

# **THE BEAGLE CLUB RULES**

## **NAME**

1. The name of the society shall be The Beagle Club.

## **OBJECT**

2. The object of the Club shall be to promote the breeding of Beagles for exhibition and sporting purposes according to the breed standard. The Club is opposed to the breeding, acquiring or disposing of Beagles for research or vivisection. The Club shall not join any federation of societies or clubs. The object of the Society is for the benefit of its Members and will not be classed as a trading business, so that all profits from any source, functions and/or activities of the Society shall be maintained for the benefit of, and for the further education of its Members in the management, training, showing, breeding and every aspect pertaining to canines.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

3. All applications for Membership shall be in writing on the form for the time being prescribed by the Committee. Candidates for membership shall be proposed by one Member and seconded by another. Such applications shall be considered by the Committee, which shall have absolute power in respect of the admission of members. Members' names, addresses, K.C. affix, subscription and membership details are processed in a computer for the purposes of compiling and maintaining the Clubs list of Members, the production of accounts and address labels. The list of members will not be issued or sold to commercial organisations. In order to comply with Data Protection Act 1984, signature of the application form or payment of annual subscriptions implies agreement that the Member has no objection to his/her name, address, K.C. affix, subscription and membership details being recorded in a computer.

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

4. The Committee shall have the power to recommend Honorary Membership in respect of any person who has rendered distinguished service to the Society or the interests represented by it. Such recommendations shall be considered by the

Members in General Meeting, and Honorary Membership shall be conferred if approved by two-thirds majority of those present and voting at such General Meeting. Honorary Members shall be relieved of the payment of subscriptions to the Club and shall possess the same rights and privileges as full subscribing members.

## **RESIGNATIONS**

5. Any member may resign his/her membership at any time but shall not be entitled to the return of any subscription paid. He/she shall nevertheless be liable for payment of any subscription or charges due to the Club.

6. 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 *ipso facto* cease to be a Member of the Society for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification. If the conduct of any Member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Society, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Society, the Committee of the Society 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 Society 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 hour 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 thereupon cease, for all purposes, to be a Member of the Society. If any Member is expelled the matter will be reported in writing to the Kennel Club within seven days and any particulars required will be supplied. He/she may, within two calendar months from the date of such a Meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such condition as the Kennel Club may impose.

7. A Member who has resigned, or whose resignation has been requested, or who has been removed from membership, or whose membership is suspended shall forfeit all rights and privileges of the Club, and shall forthwith return to the Secretary any Club property, Challenge Cups or Trophies which he/she may hold.

## **FINANCE**

**8.** The financial year of the Club shall commence on January 1st and end on December 31st in each year.

**9.** The annual subscription to the Club shall be such sum as may be recommended by the Committee and notified to Members for approval in Annual General Meeting and notified to the Kennel Club and as published in the Clubs' bi-annual publication.

A Joint annual subscription shall be available, for husband and wife, two people residing at the same address, or joint affix holders. Each Joint Member is entitled to the same voting rights as a Single Member, otherwise such Joint Membership shall carry only the rights and privileges as a Single Member.

**10.** Junior Membership shall be available to persons up to and including 16 years of age and the annual subscription shall be such sum as may be recommended by the Committee and notified to Members for approval in Annual General Meeting and notified to the Kennel Club. Junior Members have no voting rights.

**11.** Overseas Membership (Single and Joint) shall be available to persons living permanently outside the U.K for a single payment, the sum of which will be recommended by the Committee and notified to Members for approval in Annual General Meeting and notified to the Kennel Club. Overseas Members have no voting rights. Such membership will be for a period of five years.

**12.** Subscriptions shall be paid annually in advance, and shall become renewable, on January 1st in each year.

**13.** Any person whose subscription remains unpaid at March 1st in any year shall *ipso facto* cease to be a member of the Club and shall forfeit all membership rights and privileges.

**14.** The Committee shall have power to raise funds for the Club in any way it seems fit.

## **CONTROL**

**15.** The affairs of the Club shall be under the management and absolute control of a Committee consisting of the President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary,

Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and up to twelve Members, with power to co-opt not more than three additional Members.

No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society.

## **OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

**16.** The Officers shall consist of a Patron, a President, any number of Vice-Presidents, a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer.

