

The Constitution of the German Shepherd Dog Breed Council

(Revised 21-03-92 05-03-95 01-03-97 24-03-01 29-06-02 20.02.10)

1. NAME AND OBJECTIVES

- a The Council shall be called "The German Shepherd Dog Breed Council" hereinafter referred to as "The Breed Council".
- b Its objectives shall be:
 - i To advance the breed of German Shepherd Dogs
 - ii To provide a forum for discussion among GSD Clubs so as to enable them to speak with an united voice.

2. OFFICERS AND MEMBER CLUBS

- a. The Breed Council shall consist of as many Registered Breed Clubs and societies as wish to join by payment of an agreed membership fee, with a Chairman, vice-Chairman, Hon.Secretary and Hon.Treasurer. GSD Ringcraft Clubs which are registered with the Kennel Club may apply for membership to the Breed Council. If their membership is accepted and on payment of the required fee they may attend meetings to take part in discussion but without voting rights.
- b. The Chairman to serve for one year in the first instance and may then seek re-election, and thereafter serve for two years and may then seek re-election. The Chairman has a casting vote only.
- c. The vice-Chairman to serve for two years and may then seek re-election. Unless called upon to take the Chair the vice-Chairman will remain a delegate for his/her own club, but on taking the Chair will have a casting vote only.
- d. The Hon.Sec and Hon.Treasurer to serve for two years and may then seek re-election. They may take part in discussions but may not have a vote.
- e. The nominations for the above Officers need not be from the delegates elected to represent their Clubs.

3. MEETINGS

- a. The meetings of the Council shall be held at least twice a year; the date, time and place of each meeting being decided at the previous meeting.
- b. Each Club will send no more than two Delegates to the meetings and only these delegates, the Officers and the KC Breed Representative when invited by the Secretary, may attend the meetings.
- c. Delegates from Clubs which have not paid the subscriptions may attend one meeting as Observers (with permission to speak but not vote) providing the Secretary has been notified in advance of their nomination. They may not attend further meetings until the subscription has been paid.
- d. The Chairman may call a meeting at his/her discretion.
- e. An EGM may be called by the Secretary if requested in writing to do so by 33% of the member Clubs. Member Clubs will receive twenty-eight days' notice in writing of an EGM.
- f. A quorum of 33% of Member Clubs is required before business can take place.

4. AGENDAS FOR MEETINGS

Clubs will forward items for the Agenda to reach the Secretary ten weeks before the next meeting. The Secretary will consolidate the proposals and will circulate a copy of the Agenda to the secretaries of the Member Clubs eight weeks before the next meeting.

The Secretary may add items to the Agenda provided that they, in his/her and the Chairman's opinion, merit consideration by the Breed Council.

5. VOTING

- a. Each Member Club will have one vote only.
- b. The election of Officers will be by ballot paper.
- c. Voting cards will be used to vote upon proposals.
- d. Proxy voting will be accepted providing the proxy is in writing.
- e. Proxy votes must be declared at the opening of the meeting and before any business is discussed.
- f. GSD Ringcraft Clubs may not vote.

6. JUDGES LISTS

The Breed Council will draw up Judges' lists annually.

7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of the Breed Council will be held in March every year.

8. **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- a. The Breed Council will decide at the AGM in March each year what subscription or donation is required from Clubs for the following year
- b. The expenses of meetings and administration will be met from these subscriptions or donations. Any surplus will be put in a Bank Account in the name of the Breed Council, and with drawn on the signatures of any two of the Treasurer, Secretary and Chairman.
- c. In the event that the Breed Council should cease to exist any money pertaining to it after payment of debts will be allocated to the current Member Clubs who are encouraged to donate any such funds to the German Shepherd Welfare Fund (registered charity No. 274076).

9. **ACCOUNTS**

- a. The financial year of the Breed Council shall run from 1st January to 31st December in each year.
- b. An Auditor will be appointed each year.
- c. The Treasurer shall make available a copy of the accounts at the AGM of the Breed Council.

10. **THE CONSTITUTION**

- a. The Breed Council shall submit its Constitution or any alteration thereto for the approval of the General Committee of the Kennel Club
- b. The Constitution shall not be altered without the prior agreement of the constituent Member Clubs.

11. The Breed Council shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs

12. The Breed Council acknowledges the jurisdiction of the Kennel Club and will accordingly observe its Rules and Regulations

13. No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee of, or hold any office or appointment within, a Kennel Club Registered Society.