as practicable after the end of the financial year by a properly qualified auditor appointed by the Voting Members. A vacancy occurring in the office of auditor during the year shall be filled on the nomination of the Board pursuant to a recommendation of the Risk and Audit Committee. The audited accounts for the preceding financial year shall be available for inspection at least seven days prior to the Annual General Meeting and, where possible, shall be dispatched to Members with the agenda.

DISCIPLINE**11. Disciplinary powers of the Board**

- a. The Board shall have power to establish a system of disciplinary proceedings for dealing with complaints which have been made in respect of any of the following:
 - (1) Any act or conduct which in the opinion of the Board is discreditable or prejudicial to the interests of the canine world and relates to or is connected with:
 - (a) a dog or its welfare;
 - (b) the breeding, exhibition and judging of dogs, or any other canine activity;
 - (c) any registered society;
 - (d) any unregistered club, association, society or organisation insofar as the same is concerned with registered dogs;
 - (e) any breach of these Rules or the Regulations.
 - (2) Any default or omission which relates to or is connected with any matter set out in paragraph 11.a.(1) above.
 - (3) Any person's promotion of, exhibition at, judging or officiating at or taking part in any unrecognised canine event.
- b. The Board shall have power to enquire into and deal with any complaint of the nature referred to in paragraph 11.a. above made against any person who has submitted to the jurisdiction of the Royal Kennel Club.
- c. The Board shall have power to delegate to the Secretary its authority to investigate complaints and thereafter to institute disciplinary proceedings or to dispose of any complaint if it appears to the Secretary to be trivial or if in his opinion disciplinary proceedings should not be brought for some good

reason. If the complainant or respondent feels aggrieved by the Secretary's decision as to his disposal of any complaint he shall have the right to ask the Review Body of the Board to review that decision.

- d. The Review Body appointed by the Board shall consist of the Vice-Chairman of the Board or, if unavailable, a member of the Board, together with one other member of the Board and one member from a Committee. The Committee member shall be chosen for his experience or knowledge of the canine discipline or activity with which the review is concerned.
- e. The hearing of disciplinary proceedings shall be vested in the Board who shall have the power to delegate the hearing of such proceedings to a Committee known as the Disciplinary Committee.
- f. The Disciplinary Committee acting on behalf of the Board shall if the complaint has been proved to its satisfaction have power to impose any one or more of the penalties referred to in paragraph 11.j. below.
- g. Any decision of the Disciplinary Committee whereby it imposes a penalty on any person shall be subject to a right of appeal by that person to the Appeals Tribunal of the Board in the circumstances prescribed by the relevant Regulations.
- h. The Appeals Tribunal shall consist of not fewer than three members of the Board. No member shall have been involved in the previous adjudication of the case.
- i. If the term of office of any member of the Review Body or the Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Tribunal shall expire during the currency of the case which is being considered, that member shall remain a member of the Review Body or Disciplinary Committee or Appeals Tribunal, as the case may be, until such time as the case is determined, provided that the member remains a member of the Royal Kennel Club.
- j. The Board shall have power to impose any one or more of the following penalties on the offender:
 - (1) to warn him as to his future conduct;
 - (2) to censure him;
 - (3) to fine him;
 - (4) to disqualify him from exhibiting at, taking part in, attending and/or having any connection with any event licensed by the Royal Kennel Club. If any person disqualified under this sub-paragraph shall attend any canine event whilst disqualified the Board shall have the power to increase the period of disqualification;
 - (5) to disqualify him from being or becoming a member of any canine club or society registered with or affiliated to the Royal Kennel Club;
 - (6) to disqualify him from acting as an officer or serving on the committee of any canine society;
 - (7) to disqualify him from taking part in the management of any event licensed by the Royal Kennel Club;
 - (8) to disqualify him from judging at any event licensed by the Royal Kennel Club;
 - (9) to disqualify him from effecting registrations of any or all dogs and/or progeny of such dogs which are owned and/or registered by him (whether or not jointly owned and/or registered and/or whether or not owned and/or registered in the name of a nominee);

- (10) to impose upon him an order for costs/a contribution towards costs incurred by the Royal Kennel Club and/or the complainant in instituting and conducting the disciplinary proceedings.
- k. If, on hearing a complaint under paragraph 11.a.(1) above the Disciplinary Committee is not satisfied that the complaint is proved but is satisfied that a default or omission under paragraph 11.a.(2) above had been proved, it may find accordingly and impose any one or more of the penalties listed in paragraph 11.j. above.
- l. Any person failing to pay a fine imposed under this Rule or an order for costs after one calendar month has elapsed from the imposition of the fine and/or the order for costs shall automatically be suspended indefinitely and disqualified from all canine activities indefinitely.
- m. Subject to paragraph 11.l. above, any suspension or disqualification under these Rules shall be for a specific period of time commencing from the date of the final adjudication.
- n. Any person who at a canine event associates with and/or gives assistance to any other person who, to his knowledge, has been suspended and/or disqualified under paragraph 11.j. above shall himself be liable to be proceeded against under paragraph 11.a.(1).
- o. The Board shall have power from time to time to remove or modify any suspension or disqualification.
- p. The Board shall have power to award costs to a respondent against an unsuccessful complainant.
- q. The Board shall have power to publish in the Kennel Club Journal an account of the disciplinary proceedings and any appeal there from together with the names, description and address of the respondent and to compile and maintain a list of suspended and disqualified persons, particulars of which lists it may send to persons or organisations who have a duty or valid interest in receiving the same.
- r. The Board shall cause to be published regulations which deal with such procedural matters as may be necessary for the implementation of this Rule.

12. Convictions for cruelty or dishonesty etc.

- a. Where the Board is satisfied that a person has been convicted by a court of an offence involving:
 - (1) Cruelty to a dog or other animal;
 - (2) Dishonesty in connection with:
 - (i) a dog;
 - (ii) any event licensed by the Royal Kennel Club;
 - (iii) any club or society registered with or affiliated to the Royal Kennel Club;
 - (3) Any act or behaviour which, in the opinion of the Board, is discreditable or prejudicial to the interests of the canine world, the Board shall have power to enquire into the matter referred to under this Rule and shall have power to impose any one or more of the penalties listed in paragraph 11.j. above except for the imposition of a fine or an order for costs.
- b. The consideration or hearing of proceedings under this Rule shall be vested in the Board who shall have the power to delegate the hearing of such proceedings to a Committee known as the Disciplinary Committee.

- c. Any decision of the Disciplinary Committee whereby it imposes a penalty on any person shall be subject to a right of appeal by that person to the Appeals Tribunal of the Board in the circumstances prescribed by the relevant Regulations. The Appeals Tribunal shall consist of not fewer than 3 members of the Board. No member shall have been involved in the previous adjudication of the case.
- d. The Board shall cause to be published Regulations which deal with such procedural matters as may be necessary for the implementation of this Rule.

13. Discipline under reciprocal agreements

Where any person has been duly suspended or disqualified by the ruling canine authority of an overseas country with which the Royal Kennel Club has a Reciprocal Agreement, the Board shall have power to suspend or disqualify that person for a like period in the United Kingdom.

14. Delegation of disciplinary powers

The delegation of disciplinary powers contained in paragraphs 11 and 12 above shall be subject to the right of appeal mentioned in paragraphs 11.g. and 12.c. respectively.

15. Regulations

The Board shall have the power either of its own initiative, or where an objection has been lodged under the Regulations to make enquiry into and deal with any breach or suspected breach of the Regulations, and summarily to impose a fine not exceeding £300 for any breach of the Regulations and in default of payment thereof to impose at its discretion any one or more of the penalties set out in paragraph 11.j. above.

RULE A(A): USE OF THE CLUB PREMISES BY MEMBERS

1. Hours at which the Club Premises will be Open

The Club premises shall be open and ready for the reception of Members and closed at such times as the Board shall arrange from time to time. In addition to the Members, the Board may grant access to the Club premises to a designated class of non-voting members to be known as 'Friend of the Royal Kennel Club' upon payment of an annual subscription, to allow use of the Club premises at times designated by the Board. This designated class shall have no voting rights. These rules governing use of the Club premises shall apply to Friends of the Royal Kennel Club, and the Board may set such further limits on their access and use of the Club premises as the Board deems appropriate.

2. Permitted Hours

The permitted hours for the supply of intoxicating liquor in the Club premises shall be such as may be determined from time to time by the Board in accordance with the provisions of the Licensing Act and as notified to the Clerk of the Licensing Authorities.

3. Purchase of liquor

No Member shall at any time be entitled to receive at the expense of the Royal Kennel Club any commission, percentage or similar payment on or with reference to the purchase of intoxicating liquor by the Royal Kennel Club.

4. Visitors

Members may personally introduce visitors into the Club premises and must record their visit in the book provided. Members must accompany visitors so introduced during the period of their stay and no visitor so introduced shall be permitted to make any payment for any goods or services provided either directly or indirectly. The Board shall have power in its absolute discretion to exclude any visitor so introduced.

5. Newspapers etc.

No Member shall take away from the Club premises, upon any pretence whatever, any newspaper, pamphlet, book or other article, the property of the Royal Kennel Club.

6. Gratuities to Employees

No Member shall give any money or gratuity to any employee of the Royal Kennel Club except under special arrangements made by the Royal Kennel Club at Christmas or when an employee leaves.

7. Cards in the Club premises

Only such games of cards shall be played in the Club Premises as the Board may from time to time determine, and for such stakes as they may fix.

8. Mobile phones

The use of mobile phones within the Members' rooms is NOT permitted.

9. Dress code

Members of the Royal Kennel Club and their guests are expected to dress appropriately when visiting the Club Premises. The Dress Code for anyone visiting the Club Rooms will be as published from time to time and may differ for specific events but will always be appropriate to the standards of a private members' club. Members and organisers of events must take full responsibility for ensuring that all attendees comply with that Dress Code.

The Royal Kennel Club reserves the right to deny entry to, or remove, anyone failing to comply with the Dress Code.

10. Settlement of accounts

All Members are required to pay their bills for every expense they incur in the Royal Kennel Club before they leave the Club premises.

11. Complaints

All complaints respecting provisions, wines, etc, shall be stated at the back of the bill and signed by the Member complaining for the notice of the Secretary, to whom also all complaints respecting the Royal Kennel Club staff or domestic arrangements of the Royal Kennel Club shall be addressed.

RULE A(B): SCALE OF FEES**1. Scale of Fees**

In accordance with Rule A (Financial Powers), fees inclusive of VAT will be charged for Royal Kennel Club services as listed in the succeeding paragraphs:

2. Canine Services**2.1 REGISTRATIONS**

(a)	(i)	Each registered puppy (within 12 months of birth)	£27.00
(b)		Each registered dog (12 months and over)	£85.00
(c)		Each entry in the Activity Register	£22.00
(d)		Re-registration	£10.00
(e)		Transfer	£24.00
(f)		Change of Name:	
	(i)	(Kennel name)	£16.00
	(ii)	Change of name (other)	£32.00
(g)		Litter naming service	£24.00
(h)		Litter application requiring registration of an overseas stud dog	
	(i)	3 generation	£22.00
	(ii)	5 generation	£27.00

2.2 KENNEL NAMES

(a)	Registration	£53.00
(b)	Adding another interest	£27.00
(c)	Annual maintenance	£22.00
	(if paid by direct debit)	(£20.00)
(d)	Reservation of Historically Significant Kennel Names by Breed Societies (for 50 years)	£52.00

2.3 AUTHORITY TO COMPETE

Authority to Compete (ATC) for overseas competitors	£35.00
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2.4 RE-IMPORTATION

Re-registration of a re-imported dog:

(a)	No change to previous information	£12.00
(b)	Additional information	£16.00

3. Registered and Affiliated Societies**3.1 REGISTRATION OF TITLE**

(Payable on application, 50% non-returnable)

(a)	Societies	£106.00
(b)	Branches and ringcraft societies	£27.00

3.2 MAINTENANCE OF TITLE

(a)	Societies	£54.00
	(if paid by direct debit)	(£48.00)
(b)	Branches and Ringcraft Societies	£22.00
	(if paid by direct debit)	(£20.00)

4. Shows and Trials**4.1 SHOW LICENCES Etc.**

- (a) General Championship Show offering more than 40 sets of Challenge Certificates..... £1,063.00
(Any additional licence approved by the Board, at no extra cost)
- (b) General Championship Show offering 40 sets of Challenge Certificates or fewer£266.00
- (c) Group Championship Show.....£266.00
- (d) Breed, Obedience or Agility Championship Show (each) £64.00
- (e) Premier Agility, Premier Obedience or Premier Heelwork to Music Shows £48.00
- (f) General or Group Open Shows..... £48.00
- (g) Open Shows or Competitions (each) organised by Registered Clubs or Societies £37.00
- (h) Open Shows or Competitions organised by Authorised Clubs or Societies £64.00
- (i) Limited Shows or Competitions organised by Registered Clubs or Societies £10.00
- (j) Limited Shows or Competitions organised by Authorised Clubs or Societies £27.00
- (k) Companion Dog Shows* £10.00
- (l) Special Events* £10.00
- (m) Additional fee for each dog entered (excluding dogs entered not for competition and dogs entered for classes where Challenge Certificates were not on offer) £0.20
- (n) Additional fee of 5p per entry over 1,000 entries per day, up to a maximum of £100 per day for Limited and Open Agility Shows organised by Authorised Societies.
- (o) For licences issued to Authorised Societies for Open Agility Shows there would be no change to fees up to and including the first 10 licences per year, thereafter from 11-15 licences the fee would be £155 per day and for 16 or more licences a year it would be £259 per day.
- (p) For licences issued to Authorised Societies for Limited Agility Shows there would be no change to fees up to and including the first 10 licences per year, thereafter from 11-15 licences the fee would be £103 per day and for 16 or more licences a year it would be £155 per day.

4.2 TRIALS LICENCES

- (a) Two/three day Field or Championship Working Trial £37.00
- (b) One day Field or an Open or Members Working Trial..... £27.00

4.3 CHANGE OF LICENCE

- (a) Voluntary change of date or issue of revised licence £6.00

* To cover Licences for General, Breed, Obedience and Agility Shows, fee payable for each applicable activity.

5. The Royal Kennel Club Computer Services

In addition to the above fees, computerised documents, reports and pedigrees maybe available at rates of charges approved by the Board.

ROYAL KENNEL CLUB REGULATIONS FOR CLASSIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

As at 1st July 2026

CLASSIFICATION

1. Introduction.

The Royal Kennel Club Board shall maintain a number of separate registers including:-

- a. The Breed Register for each pure breed dog of a breed that has been accorded full recognition by the Royal Kennel Club. In special circumstances dogs of impure or unverified breeding may be entered, at the discretion of the Royal Kennel Club Board, in the Breed Register in accordance with Regulation B2c.
- b. The Imported Breed Register for each pure bred imported dog of a breed not previously recognised, or of a breed which has been accorded full recognition by the Royal Kennel Club but in which there has been no registration activity for 10 years.
- c. The Activity Register for dogs ineligible for registration on any other register.

