

PLYMOUTH DOG TRAINING CLUB

(OPEN TO ALL BREEDS)

RULES

Revised February 2012

- 1) The name of the club shall be "The Plymouth Dog Training Club".
- 2) The objectives of the club shall be:
 - a) To promote the training of owners to be responsible pet owners.
 - b) To promote the training of any breed of dog deemed suitable by the Committee. (The word dog shall include bitch).
 - c) To support obedience classes at shows.
 - d) To meet for the discussion of matters of common concern to members and for social purposes.
 - e) To arrange inter-club obedience matches.
- 3) The affairs and management of the Club shall be under absolute control of a committee consisting of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, and up to nine committee members with the power to co-opt no more than three additional members. Committee members shall retire at the end of each year but will be eligible to stand for re-election at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) if they so desire. Officers and trainers of the Club shall be elected in an honorary capacity. Honorariums shall be granted at the discretion of the Committee and expenses properly incurred by any member shall be approved by the Committee before payment.
- 4) The Chair's duty shall be to preside at all General and Committee Meetings of the Club.
- 5) The Honorary Secretary's duties shall be to summon and attend all General and Committee Meetings of the Club and he/she shall keep a correct record of the proceedings in a minute book which shall be signed by the Chair at the following meeting and shall conduct correspondence on behalf of the club and transact such business as may be required by the committee.
- 6) The Treasurer shall receive all monies, keep a proper record of receipts and payments and submit a properly audited income and expenditure account of balance sheet to members at the Annual General Meeting of the Club. He/she shall keep a banking account in the name of the Club and withdrawals from the banking account to be made on the signature of two or more officers who shall not be related.
- 7) The election of the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee shall take place at the AGM. The Secretary shall invite nominations for these offices and committee, which must be in his/her hands at least fourteen days before the meeting is held. If in any case the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, the election shall be decided by ballot by those personally present at the AGM.
- 8) An Annual General Meeting (in accordance with Kennel Club Rules) must be held in the month of February each year. Notice of all General and Special Meetings will be given in the newsletter. Items for inclusion on the Agenda will be accepted up to 28 days before the date of the meeting.

No business shall be transacted at an AGM unless notice thereof appears on the agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those which in the opinion of the Chair of the meeting are urgent. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be summoned by the Secretary at the request of the Committee or on the requisition in writing of at least 10% of the club specifying the business to be transacted. Not less than 28 days notice in writing must be given of all General Meetings.

- 9) The quorum of General Meetings shall be 10% of the members personally present, and for scheduled meetings of the Committee, 75% of the members personally present. Committee members absent without reason for three consecutive meetings to be asked to resign at the discretion of the Committee.
- 10) At all meetings of the Club or of the Committee voting shall be by a show of hands, or by ballot, at the discretion of the Chair, and one vote shall be allowed to each member, including co-opted Committee members. The Chair shall have a second or casting vote.
- 11) All applications for membership shall be considered by the Committee which shall have absolute power in respect of the admission of members, and power to refuse membership to any person without stating its reason.
- 12) All dogs accepted for training must be fully vaccinated as recommended by your vet and hold a current vaccination certificate, or be covered by a verified proof of purchase for alternative treatment to be produced at the time of joining, details of this will be recorded in the members register. Up to date documentation must be produced each year. Members who have been advised that their documentation is due to expire and who fail to produce it by the end of stated month will no longer be able to bring their dogs in to the training hall.
- 13) The Committee shall have power to confer honorary membership on any person who has rendered distinguished service to the Club or the interests represented by it. Honorary members shall be relieved of the payment of subscriptions to the club and shall possess the same rights and privileges as full subscribing members.
- 14) On application, associate membership may be granted. An associated member will have the same rights as a full member with the exception that they are not allowed to participate in the training of a dog at the club.
- 15) The Committee shall have the power to remove from membership any member whose subscription is 30 days overdue.
 - a) The Society must make a list of members and their addresses available for inspection if so requested by the members of the society or by the Kennel Club.
 - b) Each member shall be entitled to one vote after 4 weeks of membership.
- 16) The Committee shall have the power to charge such fees as it may from time to time determine for membership and attendance at training classes, and to raise funds for the Club in any way it deems fit.
- 17) The Committee shall meet at convenient times as and when necessary, but not less than eight times in any one year, seven days notice (before a meeting) must be given by the Secretary.
- 18) Any member who shall be suspended under Kennel Club rule A42J(4) and/or any member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club rules A42J(8) shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the society for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification.

