

CONSTITUTION OF THE WESTERN DACHSHUND CLUB

Section 1. The name of the Society shall be the WESTERN DACHSHUND CLUB

Section 2. The purpose of the Society shall be:

- a. To encourage and develop the breeding of purebred dogs based on the science of genetics and incorporating the use of humane methods of animal husbandry, particularly dogs embraced by the name "Dachshund" and being such breeds as recognized by the Canadian Kennel Club, presently including

Miniature Long-haired
Miniature Smooth-haired
Miniature Wire-haired
Standard Long-haired
Standard Smooth-haired
Standard Wire-haired

and to do everything possible to bring the natural qualities of the six breeds of Dachshunds to perfection and to encourage members, breeders and exhibitors to accept the standards of excellence by which Dachshunds shall be judged.

- b. To cooperate with the Canadian Kennel Club toward the betterment of all dogs and to assist and educate owners of Dachshunds in the proper care and handling of such dogs.
- c. To hold licensed and sanctioned specialty shows, performance events and other related events pursuant to the rules of the Canadian Kennel Club and functions designed to encourage interest in the handling and breeding of Dachshunds. These events are to be held by the Society itself or in conjunction with other clubs.
- d. To encourage the study of breed standards, dog health and welfare, dog show procedures and all other matters pertaining to the well being of the dogs, through the use of lectures, panels, film shows and other available media.
- e. To foster and encourage sportsmanship and good fellowship in all matters pertaining to purebred dogs and to abide by the principles of the Canadian Kennel Club Code of Ethics.
- f. To collect and raise funds, to apply for grants, to accept gifts, bequests and to collect monies by the way of fees, donations or otherwise and to hold, invest, expand or deal with such grants, gifts, bequests and monies in furtherance of the purposes of the Society.

BY-LAWS OF THE WESTERN DACHSHUND CLUB

Article 1 Area of Operation

Section 1 The area of operation of the Society shall be within the Province of British Columbia. Members will be accepted from other areas.

Article 2 Membership

Section 1. Membership Year. The membership year shall be from January the first of one year to December thirty-first of the same year.

Section 2. Eligibility. To be eligible for membership individuals must subscribe to the purpose of the Western Dachshund Club and be in good standing with the Canadian Kennel Club. All members are in good standing with the Western Dachshund Club except a member who failed to pay his/her current annual membership fee or any other subscription or debt due and owing by him/her to the Society and he/she is not in good standing so long as the debt remains unpaid.

Section 3. Types of Membership. There shall be four types of Memberships as follows:

- a. Regular Members – Breeders, enthusiasts and/or owners of Dachshunds that are entitled to all privileges of the Society provided they:
 - Live in the Area of Operation
 - Be in good standing with The Canadian Kennel Club
 - Be at least eighteen (18) years of age
 - Be an Associate Member in good standing for a period of two (2) full years immediately prior to the Annual General Meeting at which such application as provided for in By-Law Article 3 Section 5 as a Regular Member is submitted for approval and such application is approved by three-quarters (75%) majority
 - Subscribe to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society
 - Pay the annual membership fee
- b. Associate Members - Breeders, enthusiasts and/or owners of Dachshunds that are entitled to move, second and vote on ordinary business at any General or Special meeting of the Society at which they are in attendance provided they:
 - Be in good standing with The Canadian Kennel Club
 - Be at least eighteen (18) years of age
 - Subscribe to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society
 - Pay the annual membership fee
- c. Junior Members – Persons who are eight (8) years of age or over but under eighteen (18) years of age, with a sincere interest in Dachshunds. Junior Members may not vote nor hold Office, but are otherwise entitled to all privileges of the Society. Once the age of eighteen (18) is reached, if a Junior Member has been a member for a full two years immediately prior to this birthdate, application may be made for Regular Member status bypassing the Associate Member category.
- d. Life Members – Regular or Associate Members who have rendered long and meritorious service to the Society may have Life Membership conferred upon them after nomination to, or by, the Executive Council, with a three-quarters (75%) majority vote at the Annual General Meeting. Life Members shall be exempt from membership fees, but shall have all privileges of the Society, except that a Life Member living outside the Area of Operation of the Society shall not hold a position on the Board.

