

CARIBE KENNEL CLUB CONSTITUTION

Article I

Name and Objectives

Section 1. The name of the Club shall be Caribe Kennel Club.

Section 2. The objects of the Club shall be:

- (a) To further the advancement of all breeds of pure-bred dogs.
- (b) To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of all breeds of pure-bred dogs and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows and obedience and agility trial.
- (c) To conduct sanctioned matches, dog shows and obedience and agility trials under the rules of the American Kennel Club.

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 by-laws as may be required to carry out these objectives.

BY-LAWS

Article I

Membership

Section 1. Eligibility. There shall be one type of membership open to all persons eighteen years of age and older who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club.

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 are.

Section 2. Dues. Membership dues shall be no less than \$15.00 and no more than \$35.00 per year, payable on or before the 1st day of April of each year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of February the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his dues for the ensuing year. The board of Directors by majority vote may change the dues for the coming year prior the February of current year within the range stated above.

Section 3. Election to Membership Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by this constitution and by-laws, (copy to be provided with each application), and the rules of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address and occupation of the applicant and shall carry the endorsement of two members.

All applications are to be filled with the Secretary and each application is to be read at the first meeting of the Club following its receipt. Prospective members are required to attend at least one general meeting and two other club activities before his or her application is voted upon. This requirement will be waived for all membership applications where the prospective member is a nonresident of Puerto Rico. At the next Club meeting the application will be voted upon and affirmative votes of the simple majority 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 reapply within the next six months after such rejection.

Section 4. Termination of Membership. Memberships shall 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 days after the first day of 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.

A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated after the last regular meeting of the natural year if such membership does not comply with Article II, Section 1, paragraph 4. However, the Board may waive this requirement in meritorious cases.

- c) By Expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VI of these by-laws.
- d) By-Termination. The Board of Directors has the authority to terminate the membership of any member who has been founded in violation of the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club, the Caribe Kennel Club or any other entity governing dog shows in Puerto Rico.
- e) Reinstallation. Any member whose membership has lapsed because of unpaid dues but who has continued to participate in dog shows and any other club activities may be reinstated as a member by requesting reinstatement and paying their dues for the current year.

- f) Re-apply. Members whose membership has lapsed because of unpaid dues and who have not participated in any show shows or other club activities for a period of one year or more shall have to apply for new membership under the Article 1 Section 3 pertaining to membership.

Article II

Meetings and Voting

Section 1. Club Meetings. Meetings of Club shall be held within 25 miles of the City of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico. The Club Shall have a minimum of four meetings a year held on a quaterly basis. Written notice of each such meeting shall be given by the Secretary at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be 20% of the members in good standing. In the event that such a quorum is not achieved, a second meeting will be called not later than one hour after the first meeting was called for, and quorum shall be those members present. Written notice of the second meeting shall be given by the Secretary along with the notice of the general quartly meeting. Membership will be required to attend not less than three regular Club meetings or work in five official Club activities, or a combination of both. Also assignments given by the Board or by the general assembly will be considered as one of these activities. For this purpose, family memberships will be considered as one.

Section 2. Special Club Meetings. Special Club meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority vote of the members of the Board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held within 25 miles of the City of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico. At such place, date and hour as maybe 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 5 days and not more than 15 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 meeting shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

Section 3. Board Meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held with in 25 miles of the City of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, at least 5 days before The general Club meeting, at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board. Written notice of such meeting shall be given by the Secretary at least 5 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

Section 4. Special Board Meeting. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President, and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held within 25 miles of the City of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person authorized here in to call such a meeting. Written or electronic notice of such meeting shall be sent by the Secretary at least 5 days and not more than 10 days prior the date of the meeting. 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 member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to one vote for individual membership and two votes for family membership at any meeting of the Club at which he is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any club meeting or election.

Article III

Directors and Officers

Section 1. Board Meeting. The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and three other persons all of whom shall be member in good standing and all of whom shall be elected for one year term at Club's annual meeting as provided in Article IV and shall serve until their successors are elected. The offices of President and Vice-President may not be held for more than two year consecutive terms. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

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 meeting.

- (a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and the Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally pertinent to the office of President in addition to those particularly 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 Club. He or she shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify new members of their election to membership, notify officers and directors of their election, keep a roll of the member of the Club with their addresses, 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 or she shall deposit the same in a bank designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. His or her books shall be at all times open to inspection of the Board, and he or 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. At the annual meeting he or she shall render an 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.

Section 3. Vacancies. Any vacancies occurring on the Board or among the officers during the year shall be filled until the next annual election by a majority vote of all the current members of the Board at its first regular meeting following the occurrence of such

vacancy in the office of the 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.

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Section 4. All members of the Board of Directors shall take an active part in all club activities. This includes attendance at least once a month wherever possible at

conformation, obedience and agility classes as well as participation in shows, matches and promotional activities held by Caribe Kennel Club.

ARTICLE IV

The Club, Year, Annual Meeting, Elections

Section 1. Club's year. The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of April and ends on the 31st day of March.

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 April, at which officers and Directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret, written ballot from among the nominated in accordance with **Section 3** of this Article. They shall take office immediately upon the conclusion of the election and the retiring officers shall turn over to his or her successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the election.

Section 3. 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 committee members of their selection. The Board shall name a Chairman for the Committee and it shall be his or 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 three candidates for the other positions in the Board, and after securing the consent of each person so nominated, shall immediately report this nomination to the Secretary in writing.
- b) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee report the Secretary shall notify each member in writing of the candidates nominated with written notice of the March meeting.
- c) Additional nominations may be made at the March meeting by any member in attendance provided that the person so nominated accepts when his name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at the meeting, his or her proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement for the proposed candidate signifying his or her willingness to be a candidate. No person shall be a candidate for more than one position, and the additional nominations which are provided for herein may be made only from those members who have not accepted nomination from the Nominating Committee.
- 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 dog shows, obedience and agility trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other fields which may well be served by committees. Such committees may also be appointed by the Board to aid it on particular projects.

Section 2. Any committee appointed 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 services have 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 the like period.

Section 2. Charges. Any member shall press charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club or the sport. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$20.00 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

ARTICLE VI

Discipline

actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the interests of the Club. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interest of the Club, it may refuse to exercise jurisdiction.

If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges it shall fix a date for a hearing by the Board no later than three weeks nor more than six 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 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 by a majority vote of those present, shall suspend the defendant from all privileges of the club for no more than six months from the date of the hearing and if deems that punishment is 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 or her fellow-members at the ensuing Club meeting which consider the Board 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 Boards decisions 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 approved in **Section 3** of this Article. Such proceeding may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within 60 days, but not earlier than 30 days, after the date of the Board's recommendation. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his or her own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at the meeting. The Presidents shall read the charges and the Boards findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendants if present to speak in his or her own behalf if he or she wishes. A 2/3 vote of those present and voting at the meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not voted, the Board suspension shall stand.

Section 5. Discipline. All Club activities will be governed by the code of discipline of the Caribe Kennel Club.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to the constitution-bylaws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by twenty percent of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted by the Secretary to the members with recommendations of the Board for a vote within three months of the date when the petition was received.

Section 2. The constitution-by laws may be amended by a 2/3 of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for the purpose, provided that 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 no less than 2/3 of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club other than for purpose 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 of business, so far as the character and nature of the meeting permit, shall be as follows:

- Roll call
- Minutes of last meeting
- Report of the President
- Report of the Secretary
- Report of the Treasurer
- Report of the Committees
- Election of the Officers
- Election of new members
- Unfinished business
- New business
- Adjournment