



## WEST OF ENGLAND BULL TERRIER CLUB

*Book of Rules and Code of Ethics*  
2011

# THE WEST OF ENGLAND BULL TERRIER CLUB RULES

## 01. NAME

The club shall be called 'The West of England Bull Terrier Club'.

The club considers the counties of: Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Hereford, Worcestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire to be within the ambit of the West of England Bull Terrier Club.

## 02. OBJECTIVES

To encourage its members in the management, breeding, training and exhibiting and every aspect relating to the improvement of Bull Terriers.

To encourage breeders, judges and exhibitors to accept the correct type of Bull Terrier according to the Kennel Club standard.

To foster friendly relations with and between other Bull Terrier Clubs.

## 03. COMPOSITION

The club shall consist of: A President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Show Manager, Hon. Editor, who are ex officio committee members

In addition to the above, the committee shall comprise of nine members (from whom the Chairman and Vice Chairman shall be elected at the first committee meeting after the Annual General Meeting).

Vice Presidents, Life Members – An unlimited number of members from any county or country. Hon. Auditor to be appointed at the Annual General Meeting for the ensuing year. The Hon. Auditor does not have to be a member of the club but must be a qualified accountant

## 04. COMMITTEE

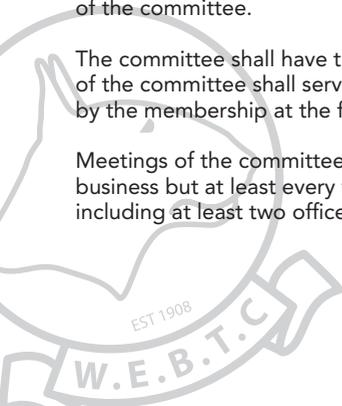
All the affairs of the club shall be managed by the officers and committee members.

The committee shall be comprised of the President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Show Manager, Hon. Editor and nine committee members.

Committee members are elected for a period of three years and must seek re-election after they have served this period. The three longest serving members of the committee shall retire annually. In the unlikely event of more than three members with an equal period of service, the retiring members shall be decided by ballot by the remaining members of the committee.

The committee shall have the right to fill any vacancy by co-option. A co-opted member of the committee shall serve unexpired period of that retired member subject to the approval by the membership at the first Annual General Meeting after Co-option.

Meetings of the committee shall be held as often as deemed necessary to deal with the club's business but at least every three months. A quorum for a committee meeting shall be five, including at least two officers.



Voting on the committee shall be by a majority of members present. The chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote, in addition of his/her own vote.

Any member of the committee absent from three consecutive meetings, except for health or other reasons considered adequate by the committee, shall be deemed to have resigned and the vacancy may be filled by co-option.

The committee shall have the right or power to proceed against any member or person to recover any monies or property due to or belonging to the club.

The committee shall have the power to appoint sub-committees from its own body and the members of the club generally for such purposes as they deem expedient.

## **05. MEMBERSHIP**

Candidates for membership or joint membership must be proposed by one existing, fully paid-up member. Candidates shall complete an application form and forward it with the appropriate subscription to the Hon. Secretary or Hon. Treasurer for consideration at the next committee meeting.

Nominations shall be elected to membership by the committee on a two-thirds majority of those present and voting by a show of hands. Each member and joint member shall be entitled to one vote immediately upon acceptance of membership by the committee.

## **06. FINANCIAL YEAR**

The financial year of the club shall be from first day of January to the last day of December.

## **07. CLUB ACCOUNT**

Banking account(s) shall be opened in the name of the club into which all revenue from the club will be paid and from which withdrawals shall only be made on the signature of two of the following: Chairman, Treasurer and one other Officer. The Hon. Treasurer shall maintain the accounts, which shall be audited annually by the Hon. Auditor.

The audited statement of accounts and the balance sheet shall be forwarded to all members with the agenda of the Annual General Meeting and be presented by the Hon. Treasurer for approval by the members at the Annual General Meeting.

## **08. CLUB PROPERTY**

The property of the club shall be vested in the committee and in the event of the club ceasing to exist all assets shall be given to the Bull Terrier Welfare Scheme. (In such an event, a final statement of accounts with a record of the disposal of the property of the club shall be forwarded to the Kennel Club within six months and the persons named as officers and the committee of the club will be held responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the club.) Cups and trophies can only be accepted with the committee's agreement and must become the outright property of the club.

