



**CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS**  
of the  
**CASCADE AUSTRALIAN CATTLE DOG CLUB**

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## **CONSTITUTION**

### 1. NAME AND OBJECTIVES

#### 1.1 NAME

The name of the Club shall be Cascade Australian Cattle Dog Club

#### 1.2 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Club shall be:

(1) To encourage and to do all possible to bring the natural qualities of Australian Cattle Dogs to perfection according to the Breed Standard.

(2) To urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by The American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which Australian Cattle Dogs shall be judged.

(3) To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, working trials, and obedience trials.

(4) To conduct sanctioned matches, specialty shows, obedience trials, and working trials under the rules of The American Kennel Club.

#### 1.3 NONPROFIT STATUS

The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or remainder or residue from dues or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

#### 1.4 BYLAWS

The members of the Club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such bylaws as may be required to carry out these objectives.

## **BYLAWS**

### **1. MEMBERSHIP**

#### **1.1 ELIGIBILITY**

There shall be three types of membership open to those persons who subscribe to the purpose of the Club and who are in good standing with The American Kennel Club.

- (1) Regular membership is open to all persons sixteen years of age or older. This membership pays dues, has a vote, can hold an elected office, and has all the normal duties, obligations, and responsibilities of a member of the Club.
- (2) Honorary membership, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, may be granted to those persons who have displayed significant service benefiting the Club's objectives or the Breed or both. Person's approval is required. Honorary Members pay no dues and have no right to vote or hold office.
- (3) Junior membership is open to all persons under sixteen years of age. This membership pays dues, but may not make motions, vote or hold office. Prior approval of parents is required.

#### **1.2 DUES**

Membership dues shall be payable on or before the first day of December of each year. No member may vote, conduct any official business, or hold office in the Club whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of October, the treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his/her dues for the ensuing year. The dues shall be \$15 per year and \$10 per year for juniors.

#### **1.3 ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP**

Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by these constitution and bylaws and the rules of The American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address, and occupation of the applicant, and it shall carry the endorsement of two members. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues payable for the current year.

All applications are to be filed with the Secretary, and each application is to be read at the first meeting of the Club following its receipt. At the next Club meeting the application will be voted upon, and affirmative votes of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the members present and voting at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant.

Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club may not re-apply within six months after such rejection.

## 1.4 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership may terminate by:

- (1) RESIGNATION. Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary, but no member may resign when in debt to the Club. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club, and they become incurred on the first day of each fiscal year (December 1).
- (2) LAPSING. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 60 days after the first day of the fiscal year (February 1); however, the Board may grant an additional 60 days of grace to such delinquent members in meritorious cases. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any club meeting whose dues are unpaid as of the date of that meeting.
- (3) EXPULSION. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article 6 of these Bylaws. At termination of membership, the person must relinquish all Club property.

## 2. MEETINGS AND VOTING

### 2.1 CLUB MEETINGS

Meetings of the Club shall be held quarterly, at such hour as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

### 2.2 SPECIAL CLUB MEETINGS

Special club meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority vote of the members of the Board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board, or shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held at such place, date, and hours as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least 5 day and not more than 15 days prior to the date of the meeting, and no other business may be transacted thereat. The quorum for such a meeting shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

### 2.3 BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held quarterly, at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board.

Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

## 2.4 SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS

Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President, or shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held at such place, date, and hour as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such a meeting. Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least 5 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

## 2.5 VOTING

Each member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the Club at which he/she is present, or by a signed, dated vote/statement submitted to the Secretary prior to the meeting or election. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any club meeting or election.

## 3. MEETINGS AND VOTING

### 3.1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three other persons all of whom shall be elected for one year terms at the Club's annual meeting as provided in Article 4 and shall serve until their successors are elected. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

### 3.2 OFFICERS

The Club's officers, consisting of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meetings.

(1) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of the President in addition to those specified in the Bylaws.

(2) The Vice-President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's death, absence, or incapacity.

(3) The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. He or she shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify new members of their election to membership, notify officers and directors of election to office, keep a roll of the members of the Club with their addresses, and carry out other such duties as are prescribed in these Bylaws.

(4) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club. He or she shall deposit the same in a bank designated by the Board. The books shall be open to the inspection of the Board, and he or she shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported, and at the annual meeting he or she shall render an account of all monies received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer may be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.