2. The Breed Register.

- a. Breeds given full recognition by the Royal Kennel Club (i.e. for the purpose of classification, registration, competition and entry in the Stud Book) are listed at Annex 'A' and are categorised as the Sporting Group (Hounds, Gundogs and Terriers) and the Non-Sporting Group (Utility, Working, Pastoral and Toys). Additionally certain sub-groups are also recognised, and are also listed at Annex 'A'.
- b. Subject to Regulation B21 no dog shall be entered in the Breed Register unless:-
 - (1) Its parents are entered in that register and as being of the same breed, or
 - (2) It or its parents are entered in the corresponding register kept by a Kennel Club with which the Royal Kennel Club has a reciprocal agreement, or which has full membership, associate membership or contract partnership of the F.C.I. and as being of the same breed, or
 - (3) It or its parents are entered in a recognised stud book and shown as being of the same breed, or
 - (4) As allowed by Regulation 2c below.
- c. Dogs of breeds already fully recognised, whose breeding is either impure or unverified, may be accepted for registration on the Breed Register. The registration certificate for a dog so registered will be annotated with an asterisk or asterisks (or UAS) in accordance with the agreed protocol (as amended from time to time) to indicate impure or unverified breeding. Such dogs will be similarly identified in the Breed Records Supplement. Except for cases to which Regulation B21 applies applications to register a dog under this Regulation will only be considered in the following special circumstances:
 - (1) if the dog has been bred under authority granted in advance by the Royal Kennel Club Board or
 - (2) the dog/owner meet with the requirements set out from time to time by the Royal Kennel Club Board.

3. The Imported Breed Register.

- a. The Royal Kennel Club Board may accept for entry in the Imported Breed Register an imported dog of a previously unrecognised breed if the dog is imported from a country either having a Kennel Club with which there is reciprocal agreement or which has full membership of the FCI or where there is a Breed Club maintaining a stud book and acceptable to the Royal Kennel Club. The Royal Kennel Club may, in its absolute discretion, refuse to recognise any proposed breed.
- b. A breed given Imported Breed Register status may be transferred to the Breed Register at a later date at the discretion of the Royal Kennel Club Board. Applications to transfer a breed from the Imported Breed Register to the Breed Register should be made to the Royal Kennel Club Board by the appropriate breed society in accordance with the guidelines most recently published.
- c. Foreign breeds, previously eligible for entry on the Breed Register will be transferred to the Imported Breed Register in accordance with Regulation B1b where there has been no registration activity for 10 years.
- d. Breeds on the Imported Breed Register will be de-classified if there has been no registration activity within the breed over a ten year period.
- e. Breeds already recognised by the Royal Kennel Club Board for entry on the Imported Breed Register are identified at Annex 'A'.

4. The Activity Register.

- a. Subject to any special circumstances the Royal Kennel Club Board will allow any dog of any ancestry to be registered on to the Activity Register.
- b. Dogs registered on the Activity Register are eligible for competition in obedience classes, working trials, agility tests, flyball competitions, heelwork to music competitions, rally competitions and canicross races.
- c. The progeny of dogs registered on the Activity Register are eligible for registration in this register *only*, regardless of the fact that one or other parent may be registered in the Breed Register.

REGISTRATION**5. General.**

An application to register a dog or litter, transfer, re-register, change or cancel the name of a dog, endorse a registration or register a kennel name must be made on the official forms provided by the Royal Kennel Club, and by payment of the fee then current. All puppies in a litter must be registered by name on a single form, and within twelve months of birth. Applications to register litters more than twelve months old, or to register additional puppies omitted at the time of initial registration, will be considered for registration only in special circumstances.

NAMING**6. General.**

Guidance as to the naming of dogs is given on the relevant application form. Particular attention is drawn to the use of kennel names.

7. Kennel names.

The holder(s) of a kennel name granted by the Royal Kennel Club Board has the sole right, so long as the Kennel Name is maintained, to use the kennel name as part of a dog's name when registering a litter or changing the name of a dog. The procedure by which a kennel name is chosen, granted, used and maintained is given on the relevant application form.

8. Change of name.

- a. Addition of an kennel name. Subject as mentioned below, the registered name of a dog may normally be changed once only, and only by the addition of the owner's kennel name to the existing name in accordance with Regulation B7 and the notes given on the application form. However, the name of a dog cannot be changed more than thirty days after the date of the first award which qualifies that dog for entry in the Royal Kennel Club Stud Book.
- b. Removal of a kennel name. If a dog is transferred back to the ownership of the original breeder(s), a kennel name added to its name as per sub-para 8a above, may be removed at the request of the original breeder(s). However, this may only be done provided that:-
 - (1) The written consent of the person(s) who added the kennel name is obtained.
 - (2) The dog has not gained entry into the Royal Kennel Club Stud Book.
Once a kennel name has been removed, no further alterations or amendments to the name will be permitted.
- c. Changing the original name. In exceptional circumstances, consideration may be given to changing a dog's name on application by the breeder provided that:-
 - (1) such application is made within six months from the date of registration, and
 - (2) the application meets the requirements detailed on the application form.
- d. Notwithstanding the above provisions, the Royal Kennel Club Board reserves the right to amend or cancel a Royal Kennel Club registered name of a dog or a Kennel Name, if appropriate to do so, and in particular, if a registered name or Kennel Name is contrary to any naming requirements for the registration of a dog.

9. Naming of Imported Dogs.

The name of an imported dog already registered with an organisation recognised by the Royal Kennel Club cannot be changed except by the addition of the owner's registered kennel name in accordance with Regulation B7. An application for change of name in such circumstances will be accepted free of charge if made at the time of importation. No further change of name will be allowed. In addition, the letters IMP shall appear as a suffix after the dog's name on the registration certificate of all imported dogs (application for whose registration should be made in accordance with Regulation B13).

10. Naming of dogs already registered within the British Isles.

The name of a dog already registered with an Organisation within the British Isles, recognised by the Royal Kennel Club, cannot be changed on registration with the Royal Kennel Club, except either by addition of the owner's registered Kennel Name in accordance with Regulation B7 or by the addition of another word to the name in the case of a dog previously registered under a single word name. Letters denoting the club or organisation with which the dog was originally registered shall appear as a suffix after the dog's name on the registration certificate as authorised by the Royal Kennel Club Board. A list of the letters currently in use denoting the relevant organisation is attached at Annex 'B'. Applications to register such dogs shall be made in accordance with Regulation B14.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**11. Cancellation.**

If a registered dog dies before it has been entered for a trial or show or has been bred from, the Royal Kennel Club Board may cancel the name on application by the registered owner.

12. Endorsements.

- a. General. The registered owner of a dog may apply to place one or more endorsements on a dog's records and to have the registration certificate annotated accordingly. The endorsements which may be placed are as follows:-
 - (1) Progeny not eligible for registration.
 - (2) Not eligible for issue of an export pedigree.

- b. Conditions. The following conditions shall apply to the placing and removal of endorsements.
- (1) When a dog whose registration is or will be endorsed is transferred to new ownership, the endorsement(s) will be maintained. However, the person who placed the endorsement(s) must bring the attention of the endorsement to the new registered owner(s) and obtain written and signed confirmation from the new owner(s), or an agent or authorised representative of a new owner(s), at or before the date on which the dog is physically transferred, that the new owner(s) is aware of the endorsement(s), regardless of whether or not the endorsed registration certificate is available. If requested, the person(s) who placed the endorsement(s) must be able to produce a copy of such confirmation. The confirmation notice must be in the pro forma template as prescribed by the Royal Kennel Club from time to time.
 - (2) If an acknowledgement, signed at the date of transfer by the new owner, is not obtained, in the form as prescribed by the Royal Kennel Club from time to time then the endorsement may be lifted on application of the new registered owner.
 - (3) Any endorsement may otherwise only be lifted with permission in writing of the endorser or of a person with the due authority from the endorser (in the event the endorser cannot give permission due to death or incapacity) or by the Royal Kennel Club in appropriate circumstances.
 - (4) Regulations B12.b.(1), (2) and (3) only apply where the registered owner who originally placed an endorsement on a dog's record, transfers the dog to a new ownership. If subsequent transfers take place, the endorsement becomes a matter between the parties involved. In such cases the registered owner placing the endorsement shall not be responsible if notification of the endorsement is not given to any new owner, and may exercise his right to decide whether the endorsement be maintained or removed subject to (5) below.
 - (5) The Royal Kennel Club Board reserves the right to impose, remove or maintain any endorsement. In particular the Royal Kennel Club Board reserves the right to impose an additional endorsement 'not eligible for entry in any event held under Kennel Club Rules and Regulations, nor any unlicensed event recognised by the Royal Kennel Club'.

13. Imported dogs.

- a. Registration. The conditions under which imported dogs may be registered are as follows:-
- (1) Dogs of breeds already fully recognised, imported from countries having a Kennel Club with which the Royal Kennel Club has a reciprocal agreement or which has full membership of the F.C.I. or where there is a recognised stud book may be entered in the Breed Register.
 - (2) Dogs of unverified breeding may only be entered in the Breed Register in accordance with Regulation B2.c.
 - (3) Dogs of breeds not fully recognised for the purposes of the Breed Register may only be entered in the Imported Breed Register and only in accordance with Regulation B3.a.
 - (4) In all cases the Royal Kennel Club requires that the import registration must confirm the colour of the dog's coat using the Royal Kennel Club's list of registration colour options for the specific breed (rather than the colour recorded with the overseas registry). DNA colour testing may be required to verify the application.

- b. Documentation. Applications to register imported dogs must be accompanied by:-
 - (1) A copy of the official export pedigree as supplied by an organisation in the country of export recognised by the Royal Kennel Club, unless the dog is being registered under the provisions of B2.c. This export pedigree should show the registered ownership of the person importing the dog.
 - (2) If the export pedigree does not show the registered ownership of the person importing the dog, the applicant should send a copy of the registration certificate issued by the Royal Kennel Club of the country from which the dog is being imported in the importer's name.
- c. Quarantine. In the case of dogs entering the country, and subject to quarantine, applications to register the dog may be made whilst it is in quarantine. However, registration itself will not take place until the dog has left quarantine.
- d. Government Regulations. Dogs entering the country either under the existing quarantine regulations or the Traded Dogs Regulations (Balai Directive) or the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS), must do so strictly in accordance with Government Regulations. The required documentation should be retained by the person importing the dog, and must be available if requested.
- e. Dogs already in the United Kingdom, for competition purposes, having obtained an Authority to Compete (ATC) number, which subsequently become resident in the United Kingdom, will need to be fully registered. Applications for registration should be made on application forms provided for that purpose.
- f. Provided that in all circumstances the controls on registrations as set out in the B Regulations prevail and pursuant to these Regulations any application for an import registration may be refused if in contravention of these regulations and/or such registration may be subject to cancellation if at a later date it is shown that it was made in contravention to these regulations.

14. Dogs already registered.

A dog already registered with another organisation within the British Isles recognised by the Royal Kennel Club may be accepted for registration on the Breed Register. Copies of the appropriate registration/transfer certificate and official pedigree as issued by the relevant Organisation should accompany the application. Dogs so registered shall be named in accordance with Regulation B10.

15. Dogs being exported.

On application and payment of the appropriate fee the Royal Kennel Club will provide a certified three generation export pedigree in respect of a dog registered prior to its leaving the United Kingdom. If the dog has not already been registered in the ownership of the first overseas consignee, application for transfer should be made at the time at which application is made for the export pedigree.

16. Multiple matings.

If a bitch is served by more than one dog of the same breed as herself in the same heat, the identity of the correct sire of each puppy in the litter must be established via DNA testing in order to register the resulting progeny.

17. Artificial breeding.

- a. Artificial Insemination. Breeding by artificial insemination, with a view to Royal Kennel Club registration, must be conducted in line with the requirements set out from time to time by the Royal Kennel Club Board.
- b. Cloning. The registration of cloned dogs is not permitted.

18. Breeder.

The breeder of a litter is the owner of the dam at the time of whelping.

19. Dogs with cropped ears.

- a. Registration. – The Royal Kennel Club Board will not accept for registration any dog with cropped ears. Such dogs are ineligible to take part in or attend any Royal Kennel Club regulated show, trial or working test.
- b. Cancellations. – If any dog is registered in contravention of Regulation 19a, or has its ears cropped after registration, the registration will be cancelled as may the registration of the progeny of any such dog. Furthermore, the owner at the time of cropping of any such dog may be liable to action under Royal Kennel Club Rule A11.

20. Dogs for competitions.

Dogs entered for any form of Royal Kennel Club competition i.e. show classes, field trials, gundog working tests, obedience, working trials, agility, heelwork to music, and rally must be registered in the name of the person(s) making the entry. If, at the closing date for entries, the owner(s) have applied for but have not received the Royal Kennel Club registration certificate, the dog shall be entered in the name shown as the first choice on the application form for registration and the name should be followed by the letters 'N.A.F.' (name applied for). In the case of applications for transfer of ownership and change of name, the dog should be entered 'T.A.F.' (transfer applied for) 'C.N.A.F.' (change of name applied for) where application has been made but not received. Dogs are exempt from registration in the following cases:-

- a. Dogs either exhibited exclusively in classes specially exempted by the Royal Kennel Club Board or in special classes sanctioned by the Board.
- b. Hounds belonging to recognised packs.

21. Proviso.

In certain instances Regulation B2.b may be varied on the authority of the Royal Kennel Club Board. The breeds concerned are listed in Annex 'C' to B Regulations.

22. Control of Registrations.

The following additional provisions will apply:-

- a. The Royal Kennel Club Board may reject any application made under these Regulations and may cancel or suspend any registration or grant of a kennel name already made and may instruct any registration to be made.
- b. Specifically, the Royal Kennel Club Board may suspend the registration of any dog which is banned from participation in any Royal Kennel Club licensed event as a result of a biting incident. The same provision shall apply to any registered dog which is the subject of a successful criminal or civil action in the courts as a result of a biting incident.
- c. The Royal Kennel Club Board will not accept an application to register a litter when:
 - (1) The dam has already whelped four litters save in exceptional circumstances and only provided the application is made prior to the mating and with veterinary evidence as to the suitability of the bitch involved in the proposed whelping and permission has been received, or
 - (2) The dam has already reached the age of 8 years at the date of whelping save in exceptional circumstances and only provided application is made prior to the mating, and the proposed dam has previously whelped at least one other registered litter and permission has been received. Any such application must be supported by veterinary evidence as to the suitability of the bitch involved in the proposed whelping, or
 - (3) The dam was under one year old at the time of mating, or
 - (4) The offspring are the result of any mating between father and daughter, mother and son or brother and sister, save in exceptional circumstances or for scientifically proven welfare reasons and permission has been received, or

- (5) The dam has already had two litters delivered by caesarean section, save for scientifically proven welfare reasons and this only provided the application is made prior to the mating.

The Royal Kennel Club Board reserves the right to refuse any application made under Regulation B 22.c. (1), (2), (4) and (5).

- d. In the event that a breeder is required by law to obtain a breeding licence, that breeder may be required to produce his/her licence to the Royal Kennel Club. If such licence is not produced and/or no reasonable explanation is given, any applications to register litters may be refused.
- e. Any person disqualified under Royal Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(5) and/or A11.j.(9) may not be permitted to transfer their dog(s) or their kennel name to other ownership during the currency of the suspension/disqualification: the same will also apply while a complaint is under investigation.
- f. As a condition of acceptance of the recording or maintenance of a registration made under these regulations, The Board reserves the right to require that DNA profiles be obtained for the parents/and or all/any puppies involved in a registered litter or for such litter to be satisfactorily verified by DNA parentage testing, or to require a DNA colour test to verify the colour of a registered dog and/or veracity of a registration, if deemed necessary.
- g. A breeder must not sell Royal Kennel Club registered dog/s to or via a commercial dog wholesaler or retail pet dealer or shop. Neither may a breeder directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. If this regulation is contravened then the Royal Kennel Club Board may refuse to accept litters for registration and/or refer the matter as a complaint under Rule A11.

