

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS  
OF  
THE APRICOT/RED POODLE CLUB**

**CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE 1**

**Name and Objectives**

**SECTION I.** The name of the Club shall be "The Apricot/Red Poodle Club".

**SECTION 2.** The objectives of the Club shall be:

- (a) to encourage and promote quality in the breeding of apricot and red poodles 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 they 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 matches under the rules of The American Kennel Club;
- (e) to promote improved communications, understanding, and relationships between poodle breeders/owners.

**BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE 1**

**Membership**

**SECTION I.** **Eligibility.**

Membership shall be open to all persons eighteen years of age or older who are in good standing with The American Kennel Club, and who subscribe to the objectives and ethics of the Apricot/Red Poodle Club.

**SECTION 2.** **Dues:**

Membership dues shall be \$20 per member and \$5 for each additional member in the same household. Dues notice for the next year will be published in the October newsletter. Members whose dues are not paid

by January 1 will receive written notice to that effect.

**SECTION 3. Election to Membership:**

Each applicant for membership shall apply on the form provided by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by these constitution and by-laws, the rules of the American Kennel Club, and the Code of Ethics of the Club. The application shall state the name, address, kennel name (if applicable), and telephone number of the applicant. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues for the current year. All applications are to be filed with the Secretary. Each applicant's name, address and phone, and names of sponsors, will be published in the next newsletter. Members must make objections to the proposed applicant within 60 days in writing to the Secretary. Applicants may only be refused membership for known major offenses, such as citation for inhumane treatment of animals, supplying pet stores, functioning as a puppy mill, or under suspension from the privileges of the American Kennel Club. If no objections are made to the Secretary within the specified time, the applicant is automatically accepted into membership at the end of that 60 days. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club must wait six months before applying again.

**SECTION 4. 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 a 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 90 day
- (c) after the first day or the fiscal year; however, the Board may grant an additional 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.

**ARTICLE II**

**Meetings and Voting**

**SECTION I. Club Meetings.**

The annual meeting of the Club shall be held in June during the week of the Poodle Club of America Specialty Show. The time and place will be designated by the Board of Directors, and will be published in the newsletter prior to the month.

**SECTION 2. Annual Board Meetings.**

Board meetings will be held in June during the week of the Poodle Club of America Specialty Show, and prior to the meeting of the Club. The time and place will be designated by the President. Business necessary between annual meetings will be conducted by phone or mail

**SECTION 3. Voting:**

Each individual member shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the Club. Mail ballots are to be mailed out one month prior to the date they are due to be returned. Any major decisions requiring action of the membership between annual meetings will be conducted by mail ballot.

**ARTICLE III**

**Directors and Officers**

**SECTION I. Board of Directors.**

The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and five other persons, all of whom shall be members in good standing. All shall be elected at the Club's annual meeting. The Officers shall be elected for two-year terms, rotating on odd-even years. The President and Secretary shall be elected during the even years, and the Vice-President and Treasurer shall be elected during the odd years. The remaining five members shall be elected annually.

**SECTION 2 Officers.**

The Club 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, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of the 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. He/she shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings via newsletter or special mailing, publish names of new applicants in the newsletter, publish names of new officers and directors upon their election to office, keep a roll of the members of the Club with their addresses and other pertinent information, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these by-laws.
- (d)The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club. He/she shall deposit the same in a bank designated by the

Board, in the name or the Club. The books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board, and the condition of the Club's finances shall be published in the newsletter. More frequent reports may be made to members of the Board by mail, as necessary. At the annual meeting, there shall be a written and verbal account of all monies received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine. The Board of Directors shall appoint a committee of three members (including the Treasurer) to audit the books annually and report at the annual meeting. In case of resignation of the Treasurer during the year the books will be audited in the same manner.

**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 a majority vote of all members of the Board at its first regular meeting following the creation of such vacancy, or at a Special Board Meeting called 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 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 31st 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 2.**

**Annual Meeting.**

The annual meeting shall be held in the month of June, at which Officers and Directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by 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 and each retiring officer shall turn over to his successor in office all properties and records relating to that office immediately after the election. Mail ballots must be counted by the Secretary and turned over to the President before the date of the meeting.

**SECTION 3.**

**Elections.**

The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The Nominated candidates for other positions on the Board who receive the greatest number of votes

for such 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 February, the Board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three members, not more than one of whom may be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committee of their selection.

The Board shall name a Chairman for the Committee and it shall be his/her duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before March 1st.

- (a) The Committee shall nominate one candidate for each office, and five candidates for the other positions on the Board. After securing the consent of each person so nominated, their nominations shall immediately be reported to the Secretary in writing.
- (b) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Secretary shall before April 1, notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated. This notice may be included in the newsletter or sent as a special mailing.
- (c) Additional nominations may be made by mail by May 1, provided they are accompanied by written consent of the person being nominated. No person may be a candidate for more than one position.
- (d) Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or in any manner other than as provided in this Section.

**ARTICLE V**

**Committees**

**SECTION 1.**

The Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as matches, trophies, prizes, membership, fundraisers, 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 appointee may be terminated by a majority vote of the membership of the Board upon written notice to the appointee; and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose services have been terminated.

**ARTICLE VI**

## **Discipline**

### **SECTION I. American Kennel Club Suspension.**

Any member who is suspended from the privileges of The American Kennel Club shall automatically be suspended from the privileges of the 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. 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, 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. If the board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the Club, 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 personally appear in his own defense, and bring witnesses if he wishes.

### **SECTION 3. Board Hearing.**

The Board shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the bearing, but both the 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 suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six months from the date of the bearing. If it deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such cases, the suspension shall not I 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. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his 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 own behalf if he wishes. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A 2/3 vote shall be necessary for the 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 or Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by twenty percent or 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 the recommendations of the Board by the Secretary for a vote within three months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

**SECTION 3.** 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 the purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each member at least two 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 2/3 of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club other than for purposes of reorganization 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 shall be distributed to any members 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 or 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
- Reports of Committees
- Election of Officers and Board (at annual meeting)
- Reading of names of new members
- Unfinished Business
- New. Business
- Adjournment

**SECTION 2.** At meetings of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by a majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

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