

Great Salt Lake
German Shepherd Dog Club



CONSTITUTION
&
BYLAWS

Great Salt Lake German Shepherd Dog Club

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1 – NAME AND OBJECTIVES

- Section 1. The name of the Club shall be the Great Salt Lake German Shepherd Dog Club, Inc.
- Section 2. The objectives of the Club shall be:
- A. to encourage and promote the breeding of pure-bred German Shepherd Dogs and 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 German Shepherd Dogs shall be judged;
 - C. to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows and obedience trials;
 - D. to conduct sanctioned and licensed specialty shows and obedience trials under the rules of the American Kennel Club;
 - E. and to lease, own, purchase, hold and maintain real and other property of any and all kinds in the state of Utah to facilitate the accomplishments of these ends.
- Section 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 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 bylaws as may be required to carry out these objectives.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1 – MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Eligibility. Regular memberships shall be open to all persons sixteen (16) years of age and older who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purpose of this Club and shall be encouraged to work at least one match and one point show per year. Regular members only have voting privileges and shall attend at least four meetings per year.
- Section 2. Junior memberships shall be open to all persons less than sixteen (16) years of age. While membership is to be unrestricted as to residence, the Club's primary purpose is to be representative of the breeders and exhibitors in its immediate area.
- Section 3. Dues. Regular membership and junior membership shall be in an amount set by vote of 2/3 membership of the club present, and may be voted on and changed from time to time. Dues are payable on or before the first day of January of each year. Dues paid by new members after October 1st are good for the following year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of November, the Secretary shall send to each member a statement of the dues for the ensuing year.
- Section 4. Election to membership. Each applicant shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by these Constitution and Bylaws and the rules of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name and address of the applicant and it shall carry the endorsement of two (2) members. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues payment for the current years.

All applications are to be filed with the Secretary and each application is to be read at the first meeting of the Club following its receipt. At the next Club meeting attended by the applicant, the application will be voted upon and affirmative votes of ¾ 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 (6) months after such rejection.

- Section 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. Dues obligations are considered debt to the Club and they become incurred on the first day of each fiscal year.
- B. by lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid ninety (90) days after the first day of the fiscal year; however, the Board may grant an additional ninety (90) days of grace to such delinquent members 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 in Article VI of these Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE II – MEETING AND VOTING

- Section 1. Club Meetings. Meetings of the Club shall be held in (or within 25 miles) of the City of Greater Salt Lake on the first Tuesday of each month unless otherwise designated, at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting, or at the direction of the President may be called by telephone. The quorum for such meeting shall be 20% of the members in good standing.
- Section 2. Special Club Meetings. Special Club meetings may be called by the President, or by majority vote of the members of the Board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board, or can be called 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 (or within 25 miles) of the City of Greater Sale Lake as such place, date, and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than ten (10) 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 a meeting shall be 20% of the members in good standing.
- Section 3. Board Meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in (or within 50 miles) of the City of Greater Salt Lake on the fourth Wednesday of each month unless otherwise designated, at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting, or at the direction of the President may be called by telephone. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.
- Section 4. Special Board Meetings. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President by telephone or any means available as long as all Board Members are notified and a majority of the Board will attend, or can be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three (3) members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held in (or within 50 miles) of the City of Greater Salt Lake at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting if called by the Secretary when requested to by three (3) Board Members. Any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business shall be transacted thereat. A quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.
- Section 5. Voting. Each regular member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to one vote at any 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, the immediate past President for one year, and six two year Board members (three elected each year). In the event of the reelection of the President, the past President board will be vacant. All shall be regular members of the Club (corporation). All Club officers and the past President shall serve for a period of one (1) year. They shall be elected at the Club's election meeting as provided in Article IV and shall serve until their successors are elected. Any Board member missing three (3) unexcused Board meetings in any calendar year will automatically be dismissed.

- A. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors. The minutes of the Board Meeting shall be read at the next club general meeting. The general membership shall vote on acceptance of the board minutes. By voting approval of the minutes, the general membership shall be voting on the Boards actions of the last meeting. By rejecting all or any part of the minutes, the club will send that portion back to the Board for further consideration.
- Section 2. Officers. The Club's officers, consisting of the 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 the Board of Directors, call special meetings, appoint all committees created by the Bylaws or vote of the Club, and have general supervision over all affairs of the Club; and enforce the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws. He may vote on amendments to the Constitution or alteration of the Bylaws, on the expulsion or suspension of a member, and on election of the officers, but on all other matters he (she) shall vote only in case of a tie, and then to give the deciding vote.
- B. The Vice President discharges the duties of the President in the latter's absence. In the event of the death, resignation, disqualification or disability of the President, the Vice President shall succeed the Presidency. The vacancy of the Vice President position shall be filled as herein provided for officer vacancies.
- C. The Secretary shall maintain a correct and up-to-date mailing list of the members and make available to the President a copy of the list. Shall receive all applications for membership and new membership dues; these dues to be turned over to the Club Treasurer with correct records. Shall perform all duties as official correspondent of the Club with the exception of those matters pertaining to Club shows, which will be handled by the Show Secretaries. In the absence of the President and the Vice President, the Secretary shall perform all duties inherent to those offices. The Secretary shall also provide all new members with a current copy of the Constitution and Bylaws and all other members upon request. The Secretary shall also provide all new members with a current copy of the Constitution and Bylaws and all other members upon request. The Secretary shall mail notice to all members at least ten (10) days in advance of all regular meetings.
- D. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club. He (she) shall deposit the same in a bank satisfactory to the Board, in the name of the Club. His (her) 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 may be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.
- Section 3. Vacancies. Any vacancies occurring on the board or among the officers, with the exception of the President, during the year shall be filled for the unexpired term of the office at the first regular meeting following the creation of such a vacancy, notices will be mailed at least ten (10) days in advance of election. Nominations shall be made from the floor and the person receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected.

