

# **THE WHIPPET CLUB OF EASTERN CANADA**

## **CONSTITUTION**

Adopted October 13, 1984

### Article I Name

The club shall be known as "The Whippet Club of Eastern Canada" a nonprofit organization, whose area of operation is the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

### Article II Objectives

The objectives of the Club shall be to unite the people interested in the breeding, obedience training, showing, racing, coursing, and generally improving the breed of whippets; and to disseminate knowledge concerning whippets.

### Article III Membership

Membership shall be limited to persons interested in furthering the objectives of the Club and whose application has been approved by a majority decision of the Board.

### Article IV Amendments

The constitution may be amended, on the motion of any voting member, by a two-thirds majority vote at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting called for this purpose, as provided in By-Law VIII. The notice of such meetings shall detail the proposed amendments.

## **BY-LAWS**

### I Membership

Membership shall consist of the following classes.

- i Life Membership
- ii Honorary Membership
- iii Regular Membership
- iv Junior Membership

A Life Member shall be one whose meritorious service to the Club has been long and outstanding. Nominations to Life Membership will be made by any member to the Board, and upon approval by a majority vote of the board, will be proposed to the members at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting. Life Members shall have identical status to regular members and are entitled to all privileges of the club.

An Honorary Member shall be one whom the Club deems worthy of such recognition and whose name has been submitted to and approved by a majority vote of the Board and who has been accepted as such by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting of the Club. Such members shall have all the privileges of the Club, except those of voting and holding office.

Regular members shall be persons eighteen (18) years of age or older who have paid the annual membership fee as hereinafter provided and who have been accepted for membership according to the provisions of Article III of the constitution. Regular members shall be entitled to all privileges of the Club and membership in this category shall be unrestricted as to geographical residence of the member.

Junior Members shall be persons under eighteen (18) years of age. Junior members do not have the power to vote nor hold office but have all other privileges of regular members.

A member in good standing is a member who has fully paid his/her fees to the Club and has fulfilled all financial obligations to the Club to which he is committed.

## II Termination of Membership

Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary. No portion of his membership fee will be refunded. A membership will be considered to have lapsed and automatically terminated if membership dues remain unpaid ninety days after the first of the fiscal year.

Any person expelled from or denied privileges in the C.K.C. or denied privileges of the A.K.C. is automatically expelled from the Club and forfeits the balance of any fees paid to the Club.

Any member who by work or deed acts in a manner detrimental to the interests of the Club or any member who commits the Club to any expenditures without the approval of the Board may be expelled.

Expulsion proceedings are initiated by a written objection to a member signed by at least five members in good standing of the Club specifying the grounds for objection and forwarded to the Secretary of the Club. The Secretary must give notice of the objection to the member concerned by Registered Mail within five days of receipt thereof.

The objection must be tabled by the Secretary at the next following meeting after its receipt.

The Secretary shall notify the member concerned by Registered Mail that the objection shall be voted on at the next following meeting.

If the objection is ratified by two-thirds of the members present and voting, the member in question shall be expelled from the Club and shall forfeit the balance of any fees paid to the Club.

## III Officers and Directors

The Board of Directors is the governing body of the Club. It presides over all the affairs of the Club and in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws. It shall have the authority to formulate the plans and transact the business of the Club. The Board of Directors shall be responsible to the membership at large for the good management of the affairs of the Club.

The Officers and four members designated as Directors shall serve as the Board of Directors of the Club.

The officers of the Club shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined if voting members decide that circumstances warrant such an arrangement.

Should an Officer's post not be filled by election, the Board of Directors shall fill the post by appointment until the next election is held.

Vacancies occurring on the Board of Directors shall be filled by simple majority vote of the remaining Members of the Board. Officers or Directors so appointed will serve only until the next regular election is held.

The Immediate Past-President shall serve as an Ex-Officio Member of the Board of Directors.

