



The Bull Terrier Club of Canada

Constitution & By Laws

Section 1.

1. Name

- 1.1 The name of the Club shall be “The Bull Terrier Club of Canada” hereafter referred to as “Club”. Approved, Affiliated or Branch Clubs must use names as decided on by members and must show under the name “Division of The Bull Terrier Club of Canada”.
- 1.2 The area of operation for the Club shall be throughout Canada.
- 1.3 The Club shall work in co-operation with The Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) and may further affiliate itself with organizations devoted to aims and objects of the Club and such affiliation to be approved by the Club in a standing resolution to be attached to the By-Laws hereunder.
- 1.4 The objects of the Club shall be to promote the purebred Bull Terrier by:
 - a) Defining precisely the physical characteristics of the pure-bred Bull Terrier as set forth in the official CKC standard and to urge the adoption of such standard on breeders, judges, dog show committees and others as the only recognized standard by which Bull Terriers should be judged.
 - b) Promoting friendship and co-operation among breeders, exhibitors and new owners of Bull Terriers and to encourage and assist them in every possible way for the benefit of the breed.
 - c) Conducting sanctioned shows, booster shows and specialty shows according to and under the rules of the CKC.
 - d) Encouraging the formation of regional or local clubs devoted to the Bull Terrier
 - e) Support the opposition to and education of Breed Specific Legislation.
 - f) Promoting all activities in the interest of the Club and/or Breed where deemed possible.
 - g) The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or remainder of residue from dues or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.
 - h) The members of the Club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such By-Laws as may be required to carry out these objects.
 - i) Any mention of the word “mail” will mean either regular postal mail or electronic mailing.



1.5 Interpretation

- a) The by-laws of the Club shall be binding on all members of the Club.
- b) The interpretation to be placed on the wording of any part of these by-laws shall be deemed to be in accordance with customary usage of everyday speech and writing.

Section 2.

2. Membership

- 2.1 Membership Year – Membership in the club shall be based on the calendar year (Jan 1st – Dec 31st)
- 2.2 Eligibility – Open to all persons who favour the objects of the club and are in good standing with the Canadian Kennel Club. Membership dues must be received by the Secretary on or before January 31st of the current membership year to maintain voting rights.
- 2.3 Types of Membership – There shall be the following types of membership:
 - a) Associate member – includes a free 1-year membership offered to new Bull Terrier owner(s) by the breeder, or Rescue through BTCC.
 - b) Full Individual voting member (pre-requisite is one full year associate membership),
 - c) Partnership voting membership. Partners must be living at the same address.
 - d) Breeder member. A member in good standing with the registered Kennel Club of their country.
- 2.4 Application for Membership
 - a) Any person desiring membership in the Club shall submit their name and residence to the Secretary, along with payment via cheque, PayPal or etransfer for the annual fee.
 - b) Upon receipt of the application, the Secretary shall record the application and either email the Board or raise the matter for consideration at the next Board meeting. No candidate shall be present at a meeting in which his/her application for membership is being considered.
- 2.5 Approval of Membership
 - a) Membership must be approved by a simple majority vote (51%) of the Board members.
 - b) If an application is not approved, the club must notify the applicant, in writing, with reasons for withholding approval, within 30-60 days.



2.6 Termination of Membership

- a) By resignation – Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary.
- b) By lapsing – A membership will be considered as lapsed and terminated automatically if the members' dues remain unpaid 90 days after the first day of January in each year.
- c) By suspension – Any person who is suspended from the privileges of the Canadian Kennel club Inc. shall be suspended from this Club for a like period.
- d) By expulsion – A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Section 11 of these by-laws.

2.7 Voting Privileges

- a) An individual must be aged 18 or above.
- b) Must be a member for one full year prior to being granted voting privileges. Unpaid membership dues shall constitute denial of voting privileges.

2.8 Change of Address – it shall be the responsibility of each member to notify the Club's Secretary of any change of address/contact email.

Section 3.

3. General Meetings

- 3.1 Regular Meetings – Regular meetings of the Club shall be held at the discretion of the Executive Officers but a minimum of 4 regular meetings must be held every calendar year. A quorum for the regular meetings shall be a minimum of 4 members of the Executive.
- 3.2 Annual General Meeting – The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in November. The Secretary shall mail notice of the AGM to each voting member of the Club at least three weeks before the scheduled meeting. Only members holding a voting membership in good standing may vote at such a meeting.
- 3.3 Special Meetings - A special meeting of the Club shall be called by the Secretary upon request in writing of at least 7 voting members of the Club and notice of the time and place of such special meeting and the reason therefore shall be mailed to each voting member of the Club three weeks before the date fixed for same.
- 3.4 Meetings will be in person, virtually or a combination of both.



Section 4.