23. Publicity.

Any person claiming Royal Kennel Club registration in an advertisement for a dog or its progeny may only include recognised Royal Kennel Club qualifications in support of such advertisements.

24. Compliance with Royal Kennel Club Rules and Regulations.

A person applying for any form of registration is deemed to be and remain bound by Royal Kennel Club Rules and Regulations as amended from time to time.

25. Royal Kennel Club registered dogs at licensed events.

The use of electronic shock collars is not permitted at any event licensed by the Royal Kennel Club; this includes all competitions, i.e. show classes, field trials, gundog working tests, obedience, working trials, agility, flyball, heelwork to music, rally and canicross races. This must apply at the venue, ground or within the precincts of the such venue or ground.

Annex A to B Regulations**B(A)****SPORTING BREEDS****HOUND GROUP**

Afghan Hound	Deerhound
Azawakh (Imported Register)	Finnish Spitz
Basenji	Foxhound
Basset Bleu de Gascogne (Imported Register)	Grand Bleu de Gascogne (Imported Register)
Basset Fauve de Bretagne	Greyhound
Basset Griffon Vendéen (Grand)	Griffon Fauve de Bretagne (Imported Register)
Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)	Hamiltonstovare
Basset Hound	Harrier
Bavarian Mountain Hound	Ibizan Hound
Beagle	Irish Wolfhound
Black and Tan Coonhound (Imported Register)	Norwegian Elkhound
Bloodhound	Otterhound
Borzoï	Pharaoh Hound
Cirneco dell'Etna	Polish Hunting Dog (Imported Register)
Dachshund (Long Haired)	Portuguese Podengo (Warren Hound)
Dachshund (Miniature Long Haired)	Rhodesian Ridgeback
Dachshund (Smooth Haired)	Saluki
Dachshund (Miniature Smooth Haired)	Sloughi
Dachshund (Wire Haired)	Whippet
Dachshund (Miniature Wire Haired)	

GUNDOG GROUP

Barbet (Imported Register)	Retriever (Chesapeake Bay)
Bracco Italiano	Retriever (Curly Coated)
Braque D'Auvergne (Imported Register)	Retriever (Flat Coated)
Brittany	Retriever (Golden)
English Setter	Retriever (Labrador)
German Longhaired Pointer	Retriever (Nova Scotia Duck Tolling)
German Shorthaired Pointer	Slovakian Rough Haired Pointer (Imported Register)
German Wirehaired Pointer	Small Munsterlander (Imported Register)
Gordon Setter	Spaniel (American Cocker)
Hungarian Vizsla	Spaniel (American Water) (Imported Register)
Hungarian Wirehaired Vizsla	Spaniel (Clumber)
Irish Red & White Setter	Spaniel (Cocker)
Irish Setter	Spaniel (English Springer)
Italian Spinone	Spaniel (Field)
Korthals Griffon (Imported Register)	Spaniel (Irish Water)
Lagotto Romagnolo	Spaniel (Sussex)
Large Munsterlander	Spaniel (Welsh Springer)
Pointer	Spanish Water Dog
Portuguese Pointer (Imported Register)	Weimaraner

TERRIER GROUP

Airedale Terrier	Kerry Blue Terrier
Australian Terrier	Lakeland Terrier
Bedlington Terrier	Manchester Terrier
Border Terrier	Norfolk Terrier
Bull Terrier	Norwich Terrier
Bull Terrier (Miniature)	Parson Russell Terrier
Cairn Terrier	Scottish Terrier
Cesky Terrier	Sealyham Terrier
Dandie Dinmont Terrier	Skye Terrier
Fox Terrier (Smooth)	Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier
Fox Terrier (Wire)	Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Glen of Imaal Terrier	Welsh Terrier
Irish Terrier	West Highland White Terrier
Jack Russell Terrier	

NON-SPORTING BREEDS**UTILITY GROUP**

Akita	Japanese Akita Inu
Boston Terrier	Japanese Shiba Inu
Bulldog	Japanese Spitz
Canaan Dog	Keeshond
Chow Chow	Kooikerhondje
Dalmatian	Korean Jindo (Imported Register)
Eurasier	Lhasa Apso
French Bulldog	Miniature Schnauzer
German Spitz (Klein)	Poodle (Miniature)
German Spitz (Mittel)	Poodle (Standard)

Poodle (Toy)
 Schipperke
 Schnauzer
 Shar Pei
 Shih Tzu
 Tibetan Spaniel

Tibetan Terrier
 Xoloitzcuintle (Mexican Hairless) (Intermediate) (Imported Register)
 Xoloitzcuintle (Mexican Hairless) (Miniature) (Imported Register)
 Xoloitzcuintle (Mexican Hairless) (Standard) (Imported Register)

WORKING GROUP

Alaskan Malamute
 Bernese Mountain Dog
 Bouvier des Flandres
 Boxer
 Bullmastiff
 Canadian Eskimo Dog
 Doberman
 Dogue de Bordeaux
 Entlebucher Mountain Dog (Imported Register)
 German Pinscher
 Giant Schnauzer
 Great Dane
 Great Swiss Mountain Dog
 Greenland Dog

Hovawart
 Leonberger
 Mastiff
 Neapolitan Mastiff
 Newfoundland
 Portuguese Water Dog
 Pyrenean Mastiff (Imported Register)
 Rottweiler
 Russian Black Terrier
 St. Bernard
 Siberian Husky
 Tibetan Mastiff
 Yakutian Laika (Imported Register)

PASTORAL GROUP

Anatolian Shepherd Dog
 Australian Cattle Dog
 Australian Shepherd
 Bearded Collie
 Beauceron
 Belgian Shepherd Dog (Groenendael)
 Belgian Shepherd Dog (Laekenois)
 Belgian Shepherd Dog (Malinois)
 Belgian Shepherd Dog (Tervueren)
 Bergamasco (Imported Register)
 Border Collie
 Briard
 Catalan Sheepdog
 Collie (Rough)
 Collie (Smooth)
 Estrela Mountain Dog
 Finnish Lapphund
 German Shepherd Dog
 Hungarian Kuvasz (Imported Register)
 Hungarian Mudi (Imported Register)
 Hungarian Puli

Hungarian Pumi
 Icelandic Sheepdog (Imported Register)
 Komondor
 Lancashire Heeler
 Maremma Sheepdog
 Miniature American Shepherd (Imported Register)
 Norwegian Buhund
 Old English Sheepdog
 Picardy Sheepdog (Imported Register)
 Polish Lowland Sheepdog
 Pyrenean Mountain Dog
 Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired)
 Pyrenean Sheepdog (Smooth faced) (Imported Register)
 Samoyed
 Shetland Sheepdog
 Swedish Lapphund (Imported Register)
 Swedish Vallhund
 Turkish Kangal Dog
 Welsh Corgi (Cardigan)
 Welsh Corgi (Pembroke)
 White Swiss Shepherd Dog (Imported Register)

TOY GROUP

Affenpinscher
 Australian Silky Terrier
 Bichon Frise
 Bolognese
 Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
 Chihuahua (Long Coat)
 Chihuahua (Smooth Coat)
 Chinese Crested
 Coton de Tulear
 English Toy Terrier (Black and Tan)
 Griffon Bruxellois
 Havanese

Italian Greyhound
 Japanese Chin
 King Charles Spaniel
 Lowchen (Little Lion Dog)
 Maltese
 Miniature Pinscher
 Papillon
 Pekingese
 Pomeranian
 Pug
 Russian Toy
 Yorkshire Terrier

SUB-GROUPS

The following breeds form sub-groups:
 Basset Griffon Vendeen
 Belgian Shepherd Dogs
 Breeds which Hunt, Point and Retrieve
 Chihuahuas
 Collies (Rough) and Collies (Smooth)
 Dachshunds
 Fox Terriers

German Spitz
 Pointers and Setters
 Poodles
 Retrievers
 Sporting Spaniels
 Schnauzers
 Utility Gundog
 Welsh Corgis

The following breeds are classified as having varieties:
 Belgian Shepherd Dog
 Bull Terrier
 Chihuahua
 Dachshund

German Spitz
 Fox Terrier
 Poodle

DOGS ALREADY REGISTERED—SUFFIXES

1. The following letters are currently in use as suffixes to denote the club or organisation within the British Isles with which a dog has already been registered.

AMHB — Association of Masters of Harriers and Beagles

BJRTC — British Jack Russell Terrier Club

GKC — Guernsey Kennel Club

GSB — Greyhound Stud Book

IKC — Irish Kennel Club

ISDS — International Sheepdog Society

KCJ — Kennel Club of Jersey

MFHA — Masters of Foxhounds Association

PRTC — Parson Russell Terrier Club

PROVISO TO REGULATION B2

1. The mating of inter-variety Chihuahuas is permitted. When Chihuahuas (Smooth Coat) are mated any dog in the resulting litter shall be eligible for entry in the register of the breed to which its coat most closely conforms. Therefore, progeny may also be registered as Chihuahuas (Long Coat).

2. When Belgian Shepherd Dogs of the same variety are mated any dog in the resulting litter shall be entered in the register of the breed to which its coat and/or colour most closely conforms.

3. When Collies (Smooth) are mated any dog in the resulting litter shall be eligible for entry in the register of the breed to which its coat most closely conforms. Therefore, progeny may also be registered as Collies (Rough).

4. When Dachshunds of the same variety are mated any dog in the resulting litter shall be entered in the register of the breed to which its coat most closely conforms. This proviso does not allow for the interchange of Dachshunds between the two sizes.

THE ROYAL KENNEL CLUB REGULATIONS FOR THE REGISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF TITLE OF SOCIETIES, BRANCHES AND BREED COUNCILS AND THE AFFILIATION OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES AND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES

As at 1st July 2026

(In the following Regulations, the term society shall apply to societies, councils, branches, clubs and associations. The term organisation shall apply to agricultural societies and municipal authorities).

1. Types of Society and Organisation

a. *Registered societies*

The Board will consider applications to register societies as detailed below:

Breed society - Society serving the interest of a specific breed or sub-group either nationally or regionally, as defined within its title. Once registered these Societies may hold breed and obedience shows and matches, agility shows and matches, heelwork to music competitions, rally competitions, canicross competitions, companion dog shows and in certain cases field trials, gundog working tests, working trials and rallies. [For breeds on the Imported Breed Register, registered breed societies will be termed 'provisional'.]

General Society - Society serving the interests of more than one breed either nationally or regionally, as defined within its title. Once registered these societies may hold breed and obedience shows and matches, agility shows and matches, heelwork to music competitions, rally competitions, canicross competitions, companion dog shows and in certain cases field trials, gundog working tests, working trials and rallies.

Dog Training Society - Society with activities confined to the training of dogs. Once registered these societies may hold obedience shows and matches, agility shows and matches, heelwork to music competitions, rally competitions, canicross competitions, companion dog shows and in certain cases working trials and working trial rallies.

Ringcraft Society - Society with activities confined to ringcraft training (breed and/or obedience). Once registered these societies may hold breed and obedience matches.

b. *Branches of registered societies*

The Board will consider applications to register branches of registered societies.

c. *Affiliated organisations*

The Board will consider applications to affiliate organisations as detailed below:

agricultural society/municipal authority – Organisation wishing to organise a licensed dog show as part of an agricultural show or municipal show. Once affiliated these societies may hold one licensed show per year, as part of the affiliated organisation's main event. However, at the Royal Kennel Club's discretion, agricultural/municipal show societies granted a championship show licence may be permitted to hold this show on a date or dates other than those of the main event.

d. *Breed Councils*

The Board will consider applications to register breed councils which represent the majority of registered societies for a particular breed or variety of breed.

2. Application

a. *Breed, general, dog training, agility and ringcraft societies*

- (1) Application must be made in writing to the Royal Kennel Club in the first instance. The applicant society will be sent the appropriate Registration of Title application form, on which the proposed title of the society with at least two further alternatives must be given.
- (2) The applicant must also complete a questionnaire giving further information. The completed registration of title application form and the questionnaire must be returned to the Royal Kennel Club together with the relevant fee, the names and addresses of the officers and committee, a list of current members, details of the society's financial status and a copy of the proposed constitution/rules which must comply with the requirements of the Board.
- (3) If the Board decides that the application can proceed it will be advertised in the Royal Kennel Club Journal and subsequently reconsidered by the Board with any objections received from registered societies to the proposed registration. If the application is not granted a proportion of the fee is refundable.
- (4) If the Board gives final approval to the application, the registration of title will then be notified in the Royal Kennel Club Journal and the society added to the register.
- (5) A society must not make arrangements to hold shows, agility competitions, field trials, gundog working tests, show gundog working days or working trials, rallies or matches and heelwork to music competitions until the Board has agreed to register the title of the society.
- (6) Ringcraft societies only:
If following advertisement the Board decides that the application is acceptable, the society will be added to the ringcraft register.

b. *Formation of branches of registered societies*

- (1) Any registered society may make application to the Board to form a branch. A special application form can be obtained from the Royal Kennel Club which should be completed and submitted with the relevant fee and other supporting papers as requested.
- (2) The application will be advertised in the Royal Kennel Club Journal and subsequently considered by the Board with any objections received to the proposed registration. If the application is refused a proportion of the fee is refundable.
- (3) If the Board then decides that the branch can be registered and that its Constitution is acceptable, it will be added to the Register.
- (4) When the Board has granted permission for the formation of a branch, this will entitle the branch to hold obedience shows, agility shows and matches, working trials, rallies, heelwork to music competitions, rally competitions, canicross competitions and breed and/or obedience matches under Royal Kennel Club Regulations and in the case of branches formed for the purpose of undertaking activities not specifically governed by Royal Kennel Club Regulations, the activities as approved at the time of the application.

c. *Affiliated organisations*

- (1) Application must be made in the form of a letter, on the official notepaper of the applicant organisation. A copy of the rules of the canine section must also be forwarded and must include the method of election of the officers and committee members with information concerning their previous experience in the canine world.
- (2) The Board also requires:
 - (a) Information regarding the venue which will be used for dog shows.
 - (b) A scale plan detailing amenities and space available for the dog shows.
 - (c) The month in which the proposed show will be held.

- (3) The relevant affiliation fee must be forwarded with the application.
- (4) If the Board approves the application it will be advertised in the Royal Kennel Club Journal and reconsidered together with any objection from a registered society to the proposed affiliation.
- (5) If the Board then decides that the organisation can be affiliated and that its canine section constitution is acceptable the organisation will be added to the Register.
- (6) Conditions of affiliation:
 - (a) That the organisation acknowledges the Royal Kennel Club as the final authority for interpreting the rules and regulations of the canine section and in all cases relevant to canine affairs, making relevant documents available to the Royal Kennel Club when necessary.
 - (b) That the organisation shall apply to the Royal Kennel Club for the renewal of affiliation during the month of January in each year and shall submit such other returns as specified within these Regulations.
 - (c) If the canine section expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, dog shows, trials or competitions, the organisation must report the matter in writing to the Royal Kennel Club within seven days and supply particulars if required.
 - (d) No person suspended under Royal Kennel Club Rules shall be a member of a canine section of an affiliated organisation and should any person under suspension be allowed to remain a member, the officers and committee of the organisation may be dealt with under Royal Kennel Club Rule A11.
 - (e) Affiliation to the Royal Kennel Club will allow an organisation to apply for one dog show licence each year, as provided for by Regulation C1.c.
- d. *Formation of breed councils by registered breed societies*
 - (1) The Board will consider an application to form a breed council from the majority of the registered breed societies for a particular breed or variety of breed. The societies forming the council shall decide whether the representation on the council shall be in proportion to the number of societies. In the event of a dispute regarding majority, the Board shall be the final authority for interpreting the rules and regulations and the constitution of a council.
 - (2) A council shall submit its constitution or any alteration thereto for the approval of the Board and the constitution shall not be altered without the prior agreement of the majority of the constituent members of the council. The constitution of each council shall define the method of voting. A breed council shall not have any executive powers as regards the affairs of its constituent societies. A council must also compile, annually, lists of persons who would be supported when judging at differing types of shows, in accordance with Regulation C4.d.(v) breed council judges lists.
 - (3) A breed council may, inter alia:
 - (a) Make recommendations to the Board as regards the Royal Kennel Club Standard of the breed.
 - (b) Make recommendations to the Board regarding applications to register new breed societies.
 - (c) Consider any matter referred to the council by the Board.
 - (4) A council shall make regulations for the payment of subscriptions or contributions by its constituent members and the method of election of officers.
 - (5) The Board shall have power to dissolve a breed council by giving notice to the secretary of the council or the secretaries of the constituent societies.
 - (6) A breed council is a consultative body and shall not have executive powers.
 - (7) A breed council shall not be eligible to hold any form of Royal Kennel Club licensed event.

