



SOCIETY RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Name and Objects

The society shall be called the Tunbridge Wells and District Canine Society and is registered as such at the Kennel Club. The Society shall be for the benefit of its members and it will not be classed as a trading business. All profits, from whatever source, shall be maintained for the benefit of and for the further education of members in the management, training, showing, breeding and every aspect pertaining to dogs.

2. Officers and Members

The Society shall consist of a Patron, President, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Committee and an unlimited numbers of members.

There will be a Term in Office of 3 years specified for both the Patron and President positions.

Once this term has been served, these persons will be eligible for re-election. The Patron position is optional and is to be included for election at the Annual General Meeting if the Executive Committee deem it necessary.

3. Committee

- i. The management of the Society shall be in the hands of an Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and an executive committee consisting of up to sixteen members. These persons shall serve for a year after election and shall be eligible for re-election. These persons shall have full voting rights. Persons nominated for Officers or Committee members must be paid up Members of the Society.
- ii. The Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and up to seven Committee Members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- iii. Each section of the Society at present Agility, Obedience and Ringcraft, shall be responsible for electing, at their second meeting after the Section Annual General Meeting, three mem-

bers of their Section to serve on the Executive Committee of the Society.

- iv. At the meeting of the Executive Committee immediately following the Annual General Meeting, the Executive Committee shall elect from among their Members a Chairman and Vice-Chairman.
- v. In the event of the resignation of any Section elected member from the Executive Committee, the relevant Section Committee shall be responsible for the election of a replacement within fourteen days after the date of the Executive Committee at which the resignation is notified. In the event of no replacement being elected the Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt in accordance with Society Rules.
- vi. If insufficient members are nominated to the Executive Committee to fill the required places, the Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt any suitable member(s) to fill the vacancy(ies).
- vii. The Executive Committee may also co-opt a person(s) to join the Committee to perform a specific task. Such co-opted person(s) will not have a vote at Committee meetings.
- viii. The Officers of the Society shall also ensure that a list of Members and their addresses shall be available for inspection if so requested by any members of the Society or by the Kennel Club.
- ix. A quorum for Executive Committee meetings shall be 8 (eight) members.
- x. Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as deemed necessary but at least every two months.
- xi. Any member of the Executive Committee not attending three(3) consecutive meetings of the Executive Committee without reasonable explanation will be deemed to have resigned

from the Executive Committee and will not be eligible for election as an Officer or Member of the Executive Committee for the following year.

4. Election of Members

Application for membership of the Society shall be accepted on payment of the Annual Subscription, subject to confirmation or rejection at the next meeting of the Executive Committee. The subscription of rejected applications will be refunded.

5. Subscriptions

- i. The Annual Subscription shall be such amount as agreed by the members in General Meeting and is payable on the 1st January each year.
- ii. New members joining after the 1st October shall, on payment of the subscription, be entitled to membership until the end of the following year.
- iii. No member(s) whose subscription is unpaid shall be entitled to any of the privileges of membership. If subscriptions remain unpaid on the 1st of March the Executive Committee shall have the power to erase his/her/their name(s) from the register of members. If a satisfactory explanation for non-payment is subsequently received, member(s) may be reinstated on payment of the arrears, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- iv. Application for Life Membership, accompanied with the appropriate fee, must be submitted to the Executive Committee for their approval. Honorary Life Membership of the Society shall only be granted to members by the Executive Committee.
- v. No other payment shall entitle any person to membership of the Society.

6. Society Property

The assets of the Society shall be vested in the Executive Committee. An inventory of the Society assets shall be prepared annually by the Honorary Treasurer.

7. Dissolution of the Society

If at any General Meeting a resolution for the dissolution of the Society shall be passed by a 2/3rds (two-thirds) majority of the members present, the following action will be taken.

- i. A Special General Meeting shall be held not earlier than one month after the date of the General Meeting at which the resolution was passed. All paid up members shall be notified of the date of the Special General Meeting either directly or by a notice in placed in the Canine Press.
- ii. If the resolution for the dissolution of the Society is passed by a 2/3rds (two-thirds) majority of the members voting at the Special General Meeting the Society shall be Dissolved and the following action taken by the Executive Committee.
- iii. The outcome of the Special General Meeting shall be notified to the Kennel Club.
- iv. All cups and trophies shall be offered to the original donors in writing at their last known address and this shall be sufficient action.
- v. All other assets (including cash and unclaimed trophies) will be offered to non-profit making organisations, to be agreed at the Special General meeting.
- vi. A final statement of accounts, with a record of the disposal of the assets of the Society shall be forwarded to the Kennel Club within six months of the date of the Special General meeting. The persons named as Officers and Members of the Executive Committee shall be responsible to the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the Society.