### 3.3 VACANCIES

Any vacancies occurring on the Board or among the officers during the year shall be filled until the next election by a majority vote of all the then members of the Board at its first regular meeting following the creation of such a vacancy, or at a Special Board Meeting called for that purpose: except that a vacancy in the office of President shall be filled automatically by the Vice-President, and the resulting vacancy in the office of Vice-President shall be filled by the Board.

## 4. CLUB YEAR, ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTIONS

### 4.1 CLUB YEAR

The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the first day of December and end on the thirtieth of November. The Club's official year shall begin immediately at the conclusions of the election at the annual meeting and shall continue through the election at the next annual meeting.

### 4.2 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting shall be held in the month of December at which officers and Directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret written ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 4.4 of this Article. They shall take office at the next meeting, and each retiring officer shall turn over to his or her successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the election.

### 4.3 ELECTIONS

The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The three nominated candidates for other positions in the Board who receive the greatest number of votes for such positions shall be declared elected.

### 4.4 NOMINATIONS

No person may be candidate in a club election who has not been nominated. During the month of September, the Board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three members and two alternates, not more than one of whom shall be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen and alternates of their selection. The Board shall name a chairman for the Committee, and it shall be his or her duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before October first.

- (1) The Committee shall nominate one candidate for each office and three candidates for the three other positions on the Board, and after securing the written consent of each person so nominated, shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing.
- (2) Additional nominations may be made by any member submitted to the Secretary before the December meeting. At this time, his or her proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his or her willingness to be a candidate.

No person may be a candidate for more than one position, and the additional nominations which are provided for herein may be made only from among those members who have not accepted a nomination of the Nominating Committee.

(3) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Secretary shall before November fifteenth notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.

(4) Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or in any manner other than as provided this Section.

5. **COMMITTEES**

5.1 **STANDING COMMITTEES**

The Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work for the club in such matters as shows, obedience trials, working trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other fields which may well be served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board. Special committees may also be appointed by the Board to aid it on particular projects.

5.2 **TERMINATION**

Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board upon written notice to the appointee, and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose services have been terminated.

6. **DISCIPLINE**

6.1 **AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB SUSPENSION**

Any member who is suspended from privileges of the American Kennel Club automatically shall be suspended from the privileges of this Club for like period.

6.2 **CHARGES**

Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$10 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the Board following a hearing.

The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the Board or present them at a Board Meeting, and the Board shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club or the breed.

If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date of a hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if he or she wishes.

### 6.3 BOARD HEARING

The Board shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the hearing, but both complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in that regard. Should the charges be sustained, after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by the complainant and defendant, the Board may, by a majority vote of those present, suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six months from the date of the hearing. And, if it deems that punishment is insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that penalty be expulsion. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before his or her fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board's recommendation. Immediately after the Board has reached a decision, its findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the Board's decision and penalty, if any.

### 6.4 EXPULSION

Expulsion of the member from the Club may be accomplished only at a meeting of the Club following a Board hearing and upon the Board's recommendation at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within 60 days of the Board's recommendation. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his or her behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the Board's findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his or her own behalf if he or she wishes. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A 2/3 vote of those present and voting at the meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not voted, the Board's suspension shall stand.

## 7. AMENDMENTS

### 7.1 SUBMITTAL

Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by twenty percent of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the members with the recommendations of the Board by the Secretary within three months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

### 7.2 APPROVAL

The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for the purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each member at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

8. **DISSOLUTION**

8.1 **DISSOLUTION**

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

9. **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

9.1 **CLUB MEETINGS**

At meetings of the Club, the order of business, so far as the character and nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows:

Roll Call  
Minutes of the last meeting  
Report of President  
Report of Secretary  
Report of Treasurer  
Reports of Committees  
Election of Officers and Board (at annual meeting)  
Election of new members  
Unfinished business  
New business  
Adjournment

9.2 **BOARD MEETINGS**

At meetings of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

Reading of minutes of last meeting  
Report of Secretary  
Report of Treasurer  
Reports of Committees  
Unfinished business  
New business  
Adjournment

9.3 **PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Robert's Rules of Order (revised edition) shall govern the Cascade Australian Cattle Dog Club.