

# **BY-LAWS, DOG SHOW RULES AND STANDING RESOLUTIONS**

**Of the**

## **AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB**

### **BY-LAWS**

SECTION I. The following order of business shall be observed at the meetings of this Association:

1. Roll Call
2. Reading Minutes of Previous Meeting
3. Presentation of Credentials
4. Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Officers and Committees
7. Executive Board Report
8. Standing Committee's Report
9. General Business
10. Adjournment

SECTION II. In the event of an appeal from an order of suspension imposed by a Show Committee, or by the President, it must be heard at the next meeting of the Executive Board.

All complaints or disputes between members of this Association shall be decided by those members of the Executive Board who are in no way connected with the clubs interested.

The following rules must be published in the premium list of every show:

### **SECTION III. AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB RULES GOVERNING DOG SHOWS**

(Copyrighted)

**To take effect August 1, 1905**

NOTICE. No show is recognized unless the official endorsement of the premium list, together with the rating of the show in winners' classes, signed by the Secretary of the American Kennel Club, is published at the head of the classification.

- I. The word dog, where used in these rules, includes both sexes.
- II. Every dog shown under these rules must either be registered, or listed with the American Kennel Club previous to being exhibited. The fee for registration is

\$1, and for listing twenty-five cents. The listing of a dog gives the privilege for competition, only for the year in which it is listed. The penalty for non-compliance with this rule is the disqualification of the entry and the forfeiture of entry fee and any prizes won at the show; except when a club states in its premium list and on its entry blank, "This club assumes the collection and forwarding to the American Kennel Club of all listing fees."

- III. Exhibitors must abide by their own errors in making out their entry forms. Show officials cannot transfer a dog that has been wrongly entered.
- IV. Every dog must be the bona fide property of the person making such entry on the day of closing the entries. If an entry is made in the name of an agent, and the name of owner not given, the dog shall be disqualified. The entry must clearly identify the dog to be exhibited by name, and, if known, its date of birth, names of sire and dam, and the name of its breeder. Should any of these particulars be unknown to the exhibitor, it must be so stated on the entry blank. If the dog is already registered in the American Kennel Club Stud Book, the Stud Book number of the dog must be given with the entry. The right to show a dog cannot be transferred by the owner by agreement, bargain sale or lease.
- V. If the name of a dog which has won a prize either in England or America has been changed, the old name must be given on the entry blank and published in the Catalogue, until such time as it wins a prize under its new name. The name of a registered dog cannot be changed after having been published in the Stud Book.
- VI. If a dog has been entered without being identified, as directed in Rules IV. And V., it shall be disqualified and forfeit any prize which may have been awarded to it, except in the case of technical errors where fraud is not shown, in which case the Secretary shall impose a fine of \$2 for each entry.
- VII. The breeder of a dog is the person owning or leasing the bitch at the time of her being bred. A bitch owned in this country and sent to any foreign country to be bred and returned to this country to whelp, the progeny shall be considered as American bred.
- VIII. The authorities of any Show may decline any entries they see fit, or may remove any dog on account of disease, vice or other cause.
- IX. Blindness, deafness, lameness, castration or spaying shall absolutely disqualify, except that if the judge or veterinary surgeon is satisfied that the deafness or lameness be temporary the dog shall be allowed to compete.

A deaf dog is defined as one that cannot hear the ordinary methods of command.

A dog suffering from any hereditary, contagious or objectionable disease shall be disqualified and forfeit the prize which may be awarded to it, and shall be at once removed from the show building. A regularly appointed veterinary surgeon shall alone decide as to the condition of the dog, and his decision must be given in writing.

- X. Should an appointed judge be unable to fill his engagement, the committee shall have the right to fill the vacancy. All the separate classes of any breed of dog must, however, be adjudicated upon by the same judge or judges acting in conjunction.

A judge, upon the complaint of any one actually engaged in the handling or showing of a dog during the judging of a class, may, if in his opinion the complaint is warranted, order from the ring any person guilty of intentional or deliberate interference with any dog therein competing. Any person ordered from the ring as aforesaid shall be prohibited from further handling or showing in any class during the continuance of said show.

In the event of an appointed judge not officiating, it shall be optional to the exhibitor before commencement of judging the breed to withdraw his dog or dogs from competition, or from the show building, as he may elect, in which case he forfeits his entry fees.