- Section 4. Privileges. Only the Regular and Life Members in good standing with the Society who are regular members in good standing of the Canadian Kennel Club shall be accorded the privilege of holding office on the Executive Council. Regular and Life Members may propose and vote on amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society and make or second nominations and vote during Society elections and make or second and vote on motions at Society meetings. Associate Members may make or second and vote on motions at Society meetings. All Members are welcome to attend and contribute to meetings and all other functions and activities to promote the objectives of the Society.
- Section 5. Application and Approval of Membership. Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Executive Council and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by the Constitution and the By-Laws of the Western Dachshund Club and the for Rules of the Canadian Kennel Club.
- If applying to be an Associate Member, the application shall preferably carry the endorsement of two Regular Members in good standing. If so endorsed, the membership application will be approved. In case of an application which is not endorsed, the Executive Council, after investigation, may endorse the application and accept or reject it.
 - If submitting to be a Regular Member following the qualification requirements set forth in By-Law Article 2 Section 3 the application shall be voted on for approval at the next Annual General Meeting and must be endorsed by three-quarters (75%) majority.
- Section 6. Rejection of Membership. Any individual rejected for membership by the Society will be provided with a written response.
- Section 7. Dues. Membership dues shall be in such amount as set by a majority vote at an Annual General Meeting. Membership dues are to be paid on or before the first day of January of each year. No member whose dues are in arrears may vote.
- Section 8. Termination of Membership. Membership may be terminated by:
- a. Resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the Society upon providing written notice to the Secretary, provided all duties and obligations to the Society have been completed and settled in full.
 - b. Lapsing. A membership shall be considered lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 60 days after the first day of the fiscal year.
 - c. Expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article 6 Section 4 of these By-Laws.

Article 3 Executive Council and Officers

- Section 1. Executive Council. There shall be an Executive Council which shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, all of whom must be residents of Canada and Canadian Kennel Club members of good standing. The majority of the Executive Council shall be in close contact with dog affairs within a reasonable time of their election. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Executive Council.
- Section 2. Officers. The Officers of the Executive Council shall be elected to their positions for a period of one year, and during their term of office their duties and responsibilities shall be:
- a. President. The President of the Society shall have all the duties and powers normally vested in the office of President; shall preside at all meetings regardless of type; and

shall be a voting member of all committees. The President shall have the authority to co-sign cheques of the Society.

- b. Vice-President. The Vice-President of the Society shall have the powers and duties of the President in the event that the President is absent or unable to act. The Vice-President shall have the authority to co-sign cheques of the Society.
- c. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and the Executive Council and of all matters of which a record shall be required by the Society; shall receive all applications for membership and maintain an up-to-date membership list; shall attend to all correspondence regarding the affairs of the Society.
- d. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive all funds due to the Society and deposit the same into the Society bank account; shall pay from these funds all invoices promptly; shall at all times keep the books and records of the Society current, and said books and records shall at all times be open to inspection; shall prepare for the membership an annual financial statement; shall maintain a record of all assets of the Society. The Treasurer's signature is required on all cheques of the Society.

Section 3. Vacancies. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the Executive Council, the Executive Council will appoint a member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. In the case of a vacancy in the office of President, that position shall be filled by the Vice-President and a new Vice-President shall be appointed by the Executive Council.

Article 4 Club Meetings

Section 1. Fiscal/ Society Year. The fiscal year shall be from January the first of one year to December thirty-first of the same year. The Society year shall be immediately at the conclusion of the election of officers at the Annual General Meeting and shall continue through the election of officers at the next Annual General Meeting.

Section 2. General Meetings. General meetings shall be held when determined by the Executive Council, notice of which shall be received by the members at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum shall be those members present.

Section 3. Special Meetings. The Executive Council may call a Special meeting to deal with business too urgent to wait for the next General meeting. A Special meeting may also be called at the request of the membership; in the case of Special meetings called by the membership, a minimum of five members are required to make the request. All members are to be notified by mail or electronic means of the agenda of such meetings at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting date. The quorum for all Special meetings shall be those members present.

Section 4. Executive Council Meetings. Meetings of the Executive Council shall be held at such a time and place as may be designated by the President as frequently as necessary to conduct business on behalf of the Society. A quorum for an Executive Council meeting shall be seventy-five percent (75%) of its members.

