

# The Puget Sound English Setter Club Constitution and By-Laws

## ARTICLE I

### NAME AND OBJECTIVES

Sec. 1 The name of the club shall be the Puget Sound English Setter Club, (hereinafter referred to as the "Club").

Sec. 2 The objectives of the Club shall be:

a) To promote good fellowship in order to encourage opportunities for increased beneficial knowledge about English Setters.

b) To promote and advance the interests of the English Setter by encouraging specialty shows, puppy matches, obedience and field trials, under the rules and regulations set forth by the American Kennel Club.

c) To encourage members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club.

Sec. 3 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 benefit any member or individual.

Sec. 4 The club intends to join and retain membership in the English Setter Association of American, Inc., and shall encourage individual membership in both the regional and national groups. The members of the club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such bylaws as may be required to carry out these objects.

## ARTICLE II

### MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Sec. 1 **ELIGIBILITY.** There shall be three types of memberships open to all who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the objectives of this club.

a) Family - to include children under 18 years of age. There will be a maximum of two votes to those over 18 years of age in a family membership.

b) Single - 18 years and older, entitled to one vote.

c) Junior - non-voting under 18 years of age. Shall not be eligible for elected office, but shall have all the privileges of full membership and may attend meetings and serve on committees.

While membership is to be unrestricted as to residence, the primary purpose of the Club is to be representative of the breeders and exhibitors in its area.

Sec. 2 **DUES.** The amount of dues, paid annually, will be fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for family membership, ten dollars (\$10.00) for single membership and one dollar (\$1.00) for junior membership. Dues shall be payable on or before the first day January of each year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current fiscal year. During the month of November, the Membership Chairman shall send to each member a statement of his dues for the ensuing year. New member dues paid after the 1st shall be 50% of the regular dues.

Sec. 3 **ELECTION OF MEMBERSHIP.** Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by these constitution and by-

laws and the rules of The American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address, and phone number of the applicant and it shall carry the endorsement of two members, in good standing and "not" of the same family. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues payment for the current year.

All applications are to be filed with the Membership Chair-person 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 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.

Sec. 4 At the next Club meeting, if no objections have been sustained, the applicant will be considered a member by affirmative votes by two thirds of the members present. The effective date of membership shall be the postmark date of the dues check for application of membership. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the club may not re-apply within six (6) months after such rejection.

Sec. 5 **TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.** Memberships may be terminated:

a) **By 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. Obligations other than dues are considered a debt to the club and must be paid in full prior to resignation.

b) **By lapsing.** A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such members dues remain unpaid thirty(30) days after the first day of the fiscal year; however, the Board of Directors may grant an additional ninety (90) days of grace to such delinquent members in meritorious cases.

c) **By Expulsion.** A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VII of these constitution and by-laws.

### **ARTICLE III MEETINGS AND VOTING**

Sec. 1 **CLUB MEETINGS.** Meetings of the Club shall be held in the Seattle area on the third Wednesday of each month, at such an hour and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors. The Newsletter Editor shall give written notice to all members of the time and place of Club meetings at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

Sec. 2 **SPECIAL CLUB MEETINGS.** Special Club meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority of the members of the Board who are present, or by a majority vote of the members of the Board of Directors who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, or by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five (5) members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held in the Seattle area at such hour as may be designated by the person or person's authorized herein to call such a meeting. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed to the Secretary at least eight (8) days and not more than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting, and said notice shall state the purpose of the meeting, and no other Club business may be transacted thereat. The quorum for such meetings shall be as with 20% of the members in good standing .

Sec. 3 **BOARD MEETINGS.** Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in the Seattle area at such hour as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Notice of each such meeting shall be given in writing by the Secretary at least eight (8) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be a majority of the Board of Directors. **To** reflect the responsibility vested in it, the Board of Directors will meet at least six (6) times per year.