Full discretionary power is given to the judge of each class to withhold any or all prizes for want of merit. The judge's decision will be final in all cases affecting the merits of the dogs, and appeals can only be entertained where misrepresentation or breach of the rules is alleged.

A judge shall disqualify a dog which in his opinion has been improperly tampered with, subject to the decision of the veterinary surgeon. Should the judge's disqualifications not be sustained, the class must be rejudged.

- XI. In any class where there is a limit of weight, the person in charge of a dog entered in such class may claim of the Show Committee the right at any time after the opening of the show and before the judging, to have the dog weighed, and the weight of the dog shall be registered and hold good at the time of judging. Any competing exhibitor or handler shall have the right to demand the weighing or measuring of any dog during the judging of the class, other than those whose weight has been officially registered. Any subsequent protest must be made in the formal manner provided for in these rules.
- XII. Dog show committees may provide such classes for dogs of recognized breeds as they may choose, provided they do not conflict with the conditions of the undermentioned classes.

## CLASSES

1. The Puppy Class shall be for all dogs over six months and under twelve months of age, and no entry can be made of one under six months, or whose date of birth, breeder, sire or dam is unknown. Puppies may be permanently removed from a show at any time after their classes have been judged, whatever those classes may be; provided, however that puppies may be so removed only after the close of a show in any evening. Puppy classes must be judged not later than the second day of the show.
2. The Novice Class shall be for American bred dogs only never having won a first prize at any recognized show, wins in the puppy classes excepted.
3. The Limit Class shall be for all dogs never having won four first prizes in said class at any recognized show, but no dog having acquired the title of champion shall be eligible to this class.
4. The Open Class shall be for all dogs of any age over six months. No prize winner shall be debarred from competing.
5. The Winners' Class shall be open only to the winners of first prizes in any class at the show, giving at least three of the before mentioned classes, one of which must be the Open Class. Winners' Classes cannot be allowed where two or more breeds are combined. The judge shall withhold the award of "first" in this class should he be of the opinion that there is no dog of sufficient merit to justify such award, and the winner of ten points in this class, "under three different judges, excepting, however, at five-point shows, when two wins under different judge will be sufficient" will thereby become a champion of Record, be so registered by the American Kennel, and, if registered in the Stud Book, will be entitled to an American Kennel Club championship medal. Duplicate medals for champions cannot be issued. Before awarding "reserve" in this class, the dog or dogs having been placed second to the winner in any of the classes must be brought before the judge for competition with the remaining dogs in said Winners' Class. No class winner can be withdrawn or withheld from competition in this class. A dog that prior to June 1, 1904, may have won in the Winners' Class under the ten point rule shall qualify as a champion upon the completion of ten points. The Winners' Class can be divided by sex, provided

the required three classes announced in the premium list are also divided by sex. Every show is guaranteed one point towards a championship. All shows to be rated on the actual number of dogs entered, as follows: 1,000 dogs or over, five points; 750 dogs and under 1,000, four points; 500 dogs and under 750, three points; 250 dogs and under 500, two points; under 250 dogs, one point; On the Pacific coast, 400 dogs or over, five points, 300 dogs and under 400, four points; 200 dogs and under 300, three points; 100 points and 200, two points; under 100 dogs, one point. The total under of points required for championship to be ten, but the dog must made one win at a show whose rating is three points or more. Specialty Clubs holding shows confined to their own breed, four points.

6. The Miscellaneous Class shall be open to all dogs of established breeds for which have not been otherwise provided in for in the premium list, either with a class for the breed itself, or in combination with other breeds. Established breeds shall be such breeds as are now eligible to registration in the Stud Book, and such breeds as may hereafter be made eligible for such registration. A list of breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club must be published in every premium list. Entries in this class must specify the breed of the exhibit. Failure to comply with this condition shall disqualify the dog and cancel the award. The term Field Trial record, as used at all dog shows, applied only to public trials, where competition is open to all.

XIII. In estimating the number of prizes a dog has won, no award received by it, on or after the date of closing of the entries shall be counted.