- e. (1) Adopt the Royal Kennel Club Code of Ethics (as amended from time to time) in additional to the Rules set out in C3 below. The Code of Ethics may not be altered by a Society except at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting notice of which includes details of the proposal to alter the Code. Such alteration shall not be brought into force until the Royal Kennel Club has been advised and given its approval of the alterations.
- (2) Actively support the education and training of judges in accordance with the Royal Kennel Club's Judges Education Programme (Breed Shows) as published and amended from time to time. This does not apply to those breed societies which do not have an interest in the exhibition of dogs or scheduling of dog shows.
- f. In making any application under the Regulations a society or organisation (including its officers and its committee members) expressly agrees to submit to and be bound by the Royal Kennel Club Rules and Regulations and Codes of Best Practice in force at the date of application or as may be amended from time to time in relation to all canine matters with which the Royal Kennel Club is concerned.

3. Rules

a. *Breed, general, dog training, agility and ringcraft societies*

A guide to the formulation of rules for the type of society concerned can be obtained from the Royal Kennel Club, however, the following rules must be included within the rules of every registered society:

- (1) A rule defining the procedure for the election of committee, officers and members.
- (2) A rule stating the annual subscription, the conditions of payment and the status of members who fail to pay their subscriptions. A society may not include a rule that members be re-elected annually.
- (3) A rule stating that a banking account shall be opened in the name of the society into which all revenue of the society shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall only be made on the signature of two or more officers.
- (4) A rule defining the financial year of the society and provision for holding the annual general meeting. This rule must also include provision for calling special general meetings.
- (5) A rule stating that the rules of the society may not be altered by that society except at an annual general meeting or special general meeting, notice of which includes details of the proposal to alter the rules. Such alterations shall not be brought into force until the Royal Kennel Club has been advised and has given its approval of the alterations. New rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Royal Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately and be included in the society's constitution with effect from the society's annual meeting. No business shall be transacted at an annual general meeting unless notice thereof appears on the agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those which in the opinion of the chairman of the meeting are urgent.
- (6) A rule as follows: 'Any member who shall be disqualified under the Royal Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(5) and/or Royal Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the society.'
- (7) A rule as follows: '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 him/her. 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 he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at the meeting a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present

and voting, his/her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of members, and he/she shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a member of the society, except that he/she may within two calendar months from the date of such meeting appeal to the Royal Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as the Royal Kennel Club may impose.'

- (8) A rule stating that if a 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.
- (9) A rule providing for the disposal of any assets of the society should it for any reason cease to exist. Societies are advised to obtain from donors of challenge cups or trophies an acknowledgement that the gift is made outright to the society.
- (10) A rule stating that if a registered society is wound up or ceases to be a registered society under these Regulations, a final statement of audited accounts with a record of the disposal of the property of the society shall be forwarded to the Royal Kennel Club within six months and the persons named as officers and committee of the society on the last return furnished to the Royal Kennel Club, will be held responsible by the Royal Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the society.
- (11) A rule that 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.
- (12) A rule stating that the society shall not join any federation of societies or clubs.
- (13) A rule as follows: 'No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the committee of or hold any other office or appointment within a Royal Kennel Club registered society.'

Additional Rules for breed, general, training and agility societies only:

- (14) A rule that the society must maintain an up to date list of members and their addresses, and those of branch members where appropriate, and, if so requested, make the list of names available for inspection by the Royal Kennel Club and members of the society. A declaration of the number of members of the society must be made with annual returns
- (15) A rule stating that the accounts will be certified annually and presented to the members at the annual general meeting. NOTE: Certification of accounts must be carried out by one qualified accountant or two individuals with accountancy experience. Those undertaking the certification must be independent from those who prepared the accounts.
- (16) A rule stating that not less than fourteen clear days' notice shall be given in writing to the members of a general meeting, except that a rule may be included to provide that notice of the annual general meeting may be given by publication in the canine press. The name(s) of the newspaper(s) must be included in the rule. Such notice must contain all the relevant information concerning the meeting and business to be conducted and be published not less than fourteen clear days before the date of the meeting. No business other than that named in the notice shall be brought before a special general meeting.
- (17) A rule as follows: 'The officers acknowledge that a maintenance of title fee will be forwarded annually to the Royal Kennel Club whether by the secretary or by direct debit, for continuance of registration and that other returns, as stipulated in the Royal Kennel Club Regulations for the registration and maintenance of title of societies and breed councils and the affiliation of agricultural societies and municipal authorities, will be forwarded to the Royal Kennel Club. The officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Royal Kennel Club of any change of secretary or other officers and committee members of the society which may occur during the course of the year.'

Additional rules for ringcraft societies only:

- (18) A rule as follows: 'The officers acknowledge that a maintenance of title fee will be forwarded annually to the Royal Kennel Club whether by the secretary or by direct debit for continuance of registration and that any amendments to officers and committee members and any proposed amendments to the rules of the society shall also be notified.'
 - (19) A rule that the society will make an up to date list of members' names available for inspection by the Royal Kennel Club and members of the society if so requested.
- b. *Branches of registered societies*
- (1) Branches must have their own rules, similar to those of the parent society, the only differences in wording being those appropriate to the particular way the respective entities operate.
 - (2) Amendments to the rules of branches should be discussed and agreed at local level in a general meeting, and then presented to the parent society for approval. As with amendments to the Rules of all Royal Kennel Club registered societies, amendments may not be brought into effect until Royal Kennel Club approval has been sought and granted.
 - (3) A rule stating the annual subscription for members, and the annual subscription payable by the branch to the parent society. Membership of a branch must include membership of the parent society.
 - (4) Members of branches should elect their own 'local' officers and committee members from amongst their number.
 - (5) If certain of the branch's officers and/or committee members are entitled to sit on or attend the parent society's committee meetings, this should be made clear in the rules of both the parent society and those of the branch(es). Voting provisions should also be clearly specified.
 - (6) Where a branch has its own bank account (or other monies), an annual statement of account should be prepared and included with the main society accounts. The branch's statement should be approved by the branch members at their own annual general meeting, prior to being forwarded to the main society.
- c. *Affiliated organisations*
- A guide to the formulation of rules can be obtained from the Royal Kennel Club. The following must be included in the rules of the canine section of the agricultural society or municipal authority:
- (1) *Officers and committee*
A rule defining the procedure for the election of officers and committee, term of office and voting rights. There must be a minimum of three officers and four committee members.
 - (2) *Members (if applicable)*
If the canine section is to have individual members, a rule specifying the method of election; e.g. membership on application to the committee, and/or on payment of subscription. The voting rights of members at general meetings must be specified.
 - (3) *Accounts*
The accounting procedures to be applied to the canine section must be specified e.g. separate accounts prepared, accounts prepared as part of main show account.
 - (4) *Meetings*
The Rules must specify the quorum for committee and, if applicable, general meetings. The method of convening meetings must be specified and the procedure for the submission of items for the agenda.

(5) *Rules*

Any amendments to the rules of the canine section must be notified to the Royal Kennel Club. Such alterations shall not be brought into force until the Royal Kennel Club has been advised and given its approval of the alteration.

(6) *Maintenance of affiliation*

The following rule must be included: 'The officers and committee acknowledge that after affiliation with the Royal Kennel Club, the organisation must apply annually to the Royal Kennel Club for the renewal of its affiliation and must forward with the application the relevant maintenance of title fee except where the fee is paid by direct debit; and that each year the following must be forwarded:—

- (i) A list of current officers and committee of the canine section and their contact information.
- (ii) A declaration that the accounts of the canine section and dog show have been prepared in accordance with the rules of the agricultural society or municipal authority.
- (iii) A copy of the current constitution/rules of the canine section incorporating all approved amendments.

(7) *Expulsion of members*

The following rule must be included: 'If the canine section expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, dog shows, trials or competitions, the organisation will report the matter in writing to the Royal Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.' No person disqualified under the Royal Kennel Club Rules shall be a member of the canine section of any affiliated organisation and should any person under disqualification be allowed to remain a member, the officers and committee of the organisation may be dealt with under Rule A11 of the Royal Kennel Club.

(8) *Affiliation*

The following Rule must be included: 'The organisation acknowledges the Royal Kennel Club as the final authority for interpreting the rules and regulations of the canine section and in all cases relevant to canine affairs, and will make relevant documents available to the Royal Kennel Club when necessary. Affiliation to the Royal Kennel Club will allow the organisation to apply for one dog show licence each year.'

- (9) A rule as follows: 'No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the committee of or hold any other office or appointment on the canine section of a Royal Kennel Club affiliated organisation.'

d. *Breed councils*

A guide to the formulation of rules for breed councils can be obtained from the Royal Kennel Club, however, the following rules must be included within the rules of every breed council:

- (1) A rule defining the procedure for the election of council officers, terms of office and voting rights.
- (2) A rule stating that membership of the breed council is open to all registered breed societies for the particular breed.
- (3) A rule defining the payment of subscriptions or other contributions by the constituent societies.
- (4) A rule stating that a banking account shall be opened in the name of the breed council into which all revenue of the breed council shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall only be made on the signature of two or more officers.
- (5) A rule defining the financial year of the council and provision for holding meetings. The rules must specify the quorum for council meetings. The method of convening meetings must be specified and the procedure for the submission of items for the agenda. All member societies of the council are entitled to be represented at council meetings.

- (6) A rule stating that the rules of the breed council may not be altered by that breed council except at an annual general meeting, notice of which includes details of the proposal to alter the rules. Such alterations shall not be brought into force until the Royal Kennel Club has been advised and has given its approval of the alterations. New rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Royal Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately and be included in the breed council's constitution with effect from the breed council's annual meeting. No business shall be transacted at an annual general meeting unless notice thereof appears on the agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those which in the opinion of the chairman of the meeting are urgent.
- (7) A rule providing for the disposal of any assets of the breed council should it for any reason cease to exist.
- (8) A rule that the Royal Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the rules and regulations of the breed council in all cases relative to canine or council matters.
- (9) A rule stating that the breed council shall not join any federation of societies or clubs.
- (10) A rule stating that the accounts will be certified annually and presented to the members at the annual general meeting. NOTE: Certification of accounts must be carried out by one qualified accountant or two individuals with accountancy experience. Those undertaking the certification must be independent from those who prepared the accounts.
- (11) A rule stating that not less than fourteen clear days' notice shall be given in writing to the members of a general meeting, except that a rule may be included to provide that notice of the annual general meeting may be given by publication in the canine press. The name(s) of the newspaper(s) must be included in the rule. Such notice must contain all the relevant information concerning the meeting and business to be conducted and be published not less than fourteen clear days before the date of the meeting. No business other than that named in the notice shall be brought before a special general meeting.
- (12) A rule as follows: 'The officers acknowledge that returns, as stipulated in the Royal Kennel Club Regulations for the registration and maintenance of title of societies and breed councils and the affiliation of agricultural societies and municipal authorities, will be forwarded annually to the Royal Kennel Club. The officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Royal Kennel Club of any change of officers and committee members of the breed council which may occur during the course of the year.'

4. Maintenance of Title and Annual Returns

a. *Registered societies*

- (1) Breed, general, training and agility societies
 - (a) Maintenance of Title – After registration societies must apply annually to the Royal Kennel Club for the renewal of the maintenance of their title and must forward the relevant remittance, unless the fee is paid by an alternative method.
 - (b) Annual Returns – After registration the following returns must be forwarded annually to the Royal Kennel Club regardless of whether any changes have been made to the list of officers or committee members, rules, etc:–
 - (i) A list of current officers and committee with their contact information.
 - (ii) A declaration that the annual statement of accounts has been certified in accordance with the rules of the society and approved at the last annual general meeting of the society.

- (iii) A copy of the current constitution/rules highlighting any approved amendments.
- (iv) Where appropriate, a request for authority to hold matches and/or gundog working tests during the coming year and a list of matches and/or gundog working tests held during the previous year.
- (v) A declaration of the number of members of the society as at the end of the society's financial year.
- (vi) Breed societies only – Breed club judges list:

Registered breed societies (with the exception of provisional breed societies) must produce a list of judges each year which must be submitted to the Royal Kennel Club as part of the societies' annual returns.

The purpose of breed club judges' lists is to indicate to interested parties those persons a breed club would support at differing levels of judging. Societies must clearly indicate the method by which persons may be nominated for inclusion on the list and indicate the judging experience required for inclusion of a person's name on each of the five lists. membership of the club must not be a prerequisite for inclusion on the lists.

Judges lists should be divided into five parts, namely A1, A2, A3, B and C and must be compiled annually stating the date on which they expire.

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 Royal Kennel Club to award CCs in a given breed for that occasion. A council/club must apply to the Royal Kennel Club for approval to promote a judge from its A3 list to its A2 list.

A3 List. Judges who are recommended by a breed council or breed society as being suitable to award CCs in the breed, but not yet approved by the Royal Kennel Club for inclusion on an A2 list.

B List. Judges who have been approved by breed councils/societies to judge at shows without CCs or open shows.

C List. Any C List drawn up by a breed council or breed society should comprise aspirant judges who do not fall into any of the above categories.

It is recommended that such lists be prepared by secret ballot of the society's committee and societies must clearly state to members the method by which persons may be nominated for inclusion in the ballot and indicate the judging experience for inclusion of a person's name in the five lists.

- (vii) Breed societies only – Code of Ethics

Registered breed societies must adopt the Royal Kennel Club Code of Ethics and may incorporate further breed specific clauses, subject to Royal Kennel Club approval and in accordance with the requirements as set out from time to time. The Code of Ethics may not be altered by the society except at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting, notice of which includes details of the proposal to alter the Code. Such alterations may not be brought into force until the Royal Kennel Club has been advised and has given its approval of the alterations.

A copy of the current Code of Ethics in force highlighting any approved amendments must be submitted as part of the society's annual returns.

