



Bluebonnet Boxer Club, Inc. of Cypress, Texas

Constitution & By-Laws

Adopted March 1997

Constitution

Article 1. Name and purpose

Section 1: The name of the Club shall be the Bluebonnet Boxer Club Inc. of Cypress, Texas.

Section 2: The objectives of the Club shall be:

- a. to encourage and promote quality in the breeding of pure-bred Boxers and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection;
- b. to urge members and breeders to accept the Standard of the breed, as approved by the American Kennel Club, as the only standard of excellence by which Boxers shall be judged;
- c. to do all in its power to protect and advance the interest of pure-bred Boxers and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows and obedience trials;
- d. to conduct sanctioned matches, licensed specialty shows and obedience trials under the rules of the American Kennel Club;
- e. to initiate educational programs and educational activities, which will stimulate and extend public interest in the Boxer;
- f. for members of the Bluebonnet Boxer Club Inc. of Cypress, Texas to abide by those portions of the American Boxer Club's By-Laws and Code of Ethics which are applicable to members of member clubs.

Section 3: The Club shall not be conducted or operated and no part of any profits or remainder or residue from dues or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

Section 4: 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 objectives.

By-Laws

Article I. Membership

Section 1. Eligibility: There shall be one type of membership open to all persons eighteen years of age and older, who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club, and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club.

While membership shall be unrestricted as to residence, the Club's primary purpose shall be to represent the breeder's, exhibitors and fanciers in its immediate area.

Section 2. Dues: Membership dues shall not exceed \$25.00 per year, payable on or before the first day of January each year. The amount shall be as recommended by the Board of Directors and ratified by the membership; ratification must be accomplished by July 1st to be in effect for the ensuing year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of November, the Treasurer shall send each member a statement of their dues for the ensuing year.

Section 3. Election of Membership: Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form approved by the Board of Directors, 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 occupation of the applicant, and shall carry the endorsement of two members in good standing. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues payment for the current year.

Applications shall be filed with the Secretary, and each application shall be read at the first regular meeting of the Club, following its receipt. At the next regular Club meeting the application shall be voted upon by secret ballot. Affirmative vote of 3/4 of the members present, and voting, shall be required to elect an applicant.

Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club may not re-apply within six months of such rejection.

Section 4. Termination of membership: Membership 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. Dues obligations are a debt to the Club and are incurred on the first day of each fiscal year.

- b. by lapsing. A membership shall lapse, and automatically terminate, if such member's dues remain unpaid 90 days after the first day of the fiscal year; however the Board may grant an additional 90 days of grace in meritorious cases. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting, whose dues are unpaid as of the date of that meeting.
- c. by expulsion. A membership may be terminated, by expulsion as provided for in Article VI of these By-Laws.

Article II. Meetings and Voting

Section 1. Club meetings: Meetings of the Club shall be held in the greater Cypress, Texas area on the second Thursday of each month, at such time and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of each meeting shall be mailed, by the Secretary, at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

Section 2. Special Club meetings: Special Club meetings may be called by the President; by majority vote of the members of the Board, who are present and voting at a regular, or special, meeting of the Board; or shall be called by the Secretary, upon receipt of a petition signed by 5 members of the Club, who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held in the greater Cypress, Texas area at such place, day and hour as may be designated by the person, or persons, authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice shall be mailed, by the Secretary, at least 5 days, and not more than 15 days prior to the date of that meeting, and no other Club business may be transacted thereat. The quorum for such meetings shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

Section 3. Board meetings: Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in the months of January, March, May, July, September and November in the greater Cypress, Texas area at such place, day and hour as may be designated by the Board. Written notice of each, such meeting shall be mailed, by the Secretary, at least five days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be a majority of the Board.

Section 4. Special Board of Directors meetings: Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President; and shall be called, by the Secretary, upon receipt of a written request signed by at least 3 members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held in the greater Cypress, Texas area at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person designated herein to call such a meeting. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed, by the Secretary, at least 5 days and not more than 15 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 thereat. The quorum for such meetings shall be a majority of the Board.

Section 5. Voting: Each member, whose dues are paid for the current year, shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the Club, at which they are present. Proxy voting shall not be permitted at any Club meeting or election.

Article III. Directors and Officers

Section 1. Board of Directors: The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three other persons, each of whom shall be in good standing. They shall be elected for one year terms, at the Club's Annual Meeting, as provided in Article IV, and shall serve until their successors are elected. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board.

Section 2. Officers: The Club's officers consisting of President, Vice President, Secretary 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, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President in addition to those specified in these By-Laws.
- 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. The Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify new members of their election to membership, notify officers and directors of their election to office, keep a roll of the members of the Club with their addresses, and carry out such duties as are prescribed in these By-Laws.
- d. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due, or belonging, to the Club. The Treasurer shall deposit the same in a bank, designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. The books shall at all times be open to inspection by the Board. The Treasurer shall report, 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, 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 may determine.