XIV. If a prize winner is disqualified, the next dog in order of merit as placed by the judge shall be given the prize thus forfeited, and the win shall count in every respect the same as if it has been the original award. An equal first prize shall be counted as a win for each dog, dividing first and second money; the next dog in order of merit receiving third prize. All prize money must be returned to the show officials in case the dog shall be disqualified by the American Kennel Club subsequent to the closing of the show.

XV. Any dog entered for competition and received at the show building must compete in all classes in which he is entered and for all specials for which he is eligible, and failing to do so, shall be subject to a fine by the American Kennel Club equal to the entrance fee for each class. No dog eligible for

special prizes can be withdrawn from competition, unless it has been stated on entry blank, "Will not complete or special prizes."

No special prizes can be accepted or offered by a show committee after the show has opened.

When a dog is disqualified for not complying with the condition of any class in which it is shown, that does not disqualify it from competing for specials offered in its breed and to which it is eligible.

- XVI. The age of a dog shall be calculated up to and inclusive of the day preceding the Show. For instance, a dog whelped April 30<sup>th</sup>, shall not be eligible on May 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year to compete in a class for dogs under twelve months of age.
- XVII. An objection to a dog may be made by any exhibitor, or any member of a club, a member of this association, but must be in writing, and be lodged with the Secretary within seven days of the last day of the show. No objection shall be entertained unless accompanied by a deposit of \$5 (to be returned in case the protest is sustained) except the same is lodged by the Secretary of the American Kennel Club, which may be made at any time. (For subsequent proceedings in protest see Rule XIV, of club regulations.)
- XVIII. A person of club guilty of misconduct of any kind in connection with Dogs, Dog Shows or Field Trials, may be suspended by the President of the American Kennel Club, or in his absence, by the Vice-President, or by the committee of the show or trial where such offense was committed. The disqualification or suspension of an owner shall apply to all dogs owned by him, or connected with the perpetration of a fraudulent act and no dog so disqualified is eligible for entry at any show under any ownership.
- XIX. No person under suspension or sentence of disqualification can make an entry, exhibit, or take a prize, act as agent for an exhibitor, or take a dog in the judging ring, at any show held by a member of the American Kennel Club. The privileges of the Stud Book are withheld from all persons under suspension or disqualification, for registration of dogs owned or bred by them.
- XX. No entry can be made in a kennel name unless that name has been registered with the American Kennel Club. The partners in a kennel will be deemed equally culpable in the case of fraud perpetrated in their name. "The term 'One Exhibitor' shall mean an individual, or co-partnership, exhibiting as an individual, firm or kennel name."
- XXI. The person presenting the identification ticket shall be recognized as the agent of the owner in the latter's absence, and his receipt for prize money shall be

binding on the owner, unless notice to the contrary is endorsed on the identification ticket.

XXII. In default of the payment of prize moneys within sixty days of the last day of a show, the officials of such show, except paid employees, shall be suspended or disqualified for such time as the American Kennel Club shall determine. No claim against a club for unpaid prizes shall, however, be valid unless filed with the Secretary of the American Kennel Club within six months of the last day of the show held by such club.

XXIII. It is deemed conduct prejudicial to the best interests of dog shows for an exhibitor to affix any award, sign or notice over his dog or any prizes that his dogs have not won at that show, unless it is specifically and distinctly stated on such notice the name of the show where the prize was awarded and the year in which that show was held. The Superintendent of a show must remove such notices on his attention being called to the matter, and the exhibitor shall forfeit any prize or prizes won at the show to the American Kennel Club.

XXIV. The Superintendent of any show cannot exhibit or officiate as a judge at that show.

XXV. The Secretary of the American Kennel Club must cancel all wins, when he has satisfied himself that these rules have been violated by the exhibitor, in the following instances:

When an entry has been made after the advertised date of closing of entries.

When a dog has not been registered or listed.

When a dog has been entered in the name of an agent only.

When a dog has been pronounced deaf by competent authority.

When a puppy is entered, being under six months of age, or as date of birth, breeder, sire or dam unknown.

When a dog is entered in the Novice Class, having previously won a first prize (puppy wins excepted).

When a dog is entered in the Limit Class, having previously won four or more first prizes in said class, or is a champion.

When a dog is entered in the Miscellaneous Class and the breed is not specified or recognized.