## 09. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscription shall be of such sums as the committee shall decide from time-to-time and be confirmed by two-thirds majority of members present and voting by a show of hands at an Annual General Meeting and shall become payable to the Hon. Treasurer on the 1st of January each year (such subscription charges shall be notified to the Kennel Club). No member whose subscription is unpaid by the 1st of March or is financially indebted to the club, shall be entitled to any of the privileges of membership and his/her name shall be erased from the register of members. Persons wishing to rejoin proceed as rule 5. New members joining the club after the 1st October of any year shall remain members until the end of the following year.

## 10. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

### **The President:**

The nomination of President shall be the prerogative of the committee, the person thus nominated should have given exceptional service to The West of England Bull Terrier Club.

The term of office being for three years. The retiring president shall be eligible for re-election. At a committee meeting, the committee shall decide its nomination for the office of President. The committee's nomination for President shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting for approval.

### **Hon. Officers:**

At the last committee meeting prior to the issue of the notice convening the Annual General Meeting the committee shall nominate an Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Show Manager. The committee's nomination for the post of Hon. Officers shall be confirmed by the membership by a show of hands at the Annual General Meeting. Any member wishing to stand for any of the positions as Hon. Officers shall forward their nomination proposed and seconded by two fully paid-up members to the Hon. Secretary not less than 21 days before the Annual General Meeting of which notice has been given. In the event of more than one nomination for any of the posts of Hon. Officers, a secret ballot of those members present and voting at the Annual General Meeting shall determine the Hon. Officers for the ensuing year.

### **Chairman and Vice-Chairman:**

At its first meeting after the Annual General Meeting the committee shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from among the nine committee members for the ensuing year by a show of hands or a secret ballot.

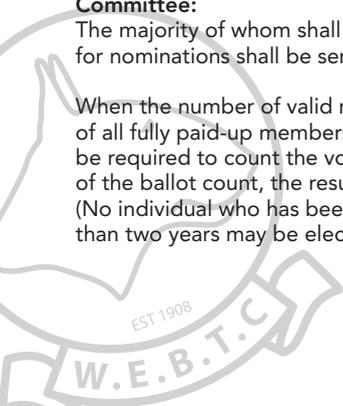
### **Vice Presidents and Life Members:**

Nomination for Vice Presidents and Life Members shall be made by the committee at any time and confirmed by a majority of the members present and voting at the next Annual General Meeting.

### **Committee:**

The majority of whom shall reside in the designated area of The West of England. Invitations for nominations shall be sent out with the notice convening the Annual General Meeting.

When the number of valid nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, a postal ballot of all fully paid-up members resident in the UK shall take place. An independent auditor will be required to count the votes and forward to the Hon. Secretary and certificate of the results of the ballot count, the result of which shall be declared at the Annual General Meeting. (No individual who has been a member of The West of England Bull Terrier Club for less than two years may be elected onto the committee).



## **11. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting shall be held each year at a time and place to be decided by the committee. The business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting shall be as follows:

- To hear and approve the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.**
- To present the Hon. Secretary's report.**
- To receive and if approved, adopt the statement and balance sheet.**
- To ratify when appropriate the committee's nomination to the office of President to the club.**
- To ratify the election of Hon. Officers.**
- To receive the declaration of the result of the nominations for the committee.**
- To appoint and ratify Hon. Auditor for the ensuring year.**
- To discuss any resolution duly placed on the agenda of which prior notice has been given to the Hon. Secretary.**
- No business other than that on the agenda may be considered.**

A notice convening the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to the members no less than 28 clear days before the date of the meeting. The notice shall contain the following:

The names of the retiring members of the committee and whether or not they seek re-election. The number of vacancies.

An invitation to submit in writing, nominations in accordance with the rules and any motions it is desired to discuss at the meeting.

Any nominations must have a proposer and seconder both of whom must be fully paid-up member of the club and to be valid must be received by the Hon. Secretary not less than 21 days before the Annual General Meeting of which notice has been given.

The Chairman, Vice Chairman or President of the club shall preside at the Annual General Meeting.

Voting shall be by a majority except on a proposal for a change of rule when a two-thirds majority of those present and voting is necessary. Voting for a change of rule shall be by secret ballot. The Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to his/her own vote with the exception on the voting for a change of rule.

A quorum at the Annual General Meeting shall be eight persons including at least four members of the committee (including Hon. Officers.) A register of attendance shall be kept.

The agenda shall be circulated to all paid-up members at least seven days prior to the meeting.