- e. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person, in which case the Board shall be comprised of the officers and four other persons.

Section 3. Vacancies: Any vacancies occurring on the Board, or among the offices, during the year, shall be filled, until the next annual election, by majority vote of the existing Board, at its first meeting following creation of such vacancy; or at a special meeting held for that purpose; except that a vacancy in the office of President shall be filled automatically by the Vice President and the resulting vacancy in the office of Vice President shall be filled by a member selected by the Board.

Article IV. The Club Year, Annual Meeting, Elections

Section 1. Club Year: The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December.

The Club's official year shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the election, at the annual meeting, and shall continue through the election at the next annual meeting.

Section 3. Annual Meeting: The annual meeting shall be held in the month of November at which officers, and directors, for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret, written ballot, from among those nominated in accordance with section 4 of this article. They shall take office immediately upon the conclusion of the election; each retiring officer shall turn over, to their successor in office, all properties and records relating to that office, within 30 days of election.

Section 3. Elections: The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes, for each office, shall be declared elected. The three nominated candidates who receive the greatest number of votes for director's positions shall be declared elected.

Section 4. Nominations: No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated. During the month of July, the Board shall select a Nominating Committee, consisting of three members and two alternates, not more than one of whom may be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen of their selection. The Board shall name a Chairman, who shall call a committee meeting on, or before, September 1st.

- a. The committee shall nominate one candidate for each office and three candidates for the three, other Board positions 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 September 15th, notify each member, in writing, of the candidates so nominated.
- c. Additional nominations may be made at the October meeting by any member in attendance, provided that the person so nominated accepts the nomination, and, also provided that, if the proposed candidate is not present, the nominator shall present, to the Secretary, a signed statement from the proposed candidate, signifying their willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one office.
- d. Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or in a manner other than as provided in this section.

Article V. Committees

Section 1. Standing Committees: The Board may, each year, appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club, in such areas as specialty shows, obedience trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other fields, which well may be served by them. Such committees shall always be subject to final authority of the Board. Special committees may also be appointed by the Board to aid in particular projects.

Section 2. Termination of Committee Appointments: Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board, upon written notice to the appointee; the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose positions have been terminated.

Article VI. Discipline

Section 1. American Kennel Club Suspension: Any member who is suspended from the privileges of the American Kennel Club automatically shall be suspended from the privileges of this Club, for a like period.

Section 2. Charges: Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or Breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$10:00 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the Board following a hearing. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the Board or present them at a Board meeting, and the Board 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 considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or Breed it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges it shall fix a date of a hearing by the Board not less than 3

weeks nor more than 6 weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by registered mail together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may appear in his/her own defense and bring witnesses if he/she wishes.

Section 3. Board Hearing: The Board shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the hearing, but both complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in this regard. Should the charges be sustained, after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by complainant and defendant, the Board may, by a majority vote of those present, suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than 6 months from the date of the hearing. And if it deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before his/her fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting, which considers the Board's recommendation. Immediately after the Board has reached a decision, its findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the Board's decision and penalty, if any.

Section 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's recommendation as provided in Section 3 of this Article. Such proceeding may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club, to be held within 60 days, but not earlier than 30 days after the date of the Board's recommendation of expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his/her 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/her own behalf if he/she wishes. The members shall then vote by secret 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 VII. Amendments

Section 1: Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors, or by written petition, addressed to the Secretary, signed by 20% of the members in good standing. Amendments proposed by petition shall promptly be 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 3 months of the date that the petition was received by the Secretary.

Section 2: The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the members present, and voting, at any regular, or special meeting, called for that purpose; provided that these amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting, mailed to each member at least 2 weeks before the meeting,

Article VIII. Dissolution

Section 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, involuntary, or by operation of the law, none of the property of the Club, nor any proceeds thereof, nor any assets of the Club shall be distributed to any members of the Club, but, after paying 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 IX. Order of Business

Section 1: At meetings of the Club, the order of business, so far as the character and nature of the meeting permits, shall be;

Roll call.

Minutes of the last meeting.

Report of Board.

Report of President.

Report of Secretary.

Report of Treasurer.

Report of Committees.

Election of Officers at Annual Meeting only.

Election of new members.

Unfinished business.

New business

Adjournment.

Section 2: At meetings of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by majority vote, shall be;

Minutes of last meeting.

Report of Secretary.

Report of Treasurer.

Reports of Committees.

Unfinished business.
New Business.
Adjournment.

Article X. Parliamentary Authority

Section 1: The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws, and any special rules, or order, that the Club may adopt.