When a dog, by authority of its owner, is led into the judging ring by, or is in charge of, a person not in good standing.

When a dog is entered by an owner or his agent, if either is not in good standing.

When a dog has been improperly transferred by the show officials.

When a dog has been entered in a kennel name that has not been registered.

XXVI. The above rules must be published in all Premium Lists of shows held by members of the American Kennel Club.

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THE FOLLOWING RULES MUST NOT BE PUBLISHED IN PREMIUM LISTS

SECTION 4. AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB RULES GOVERNING CLUBS  
HOLDING SHOWS.

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To take effect August 1, 1905

Any club or association, a member of the American Kennel Club, may hold a dog show under American Kennel Club rules, provided it abides by the following regulations:

- I. Applications for dates must be filed with the Secretary of the American Kennel Club for approval by the Executive Board or such sub-committees as may be empowered to grant dates. Such approval, however, shall be subject to the subsequent indorsement of the Premium List as being in accordance with the requirements of the American Kennel Club, a proof in duplicate of which must be submitted to the American Kennel Club before publication, and no premium list is to be considered as indorsed unless it has at the head of the classification an official notice of such indorsement, signed by the Secretary of the American Kennel Club, and a notice to this effect must be printed at the head of the rules governing dog shows. The use of a club's name for show purposed cannot be delegates by a member to any other body or person.
- II. Applications for dates must be accompanied by a fee of \$25, which will be forfeited in the event of the show not being held.
- III. Section 1. The show shall not extend beyond four days. Section 2. Entries shall close not less than seven days prior to the first day of the show. No alteration of the advertised date of closing shall be allowed. The date of closing of entries of any show is an official part of that show, and a person eligible to make entries at that show must be in good standing at the time of the closing of its entries. All dogs entered at shows must be entered in their registered names. Section 3. The classification shall be confined to established breeds, which may be divided or limited by variety, weight, color, height or sex and otherwise, as provided for in the dog show rules. No change in classification will be allowed unless announced in the kennel press before the date of closing entries. This, however, does not permit of any change in Winners' Classes from those announced in the Premium List.
- IV. Section 1. Every dog show must employ a veterinary surgeon. Section 2. A qualified veterinary surgeon is a graduate of a recognized college entitled to confer the degree of V.S., or one who, without having a diploma, has had at least five years' practical experience to fit him for the practice of his profession.

- V. The Premium List must contain the dog show rules of the American Kennel Club; also a list of the officials under whose management the dog show is to be held, who, with the exception of the paid employees, shall be held responsible for the payment of all prizes within sixty days of the last day of the show, in default of which the said officials shall be suspended or disqualified for such time as the American Kennel Club shall determine, excepting, however, that all claims against a club for unpaid prizes shall be outlawed after the expiration of six months from the last day of the closing of such show.
- VI. No special prize shall be offered except for dogs of established breeds, and none can be accepted or offered by a show committee after the show has been opened. No special or regular prize can be accepted from any person or club under suspension or disqualification. The show officials will be held responsible for the payment of all special prizes advertised in the Premium List or Catalogue.
- VII. All prizes must be in accordance with their description in the Premium List. Prizes of gold or silver must be of the purity of United States coin. All prizes in a given class shall be awarded, regardless of the number of entries, and a reserve given in all classes.
- VIII. No person under sentence of suspension, disqualification or expulsion can be employed in any official capacity, or exhibit, or take a prize, or act as agent for any exhibitor, or show a dog in any judging ring. No entries can be accepted from any person who is not in good standing, a list of which must be obtained from the Secretary of the American Kennel Club before the closing of the entries.
- IX. No entry shall be accepted of any puppy under six months of age or without date of birth, breeder, sire or dam, either for competition or exhibition.
- X. If a club assumes the responsibility of collecting and forwarding to the American Kennel Club any listing fees, it must state on its entry blank and also in the Premium List, "This club assumes the collection and forwarding of listing fees to the American Kennel Club." In which case returns of such listings must be made to the American Kennel Club within seven (7) days from the date of the closing of the show. Upon notification from the Secretary of the American Kennel Club that there are still unlisted dogs, the show club must pay for same within fourteen (14) days after such notice, in default of which said club shall be suspended, and the wins of the unlisted dogs as referred to shall not be cancelled. The amount deposited with the application for dates cannot be applied as payment of said fees.
- XI. The catalogue of the show must give all the particulars required of exhibitors in entering dogs as provided in Rules II., III., IV., V., XII. (sections 5 and 6)

of the dog show rules. It must also contain a list of the officers under whose management the show is held. A marked catalogue, duly certified by the Secretary or Superintendent, must be filed with the American Kennel Club within seven days after the closing of the show.