**17.** The Patron shall be nominated by the Committee and elected by the Members in Annual General Meeting for a term of three years. He/she shall be eligible for re-election. The office shall be purely honorary carrying no voting rights, nor shall the Patron be a member of the Committee.

**18.** The President shall be nominated by the Committee and elected by the Members in Annual General Meeting for a term of three years. He/she shall be eligible for re-election. He/she shall preside at all social gatherings as may be to his/her convenience, and shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee with a right to vote thereat. His/her membership status shall be that of an Honorary Member. If for any reason whatsoever the office of President shall become vacant, such casual vacancy shall be filled by the Committee and the person appointed shall continue in office until the expiry of the current term of three years for which his/her predecessor was appointed.

**19.** An unlimited number of Vice-Presidents may be appointed by the Committee. The membership status shall be that of an Honorary Member. A Vice-President shall not be an ex-officio member of the Committee.

**20.** The Chairman's duty shall be to preside at all general and Committee meetings of the Club and to deputise for the President when called upon to do so.

**21.** The duty of the Vice-Chairman shall be to deputise for the Chairman in his absence or when called upon to do so.

**22.** The Secretary's duties shall be to summon and attend all General and Committee meetings of the Club. He/she shall keep a correct record of the proceedings in a

Minute Book, which shall be signed by the Chairman at the next meeting; he/she shall conduct correspondence on behalf of the Club and shall transact such business as may be required by the Committee.

**23.** The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary and undertake such duties as may be delegated to him/her by the Committee.

**24.** The Treasurer shall receive all monies, keep a proper record of receipts and payments and submit a properly certified income and expenditure account and balance sheet to members at the Annual General Meeting of the Club. He/she shall keep a banking account in the name of the Club and cheques shall be jointly signed by himself/herself and one of either the Chairman, Vice-Chairman or Secretary. Should the treasurer be absent for any extended period cheques may be signed jointly by any two officers from the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary. The two signatories shall not be husband or wife, two people residing at the same address or holders of the same Affix.

**25.** Rule removed at the AGM 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009 KC approved.

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

**26.** The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary for the continuance of Registration and that by 31st July each year, other returns as stipulated in the Kennel Club Regulations, including the list of members and their addresses, for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities be forwarded to the Kennel Club.

The Club will each year produce a list of Judges, in accordance with current Kennel Club directives, which will be submitted to the Kennel Club as part of the Annual Returns. The purpose of these lists is to indicate to interested parties those persons The Beagle Club would support at different levels of judging. Judging lists will expire on the 31st December each year, when new lists will be compiled. The complete lists will be published in the Club's publication. Membership of the Beagle Club is NOT a prerequisite for inclusion in the lists. The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary of the Society which may occur during the course of the year.

**27.** The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by postal ballot for a term of three years. Not later than twenty-eight days prior to the Annual General Meeting the Secretary shall invite nominations for these offices and where there is more than one nomination for any office an election by postal ballot shall take place, the arrangements for which shall be under the management of the Committee. The results of any such elections shall be declared at the Annual General Meeting. If for any reason whatsoever any office shall become vacant, such casual vacancy shall be filled by the Committee, and the person appointed shall continue in office until the expiry of the current term of three years for which his/her predecessor was appointed. The Committee year will begin and end on the date of the A.G.M.

**28.** The Committee shall be elected by postal ballot for a term of three years, and four members shall retire annually by rotation. Not less than twenty-eight days prior to the Annual General Meeting the Secretary shall invite nominations for the Committee, and where there are more nominations than there are vacancies to fill, an election by postal ballot shall take place, the arrangements for which shall be under the management of the Committee. The result of any such election shall be declared at the Annual General Meeting. If for any reason whatsoever a vacancy shall occur on the Committee, such casual vacancy shall be filled by the Committee, and the person appointed shall continue in office until the expiry of the current term of three years for which his/her predecessor was appointed. The Committee year will begin and end on the date of the A.G.M. No Officer or Committee member of another Beagle Breed Club is eligible to serve as an Officer or Committee member of this Club.