- (c) All registered societies must undertake to keep a minute book which must contain a full record of all business transacted at general meetings and committee meetings, including a record of all guarantees offered by the society; to maintain a list of the names and addresses of all current members of the society; and to maintain a system of accounts showing a complete record of the income and expenditure of the society and a balance sheet. Such minute book, membership list, accounts and balance sheet and also any other documents belonging to the society, are to be produced to the Royal Kennel Club at any time when required. A copy of the annual statement of accounts for the last financial year which must be certified in accordance with the rules of the society must be sent to all members of the society or provision may be made in the rules of the society for a copy of the annual statement of accounts to be made available on request to members 14 days prior to the AGM. Additionally the annual statement of accounts will be available for inspection by members at the annual general meeting and at times to be stipulated in the rules.
- (2) Ringcraft societies
 - (a) Maintenance of Title – After registration societies must apply annually to the Royal Kennel Club for the renewal of the maintenance of their title and must forward the relevant remittance, unless the fee is paid by an alternative method.
 - (b) Annual Returns – After registration, societies must notify the Royal Kennel Club of any amendments to officers and committee and any proposed amendments to the rules of the society and, where appropriate, submit a request for authority to hold matches and/or gundog working tests during the coming year and a list of matches and/or gundog working tests held during the previous year.
- b. *Branches of registered societies*
 - (1) Maintenance of Title – Each branch of a registered society approved by the Board will be subject to an annual maintenance fee payable by the registered parent society.
 - (2) Annual Returns – A registered society which has formed branches under these Regulations must forward to the Royal Kennel Club with its annual returns, a complete list of its branches and the names and contact information of the chairman and secretary of each branch.
- c. *Affiliated organisations*
 - (1) Maintenance of Title – After affiliation, organisations must apply annually to the Royal Kennel Club for the renewal of the maintenance of their title and must forward the relevant remittance, unless the fee is paid by an alternative method.
 - (2) Annual Returns – After affiliation, organisations must forward the following details annually:-
 - (i) A list of current officers and committee of the canine section and their contact information.
 - (ii) A declaration that the accounts of the canine section and dog show have been prepared in accordance with the rules of the organisation/canine section.
 - (iii) A copy of the current constitution/rules of the canine section, highlighting all approved amendments.
- d. *Breed councils*

A breed council shall forward to the Royal Kennel Club annually:-

 - (i) A list of current officers and their contact information.
 - (ii) A list of the constituent societies.

- (iii) A copy of the current constitution/rules highlighting all approved amendments.
 - (iv) A declaration that the annual statement of accounts has been certified in accordance with the rules of the council and approved at the last annual general meeting of the council.
 - (v) A copy of the breed council judges list:–
 - Breed councils must produce a list of judges each year which must be submitted to the Royal Kennel Club as part of their annual returns.
 - The purpose of breed council judges' lists is to indicate to interested parties those persons a breed council would support at differing levels of judging. Councils must clearly indicate the method by which persons may be nominated for inclusion on the list and indicate the judging experience required for inclusion of a person's name on each of the five lists. Membership of constituent societies of the council must not be a prerequisite for inclusion on the lists. Judges lists should be divided into five parts, namely A1, A2, A3, B and C and must be compiled annually stating the date on which they expire.
 - 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 Royal Kennel Club to award CCs in a given breed for that occasion. A council/club must apply to the Royal Kennel Club for approval to promote a judge from its A3 list to its A2 list.
 - A3 List. Judges who are recommended by a breed council or breed club as being suitable to award CCs in the breed, but not yet approved by the Royal Kennel Club for inclusion on an A2 list.
 - B List. Judges who have been approved by breed councils/societies to judge at shows without CCs or open shows.
 - C List. Any C List drawn up by a breed council or breed society should comprise aspirant judges who do not fall into any of the above categories.
- It is recommended that such lists be prepared by secret ballot of the breed council committee and councils must clearly state to member societies the method by which persons may be nominated for inclusion on the ballot and indicate the judging experience for inclusion of a person's name in the five lists.

5. General

- a. The Royal Kennel Club may in its absolute discretion refuse to register or affiliate any society or organisation, or renew such registration or affiliation, and reserves the right to grant any title in exceptional circumstances.
- b. The registration or affiliation of a society by the Royal Kennel Club and compliance with the Regulations confers on such society the exclusive official use of its title and permission to hold licensed events under Royal Kennel Club Rules and Regulations as long as the society remains registered or affiliated.
- c. A Royal Kennel Club licence is issued to the designated society only and it is non transferable under any circumstances.
- d. All registered clubs, societies and councils are expected to maintain and abide by the highest standards in all their activities (whether licensed or otherwise), in accordance with the RKC Rules and Regulations and appropriate codes of best practice as published from time to time.
- e. The Royal Kennel Club Board may direct that provisions within a registered society constitution may be relaxed or suspended for a fixed period, to allow society business to proceed when circumstances beyond the control of the society so require.

6. Disciplinary Procedures

- a. The Royal Kennel Club shall have power to suspend a society's registration or affiliation for a period not exceeding 12 months or to deregister or disaffiliate any society or organisation at any time and/or to fine any society or organisation if, in the opinion of the Board, the society or organisation is in breach of any of the Royal Kennel Club Rules or Regulations or the continuance of the society's registration or the organisation's affiliation is prejudicial to the interests of the canine world. Additionally, the officers and committee members of the society or organisation or any of them may be dealt with under Royal Kennel Club Rule A11.
- b. No society or organisation shall be suspended or deregistered or disaffiliated without first being given the opportunity of making written representation to the Board by way of explanation or defence.
- c. If a society or organisation is aggrieved by the Board's decision, it shall be entitled to request an oral hearing before the Board, which shall have the power to delegate the hearing of the same to its Appeals Tribunal.
- d. A society or organisation shall not be entitled to any of the privileges of registration with or affiliation to the Royal Kennel Club during a period of suspension.
- e. If a registered society or affiliated organisation expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with any canine matter or any Royal Kennel Club Licensed event the society or organisation must report the matter in writing to the Royal Kennel Club within seven days and supply particulars if required.
- f. If a registered society or affiliated organisation fails to terminate the membership of a person suspended under Royal Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(5) and/or disqualified under Royal Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(9) or fails to apply other conditions of suspension or disqualification under Royal Kennel Club Rule A11.j. for a like period, the officers and committee members of the society or organisation or any of them may be dealt with under Royal Kennel Club Rule A11.

REGULATIONS FOR ENTRIES IN THE STUD BOOK, CHAMPIONS AND WARRANTS

As at 1st January 2026

1. Stud Book Qualifications.

- a. An entry in the Stud Book shall consist of the registered name of the dog, its sex, colour, date of birth, owner, breeder and an extension of its pedigree limited to three generations, or a Stud Book reference within that limit.
- b. All dogs must be entered in the Stud Book in the name of the registered owner at the time of qualification.
- c. A Royal Kennel Club Stud Book number will be assigned to each dog accepted for entry.
- d. A neutered dog, which has qualified for an entry in the Stud Book will be listed therein with the letters 'NEUT' appearing after its name.
- e. The following dogs are entitled to entry in the Royal Kennel Club Stud Book subject to regulations a, b, c, and d above.
 - (1) Dogs winning Challenge Certificates or Reserve Challenge Certificates.
 - (2) Dogs winning qualifying place prizes in the class(es) which are in the band for the breed, where Royal Kennel Club Challenge Certificates are competed for, as follows:-
 - (a) Band A—First in Open Class
 - (b) Band B—First or second in Open Class
 - (c) Band C—First or second in Open Class; first in Limit Class
 - (d) Band D—First, second or third in Open Class; first in Limit Class
 - (e) Band E—First, second or third in Open Class; first, second or third in Limit Class;

provided such class(es) are not subject to any limitation as to weight, colour or other description.

The breeds in each band will be announced annually.
 - (3) Dogs winning first, second, third or fourth awards, Diplomas of Merit or Certificates of Merit at field trials held under Royal Kennel Club Field Trial Regulations.
 - (4) Winners of Qualifying Certificates in TD or PD Stakes at championship working trials held under Royal Kennel Club Working Trial Regulations.
 - (5) Dogs awarded 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in the Senior stake for Bloodhounds at Championship Working Trials held under Royal Kennel Club Working Trial Regulations.
 - (6) Winners of first, second or third Prizes in Championship Class 'C', at Championship Obedience Classes.
 - (7) Winners of Junior Warrants.
 - (8) Winners of first, second or third Prizes in Championship Agility Class at championship agility shows.

2. Championship qualifications.

- a. *Title of Champion (Ch)* The following dogs shall be entitled to be described as Champions:
 - (1) Any Hound, Terrier, Utility, Working, Pastoral (except Border Collie) or Toy Dog awarded three Challenge Certificates under three different judges, provided that at least one of the Challenge Certificates was awarded when the dog was more than twelve months of age.

- (2) Any Hound, Terrier, Utility, Working, Pastoral (except Border Collie) or Toy Dog awarded two Challenge Certificates and five Reserve Challenge Certificates under seven different judges, provided that at least one of the Challenge Certificates was awarded when the dog was more than twelve months of age.
 - (3) Any Gundog which has fulfilled the requirements of 2.a.(1) or 2.a.(2) and has obtained either of the following.
 - (a) An Award, Diploma of Merit or Certificate of Merit under the Regulations of the Royal Kennel Club or under the Regulations of the Irish Kennel Club.
 - (b) A Show Gundog Working Certificate which conforms to the conditions set out in the Royal Kennel Club Regulations or the Rules of the Irish Kennel Club.
 - (4) Any Border Collie which has fulfilled the requirements of 2.b.(1) or 2.a.(2) and has passed the Show Border Collie Herding Test. Where a dog has passed the Show Border Collie Herding test, the letters SBCHT may be used after the dog's name on entry forms and in show catalogues.
 - (5) Any dog from a breed designated by the Royal Kennel Club as a category 3 breed will not have its title of Champion confirmed until the dog has passed an examination by a general or group championship show veterinary surgeon. The result of the examination shall be final.
- b. *Title of Show Champion (Sh Ch)* The following dogs shall be entitled to be described as Show Champions.
- (1) Any Gundog or Border Collie awarded three Challenge Certificates under three different Judges provided that at least one of the Challenge Certificates was awarded when the dog was more than twelve months of age.
 - (2) Any Gundog or Border Collie awarded two Challenge Certificates, and five Reserve Challenge Certificates, under seven different judges, provided that at least one of the Challenge Certificates was awarded when the dog was more than twelve months of age.
 - (3) Any dog from a breed designated by the Royal Kennel Club as a category 3 breed will not have its title of Champion confirmed until the dog has passed an examination by a general or group championship show veterinary surgeon. The result of the examination shall be final.
- c. *Title of Field Trial Champion (FT Ch)* The following dogs shall be entitled to be described as Field Trial Champions. All first place awards are confined to Open stakes for which a Field Trial Certificate will be awarded to each winner:
- (1) *Pointers and Setters*
 - (a) A dog placed first in the Pointer and Setter Champion stake.
 - (b) A dog which gains two first awards at two different Field Trial meetings in open stakes for Pointers and Setters under two different Panel A judges. In the event that the same Panel A judge officiates at both trials, the dog will be entitled to the title of Field Trial Champion provided that the co-judge at one trial is also a Panel A judge.

There must be no fewer than 16 runners in each of the stakes and one of these wins must be in a stake open to Pointers and all breeds of Setter.
 - (2) *Retrievers*
 - (a) A dog placed first in the Retriever Championship.
 - (b) A dog which gains two first awards in 24-dog Open stakes under three different Panel A judges.
 - (c) A dog which gains a first award in one 24-dog and one One-day Open stake under three different Panel A judges.
 - (d) A dog which gains a first award in three One-day Open stakes under three different Panel A judges.

In a 24-dog stake there must be no fewer than 20 runners and in a One-day Stake no fewer than 10 runners. For a dog to be entitled to the title of Field Trial Champion one of its wins must be in a stake open to all breeds of Retriever.

(3) *Proviso for all Retrievers*

Before any Retriever is entitled to be described as a Field Trial Champion it must also have a Water and Drive Certificate. The Water Certificate must have been conducted before two Panel judges, one of whom must be an A Panel, at one of the following: the Retriever Championship, a Field Trial Open Stake, or at a subsequent special test. (J(A)2 refers.) The Drive Certificate must be conducted before two Panel judges, one of whom must be an A Panel, at the Retriever Championship or a Field Trial Open Stake.

(4) *Cocker Spaniels*

(a) A dog placed first in the Cocker Spaniel Championship.

(b) A dog which gains two first awards in open stakes under two different Panel A judges. In the event that the same Panel A judge officiates at both stakes, the dog will be entitled to the title of Field Trial Champion provided that the co-judge at one stake is also a Panel A judge.

With the exception of the Cocker Spaniel Championship all Stakes must be limited to a maximum of 18 dogs. In order for the stakes to qualify there must be no fewer than 14 runners.

(5) *Any Variety Spaniel [Excluding Spaniel (Cocker)]*

(a) A dog placed first in the Any Variety Spaniel [Excluding Spaniel (Cocker)] Championship.

(b) A dog which gains two first awards in Open stakes under two different Panel A Judges. In the event that the same Panel A judge officiates at both stakes, the dog will be entitled to the title of Field Trial Champion provided that the co-judge at one stake is also a Panel A judge.

With the exception of the Any Variety Spaniel [Excluding Spaniel (Cocker)] Championship all Stakes must be limited to a maximum of 18 dogs. In order for the stakes to qualify there must be no fewer than 14 runners.

(6) *Proviso for all Spaniels*

Before a dog is entitled to be described as a Field Trial Champion it must also have gained a Water Certificate. The Water Certificate must have been conducted before two Panel judges, one of whom must be an A, at one of the following: the Championship, a Field Trial stake or at a subsequent special test. (J(A)2 refers.)

(7) *Breeds which Hunt, Point & Retrieve*

(a) A dog placed first in the championship for Breeds which Hunt, Point and Retrieve.

(b) A dog which gains two first awards in Open stakes for breeds which Hunt, Point and Retrieve under two different Panel A judges. In the event that the same Panel A judge officiates at both stakes, the dog will be entitled to the title of Field Trial Champion provided the co-judge at one stake is also a Panel A judge.

In order for the stakes to qualify there must be no fewer than 10 runners. For the dog to be entitled to the title of Field Trial Champion one of its wins must be in a Stake open to all breeds which Hunt, Point and Retrieve.

(8) *Proviso for all breeds which Hunt, Point and Retrieve*

Before a dog is entitled to be described as a Field Trial Champion it must also have a Water Certificate. The Water Certificate must have been conducted before two Panel judges, one of whom must be an A, at one of the following: the Hunt, Point and Retrieve Championship, a Field Trial Stake, or at a subsequent special test (J(A)2 refers.)

d. *Dual Champion*

Any Gundog which has been awarded the title of Show Champion & Field Trial Champion.

- e. *Title of Obedience Champion (Ob Ch)* The following dogs shall be entitled to be described as Obedience Champion.
 - (1) Any dog awarded three Obedience Certificates under three different judges in accordance with the Royal Kennel Club Regulations for Obedience Classes.
 - (2) Any dog which has won a Royal Kennel Club Obedience Championship.
- f. *Title of Working Trial Champion (WT Ch)* The following dogs shall be entitled to be described as Working Trial Champion. All wins are confined to TD or PD stakes or Senior stake for Bloodhounds at Championship Working Trials:
 - (1) *TD or PD stake*

Any dog awarded two Working Trial Certificates under two different judges provided that it has obtained 70% or more marks as indicated in the schedule of points in the appropriate columns for each group of exercises separately shown in that schedule and has also been awarded the qualification 'Excellent' by obtaining at least 80% of the possible total of marks for the stake.
 - (2) Any dog which has won a Royal Kennel Club Working Trial Championship qualifying 'Excellent'.
 - (3) *Senior stake*

Any Bloodhound awarded two Royal Kennel Club Bloodhound Working Trial Certificates under two different judges which has won a Senior stake without assistance at a Championship Working Trial for Bloodhounds and it has clearly identified the runner to the satisfaction of the judges. A hound will be considered to have made a satisfactory identification if it is seen to approach and clearly select the runner from a group of three people at the end of the line.
- g. *Title of Agility Champion (Ag Ch)*. The following dogs shall be entitled to be described as Agility Champion.
 - (1) Large agility dogs.
 - (a) Any dog awarded three Agility Certificates under three different judges, in accordance with the Royal Kennel Club Regulations for the Championship Agility Classes.
 - (b) Any dog which has won a Royal Kennel Club Agility Championship.
 - (2) Intermediate Agility Dogs
 - (a) Any dog awarded three Agility Certificates under three different judges, in accordance with the Royal Kennel Club Regulations for the Championship Agility Classes.
 - (b) Any dog which has won a Royal Kennel Club Agility Championship.
 - (3) Medium agility dogs
 - (a) Any dog awarded three Agility Certificates under three different judges, in accordance with the Royal Kennel Club Regulations for the Championship Agility Classes.
 - (b) Any dog which has won a Royal Kennel Club Agility Championship.
 - (4) Small agility dogs
 - (a) Any dog awarded three Agility Certificates under three different judges, in accordance with the Royal Kennel Club Regulations for the Championship Agility Classes.
 - (b) Any dog which has won a Royal Kennel Club Agility Championship.