XII. No record of wins at any but recognized shows shall be permitted in the catalogue, and it is optional with the club to give any.

XIII. In the event of a protest being filed in accordance with Rule XVII. of the dog show rules, the mode of procedure shall be as follows: The Show Committee shall at once meet and decide upon any objections lodged during the show. Immediately upon the lodging of a protest with the Secretary during the show it shall be his duty to request the judge to select reserve numbers, if he had not already done so, in order that any prize which would be affected by the disqualification of the protested dog may not fail of being awarded. If the objection is lodged subsequent to the show it must be decided by the committee within twenty days from its receipt. Five days' notice of the date and place of the meeting for that purpose must be given to all parties interested. From any decision or decision appeal may be taken to the Executive Board of the American Kennel Club, but such appeal must be forwarded to the Secretary within seven days of the decision being rendered, together with a deposit of \$10. If the decision appealed from is sustained, the deposit shall be forfeited to the American Kennel Club, but if the decision is reversed, then all deposits must be returned to the appellant.

XIV. In the event of the suspension by a show committee of any person for misconduct, as provided for the Rule XVIII. Of the dog show rules, notice of such suspension shall be forwarded within 24 hours to the Secretary of the American Kennel Club, who shall at once notify the President, or, in his absence, the Vice-President, who shall investigate the case, and, if he sees fit, suspend the penalty until the next meeting of the Executive Board. The Executive Board must, at its first meeting thereafter, either remove the suspension or impose a penalty of disqualification for such a period as it may decide upon. The suspension or disqualification of an owner shall apply to all dogs owned by him or connected with the perpetration of a fraudulent act. The Executive Board is, however, empowered to use such discretion in the enforcement of this penalty as shall protect innocent parties. No person shall, however, be disqualified without due notice, and formal charges and specifications, and an opportunity given to being heard in his own defense.

XV. Such regulations or additional rules may be adopted for the government of any show as shall be considered necessary, provided they do not conflict with any of the foregoing or of the Dog Show Rules.

XVI. The Secretary of the American Kennel Club must enforce the following penalties for violations of the foregoing rules, the same to be reserved from the deposit made with applications for dates, after having satisfied himself that said violations were due to the carelessness or negligence of the managers of the show: For accepting entries after the advertised date of the closing of entries – five dollars for each entry. For accepting special or regular prizes from person or clubs under suspension of disqualification – five dollars. For accepting entries for puppy classes under six months of age, or without date of birth, breeder, sire or dam – five dollars. For accepting entries signed with the agent's name only – two dollars. For failure to file a marked catalogue with the American Kennel Club, certified to by the Secretary or Superintendent, and making a return of all listings and fees for same within seven days after the closing of the show – one dollar for each day. For transferring a dog, as published in the catalogue, that has been wrongly entered by the exhibitor – five dollars. For all errors in the entry forms at shows, where fraud is not shown – two dollars. For any violation of the rules not specified in this article, or for conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the American Kennel Club, such action may be taken, and penalty imposed by the American Kennel Club, or its Executive Board, as may be deemed proper.

XVII. The above rules governing clubs holding shows are published for the guidance of Bench Show Committees only, publication in Premium Lists and Catalogues not required.

SECTION V. Any person or persons acting in any official capacity, paid or unpaid, including that of Judge, Secretary, Superintendent, Steward, Bench Show Committee of any Club holding a show in the United States of America, under any rules antagonistic to the American Kennel Club, shall be disqualified and debarred from all privileges of the American Kennel Club.

SECTION VI. With the exception of routine business, no matters shall be brought up for discussion at any meeting unless due notice has been given to the Secretary of the A.K.C. and by him sent to each delegate at least twenty days prior to the said meeting or unless a majority of the delegates present at the meeting consent to the consideration of a new subject.