- Sec. 4 **SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS.** Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or by the Secretary upon written request signed by at least three (3) members of the Board of Directors. Such special meetings shall be held in the Seattle area at such hour as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such meeting. Notice of such meeting will be in writing by the Secretary at least eight (8) days and not more than ten.(10)( days prior to the date of the meeting, or telegraphed notice shall be filed at least three (3) days and not more than five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. Any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business shall be transacted thereof. A quorum for such meeting shall be a majority of the Board of Directors.
- Sec. 5 **VOTING.** All members in good standing, except junior members shall be entitled to vote. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any club meeting or election.
- Sec. 6 **CLUB YEAR.** The fiscal year of the Club shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December. The official year of the Club shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the election of the annual meeting and shall continue through the election at the next meeting.
- Sec. 7 **ANNUAL MEETING.** The annual meeting shall be held at the annual Specialty at which officers and directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret, written ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Article V. Officers shall take office immediately after the annual meetings, the Board shall meet in a special session with both the retiring and newly-elected members in attendance where the outgoing members shall inform their successors of their duties and of any unfinished business of the club and will transfer written and up-dated officer records.

## **ARTICLE IV OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

- Sec. 1 **BOARD OF DIRECTORS.** The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three (3) Directors. All members of the Board shall be members of the Club in good standing. The members of the Board shall be elected for one (1) year terms at the annual meeting of the Club as proved in Article V, and shall serve until their successors are elected. General management of the affairs of the Club shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors who shall take such action as it deems prudent and beneficial to the success of the Club.
- Sec. 2 **OFFICERS.** The officers of the Club consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary (Recording & Corresponding) and Treasurer shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meetings.
- a)The President shall preside at ALL meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President in addition to those particularly specified in these by-law .
- b)The Vice President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's death, absence or incapacity.
- c)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/she shall have charge of the correspondence, notify new members of their election to membership, notify officers and directors of their election to office, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these by-laws.
- d)The Treasurer shall collect and receive ALL monies due or belonging to the Club. He/she shall deposit the same in a bank designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. His books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and he/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/she shall render an account of ALL monies received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine. The offices of the Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person, in which case the board shall be comprised of ( 5 ) persons.

e)The Membership chair-person will notify new members of their election to membership, sending a copy of the current constitution and by-laws. He/she will keep roll of the members of the Club with their addresses and supply same to all officers and newsletter editor. He/she will collect and receive all membership dues, record same and forwarded to the Treasurer for deposit.

Sec. 3 **DIRECTORS.** The Directors of the Club consisting of two elected members and the past President, who by remaining on the Board of Directors may vote on all matters. They all will assist the officers in promoting the health, welfare, continuity and the growth of the Club.

Sec. 4 **VACANCIES.** Any vacancies occurring on the Board of Directors or among the offices during the year shall be filled for the unexpired term of office by a majority vote of the remainder of the Board of Directors at its next meeting or at a Special Meeting called for that purpose. A presidential vacancy will be filled by the Vice President and the resulting vacancy will be filled by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE V NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

Sec. 1 **NOMINATIONS.** All members eligible to vote shall be eligible for office. No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated. During the month of March **June**, the Board of Directors shall select a "Nominating Committee" consisting of three (3) members and two (2) alternates, not more than one of whom may be a member of the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen and the alternates of their selection, The Board of Directors shall name a Chair-person for the Committee and it shall be his duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before August 15th.

a) The Committee shall nominate one (1) candidate for each office and two (2) candidates for the two (2) positions on the Board of Directors, and, after securing the consent of each person so nominated, shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary, in writing.

b)Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Secretary shall, before May 1st, notify each member, in writing, of the candidates so nominated.

c)Additional nominations may be made at the annual Specialty meeting by any member in attendance provided that the person so nominated does not decline when his/her name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, his proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one (1) position.

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

Sec. 2 **ELECTIONS.** The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each position shall be declared elected. In the event of ties, re-balloting on the tied position will be necessary by the members present.

## **ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES**

Sec. 1 **STANDING COMMITTEES.** The Board of Directors, as a whole, may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as bench shows, field trials, obedience trials, memberships, trophies, publicity and other areas which may well be served by such committees. These committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board of Directors.

Standing Committee Chair-person shall have the responsibility of selecting their committee members and shall keep complete records to present to the Club of their specific activities.

Sec. 2 **SPECIAL COMMITTEES.** The President may appoint special committees to aid the Club on particular projects at any time of the year. They shall serve as long as necessary to complete the work assigned.

Special Committee Chair-person shall have the responsibility of selecting their committee members and shall keep complete records to present to the Club of their specific activities.

Sec. 3 Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority of the full membership of the Board of Directors upon written notice to the appointee. The Board may then appoint successors to those persons whose service has been terminated.