3. Warrants.

a. *Junior Warrants (JW)*

A Junior Warrant will be issued on receipt of an application from the registered owner at the time of qualification, in respect of a dog that has obtained 25 points between the ages of 6 and 18 months. A minimum of three points must be won at championship shows where Challenge Certificates for the breed are on offer and a minimum of seven points won at open shows or championship shows where

Challenge Certificates are not offered for the breed, including from Any Variety Not Separately Classified classes or Any Variety classes at open shows.

In assessing the number of dogs present in each class, exhibitors may count a dog as having been present in a class provided it was entered in that class and was present in its first class for the breed (including Any Variety Not Separately Classified) Any Variety at the show.

The scale of points is as follows:

- (1) Breeds scheduled with Challenge Certificates.

Junior Warrant points may be claimed from classes or for awards where Challenge Certificates are on offer for the breed provided three or more dogs of the breed were present

 - (a) 3 points for each first prize awarded in a breed class.
 - (b) 3 points awarded for Best of Breed (only valid if no Junior Warrant points are gained by the dog for winning best of sex or a breed class/es at the show).
 - (c) 3 points awarded for Best of Sex or Best Puppy of Sex (only valid if no Junior Warrant points are gained by the dog for winning a breed class/es at the show and there were at least two others of the sex present)
 - (d) 3 points for Best Puppy in Breed (only valid if no Junior Warrant points are gained by the dog for winning a breed class/es or Best Puppy of Sex at the show and provided the puppy has beaten two other puppies of either sex).
- (2) Breeds (including Any Variety Not Separately Classified) scheduled where Challenge Certificates are not on offer at a championship show. Junior Warrant points may be claimed from classes or for awards provided two or more dogs of the breed were present. Only one Junior Warrant point may be claimed per show.
 - (a) 1 point for a first prize awarded in a breed class.
 - (b) 1 point awarded for Best of Breed (only valid if no Junior Warrant point was gained by the dog for winning a breed class/es at the show).
 - (c) 1 point awarded for Best of Sex or Best Puppy of Sex (only valid if no Junior Warrant point was gained by the dog for winning a breed class/es at the show and there was at least one other of the sex present).
 - (d) 1 point for Best Puppy in Breed (only valid if no Junior Warrant point was gained by the dog for winning a breed class/es or Best Puppy of Sex at the show and provided the puppy has beaten one other puppy of either sex).
- (3) Open shows. Junior Warrant points may be claimed from classes or for awards at open shows scheduling the breed (including Any Variety Not Separately Classified) providing two or more dogs of the breed were present. Only one Junior Warrant point may be claimed per show.
 - (a) 1 point for a first prize awarded in a breed class.
 - (b) 1 point awarded for Best of Breed (only valid if no Junior Warrant points are gained by the dog winning a breed class/es at the show).
 - (c) 1 point awarded for Best of Sex or Best Puppy of Sex where declared (only valid if no Junior Warrant point was gained by the dog for winning a breed class/es at the show and there was at least one other of the sex present).
 - (d) 1 point for Best Puppy in Breed (only valid if no Junior Warrant point was gained by the dog for winning a breed class/es or Best Puppy of Sex at the show and provided the puppy has beaten one other puppy of either sex).
 - (e) 1 point for a first prize awarded in an Any Variety class provided the dog has beaten one other.
 - (f) 1 point for any group placing, puppy group placing, Best in Show, Reserve Best in Show, Best Puppy in Show or Reserve Best Puppy in Show if the dog has beaten at least one other. (Only valid if no other Junior Warrant points have been claimed for this dog at the show).

- (4) Junior Warrant holders will be awarded a Stud Book number.
- (5) The title "JW" may be used after the name of the dog on show entries and in catalogues.

b. *Veteran Warrant (VW)*

No Stud Book number will be issued to dogs awarded a Veteran Warrant.

A total of 25 points will be required to claim a Veteran Warrant.

Points may be claimed from general open shows only, from AV Veteran, or Veteran Stakes classes. Points may not be claimed from breed-specific Veteran classes or from AVNSC Veteran classes.

Points will be available as follows:

1st place – 4 points

2nd place – 3 points

3rd place – 2 points

4th place – 1 point

Points may only be claimed for dogs aged seven years or over on the first day of the show. No maximum age has been specified. The Royal Kennel Club is of the view that the exhibition of older dogs should be left to the discretion of exhibitors, noting that there are significant differences across breeds.

Only one claim may be made from each show.

The Title "VW" may be used after the name of the dog on show entries and in catalogues.

c. *Obedience Warrants*

An Obedience Warrant will be issued on application by the registered owner at the time of qualification in respect of a dog that has obtained 100 progression points (as defined in General Regulations G Annex A). The points are to be gained at Championship Premier or Open Obedience Shows, and must include the following:

(1) 20 points in Novice Class.

(2) 30 points in Class A.

(3) 30 points in Class B.

(4) 10 points for a first prize in Open Class C on at least one occasion.

(5) 10 additional points in Open Class C, which must be gained after 1 January 2022.

(6) Where a dog had to progress because it had won a first prize, or first prizes, at a higher level, then additional points achieved at a higher class may be used to supplement points at a lower class to achieve the 100 points total.

(7) The title 'OW' may be used after the name of the dog on show entries and in catalogues.

d. *Agility Warrants*

An Agility Warrant will be issued on application by the registered owner at the time of qualification in respect of a dog that has obtained points in standard agility and jumping classes. At least 25% of points must be gained in agility (as opposed to jumping) classes. Points will be awarded at any level but may not be gained in any part of the Championship class. Points will also only be awarded where the dog has obtained a clear round within the course time. The requirements for the five levels of warrant, Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum and Diamond are:

Bronze 200 points (minimum of 50 points in agility)

Silver 400 points (minimum of 100 points in agility)

Gold 800 points (minimum of 200 points in agility)

Platinum 1200 points (minimum of 300 points in agility)

Diamond 1600 points (minimum of 400 points in agility)

The additional points required for the Platinum and Diamond awards must be gained since 1 January 2016.

The following titles may be used after the name of the dog on show entries and in catalogues.

Bronze AW(B)

Silver AW(S)

Gold AW(G)

Platinum AW(P)

Diamond AW(D)

Points awarded will be as follows:

Standard Agility classes

(clear rounds only)

1st place 20 points

2nd place 19 points

3rd place 18 points

4th place 17 points

5th place 16 points

6th place 15 points

7th place 14 points

8th place 13 points

9th place 12 points

10th place 11 points

Standard Jumping classes

(clear rounds only)

1st place 10 points

2nd place 9 points

3rd place 8 points

4th place 7 points

5th place 6 points

6th place 5 points

7th place 4 points

8th place 3 points

9th place 2 points

10th place 1 point

Points will also be awarded for clear rounds within the course time as follows:

Standard Agility Classes 2 points

Standard Jumping Classes 1 point

Where less than 10 places are awarded in any class a competitor obtaining a clear round not in the places will be awarded the points applicable for a clear round in that class, i.e. 2 points for an agility class and 1 point for a jumping class.

e. *Heelwork to Music or Freestyle Warrant*

A Heelwork to Music or Freestyle Warrant will be issued on application by the registered owner at the time of qualification in respect of a dog that has obtained points in standard classes at Premier and Open Competitions. The requirements for the three levels of warrant, Bronze, Silver, and Gold are:

Bronze 100 points

Silver 200 points

Gold 400 points

The following titles may be used after the name of the dog on competition entries and in catalogues:

Heelwork to Music

Bronze HTMW(B)

Silver HTMW(S)

Gold HTMW(G)

Freestyle

Bronze FSW(B)

Silver FSW(S)

Gold FSW(G)

Points awarded will be as follows:

Standard heelwork to music OR freestyle classes.

Points will be awarded at any level as long as a minimum score of 18 is achieved.

Places must have been awarded by the competition organiser.

1st place 20 points

2nd place 19 points

3rd place 18 points

4th place 17 points

5th place 16 points

6th place 15 points

7th place 14 points

8th place 13 points

9th place 12 points

10th place 11 points

5 points will also be awarded to any unplaced routines that have achieved a qualifying score or above.

f. *Rally Warrants*

A Rally Warrant will be issued on application by the registered owner at the time of qualification in respect of a dog that has obtained the following:

(1) a Rally Level 6 Excellent title

(2) an additional 3 excellent scores at Level 6, which must be gained after 1 January 2021

The title 'RW' may be used after the name of the dog on competition entries and in catalogues. The RW title will replace the RL6.Ex after the dog's name.

g. *Rally Veteran Warrant*

A Rally Veteran Warrant will be issued on application by the registered owner at the time of qualification in respect of a dog that has obtained qualifying scores in the Veteran class. The requirements for the three levels of warrant, Bronze, Silver, and Gold are:

Bronze 9 qualifying scores in Veteran classes

Silver 12 qualifying scores in Veteran classes

Gold 18 qualifying scores in Veteran classes, of which at least 3 must be Excellent

The following titles may be used after the name of the dog on competition entries and in catalogues. These will replace the Rally Veteran title but should be used after any Rally Level title or the Rally Warrant.

Bronze RVW(B)

Silver RVW(S)

Gold RVW(G)

THE ROYAL KENNEL CLUB REGULATIONS FOR ASSOCIATESHIP

As at 1st July 2026

1. Any person who, in the opinion of the Board of the Royal Kennel Club, advised by its appropriate Committee, has established a responsible reputation in connection with dogs, dog shows or trials, who has acted in accordance with the objects of the Club and in accordance with its Rules and Regulations and who has not behaved in any manner which would make connection with the Royal Kennel Club undesirable may make application for associateship of the Royal Kennel Club. Successful applicants for associateship will be expected to have contributed in a significant way, to at least one of the disciplines within the canine world. As a guideline, this may be by way of sustained and continuous active participation either as a successful breeder or owner of dogs obtaining recognition in the Stud Book, or as a member or committee member of a society registered with the Royal Kennel Club, or as a YKC senior member, or as a successful exhibitor, competitor or judge at shows, trials, or competitions, or in any other way which demonstrates their suitability to be associated with the Royal Kennel Club.

2. The names of all applicants shall be published in the Kennel Club Journal in order that members of the Club may consider their suitability. Subsequently after final approval by the Board on the advice of its respective Committees, the applicant may enjoy the privileges of an associate of the Royal Kennel Club upon the annual payment of a fee. For those resident in the United Kingdom the annual payment shall be £90.00 discounted to £85.00 if paid by variable direct debit. For those resident overseas the annual payment shall be £125.00, discounted to £115.00 if paid by variable direct debit.

3. Applicants who wish to take part in elections to the Royal Kennel Club Committees either as a candidate for election or to vote in such elections will be required, on application, to state into which category of discipline they wish to belong as follows:

- a. Shows
- b. Working Trials
- c. Obedience
- d. Agility
- e. Field Trials

Only those associates who have made such a declaration will be eligible either to vote or take part in Committee elections.

4. Subscriptions are payable on application and will be renewed each year on the date elected an Associate of the Royal Kennel Club. (For Associates elected prior to May 2023, the renewal date will remain as 1 January). No associate shall be entitled to any of the privileges until his subscription for the current year has been paid. Any associate who has not paid his subscription within 3 months of the due date may be struck from the list of associates.

5. An associate shall be entitled to a copy of the Royal Kennel Club Year Book annually and either the Royal Kennel Club Stud Book annually, or a relevant part of the Breed Record Supplement quarterly; monthly issues of the Kennel Gazette and Royal Kennel Club Journal and an entry pass, not transferable, admitting him to Crufts Show, and, in the case of those making the appropriate declaration under paragraph 3 above, to take part in such Committee elections as shall, from time to time be permitted under the Rules and Regulations of the Royal Kennel Club.

6. No associate may use his connection with the Royal Kennel Club for advertising or publicity purposes.

7. Any associate who, in the opinion of the Board has infringed these Regulations, shall cease to be an associate.

REGULATIONS FOR THE YOUNG ROYAL KENNEL CLUB

As at 1st July 2026

1. The Young Royal Kennel Club (YRKC) has the following aims;
 - a. To educate young people in the care and training of dogs.
 - b. To develop courtesy, sportsmanship and self-discipline.
 - c. To encourage a sense of responsibility in dog ownership.
 - d. To enable young people to enjoy participation in and management of all activities connected with dogs.
 - e. To promote activities which fulfil the foregoing aims.
2. Membership will be open to young people between the ages of 6 to 24 by completing the application form and on payment of the membership subscription
3. Membership of the Young Royal Kennel Club will terminate on the member's 25th birthday or on non-payment of the subscription. Any member who has not paid his/her subscription within 1 month of the due date will be removed from the list of members.
4. All Young Royal Kennel Club members are subject to the YRKC Code of Conduct.
5. The activities of the YRKC will be conducted on a national basis with the assistance of Royal Kennel Club registered and listed status clubs.
6. The YRKC will be managed by a management team reporting to the Royal Kennel Club Board. The Board will appoint a chairman and vice chair to the management team every three years:
 - a. The management team will be administered by the Education and Dog Training Division.
 - b. The Board shall appoint a president of the Young Royal Kennel Club as appropriate.
 - c. The composition of the management team will generally be;
 - (1) YRKC Chairman
 - (2) YRKC Vice Chairman
 - (3) YRKC President
 - (3) Head of Education and Dog Training
 - (4) All YRKC permanent staff
 - d. The role of the management team will be:
 - (1) To develop the structure.
 - (2) To review strategy and policy.
 - (3) To review existing opportunities within the current structure and how they will be integrated and/or developed within the YRKC.
7. Two working parties will support the management team;
 - a. Event & Volunteer Development Working Party
 - b. Competitions Working Party
 - c. The role of the working parties will be to support the management team to fulfil its duties outlined in O.1.
 - d. The management team will invite individuals onto each working party as relevant throughout the year.

8. All YRKC Crufts qualifying competitions and YRKC Crufts finals will be held in accordance with the YRKC rules documentation for the following activities:

- a. YRKC Stakes
- b. YRKC Handling
- c. YRKC Agility
- d. YRKC Obedience
- e. YRKC Heelwork to Music
- f. YRKC Rally
- g. YRKC Dog Grooming
- h. YRKC Flyball
- i. All rules documentation for YRKC activities can be found on the Royal Kennel Club website.

9. The following within the Royal Kennel Club will be the final arbitrators relating to canine activities within the YRKC and its membership:

1. Liaison Councils will be the final authority for all YRKC Canine activities.
2. The Club Committee for membership issues.