SECTION VII. That between the dates of December 1 and December 31 of each year, nominations for the offices of President and Vice-President and the Chairman of each standing committee of this Association may be filed with the Secretary of this Association by any delegate whose club is in good standing, and the said Secretary must publish said nominations for the above-named offices in the January issue of the American Kennel Gazette of each year. And at each succeeding annual meeting only such names as have been published in the preceding January issue of the American Kennel Gazette in the manner above set forth can be nominated and no other nominations shall

be permitted nor can any candidates other than such as have been announced be nominated.

SECTION VIII. These By-Laws may be altered, amended or suspended without notice, at any regular meeting of the Executive Committee, by two-thirds vote of the members present, or at any special meeting on notice. Provided, however, that Section 3 and 4 can only be altered or amended after notice of such alteration or amendment has been published in the Gazette prior to being acting upon, and by a two-thirds vote of members represented.

### STANDING RESOLUTIONS

Special prizes can be classified and judged under the following division of breeds. By order of the A.K.C. at it meeting held May 18, 1905.

#### Sporting Division

Bloodhounds  
Otter Hounds  
Foxhounds  
Harriers  
Beagles  
Basset Hounds  
Dachshunde  
Greyhounds  
Deerhounds  
Russian Wolfhounds  
Irish Wolfhounds  
Whippets  
Pointers  
Setters  
Retrievers  
Irish Water Spaniels  
Water other than Irish Spaniels  
Clumber Spaniels  
Sussex Spaniels  
Cocker Spaniels  
Chesapeake Bay

#### Non-Sporting Division

French Bulldogs  
Bulldogs  
Mastiffs  
Great Danes  
Newfoundlands  
St. Bernards  
Collies  
Old English Sheepdogs

Dalmatians  
Poodles  
King Charles Toy Spaniels  
Blenheim Toy Spaniels  
Ruby Toy Spaniels  
Tri-Color Toy Spaniels  
Pekingese Spaniels  
Japanese Spaniels  
Italian Greyhounds  
Chow Chows  
Griffons Bruxellois  
Pomeranians  
Foreign Dogs  
Pugs  
Schipperkes

| Terrier Division

Airedale  
Bedlington  
Black and Tan  
Bull  
Boston  
Dandie Dinmont  
Fox  
Irish  
Scottish  
Skye  
Welsh  
Yorkshire  
Toy  
White English

RECOGNIZED BREEDS

Airedale Terrier  
Basset Hounds (Smooth)  
Basset Hounds (Rough)  
Beagles  
Bedlington Terrier  
Black and Tan Terriers (Manchester)  
English Toy Spaniels (Orange and White)  
English Toy Spaniels (Red)  
English Toy Spaniels (Black and Tan)  
English Toy Spaniels (Tri-Color)  
Bloodhounds  
Great Danes  
Griffons

Harriers  
Irish Terriers  
Italian Greyhounds  
Japanese Spaniels  
King Charles Spaniels  
Maltese Terriers  
Newfoundlands  
Old English Sheep Dogs  
Otter Hounds  
Boston Terriers  
Bulldogs  
Chesapeake Bay Dogs  
Chihuahuas  
Chow Chows  
Collies  
Dachshunde  
Dandie Dinmont Terriers  
Foxhounds (American)  
foxhounds (English)  
Fox Terriers (Smooth)  
Fox Terriers (Rough)  
Toy Poodles  
Welsh Terriers  
White English Terriers  
White English Terriers (Toy)

[Whippets](#)

[Wolfhounds \(Russian\)](#)

[Yorkshire Terriers](#)

#### FOREIGN DOGS

Griffon Bruxellois

[Esquimaux \(Husky\)](#)

[Esquimaux \(Mallimuth\)](#)

Boxers

[Owtchar, or Russian Sheep Dog](#)

[Mexican Hairless](#)

[German or Belgium Sheep Dog](#)

Pinschers

[Chinese Crested](#)

[Labrador](#)

Pekingese Spaniels

Pointers

Pomeranians

Poodles (Corded)

Poodles (Curly)

Pugs

Prince Charles Spaniels

Retrievers (Curly-Coated)

Retrievers (Wavy-Coated)

Schipperkes

Ruby Spaniels

Scottish Terriers

English Setters