4. Directors and Officers

- 4.1 The general management of the Club affairs shall be entrusted to a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors of the Club are the President, the immediate Past President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a minimum of up to four Directors. Officers and Directors shall be distributed across the country. Three of the Officers, including the President, shall be Canadian Kennel Club Regular Members in good standing.
- 4.2 All of the Board of Directors shall be members in good standing of the Bull Terrier Club of Canada and 3 of the officers including the President must be members of the Canadian Kennel Club, and residents of Canada.
- 4.3 Board members are not permitted to hold the position of President, Vice President, secretary or Treasurer with any other Canadian Bull Terrier Club.
- 4.4 Vacancies – Should a vacancy occur on the Board; the Board may appoint a member of the Club to fill the vacancy.
- 4.5 Terms of Office - Board of Director positions are for a minimum 2-year term after election into office at the Annual General Meeting usually held in November of the current year.
- 4.6 Regional Directors shall reside in the area that they represent and shall reside in 3 of the regions specified by the CKC.

Section 5.

5. Duties of the Board of Directors

- 5.1 The duties of the Board of Directors shall be to endeavor to further the objects as set forth in Section 1 of the Constitution.
- 5.2 The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of all general and Board Meetings in addition to being an ex-officio member of all committees.
- 5.3 The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in their absence or as directed to do so, by the President.
- 5.4 The Secretary shall,
 - a) Keep a record of all meetings of the Club. He/She shall have charge of the correspondence and maintain a record of all votes taken in the order of business.



- b) Prepare and circulate the Minutes of all Board meetings.
 - c) Advise new members of their election to membership and officers of their election to office.
 - d) In conjunction with the Treasurer, maintain a record of all official members, including their addresses (residence/email) and membership tenure.
- 5.5 The Treasurer shall collect and receive all revenues of the Club and shall deposit same in a Club bank account, as approved by the Board, in the name of the Club. The Financial books of the Club shall be open to inspection by the Board at any time. A financial report shall be made available at every Board and Annual General meeting. The Treasurer shall inform the Secretary of all membership renewals within 30 days. The financial records of the Club shall remain the property of the Club.
- 5.6 Directors duties shall be defined as required by the Board of Directors and will be required to attend 50% of the scheduled Board meetings.
- 5.7 Regional Directors duties within their Region are:
- a) To promote the Breed of the Bull Terrier
 - b) To foster membership in the Club
 - c) To keep the Secretary advised of all items of interest to the Club and its membership.
 - d) Provide a formal report at the Annual General Meeting
 - e) To promote and conduct the business of the Club in the manner of advertisements and promotional material for which their Regional Club will be credited for.

Section 6.

6. Financial

- 6.1 The funds of the Club shall be placed in the Club bank account. Joint signing authority shall be held by the President and the Treasurer. Both signatures shall be required.
- 6.2 On request by 3 members, the financial condition of the Club shall be open for inspection at any time during the year.
- 6.3 The financial records of the Club shall be audited by two appointed members of the Board within 60 days of the end of the fiscal year.

Section 7

7. Club Year, Voting, Nominations & Elections

- 7.1 The fiscal year of the Club shall commence on the 1st day of November and conclude on the 31st day of October following.



7.2 Voting.

- a) Every motion or proposal put forward and seconded at a meeting of the Club shall be decided by a simple majority vote (51% or more) of those present. In the case of an equal division of votes, the Chairman shall have the casting vote.
- b) All members in good standing with the exception of Associate members and members younger than 18 years old are eligible to vote.

7.3 Conduct of Elections & Nomination Process

- a) All members in good standing with the exception of Associate members are eligible for nomination to a position on the Club's Board as long as they are active members of the Canadian Kennel Club and have attended 50% of the Board meetings that year.
- b) The President appoints a nominating committee consisting of three people. At least one member of this committee will be a member of the current Board.
- c) The Nominating Committee will draw up a slate of nominees for the Board positions. (Permission must be obtained from the nominees before adding their names to the slate).
- d) The Secretary will notify the membership of the Nominating Committee's proposed slate of Board members and to see if any members wish to add their names of Office and the position they are willing to hold. If they are nominating another member for office, permission must be obtained from the nominee before submitting their name and mail these names to the Secretary.
- e) If no other nominations are received the slate of Board members proposed by the Nominating Committee will stand. The President will cast one vote to accept the nominated slate at the Annual General Meeting.
- f) Should there be more than one candidate nominated for any one position, then a vote will proceed as follows:
- g) A ballot will be drawn up and the Secretary will mail the ballots to full voting members.
- h) One vote for each open position except for the position of Director where you are allowed to vote for up to four different candidates. All ballots must have the voting members name to be valid.
- i) If any member is not planning on attending the meeting at which the election will take place, they can mail their ballot, which must arrive three (3) days before the scheduled meeting. If you are attending the meeting, you will vote at the meeting.
- j) If voting is required, the President will ask for two (2) scrutineers to count the ballots. Members present will cast their ballots and along with any mailed ballots the scrutineers will count all ballots and present the Elected Board members to the President.
- k) The President will cast a vote to accept the Board members as presented.