## **MEETINGS**

**29.** An Annual General Meeting must be held each year, prior to May 31st, to receive the reports of the Committee and audited annual accounts for the previous calendar year and to discuss any resolution on the Agenda of which prior notice has been given in writing to the Hon. Secretary. No business will be transacted at an Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof appears on the Agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those which in the opinion of the Chairman of the Meeting are urgent. Notice of the Annual General Meeting will appear in the December edition of the Club Magazine 'This Is The Beagle'. Items for the Agenda should be submitted in

writing, proposed and seconded by fully paid up members and sent to reach the Hon. Secretary no later than twenty-eight days prior to the meeting.

The Agenda for the Annual General Meeting will be available from the Secretary upon receipt of a S.A.E. fourteen days prior to the meeting. A Special General Meeting may be summoned by the Secretary at the request of the Committee, or on the requisition in writing of at least twenty-five Members of the Club specifying the business to be transacted. No business other than that specified in the notice shall be brought before a Special General Meeting. Not less than fourteen clear days notice must be given of all General Meetings.

**30.** The Committee shall meet at convenient times and where necessary, but not less than four times in any one year.

### **QUORUM**

**31.** The Quorum for General Meetings shall be twenty-five Members personally present, and for meetings of the Committee four Members personally present.

### **VOTING**

**32.** At all meetings of the Club, or of the Committee, voting shall be by a show of hands or by ballot at the discretion of the Chairman, and one vote shall be allowed to each Member personally present and in accordance with rules 9, 10 & 11. The Chairman shall have a casting vote as well as a deliberate vote.

### **PROPERTY**

**33.** The property of the Club shall be vested in the Officers and the Committee for the time being. Trophies owned by the Club shall at all times be kept fully insured.

### **SHOWS, FIELD MEETINGS AND MATCHES**

**34.** The organisation of shows, meets or matches with other Clubs or Societies shall be at the discretion and under the absolute control of the Committee.

### **AGREEMENT**

**35.** The payment of membership subscription shall be deemed to be an implied agreement on the part of the Member to abide by the rules of the Club.

## **DISSOLUTION**

**36.** The dissolution of the Club may be determined in the following manner, viz:  
On the unanimous recommendation of the Committee, or on the requisition of not less than one-third of the Members of the Club, a Special General Meeting shall be called by the Secretary giving twenty-one days clear notice of the place, date, hour and purpose of the meeting, and such dissolution shall take place only when decided upon by a resolution carried by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present at the meeting.

**37.** On dissolution the assets shall be realised and the funds of the Club remaining after liquidation of all its just liabilities shall be distributed in such manner as the Special General Meeting shall decide by a resolution carried by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present at the meeting.

A final statement of audited 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 Committee of the Club on the last return furnished to The Kennel Club, will be held responsible by The Kennel Club for the proper winding-up of the Club.

## **ALTERATION OF RULES**

**38.** Any alteration of these Rules shall be made only by the vote of a two-thirds majority of Members present at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, and such alteration shall not be brought into force until the Kennel Club has been advised and given its approval of the alteration. Notice of intention to move any alteration must be given in writing to the Secretary, twenty-eight days before the date of such meeting. The Secretary shall inform all Members of such proposed alterations at least fourteen days before such General Meeting.

New rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately and be included in the Clubs' Constitution/Rules with effect from the Club's Annual General Meeting.

## **INTERPRETATION**

**39.** The Kennel Club shall be the final authority for the interpretation of the rules and regulations of the Society and in all cases relative to Canine or Society matters.



# The Beagle Club Breeders Code Of Conduct & General Code of Ethics

(As distributed to all Breed Clubs by The Kennel Club)

All members of the The Beagle Club undertake to abide by its general Code of Ethics.

## **Club members:**

- 1) Will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
- 2) 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.
- 3) Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
- 4) Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
- 5) Will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
- 6) Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.
- 7) Will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
- 8) Will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
- 9) 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) In accordance with their letter dated 10 December 2008, the Kennel Club has approved the retention of The Beagle Club's Breeders Code of Conduct as additional clauses to the General Code of Ethics. Paragraphs 16 to 37 below therefore restate the Beagle Club's Code of Conduct for Breeders.

**16) Purpose of Breeding.**

All breeding shall be aimed at the improvement of the breed.

**17) Breeding from Sound Stock.**

Members should discourage breeding from inferior stock and give careful consideration to temperament, soundness, health and type. Owners of stud dogs should refuse services to inferior bitches.

**18) Care of Bitches.**

No bitch should be required to have an excessive number of litters, and no bitch should be mated at successive seasons without regard to her health.