ARTICLE IV – The Club Year, Elections

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

- Section 2. Nominations. No person may be a candidate in a club election who has not been nominated. Any regular member in good standing who has attended at least six (6) meetings during the preceding twelve (12) months may be nominated. During the month of August, the Board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three (3) members and two (2) alternates, not more than one (1) of whom shall be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen and alternates of their selection. The Board shall name a chairman (chairperson) for the committee and it shall be his (or her) duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before September 1st.
- A. The Committee shall nominate one (1) candidate for each office and three (3) candidates for the three (3) other positions on the Board, 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 does not decline when his (or her) name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, his (or her) proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his (or her) willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than on (1) position, and the additional nominations which are provided for herein may be made only from among those members who have not accepted a nomination of the Nominating Committee.
 - D. Nominations cannot be made at the election meeting or in any manner other than as provided in this section.
- Section 3. Election Meeting. The election meeting shall be held in the month of November at which directors and officers for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret, written ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 2 of this Article. They shall take office on the following first day of January and each retiring officer shall turn over to his (or her) successor in office all properties and records relating to that office prior to the first day of January.
- Section 4. Elections. The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The three (3) nominated candidates for other positions on the board who receive the greatest number of votes for such positions shall be declared elected.

ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES

- Section 1. The President may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as dog shows, obedience trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership, and other fields which may well be served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board. Special committees may also be appointed by the Board to aid it on particular projects.
- Section 2. Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board upon written notice to the appointee; and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose service has 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 the breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$10 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 interest of the Club or the 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 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 a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his (or her) own defense and bring witnesses if he (or 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 that 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 six (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 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 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 (or 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 (or her) own behalf if he (or she) wishes. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A two-thirds (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 Bylaws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by twenty percent (20%) of the membership in good standing. Amendments 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.

Section 2. The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for the purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each member at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

ARTICLE VIII – DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Dissolution. The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than three-fourths (3/4) of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, 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 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 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 may permit, shall be as follows:

- Roll call
- Minutes of last meeting
- Report of President
- Report of Secretary
- Report of Treasurer
- Report of Committees
- Election of Officers and Board (at election meeting)
- 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 of those present, shall be as follows:

- Reading of minutes of last meeting
- Report of Secretary
- Report of Treasurer
- Report of Committees
- New business
- Adjournment

ARTICLE X – SELECTION OF JUDGES

Section 1. Written notice of such meetings shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meetings. The quorum for such meetings shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

Nomination of judges shall be conducted in the following manner: Judges will be nominated at the May Board Meeting with all members invited. (Board of Directors and members can nominate judges at this meeting). Members interested in nominating judges should attend.

At the June Membership Meeting, each member shall have two (2) votes for the judges of their choice until five (5) with the most votes are selected. There will then be four rounds of voting with each member present having one vote per round. The judge winning the first round will be the first choice and so on through four rounds of voting. The judges will be called in that order by the President until the spring and fall judges slate is filled. When called if a judge cannot accept the spring show, that judge will be asked to accept the fall show.

Note: No judges will be nominated from the floor at the General Meeting. The third and fourth place judges cannot be used in subsequent years without re-nomination. In the event the judges selected are not available for either the spring or fall show will be the alternate.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS

A lifetime member has full membership rights and privileges but is not required to pay dues and has no participation requirements. Lifetime members are not counted when considering a full membership quorum. A lifetime membership may be granted to a person who has ten years or more of active participation in the Club and who has demonstrated exemplary service to the benefit of the Club and the German Shepherd breed.

Nominations for lifetime membership will be presented to the Board of Directors in writing and endorsed by three members in good standing. This nomination will also include a summary of reasons for this person's nomination. Each application must be passed with a 2/3's vote of the full Board before presentation to the general membership for a vote. If the nomination is approved by the general membership, the nominee will be presented with a Lifetime Membership.