A member named by the Board of Directors of the Club to perform a particular assignment on behalf of the Club, as well as, if deemed necessary by such named member, a committee of members subsequently appointed by the named member shall be the Agent of the Club for reasonable acts performed by such named member and/or committee with respect to the assignment.

#### IV Nominations and Elections

Any member of the Club in good standing shall be eligible for election to office or to the Board of Directors, except as provided in By-Law I.

The election of Officers and Directors, by simple majority vote, shall take place at the Annual General Meeting.

Notwithstanding the provisions of By-Laws 3.4 and 4.2, should the number of elected Members of the Board be reduced by resignation or other means to less than three, then the remaining Members of the Board shall call a special Meeting where they shall conduct the election of new Directors or Officers to the required number, who will hold office until the next annual General Meeting and will then be eligible for re-election. If no Director or Officer is available to conduct such an election then it shall be the duty of a Past President or Past Vice-President to do so.

Nominations for Officers and Directors shall be made by a Nominating Committee of two voting members appointed by the Board of Directors. The Committee's nominations shall be submitted to the members with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. The Nomination Committee shall present its proposed slate to the Secretary not later than five weeks preceding the Annual General meeting. At the Meeting, nominations duly made and seconded with the consent of the nominees may be accepted from the floor.

#### V Duties of Officers

##### President

The president shall exercise general supervision over the affairs and activities of the Club, shall serve as a member ex-officio on all committees, except the Nominating Committee, and shall preside at all Board Meetings and at all General Meetings.

##### Vice-President

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall undertake the presidential duties.

##### Secretary

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Club and its Board and make such minutes available to members on request, conduct correspondence, notify membership applicants of their acceptance or give reasons for their rejection, shall maintain at all times an up-to-date list of members, and perform such other duties as required.

##### Treasurer

The Treasurer shall conduct and record the financial transaction of the Club and submit at the Annual General Meeting a statement audited by a person appointed by the Board of Directors.

##### Directors

The functions to apportioned among the Directors shall include: Newsletter; Trophies; Matches, Shows and Trials; Public Relations; and Social and Educational Events.

#### VI Signing Officers

Cheques, orders for the payment of money, contracts, documents or any instrument in writing, requiring the signature of the Club shall be signed by either the President and the Treasurer signing together or the President or the Treasurer and by one (1) other member of the board.

VII                    Fiscal Year and Membership Year

Both the fiscal year and the membership year of the Club shall be identical and shall commence on January 1st and end on December 31st of the same year.

VIII                   Meetings

Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President after a minimum of three days notice has been given to the other Members of the board. Four board Members shall constitute a quorum.

The annual General Meeting shall be held during the last quarter of each calendar year.

A special General Meeting may be called at any time by the Board of Directors or at the written request of three voting members. Such a Special Meeting may transact only such business as specified in the notice of meeting.

Voting members shall be given a least four (4) weeks notice of the Annual and Special Meetings. Those voting members present in person or by proxy shall constitute a quorum.

The order of business at all Annual General Meetings of the Club shall be as follows:

- Meeting Called to Order
- Reading of Minutes of previous meeting
- Report of Officers and Committee Chairmen
- Other Business
- Adjournment

The rules contained in Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the rules of order or By-Laws of this Club.

The number of voting members present shall be recorded in the minutes.

IX                    Fees

The fees for the various classes of membership in the Club shall be determined by a majority vote at any general meeting and shall be attached to the By-Laws as an Appendix.

Membership fees shall be due on the second day of January each year and no person in arrears shall be entitled to the privileges of the Club until his/her default has been eliminated.

When new members are accepted after September 1st of the Club year, their membership fees will be applied to the following membership year.

X                    Amendments

By-Laws may be added, deleted or amended by a simple majority vote.

XI                    Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of the Club the members shall be notified by mail that a final meeting will be convened, and distribution of any assets of the Club shall be left to the discretion of the voting members of the Club present at such a meeting.