**19) Care of Litter.**

A member should not breed a litter unless he/she has the time and the facilities to devote proper care and attention to the rearing of puppies and the well-being of dam. A member should not provide stud services unless satisfied the owner of the bitch also has such time and facilities.

20) A member should not breed a litter unless reasonably sure of finding homes for the puppies.

**21) Sale of Puppies.**

The breeder should check prospective purchasers for suitability and inform them of the characteristics of the Beagle and the responsibility of dog ownership. Puppies should not be sold to homes where they will be alone for long periods during the day.

22) In normal circumstances, puppies should not leave their breeder until they are eight weeks old, and the breeder should sell only those which to the best of his/her knowledge are in good health. A puppy which has any physical defect or which has

any definite departure from the Breed Standard should not be sold without the buyer being made fully aware of such defect and its possible consequences.

**23)** A breeder should not knowingly sell puppies to laboratories, pet shops, dog dealers or to persons known to be acting for the above. Stud services should not be provided for such persons. Note: A dealer is defined as any person who regularly buys puppies to sell for a profit. A person who buys a puppy or puppies for a known individual is not necessarily a dealer.

**24)** A breeder should not sell or offer a puppy as a prize in a raffle or competition and should be wary of anyone buying a puppy as a present for someone else, especially at Christmas time.

**25) Overseas Sales.**

The implementation and interpretation of anti-cruelty laws can differ from country to country. A breeder should exercise great care in selling to a country where he/she has any doubt regarding its internal policy. The Kennel Club, R.S.P.C.A. or D.E.F.R.A. may provide some guidance and should be consulted for further information.

**26)** Puppies should not be exported until they are at least 12 weeks old unless travelling in the personal care of the new owner or their representative. For those travelling alone, a reputable canine exporting company should be used.

**27)** The breeder should take every care in ascertaining up-to-date and accurate details of the health regulations of the importing country. The best sources are a Veterinary Surgeon and D.E.F.R.A.

**28) Registration, Documents and Information.**

The breeder should register each litter with the Kennel Club and comply with relevant K.C. regulations concerning the registration of any puppy they wish to register. They should not hesitate to endorse any registration if applicable under K.C. Regulation B11.

**29)** When selling a puppy of registered parentage the breeder must provide the buyer with partly completed K.C. Registration Certificate and inform the buyer how to transfer ownership. The purchaser of a puppy born from unregistered or partly registered parents should be informed the puppy cannot be registered with the Kennel Club.

**30)** The breeder should also provide each purchaser at the time of sale with a signed pedigree certificate which to the best of his/her knowledge is accurate and written information about the care of a Beagle covering at least the following items: Diet from puppy to adult, worming, grooming, inoculations, training, exercise and basic health. It's hoped the breeder will also give information about The Beagle Club and consider proposing the purchaser for membership.

**31) After Sales Service.**

Whenever possible, the breeder should provide assistance or give advice to the purchaser of a puppy should a problem subsequently arise. The purchaser should be made aware of this at the time of sale and encouraged to contact the breeder about any problem.

**32)** Should circumstances arise making it impossible or undesirable for the puppy to stay with its new owner, the breeder should, whenever possible, take it back. If the breeder is unable to take it back, he/she should inform the owner how to contact Beagle Welfare and provide all possible help in finding a suitable home for the puppy.

**33) Loan of Bitch for Breeding.**

Any agreement of the loan of a bitch for breeding purposes should be entered into with great care. The parties concerned each should have a written copy of the agreement signed by each party. It is recommended that the Kennel Club regulations for loan or use of a bitch for breeding purposes be used. (See K.C. Regs. B, Annex C).

**34) Advertising.**

Breeders and owners of Stud dogs should be as factual as possible when advertising. Misleading statements, exaggerations or unfounded implications of superiority should not be used. Untrue or unfair statements about other persons' stock should not be made.

**35) Assistance from Breed Club.**

Any breeder experiencing a problem over any part of this code should seek assistance from The Beagle Club through its secretary.

**36)** The Beagle Club expects all of its members concerned with the breeding, acquisition or disposal of Beagles to conduct their business in an ethical manner whilst at the same time conforming to the rules of The Beagle Club and The Kennel Club.

**37)** Overseas members are expected to follow the spirit of this code whilst conforming to the rules of their governing Kennel Club.