THE ROYAL KENNEL CLUB REGULATIONS FOR RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS WITH OVERSEAS CLUBS

As at 1st July 2026

1. General. The Royal Kennel Club will consider entering into a reciprocal agreement with an overseas club which is in full control of all matters concerning the breeding, registration and exhibition of pedigree dogs in the country or area over which jurisdiction is claimed. An overseas club making application for a reciprocal agreement must send a copy of its Rules with such application and must satisfy the Board of its authority.

2. Full reciprocal agreements. A full reciprocal agreement may be concluded with an overseas kennel club which has exercised full authority for a period of at least 25 years and which has a base register of at least 5,000 dogs. When concluded, the following conditions will apply:-

- a. The Royal Kennel Club and the overseas club are to accept the mutual validity of Rules and Regulations relative to their application in the country of origin.
- b. Every registered dog exported from the one country to the other if it is accepted for registration, is to be registered in the importing country under the name by which it is registered in the country of its birth, subject only to any additions required or permitted by the Kennel Club of the importing country. Before any such registration is completed the club making the registration shall require to see an official pedigree issued by the Kennel Club of the exporting country. The Board reserves the right to reject any registration and/or the recognition of any foreign breed not included in Annex A to B Regulations.
- c. The Royal Kennel Club and the overseas club are to provide information, on request, on the status of judges considered for appointments in each others' countries.
- d. Information and comment on the standing or reputation of any person engaged in judging, breeding, showing or trialing dogs is to be freely exchanged by request of either club through the official channel of its Secretary.
- e. Lists of suspended persons are to be mutually exchanged and recognised except that the Royal Kennel Club may reserve the right to refuse to recognise any suspension or disqualification if, in the opinion of the Board, the person or persons concerned do not come within the jurisdiction of the club notifying the suspension or disqualification. The recognition of the suspension of a United Kingdom citizen by an overseas club shall be subject to the individual's right of appeal to the Royal Kennel Club.

The Royal Kennel Club shall supply a copy of every issue of the Kennel Gazette and the Royal Kennel Club Stud Book while the agreement remains in force.

3. Provisional reciprocal agreements. A provisional reciprocal agreement may be concluded with an overseas kennel club which exercises full authority but which has been in existence for less than 25 years and/or has a base register of less than 5,000 dogs. When concluded the following conditions will apply:-

- a. The Royal Kennel Club and the overseas club accept the mutual validity of the Rules and Regulations relative to their application in the country of origin.

- b. Consideration may be given to the registration of any dog exported from the one country to the other provided it is registered in the originating country and is supported by an official pedigree issued by the Kennel Club of the exporting country. The decision of the Board on the acceptance or rejection of any dog and/or foreign breed not included in Annex A to B Regulations shall be final.
- c. The Royal Kennel Club and the overseas club are to provide information, on request, on the assessment and status of judges considered for appointments in each others' countries.
- d. Information on matters of mutual interest and concern may be exchanged through the official channel of the Secretaries of the Royal Kennel Club and the overseas club.
- e. Lists of suspended persons are to be mutually exchanged and recognised except that the Royal Kennel Club may reserve the right to refuse to recognise any suspension or disqualification if, in the opinion of the Board, the person or persons concerned do not come within the jurisdiction of the club notifying the suspension or disqualification. The recognition of the suspension of a United Kingdom citizen by an overseas club shall be subject to the individual's right of appeal to the Royal Kennel Club.

The Royal Kennel Club shall supply a copy of every issue of the Kennel Gazette while the agreement remains in force. Other publications may be provided at cost and on request.

4. Abrogation. Either club shall have the power to sever its connection with the other at any time if thought fit.

5. *Federation Cynologique Internationale (FCI)*

Under the reciprocal agreement with the FCI, the Royal Kennel Club will normally accept the registration of dogs imported into the United Kingdom from countries with which the Royal Kennel Club has a reciprocal agreement, or which has full membership, associate membership or contract partnership of the FCI.

6. *Waiver*

The revised Regulations shall apply from 1 July 1992 and full reciprocal agreements in force before that date shall continue to be honoured.

ROYAL KENNEL CLUB REGULATIONS FOR COMPETITIONS OR TESTS OUTSIDE OF ESTABLISHED SHOW AND COMPETITION REGULATIONS

As at 1st July 2026

1. Eligibility.

- a. Dogs entered for these competitions/tests must be registered at the Royal Kennel Club in accordance with Royal Kennel Club Regulations for Classification and Registration [B].
- b. Only dogs of twelve calendar months of age and over on the first day of the competition/test are eligible to take part.
- c. If, in the opinion of the Board, a dog is of a savage disposition it shall be ineligible for entry for any event held under Royal Kennel Club Rules and Regulations.
- d. Persons disqualified or suspended under Royal Kennel Club Rules are not permitted to take part in any event recognised by the Royal Kennel Club.
- e. No activity shall be conducted which permits, encourages or develops aggression in a dog.

2. Welfare of Dogs.

A person whose dog is entered at a competition/test held under these Regulations should take all reasonable steps to ensure the needs of their dog(s) are met, and should not knowingly put their dogs' health and welfare at risk by any action, default, omission or otherwise. A breach of this Regulation may be referred to the Board for disciplinary action under Royal Kennel Club Rules and Regulations. The use of pinch collars, electronic shock collars, or prong collars, is not permitted at any event licensed by the Royal Kennel Club. This shall apply at the venue and within the precincts of the show/competition.

3. Code of Conduct.

Those taking part in Royal Kennel Club licensed/approved events are expected to maintain and abide by the highest standards, in accordance with Royal Kennel Club Rules and Regulations and appropriate Codes of Conduct as published from time to time.

4. Permission to hold Events.

The Board shall have the power to grant, withhold or cancel permission to hold any competition/test held under these Regulations.

5. Jurisdiction and responsibilities

The officers and committee members of the society holding the licence are deemed responsible for organising and conducting the competition safely and in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Royal Kennel Club and agree to abide by and adopt any decision of the Board. In so doing those appointed as officers and committee members accept that they are jointly and severally responsible for the organisation of the competition and that this is a binding undertaking.

Any decision given against the society under Rule A11 of the Royal Kennel Club Rules may be communicated by the Secretary of the Royal Kennel Club to the Secretaries of registered or affiliated societies holding licensed events, and may also be published in the Kennel Club Journal, together with a report of the proceedings in the matter.

Any notice sent to the Secretary of the Society at the contact address duly lodged at the Royal Kennel Club shall be deemed full and sufficient notice on the part of the Royal Kennel Club of (a) any proceedings, matters or decision of the Board, or of any Authority to whom the Board may have delegated its powers or (b) of anything arising out of the competition / test licence or to the conduct of the Competition / Test, or (c) of any other matter whatsoever arising out of or in connection with the same. Any change in officers or committee members must be notified to the Royal Kennel Club.

6. Application.

- a. The application to hold a competition/test must be submitted to the Secretary of the Royal Kennel Club, and must be accompanied by the appropriate fee.
- b. The initial application to hold an event under these Regulations must be received at least six months before the proposed date of the competition/test. Subsequent applications should be received at least six weeks before the proposed date of the competition/test.
- c. The application must provide full details of the proposed competition/test and include a declaration that the event will have in place satisfactory procedures and policies in respect of undertaking such activities for the following matters:
 - (i) Health and safety procedures for dogs, handlers and spectators.
 - (ii) The training programme including a complete description of the exercises to be undertaken by the participants.
 - (iii) Details of how the competency of its dog training instructors, its assessors and the suitability of dogs to undertake the proposed activity is established.

7. Documentation.

At every competition/test the following documents must be available:-

- a. The written authority from the Royal Kennel Club to hold the competition/test, which must be clearly displayed.
- b. A current public liability insurance document, which must be clearly displayed.
- c. A copy of the up to date competition/test Regulations as supplied to the Royal Kennel Club.
- d. A copy of the event schedule where applicable.
- e. The completed entry forms for the competition/test. All entry forms together with any other documents must be preserved by the Competition organisers for at least twelve months and must be forwarded to the Royal Kennel Club if required.
- f. An incident book, not to be of a loose leaf style.

8. Judging.

- a. Judges are expected to maintain and abide by the highest standards in accordance with Royal Kennel Club Rules and Regulations and appropriate Codes of best practice as published from time to time.
- b. The final decision regarding the acceptability of the proposed activities lies with the appointed judge(s) or assessor(s).

9. Control of dogs.

- a. No person shall carry out punitive correction or harsh handling of a dog at any time whilst at the competition/test venue, including its environs, car and caravan parks and approaches.
- b. The owner, competitor, handler or other person in charge of a dog at Royal Kennel Club events must at all times ensure that the dog is kept under proper control whilst at the venue, including its environs, car and caravan parks and approaches. This Regulation applies before (at any time during the set up period at the venue), during and after the event (at any time during the breakdown of the event).
- c. No person attending a competition/test may allow a bitch in season to be on the competition/test ground or foul any ground used by dogs under test.

10. Veterinary support.

The officers and committee members of the society holding the licence are required to arrange veterinary support compatible with the arrangements for the event and the anticipated entry.

11. Fraudulent or discreditable conduct at the competition/test.

- a. The Secretary of the organising society must immediately report in writing to the Secretary of the Royal Kennel Club any case of alleged fraudulent or discreditable conduct, or any default, omission or incident at or in connection with the event which may come to his notice, even where parties concerned have indicated that they intend taking no action, and at the same time forward to the Secretary of the Royal Kennel Club all documents and information in connection therewith which may be in his possession or power. If evidence is placed before the Board to its satisfaction that undue influence has been exercised by any person(s), or that any improper means have been used to influence the appointment of a judge or interfere with the participation of a dog at any event held under Royal Kennel Club Rules and Regulations, the Board may require all correspondence and evidence in connection with the case to be produced in order that it may deal with the offender(s) under Royal Kennel Club Rule A11.
- b. Those taking part in a competition/test held under these Regulations shall not openly impugn the decision of the appointed judge(s) or assessor(s) or openly criticise the event officials or helpers.

12. Penalties.

The Board shall have power to impose any of the following penalties upon any person for any breach of Royal Kennel Club Regulations subject to a right of appeal, notice of intention of which must be lodged within 14 days from the date on which the decision is given and subject to the prescribed appeals process as shall be determined by the Board from time to time;

- a. Warn
- b. Censure/Reprimand
- c. Apology directive (Conduct Regulation or the Control of Dogs Regulation)
- d. Fine
- e. Award disqualified

In addition, the Board may make the following directives;

- f. A dog's registration record may be marked 'incident recorded'
- g. A dog's registration record may be endorsed 'not eligible for entry in any event held under Royal Kennel Club Rules and Regulations, nor any unlicensed event recognised by the Royal Kennel Club.'

The right of appeal against directives f) and g) listed above extends to an appeal on the finding of fact of a deliberate dog bite only, but does not extend to an appeal against those directives f) and g) in terms of cancellation or modification of such directives if there is a finding of fact of an intentional dog bite.

In the event of any fine not being paid, or non compliance with any apology directive issued within the time stipulated by the Board, then that person may, at the discretion of the Board, be dealt with as if a complaint under Royal Kennel Club Rule A11 had been lodged and proved to the satisfaction of the Board.

For complaints of conduct whether at a licensed event or on social media, in addition to a warning issued - a short term fixed period of refusal of entry/attendance at Royal Kennel Club licensed events may also be imposed in accordance with procedures to be published from time to time to implement this regulation.

REGULATIONS FOR PROCEDURE UNDER RULE A11

As at 1st July 2026

MAKING A COMPLAINT

1. Any person ('the Complainant') wishing to make a Complaint ('the Complaint') relating to any of the matters set out in Rule A11 shall do so in writing to the Royal Kennel Club.
2. A Complaint shall be lodged within 6 months, or longer period as the Secretary of the Royal Kennel Club ('the Secretary') may in his discretion allow
 - a. from the date on which the matter of complaint arose or, if later,
 - b. from the time when the matter which is the subject of the Complaint was discovered or, if later,
 - c. from the date of judgement or final order in any civil action.
3. The Secretary shall have the power to stay any complaint if the issues raised are or could be the subject of a civil action, until such time as the action is resolved or determined by final judgement or order.
4. If the Royal Kennel Club is the Complainant, the complaint shall be lodged in the name of the Secretary of the Royal Kennel Club.
5. The Complaint shall be signed by the Complainant, state the grounds of the Complaint and contain in summary form, the material facts on which the Complainant relies, including the date and place of the matters complained of, identify the names and addresses of supporting witnesses (if any) and be supported by signed statements from such supporting witnesses.
6. Such fee as determined from time to time by the Royal Kennel Club shall be payable by the Complainant, except where the Complaint is by a Registered Society or the Royal Kennel Club. Such fee may be returned to the Complainant at the discretion of the Board.

CONSIDERATION OF A COMPLAINT BY THE ROYAL KENNEL CLUB

7. Upon receipt of a Complaint the Secretary shall consider the matter and the Secretary shall have authority to institute disciplinary proceedings or to dispose of any Complaint if it appears to be trivial or if in his opinion disciplinary proceedings should not be brought for some good reason.
8. If the Secretary does not dispose of the Complaint under Regulation T7 the Royal Kennel Club shall as soon as possible after consideration by the Secretary
 - a. serve on the person against whom the Complaint is made ('the Respondent') copies of the Complaint, the Complainant's written statement and any supporting statements, and a copy of these Regulations and
 - b. invite the Respondent if he wishes to deny the Complaint to submit a written statement setting out sufficient particulars to show on what grounds, or if he admits the Complaint to submit a written statement setting out any extenuating circumstances.

9. Any written statement by the Respondent shall be lodged with the Royal Kennel Club within 21 days of the receipt by him of the Complainant's written statement and must be signed by the Respondent. The Respondent's written statement shall be accompanied by signed statements from supporting witnesses (if any).

10. Following the receipt of the Respondent's written statement or, if the Respondent does not submit a written statement within 21 days, the Royal Kennel Club may investigate the circumstances of the Complaint further and require either the Complainant or the Respondent to provide any further information it may require.

11. Thereafter the Secretary may dismiss the Complaint or dispose of it by warning or censuring the Respondent, if it appears to him to be trivial, or if in his opinion disciplinary proceedings should not be continued for some good reason, failing which the Royal Kennel Club shall list the Complaint for hearing by the Disciplinary Committee.

REVIEW PROCEDURE

12. If the Secretary dismisses or disposes of the Complaint under Regulation T7 or T11 either the Complainant or the Respondent within 14 days after notification of such decision may request the Secretary in writing to place the Complaint before the Review Body of the Board ('the Review Body'). The request for a review must be accompanied by grounds for the review of the decision including (but not exclusively):

- a. the decision was based on a finding of fact that was perverse or irrational
- b. the decision was made by reference to irrelevant factors
- c. the decision was made without reference to relevant factors
- d. the decision was made in a procedurally unfair manner
- e. relevant new evidence.

13. Within 42 days of the date of the written request for review the Review Body shall either

- a. determine that there is no cause to review the T7 or T11 decision and shall not consider the matter further, or
- b. uphold the Secretary's dismissal or disposal of the Complaint, or
- c. direct that the Complaint shall be listed for hearing by the Disciplinary Committee.

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

14. If the Complaint is listed for hearing before the Disciplinary Committee the Royal Kennel Club shall notify the parties and provide the Complainant and the Respondent with copies of any statements lodged under Regulations T5 and T9 by the other party which have not already been served on them and shall give them not less than 35 days notice of the date fixed for hearing of the Complaint ('the Hearing').