8. Expulsion Of Members

- i. Any member who shall be suspended under Kennel Club rule A42j(4) and/or whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club rule A42j(8) shall ipso facto cease to be a Member of the Society for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification.

- ii. If the conduct of any Member shall, in the opinion of the Executive Committee of the Society be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Society, the Executive 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.
- iii. Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused Member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and time of the Meeting that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If, at the Meeting, a resolution to expel shall be passed by a 2/3rds (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 of the date of such Meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club shall impose.
- iv. If the Society expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, Dog Shoe, Trials or Competitions, the Society must report the matter in writing to the Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required

9. Annual General Meeting

- i. The financial year of the Society shall be from the 1st January to 31st December. The Annual General Meeting shall be held during February of each year for the following purposes.
- ii. To receive the Honorary Secretary’s and Chairman’s report and the audited accounts. The inventory of the Society’s property will be available.

- iii. To elect a President, Vice-President(s), Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and seven Executive Committee Members (see also rule 3) and an Auditor.
- iv. The election of Officers and Committee shall be by ballot at the meeting.
- v. The only persons entitled to vote shall be the members who have paid the previous year’s subscriptions at least three months prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- vi. Only paid up Members may nominate persons for Officers or for Executive Membership and the consent of the Member nominated must be obtained on the nomination form.
- vii. To discuss any resolution duly placed on the agenda, of which fourteen days notice has to be given to the Honorary Secretary; unless it is a resolution to change the rules (see rules 10 and 14).
- viii. No business shall be transacted at the Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof appears on the agenda, except for any matters which the Chairman deems to be urgent.

10. Special General Meeting

A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Honorary Secretary if twenty Members send in a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so. The Executive Committee of the Society is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting

11. Notice of Meeting

Members shall be given at least twenty-eight days notice of Annual and Special General Meetings by advertisements in the Canine press, the publications shall be: Dog World, Our Dogs, Dog Training Weekly and Agility Voice.

12. Bank Account

A bank account shall be held 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 of the following four persons: Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer plus another member from the Executive Committee nominated by the Executive Committee. Accounts will be certified annually and presented to members at the Annual General Meeting.

13. Federations

The Society shall not become a Member of any Federation of Canine Societies or Specialist Clubs.

14. Amendments to Rules

- i. The rules of the Society may not be altered except at a General Meeting, the Agenda for which contains specific proposals to amend the Rules. Any proposed alterations to the rules shall not be brought into effect until the Kennel club has been advised and approved the alteration.
- ii. Any Resolution to amend the Rules at the Annual General Meeting must be in the hands of the Honorary Secretary by the 1st December in the year preceding the Annual General Meeting.

15. Annual returns to the Kennel Club

The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary or by Direct Debit for continuance of registration and that by 31st July each year, other returns, as stipulated in Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Titles of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities be forwarded to the Kennel Club. The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary of the Society which may occur during the course of the year.

16. Kennel Club Final Court of Appeal

The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the Rules and regulations of the

Society in all cases relative to Canine or Society matters.

17. Obedience, Ringcraft and Agility Training Sections

- i. Each of the Sections shall have its own Officers and Sub-Committee and shall be responsible for its own training activities.
- ii. Each year, at the beginning of September, the Society Honorary Secretary shall make arrangements for the Annual General Meeting of each Section, ensuring that all Members are advised at least twenty-eight days prior to the meeting.
- iii. Items for the Agenda and Nominations for the Section Committee Members must be received by the Honorary Secretary at least fourteen days before the Section Annual General Meeting.
- iv. At each Section Annual Meeting, the Section Membership will elect up to eleven Section Committee Members
- v. Procedures for nominating candidates shall be the same as to the Executive Committee-see Rule 9.
- vi. At the first Section Committee Meeting following the Section Annual General Meeting the Section Committee will elect a Section Chairman and Section Secretary
- vii. Section rules must be approved by the Executive Committee.
- viii. Sections must also abide by the Rules of the Society and shall be subject to the rulings of the Executive committee.
- ix. The Society President, Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall have the right to attend any of the Section Meetings and shall be advised of the dates of these Meetings at least fourteen days prior to the date of the Meeting.