## **12. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING**

A special General Meeting of the club shall be summoned by the Hon. Secretary within four weeks of receiving a requisition signed by at least fifty fully paid-up members stating the nature of the business to be put before the membership. A surety of £100 to accompany a request for a Special General Meeting, which will be returnable if the members by a majority of those present and voting at the Special General Meeting agree, that the request for convening a Special General Meeting was bona fide.

The Hon. Secretary shall issue a notice of a Special General Meeting and an agenda shall be sent to all fully paid-up members at least 14 days before the date of the meeting.

The committee is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting at it's discretion.

No business other than that detailed on the agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting.

The Chairman, Vice Chairman or President shall preside at a Special General Meeting.

Voting shall be by a two-thirds majority of those fully paid-up members present and voting.

A quorum at a Special General Meeting shall be eight members including at least four members of the committee (including Hon. Officers).

## **13. EXPULSION OF MEMBER**

Any member who shall be suspended under Kennel Club Rule A42j(4) and /or any member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A42j(8) shall ipsofacto cease to be a member of the club for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification.

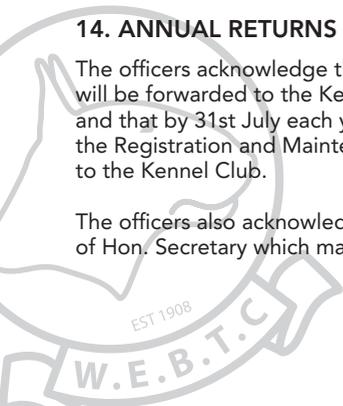
If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the committee of the club be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or the interests of the club, the committee of the club may, at a meeting the notice convening which includes as an object the consideration of the conduct of the member, determine that a Special General Meeting of the club shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her.

Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and time of the meeting that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at the meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, his/her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of members and he/she shall there upon cease for all purposes to be a member of the club, except that he/she may within two calendar months from the date of such meeting appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose.

## **14. ANNUAL RETURNS TO THE KENNEL CLUB**

The officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year maintenance of title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Hon. Secretary for the continuance of registration and that by 31st July each year, other returns as stipulated in Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils, be forwarded to the Kennel Club.

The officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Hon. Secretary which may occur during the course of the year.



## **15. LIST OF MEMBERS**

The club must make a list of members and their addresses available for inspection if requested by members of the club or by the Kennel Club.

## **16. BREED CLUB JUDGES LISTS**

Registered breed club must produce a list of judges each year which must be submitted to the Kennel Club as part of the club's annual returns.

The purpose of breed clubs judges lists is to indicate to interested parties those persons a breed club would support at differing levels of judging.

Membership of the club must not be a prerequisite for inclusion in the lists. Judges lists should be divided into three parts, namely, A1, A2, and B and must indicate the date. Which the list will expire. On expiring a new list must be compiled.

**A1 List – must indicate persons whom the club would support and who have been previously approved by The Kennel Club to award challenge certificates in the breed.**

**A2 List – must indicate all persons the club would support to award challenge certificates but, who have not been approved by the Kennel Club.**

**B List – must indicate all persons the club would support to Judge the breed without challenge certificates.**

These lists will be prepared by the committee of the West of England Bull Terrier Club.

Prior to the preparation of these lists the committee will review the current list, any additions or amendments will be by majority vote of those present and voting, either by a show of hands or secret ballot. The chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to his/her vote.

These lists will be operative from the 1st January each year and be part of the annual returns to the Kennel Club

## **17. KENNEL CLUB FINAL COURT OF APPEAL**

The Kennel Club shall be the final court of appeal in all matters of dispute.

The West of England Bull Terrier Club shall not join any federation of societies or clubs.

No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the committee of or hold any other office or appointment within the Kennel Club registered society.

## 18. DECLARATION OF HONOUR AND CODE OF CONDUCT

**Members of the club undertake not to breed from deaf Bull Terriers and further to conform to the code of conduct as set out hereunder. I will conform with the West of England Bull Terrier Club's Code of Ethics as a condition of membership:**

### Code of Ethics

01. Will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
02. Will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, may report such operation to the Kennel Club.
03. Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
04. Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
05. Will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
06. Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.
07. Will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
08. Will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
09. Will clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
10. Will only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and will help with the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change.
11. Will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
12. Will ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents at the earliest opportunity, if not immediately available.
13. Will not sell any dog to commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. Will not sell by sale or auction Kennel Club registration certificates as stand alone items (not accompanying a dog).
14. Will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise dogs nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog. Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.
15. Will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon who performs an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, or who carries out a caesarean section on a bitch, may report such operations to the Kennel Club.

Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.