Section 8

8. Standing Committees

- 8.1 The Board of Directors shall appoint Chairpersons for the following standing committees from members in good standing, their term to be at the pleasure of the Board:
- a) Ethics
 - b) Dog Shows
 - c) Education
 - d) Membership
 - e) Rescue
 - f) Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) and,
 - g) Entertainment
- 8.2 Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board.
- 8.3 Ad hoc committees may from time to time be appointed by the Board to aid the Board with specific projects.

Section 9.

9. Discipline

- 9.1 The Club shall have the power to suspend, expel or censure any member of the Club if such person is:
- a) Engaged in any act or acts, or participated in any act or acts which may bring the name of the Club or any member in ill repute.
 - b) Under suspension or expulsion from the Canadian Kennel Club.
 - c) Is actually engaged in the breeding, or selling of dogs, including but not limited to the Bull Terrier, that are not purebred and therefore cannot be registered with the Canadian Kennel Club.
 - d) Indebted to the Club in any way for longer than one month after the account is due, unless satisfactory arrangements have been made for payment.
 - e) Actively engaged in the breeding, buying or selling of dogs, including but not limited to the Bull Terrier, to be used for fighting
- 9.2 Complaints
- a) Any member may lay a complaint against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed.



- b) Complaints must be submitted in writing to the Secretary with a deposit of \$25, which shall be forfeited if the charges are not sustained. If the complaint is against the Secretary, the President shall be the recipient instead.
- c) The Secretary, upon receiving such a complaint, within 30 days shall forward a copy of the complaint, along with a notice of hearing to the defendant, the complainant and each member of the Board.
- d) The President shall invite the complainant and defendant to submit written explanations of the events or practices resulting in the complaint to the President.
- e) The hearing date shall be set no later than 90 days from date of receipt of the complaint. A majority of the Board shall be present.
- f) Should the complaint be laid against the President, the Vice President shall act in accordance with these by-laws.

9.3 Hearing

- a) The Board shall ensure that both the complainant and defendant are treated fairly and in accordance with the rules of natural justice.
- b) Should the complaint be sustained after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by both parties, the Board, by majority vote, may impose an appropriate penalty. The Secretary shall then notify each of the parties of the decision within 30 days of the decision.
- c) Should the result of the hearing be the recommendation to expel a member, the Board should vote and a three-quarter majority is required for this to be actioned.
- d) Records of the hearings and subsequent Board decision and actions shall be kept by the Secretary.

Section 10.

10. Amendments to the Breed Standard

- 10.1 May be proposed by the Board or by written petition addressed to the Secretary, signed by 20% of the members in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board and must be submitted to all members of the Club, with the recommendations of the Board, for a vote within three months of the date when the petition was received.
- 10.2 Proposed amendments to the standard for the breed shall be approved by the Board then mailed by the Secretary to all members of the Club. The favourable vote of two thirds (2/3) of all eligible voting members, whose ballots are returned within the specified time, shall be required to affect any such amendment. A minimum of 30 days from the time of mailing must be allowed for the return of a ballot.



- 10.3 No amendment to the standard for the breed that is adopted by the Club shall become effective until it has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Canadian Kennel Club Inc.

Section 11.

11. Amendments to the By-Laws

- 11.1 May be proposed by the Board or by written petition addressed to the Secretary, signed by 20% of the members in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board and must be submitted to all members of the Club, with the recommendations of the Board, for a vote within three months of the date when the petition was received.
- 11.2 Proposed amendments to the by-laws shall be approved by the Board then mailed by the Secretary to all members of the Club. The favourable vote of two thirds (2/3) of all eligible voting members, who ballots are returned within the specified time, shall be required to affect any such amendment. A minimum of 30 days from the time of mailing must be allowed for the return of a ballot.
- 11.3 No amendment to the by-laws or constitution that is adopted by the Club shall become effective until it has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Canadian Kennel Club Inc.

Section 12.

12. Dissolution

- 12.1 The Bull Terrier Club of Canada and/or its approved affiliated/ branch Clubs may be disbanded or dissolved after payment of all debts and liabilities of the Club, by written consent of not less than 2/3 of the members of that Club who are in favour of this decision.
- 12.2 In the event of the dissolution of the Club, other than for the purposes of re-organization, members present at the last meeting of the Club to be called by the President, or some other member acting on behalf of the President, shall be empowered to decide, by a majority vote of the members present, the disposition of all records, properties and any monies held in trust by the Treasurer, to any duly recognized Bull Terrier Club(s) regardless of Country.



Section 13.

13. Rules of Order

13.1 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:

- a) Recording of members present by roll call and call to order
- b) Read minutes of the previous meeting and/or Board meeting
- c) Reports of the Treasurer
- d) Reports of the Standing Committees
- e) Unfinished business
- f) New business
- g) General discussion
- h) Adjournment

13.2 At the Annual General Meeting, the election of Officers and Regional Directors will take place after “Unfinished Business”.