15. If within 14 days after notification of the Hearing the Complainant or the Respondent request an adjournment on grounds which in the opinion of the Secretary are reasonable, the Secretary shall have power to postpone the Hearing to a date to be notified, and shall give the Complainant and the Respondent not less than 35 days notice of the new hearing date.

DETERMINATION OF THE COMPLAINT**16.**

- a. A Complaint may be determined on the basis of written submissions to the Disciplinary Committee. However, if either or both parties request an oral hearing then the matter must be determined by way of an oral hearing.
- b. Both the Complainant and the Respondent may attend or be represented at the Hearing before the Disciplinary Committee if they have given notice of such intention to attend to the Secretary within 14 days of notification of the Hearing or any new hearing date. If no notice of intention to attend or be represented is received then the Disciplinary Committee may hear the Complaint prior to the date originally fixed for the Hearing or any adjournment and in such manner as it may determine.

HEARING OF THE COMPLAINT

17. The Disciplinary Committee shall so far as it considers it appropriate seek to avoid formality in its proceedings and shall not be bound by any enactment or rule of law relating to the admissibility of evidence in proceedings before the courts of law.

18. The Disciplinary Committee may direct that

- a. the written statements of witnesses shall be read out or be taken as read at the hearing; and
- b. the evidence of witnesses whose statements have not been submitted to the Royal Kennel Club in accordance with Regulations T5 or T9 shall not be considered without the leave of the Disciplinary Committee.

19. The Disciplinary Committee shall consider the contents of the Complaint, the statements lodged under Regulations T5 and T9 and any supporting evidence and make such enquiries as it considers appropriate and shall otherwise conduct the hearing in such manner as it considers most appropriate for the clarification of the issues before it and generally to the just handling of the proceedings.

20. The Disciplinary Committee shall determine the complaint before it on the basis of the balance of probabilities.

21. The Disciplinary Committee may at any time and from time to time upon application, or on its own motion, adjourn the date of any hearing.

22. The Disciplinary Committee may appoint one or more persons who need not be a member of the Royal Kennel Club to attend the Hearing of the Complaint to assist it on any matters.

PENALTIES, ORDERS AND COSTS

23. If the Disciplinary Committee is satisfied that the Complaint is substantiated or it is appropriate for a condition or restriction to be imposed on the membership of the Respondent it may impose any one or more of the penalties authorised by the Rules.

24. The Disciplinary Committee may order either party to the proceedings to pay all or part of the costs incurred by another party and/or the Royal Kennel Club. An award of costs may include the costs of any investigation carried out by the Royal Kennel Club which was relevant to the Complaint and the Royal Kennel Club's administrative costs. The amount of costs awarded shall be such amount as the Disciplinary Committee thinks fit.

25. Written notice of the Disciplinary Committee's decision shall be served on the parties.

APPEALS

26. Where a complaint is upheld the Respondent (thereafter known as 'the Appellant') may appeal to the Appeals Tribunal of the Board ('the Appeals Tribunal') if it is clear that there are one or more points on which to base the appeal and the Appeals Tribunal gives leave for the appeal to proceed on this basis. It will be for the Appeals Tribunal to decide whether the grounds of appeal have been established to its satisfaction. The Appeals Tribunal may either substitute its own penalty for that imposed by the Disciplinary Committee or it may refer the complaint back to the Disciplinary Committee for re-hearing. The Appeals Tribunal shall only entertain fresh evidence or take further oral evidence if it so directs. The legitimate points on which an appeal may proceed are as follows:

- (a) The decision was based on a finding of fact that was perverse or irrational
- (b) There was no evidence to support a particular finding of fact
- (c) The decision was made by reference to irrelevant factors
- (d) The decision was made without reference to relevant factors
- (e) The decision was made for an improper purpose
- (f) The decision was made in a procedurally unfair manner
- (g) The decision was made in a manner which breached any governing legislation or regulation
- (h) Relevant new evidence
- (i) The penalty imposed was disproportionate.

An Appeal may be determined on the basis of written submissions to the Appeals Tribunal. However, if an appellant requires an oral hearing then the matter must be determined by way of an oral hearing.

27. Any right of appeal shall be exercised by lodging with the Royal Kennel Club a Notice of Appeal in writing so that it is received by the Royal Kennel Club not later than 14 days after the date on which the written notice of the Disciplinary Committee's decision was served on the Appellant.

28. A Notice of Appeal shall

- a. state the name and address of the person making the Appeal,
- b. identify clearly the decision which is disputed and specify whether the Appeal is in respect of the whole or in respect of any specified part of such decision,
- c. set out the grounds of the Appeal, and
- d. include any additional evidence upon which the Appellant relies, and set out
- e. the reasons why it was not presented to the Disciplinary Committee.

29. An appeal shall not operate as a stay of any penalty or any award of costs which may have been imposed by the Disciplinary Committee.

30. If the Appellant fails to pay any penalty or award of costs the Appeal shall be stayed pending payment. If the Appellant's non-payment of the penalty or award of costs continues for more than two calendar months, the Appeals Tribunal shall have power to dismiss the Appeal.

31. If the Appeals Tribunal has agreed that the appeal is able to proceed then, provided that any fine or award of costs imposed by the Disciplinary Committee has been satisfied in full, the Royal Kennel Club shall

- a. serve on the Complainant a copy of the Notice of Appeal and any additional evidence;
- b. give the Complainant and the Appellant not less than 35 days notice of the date of the hearing of the Appeal.

32. Any written statement by the Complainant in reply shall be lodged within 14 working days of the receipt of the Notice of Appeal.

33. The Appellant and the Complainant may attend the hearing of the Appeal and/or be represented and shall have the opportunity of addressing the Appeals Tribunal.

34. The Appellant shall not be entitled on the hearing of an appeal to rely on any ground of appeal which has not been specified in the Notice of Appeal.

35. The Appeals Tribunal may order that security shall be given for the costs of an appeal as it considers fit and may stay the Appeal in the meantime. If the Respondent fails to pay or provide the security as ordered the Appeals Tribunal shall have the power to dismiss the Appeal.

APPEAL DECISION

- 36.** The Appeals Tribunal if it upholds the appeal may
- a. revoke or vary the decision made by the Disciplinary Committee, or
 - b. remit the matter to the Disciplinary Committee for rehearing after further consideration with such directions as it thinks fit,
 - c. impose any penalty or order which could have been imposed by the Disciplinary Committee,
 - d. make an order for costs against any party to the Appeal.

MEDIA REPRESENTATION

37. The Disciplinary Committee and the Appeals Tribunal may in their discretion permit representatives of the media to attend hearings of the proceedings before them. Normally attendance will be restricted to the canine press and the Press Association.

GENERAL POWERS

38. The Disciplinary Committee or, where appropriate the Appeals Tribunal may if it thinks fit

- a. extend the time appointed by or under these Regulations for doing any act notwithstanding that the time appointed may have expired,
- b. postpone the day or time fixed for or adjourn any hearing,
- c. stay the proceedings on such terms as it considers appropriate, whether pending any other civil or criminal proceedings or otherwise,
- d. at any stage of the proceedings order any Complaint, Notice of Appeal or anything in such application to be struck out or amended on the grounds that it is scandalous, frivolous or vexatious,
- e. on the application of the Respondent or on its own motion order any Complaint or Appeal to be struck out for want of prosecution.

PROVIDED THAT before making an Order under Regulation T38.d. or e. is made the Secretary shall send notice to the party against whom it is proposed that any such order should be made giving him an opportunity to show cause why such an order should not be made.

39. An act or thing required by these Regulations to be done by the Secretary shall be validly done if done by another person appointed either generally or specifically for that purpose by the Secretary or the Chairman of the Board.

NON COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

40. Where there has been a clerical error, or accidental slip or omission or other failure to comply with the requirements of these Regulations, such failure shall be treated as an irregularity and shall not invalidate the proceedings, or any step taken in the proceedings, or any document or decision in the proceedings.

41. The Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Tribunal, as the case may be, may on the grounds that there has been such a failure and on such terms as to costs or otherwise as it thinks just, allow such amendments (if any) to be made and to make such decision (if any) dealing with the proceedings generally as it thinks fit.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

42. Any document, notification or decision may either be served personally, by a reputable courier service, by first-class post, or by email and shall be deemed to have been served i) if by hand when delivered, ii) if by courier service or first-class post 48 hours after delivery to the courier or posting (as the case may be), or iii) if by email immediately.

43. If the Secretary is party to a Complaint in a personal capacity, the Chairman of the Board shall appoint some other person to carry out the Secretary's functions specified in these Regulations.

44. In these Regulations any reference to the Rules means the Rules of the Royal Kennel Club as amended from time to time.

45. In relation to disciplinary matters in Scotland references to the Secretary shall mean the Secretary General of the Scottish Royal Kennel Club.

REGULATIONS FOR PROCEDURE UNDER RULE A12

As at 1st July 2026

INTRODUCTION

For the avoidance of any doubt, a Rule A12 hearing is convened in order to consider the issue of mitigation only. Rule A12 actions are only undertaken by the Royal Kennel Club where a person has been convicted by a court of an offence involving one or other of the matters set out in Rule A12 (a) (1)-(3). Accordingly, the findings of the court that led to the conviction will not be re-examined. A Respondent's submissions at a Rule A12 hearing will only need to address issues of mitigation and what, if any, penalty is to be imposed.

NOTICE OF HEARING

1. The Royal Kennel Club may inform the person concerned of its intention to proceed under this Rule and to invite that person to, within 21 days, submit a written statement regarding circumstances of the case and/or request an oral hearing.

2. If a person to whom notice has been given pursuant to Rule A12 (the 'Respondent') requests an oral hearing to mitigate in person (in respect of any penalty to be imposed) before the Disciplinary Committee the Royal Kennel Club shall give the Respondent not less than 35 days notice of the date fixed for the hearing ('the Hearing').

3. If within 14 days after notification of the Hearing the Respondent requests an adjournment on grounds which in the opinion of the Secretary are reasonable, the Secretary shall have power to postpone the Hearing to a date to be notified, and shall give the Respondent not less than 35 days notice of the new Hearing date.

HEARING OF THE MATTER

4. The matter may be determined on the basis of written submissions to the Disciplinary Committee. However, if the Respondent requires an oral hearing then the matter must be determined by way of an oral hearing.

5. The Disciplinary Committee shall so far as it considers it appropriate seek to avoid formality in its proceedings and shall not be bound by any enactment of rule of law relating to the admissibility of evidence in proceedings before the courts of law.

6. The Disciplinary Committee shall make such enquiries as it considers appropriate and shall otherwise conduct the Hearing in such manner as it considers most appropriate for the clarification of the issues before it and generally to the just handling of the proceedings.

7. The Disciplinary Committee may at any time and from time to time upon application, or on its own motion, adjourn the date of any Hearing.

8. The Disciplinary Committee may appoint one or more persons who need not be a member of the Royal Kennel Club to attend the Hearing to assist it on any matters.

PENALTIES

9. After considering any written statement, the holding of an oral hearing or after 21 days have elapsed without any statement being received or oral hearing being requested, the Disciplinary Committee shall have power to decide what action, if any, should be taken and shall have power to impose any one or more of the penalties listed in Rule A11j. except for the imposition of a fine or an order for costs.

10. Written notice of the Disciplinary Committee's decision shall be served on the Respondent.

APPEALS

11. Where a penalty is imposed the Respondent ('the Appellant') may appeal to the Appeals Tribunal of the Board ('the Appeals Tribunal') if it is clear that there are one or more points on which to base the appeal and the Appeals Tribunal gives leave for the appeal to proceed on this basis. It will be for the Appeals Tribunal to decide whether the grounds of appeal have been established to its satisfaction. The Appeals Tribunal may either substitute its own penalty for that imposed by the Disciplinary Committee or it may refer the complaint back to the Disciplinary Committee for re-hearing. The Appeals Tribunal shall only entertain fresh evidence or take further oral evidence if it so directs. The legitimate points on which an appeal may proceed are as follows:

- (a) The decision was based on a finding of fact that was perverse or irrational
- (b) There was no evidence to support a particular finding of fact
- (c) The decision was made by reference to irrelevant factors
- (d) The decision was made without reference to relevant factors
- (e) The decision was made for an improper purpose
- (f) The decision was made in a procedurally unfair manner
- (g) The decision was made in a manner which breached any governing legislation or regulation
- (h) Relevant new evidence
- (i) The penalty imposed was disproportionate.

12. An Appeal may be determined on the basis of written submissions to the Appeals Tribunal. However, if the Appellant requests an oral hearing then the matter must be determined by way of an oral hearing.

13. Any right of appeal shall be exercised by lodging with the Royal Kennel Club a Notice of Appeal in writing so that it is received by the Royal Kennel Club not later than 14 days after the date on which written notice of the Disciplinary Committee's decision was served on the Appellant.

14. A Notice of Appeal shall;

- a. state the name and address of the person making the appeal
- b. identify clearly the decision which is disputed and specify whether the appeal is in respect of the whole or in respect of any specified part of such decision, set out the grounds for the appeal, and
- c. include any additional evidence upon which the Appellant relies and set out the reasons why it was not presented to the Disciplinary Committee.

15. An appeal shall not operate as a stay of any penalty which may have been imposed by the Disciplinary Committee.

16. Following the latter of the decision of the Appeals Tribunal that an appeal will be heard, the Royal Kennel Club shall give the Appellant not less than 35 days notice of the date of the hearing of the Appeal.

17. The Appellant shall not be entitled on the hearing of an appeal to rely on any ground of appeal which has not been specified in the Notice of Appeal.

APPEAL DECISION

18. The Appeals Tribunal if it upholds the appeal may;
- (a) revoke or vary the decision made by the Disciplinary Committee, or;
 - (b) remit the matter to the Disciplinary Committee for rehearing after further consideration with such directions as it thinks fit;
 - (c) impose any penalty or order which could have been imposed by the Disciplinary Committee.

MEDIA REPRESENTATION

19. The Disciplinary Committee and the Appeals Tribunal may in their discretion permit representatives of the media to attend hearings of the proceedings before them. Normally attendance will be restricted to the canine press and the Press Association.

GENERAL POWERS

20. The Disciplinary Committee or, where appropriate, the Appeals Tribunal may if it thinks fit;

- (a) extend the time appointed by or under the Regulations for doing any act notwithstanding that the time appointed may have expired;
- (b) postpone the day or time fixed for or adjourn any hearing;
- (c) stay the proceedings on such terms as it considers appropriate, whether pending any other civil or criminal proceedings or otherwise.

21. An act or thing required by these Regulations to be done by the Secretary shall be validly done if done by another person appointed either generally or specifically for that purpose by the Secretary or the Chairman of the Board.

NON COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

22. Where there has been a clerical error, or accidental slip or omission or other failure to comply with the requirements of these Regulations, such failure shall be treated as an irregularity and shall not invalidate the proceedings, or any step taken in the proceedings, or any document or decision in the proceedings.

23. The Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Tribunal, as the case may be, may on the grounds that there has been such a failure and on such terms as to costs or otherwise as it thinks just, allow such amendments (if any) to be made and to make such decision (if any) dealing with the proceedings generally as it thinks fit.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

24. Any document, notification or decision may either be served personally, by a reputable courier service, by first-class post, or by email and shall be deemed to have been served i) if by hand when delivered, ii) if by courier service or first class post 48 hours after delivery to the courier or posting (as the case may be), or iii) if by email immediately.

25. In these Regulations any reference to the Rules means the Rules of the Royal Kennel Club as amended from time to time.

26. In relation to disciplinary matters in Scotland references to the Secretary shall mean the Secretary General of the Scottish Royal Kennel Club.