## **ARTICLE VII DISCIPLINE**

Sec. 1 **AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB SUSPENSION.** Any member who is suspended from the privileges of the American Kennel Club automatically shall be suspended from all or any of the privileges of this Club for a like period.

Sec. 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 ten dollars (\$10.00), which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the Board of Directors following a hearing. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the Board of Directors or present them at a Board meeting.

At which time, the Board of Director shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed. If the Board of Directors consider that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interest of the Club or the breed, it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction.

If the Board of Directors entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date of a hearing by the Board of Directors, not less than three (3) weeks nor more than six (6) weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one (1) copy of the charges to the accused member by registered mail together with notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if he wishes.

Sec. 3 **BOARD HEARING.** The Board of Directors 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 of Directors may, by a majority vote of those present, reprimand or suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six (6) months from the date of the hearing. And, if it deems that punishment is insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such a case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before his fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board of Directors recommendation. Immediately after the Board of Directors has reached a decision, its findings shall be put in writing, and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the Board of Directors decision and penalty, if any.

Sec. 4 **EXPULSION.** Expulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only at a meeting of the Club following a Board hearing and upon the Board of Directors recommendation as provided in Section 3 of this Article. Such proceedings may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within sixty (60) days but not earlier than thirty (30) days after the date of the Board's recommendation of expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his own 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 own behalf if he wishes. The members 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 so voted, the Board's suspension shall stand.

## **ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS**

- Sec. 1 Amendments to, or revisions of these constitution and by-laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by 20% of the membership in good standing. Amendments or revisions proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the members with recommendations of the Board by the Secretary for a vote within three (3) months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.
- Sec. 2 These constitution and by-laws may be amended or revised by a 2/3 secret vote of the members present and voting any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, provided the proposed amendments or revisions have been, included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each member at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting.

## **ARTICLE IX DISSOLUTION**

- Sec. 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, other than for purposes of reorganization, whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the Club nor any proceeds thereof nor any assets of the Club shall be distributed to any member of the Club but 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.

## **ARTICLE X ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- Sec. 1 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
- Reading of Minutes of Last Meeting
- Report of the President
- Report of the Secretary
- Report of the Treasure
- Report of Committees
- Election of Officers and Directors (at annual meeting)
- Election of New Members
- Unfinished Business
- New Business Adjournment

- Sec. 2 At meetings of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by a majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

- Roll Call
- Reading of the Minutes of Last Meeting
- Report of the President
- Report of Secretary
- Report of the Treasurer
- Report of Committees
- Unfinished Business
- New Business

## Adjournment

- Sec. 3 Meetings of the Club shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Revised in all cases to which they apply and were they are consistent with these constitution and by-laws. The parliamentarian will be provided by the President for each meeting.

# **THE PUGET SOUND ENGLISH SETTER CLUB CODE OF ETHICS**

The Puget Sound English Setter Club in keeping with it's aim of breeding the best possible dogs while preserving their unique beauty and character, adopts the following CODE OF ETHICS:

1. Members shall strive for perfection of the English Setter in accordance with the official standard set forth by the American Kennel Club.
  - a. Use only physically and temperamentally sound stock for breeding.
  - b. Maintain high standards of health and care for your dogs.

- c. Refrain from breeding a bitch until her second season, preferably waiting until at least 18 months of age. A bitch shall be bred no more than two out of three seasons, this depending on the size of the litter whelped and her condition.
  - d. Ideally, x-ray for evidence of hip dysplasia at age of two years for OFA or other recognized radiologist for evaluation.
2. Members will not sell stock without true representation to the purchaser nor use misleading or untruthful statements in selling or advertising.
  3. No member shall sell adults or puppies to any known retail or wholesale pet outlet.
  4. A breeder will guarantee the health of this stock subject to a veterinarian's examination within 48 hours of the sale.
  5. Breeders are encouraged to promote the breed by exhibiting at dog shows, matches and field events where feasible. Members are encouraged to become involved in dog show activities, fun matches and exhibiting.
  6. Members shall at all times exhibit good sportsmanship at all events related to the club and dog shows.

In applying for membership in the club, I agree to comply with all American Kennel Club rules and regulations and the rules and bylaws of the constitution of the Puget Sound English Setter Club.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_