If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the society be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the society, the 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 resolution to expel him/her. Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and hour of the meeting that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at the meeting a resolution to expel is passed by a 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 from the date of such meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such condition as the Kennel Club may impose.

- 19) Any member who may be suspended by the Kennel Club shall automatically and for the same period, be regarded as suspended from membership of the Society. If a training club expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with the dogs, dog shows or working trials, the Society must report the matter in writing to the Kennel Club within seven days and supply particulars required.
- 20) Any member may resign his/her membership at any time but shall be entitled to the return of any subscription paid. He/she shall nevertheless be liable for the payment of any subscription or charges due to the club.
- 21) Any member who has resigned, or whose resignation has been requested or who has been removed from membership, or whose membership is suspended, shall forfeit all rights and privileges of the Club, and shall forthwith return to the Secretary any challenge cups or trophies which he/she may hold.
- 22) The financial year of the Club shall commence on 1st January and end 31st December of each year.
- 23) The subscriptions to the Club are payable annually, in advance. A reduction to be made to those joining the Club on or after 1st August in any year. Members who join on or after 1st December shall pay full subscription and shall enjoy membership to the 31st December of the following year. Junior Handlers are accepted, the qualifying age for membership being 10 years.
- 24) The training instructor or deputy shall be in sole charge and shall be empowered to exclude any dog or member at his/her discretion, and to exclude any dog which he/she believes to be infected or to have been in contact with infected dogs. The Committee may require a veterinary certificate before allowing the dog to attend classes again.
- 25) Puppies are admitted to training classes on completion of initial vaccination programme or on production of alternative treatment documentation.
- 26) No bitches in season shall be admitted to training sessions or allowed on the Club premises.
- 27) The individual progress tests to be held at the discretion of the Class Training Instructor.
- 28) The dissolution of the Club may be determined in the following manner: viz; On the requisition of not less than one third of the members of the Club, a Special General Meeting shall be called by the Secretary giving 28 days notice of the date and purpose of the meeting, and such dissolution shall take place only when decided upon by a resolution carried by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present at the meeting. The disposal of the Assets to be discussed at the meeting. Trophies to be returned to the donors. If the Club is wound up or ceases to be a training club under these regulations a final statement of accounts must be forwarded to the Kennel Club

within six months and the persons named as Officers and Committee of the Club on the last return furnished to the Kennel Club will be held responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the Club.

- 29) Any alteration to these rules shall be made only by a majority vote of members present at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, and notice of intention to move any alterations must be given in writing to the Secretary 28 days before the date of such meetings, such alterations shall not be brought into force until the Kennel Club has been advised and given its approval of the alteration. In the event however, of any alteration in Kennel Club Rules which affect the Rules of this Club, the Committee shall have the power to put these into effect without calling a Special Meeting, but any such change must be notified to Club members. When a rule or decision is taken at the Annual General Meeting that rule or decision shall be extant for a minimum period of twelve months.
- 30) The award of points trophies presented at the Annual General Meetings shall be made to those members who have gained the highest number of points at Open and Limited Shows and who have given their results in writing to the deputed recorder (normally the Cup Steward) by the 31st December.
- 31) The payment of a membership subscription shall be deemed to be an implied agreement on the part of the member to abide by the Rules of the Club.
- 32) That any member of the Plymouth Dog Training Club who holds office of any description in any other Dog Training Club shall not be able to hold any office 'or sit on the committee' of the Plymouth Dog Training Club.
- 33) The Plymouth Dog Training Club shall not join any federation of societies or clubs.
- 34) The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the Rules and Regulations of this Club and in all cases relative to canine club matters.
- 35) 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 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 title of 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.
- 36) No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve as a member of the Committee or hold any other office within a Kennel Club registered society.