Section 5. Annual General Meeting. The Annual General Meeting will be held in conjunction with the first General Meeting of the Society after January the first, at which officers for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 6 of this Article. All commitments duly ratified by the general membership shall be honoured by the newly elected officers.

Section 6. Elections. The President shall appoint an Elections Officer at least 60 days before the Annual General Meeting. The responsibility of the officer shall be to present to the Annual General Meeting a slate of candidates who are willing to accept office on the

Executive Council. The officer shall also receive nominations either by mail or electronic means prior to, or from the floor, of that meeting. No person may be a candidate for Executive Council who is not a member in good standing, a Canadian citizen and a member in good standing of the Canadian Kennel Club.

Article 5 Committees

- Section 1. Standing and Special Committees. The Executive Council shall appoint standing and special committees at their discretion.
- Section 2. Committee Appointments. Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the Executive Council upon written notice being sent to the person whose services have been terminated.

Article 6 Discipline

- Section 1. Canadian Kennel Club Suspension. Any member who is suspended from the privileges of the Canadian Kennel Club shall be suspended from the privileges of this Society for a like period.
- Section 2. Complaints. Any member may lay a complaint against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Society or the breed. Written complaints containing details of the alleged misconduct must be filed with the Secretary. The Secretary shall promptly notify the Executive Council, which shall meet and fix a date of an Executive Council hearing not less than three weeks and not more than six weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send out one copy of the complaint to the accused member by registered mail, together with a notice of hearing and assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his/her own defense and bring witness if he/she wishes. Should a complaint be laid against the Secretary, then the President shall act in accordance with these by-laws.
- Section 3. Hearing. The Executive Council shall ensure that both the complainant and the defendant are treated fairly and in accordance with the rules of natural justice. Should the complaint be sustained after hearing all evidence and testimony presented by the complainant and defendant, the Executive Council may by a majority vote of those present, impose an appropriate penalty. The Secretary shall then notify each of the parties of the decision within 30 days of the decision.
- Section 4. Expulsion. Expulsion of a member from the Society shall be accomplished at a General meeting or Special meeting of the Society following a proper hearing and upon the recommendation of the Executive Council as stated in Section 3 of this Article. The President shall read the complaint and report the findings and recommendations of the Executive Council, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak on his/her own behalf. The members shall then vote by secret ballot on the proposed expulsion. A seventy-five percent (75%) vote of those present shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not ratified, other disciplinary action may be recommended by the Executive Council at that or subsequent General meetings of the Society, providing that the defendant has the right to speak to the general membership prior to a vote on such a resolution.

Article 7 Order of Business

Section 1. Procedure. The order of business shall be determined by the President. Meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order (most recent edition).

Article 8 Amendments

Section 1. Proposal for Amendments. Any revision and/or amendments to the Constitution and/or the By-Laws of the Society shall be submitted to the membership via a special referendum ballot. The Executive Council shall be responsible for submitting such a special referendum ballot to the membership as directed by a majority of members present at a General meeting of the Society.

Section 2. Amendment by Vote. Amendments to the Constitution and/or By-laws must have two-thirds (2/3) vote of all eligible members. Voting must be by mail-in ballot; proxies are not permitted. Amendments may be proposed by the Executive Council or petitioned from members.

Section 3. Canadian Kennel Club Approval. No amendment to the Constitution and/or By-laws shall become effective until it has been approved by the Canadian Kennel Club.

Article 9 Dissolution

The Society may be dissolved at any time by written consent of not less than fifty-one percent (51%) majority of the Regular and Life Members of the Society. In the event of the dissolution of the Society, whether voluntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the Society, as per inventory, shall be distributed to any members of the Society, but after payments of debts of the Society, its property and assets shall be given to a charitable organization for the benefit of dogs as selected by the Executive Council.

Article 10 Other

Section 1. Audit. The members by a simple majority vote at a General meeting may order the audit of the financial records.

Section 2. Society Logo. The use of the Society logo or name of the Western Dachshund Club in any form of advertising by any member or group of members is prohibited, except by the Society itself with the approval of the Executive Council.