

CONSTITUTION

Section 1 Name. The name of the Club shall be the Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Incorporated.

Section 2. Objects. The objects of the Club shall be:

(a) to encourage and promote the responsible breeding of purebred Alaskan Malamutes and to do all possible to bring their 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 the Alaskan Malamute shall be judged;

(c) to do all in its power to advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsman-like competition at dog shows, sledge dog trials and obedience trials;

(d) to conduct sanctioned matches and license events under the Rules and Regulations of The American Kennel Club; and

(e) to encourage the organization of independent local Alaskan Malamute clubs in those localities where there are sufficient fanciers of the breed to meet the requirements of the American Kennel Club.

Section 3. The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit. No part of any profits or remainder or residue from dues or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any members or individual.

Section 4. The members of the Club shall adopt, and may from time to time revise, such Bylaws as may be required to carry out these objects.

AMCA BYLAWS

(Amended by Membership Vote, July 2026)

ARTICLE I-Membership

Section 1. Eligibility. There shall be five types of membership.

(a) **Regular Membership** is open to all persons eighteen years and older who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club (AKC), who are interested in the breed, and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club and to its Code of Ethics. All regular members who are members in good standing shall have one vote for the election of each officer and director, and one vote on each issue upon which the regular membership is entitled to vote.

(b) **Associate Membership** is open to all persons eighteen years and older who are in good standing with the AKC, who are interested in the breed, and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club and to its Code of Ethics. An Associate Member shall enjoy all the privileges of Regular Membership except: the right to vote, the ability to hold office, be included in AMCA breeder listings, use the AMCA logo on personal websites or advertising materials, and the ability to chair a committee. An Associate Member shall not count in the determination of a quorum. At any point after being approved as an Associate Member by the Board of Directors, an Associate Member may apply for Regular Membership by following the application process for Regular Membership. An Associate Member is not required to apply for Regular Membership and may continue as an Associate Member for an indefinite period of time.

(c) **Junior Membership** is open to all persons under eighteen years of age who are interested in the breed and subscribe to the purposes of this Club. Junior membership offers all Club benefits and participation, except that Junior Members may not vote or hold office. Junior Membership shall continue through the calendar year in which the junior member reaches

eighteen years of age. In the following year, the Junior Member's membership will automatically convert to Regular Membership, provided the Junior Member submits a signed Membership Renewal form, along with the appropriate fee, to the Corresponding Secretary.

(d) **Lifetime Membership** is available to those individuals who have been members for 30 consecutive years. Life members pay no dues but are eligible to vote and hold office.

(e) **Affiliated Club Membership** is open to those Alaskan Malamute Breed Clubs which meet the requirements set by the Board of Directors in the standing rules governing local club affiliation. Affiliated clubs shall not be entitled to vote or hold office.

Election to membership of the club shall be voted on by the board, through a secret ballot.

Section 2. Fees and Dues.

(a) **Fees.** Processing fees and any other fees to be paid by each applicant for membership in this club shall be as prescribed by the Board of Directors.

(b) **Dues.** The annual dues for membership shall be set by the Board of Directors except that any cumulative or total annual increase in excess of twenty percent (20%) must be approved by a vote of the Club's regular membership, conducted in accordance with ARTICLE IV, SECTION 2.

(c) **Dues Notification.** By December 31 of each year each member shall be sent a statement of his dues for the ensuing fiscal year, January 1 to December 31. Absent Board intervention, the membership of any member whose dues remain unpaid after March 31 shall have his membership lapse. (see ARTICLE 1 SECTION 5 (b)). Upon request and at its sole discretion the Board may grant a grace period during which payment may be made, or reduce or waive the dues requirement for any particular member due to hardship. Dues will be considered paid if payment is mailed on or before March 31, and the postmark will govern. The Board of Directors shall decide any dispute regarding payment of dues.

Section 3. Election to Membership.

The Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Inc. (AMCA) is a voluntary association. The Club's membership application process, procedures and forms shall be those adopted by the Board of Directors, subject to the following requirements: Each applicant for membership shall apply in the manner and on those forms as approved by the Board of Directors. Each applicant must agree to abide by the AMCA Constitution, By-laws and Code of Ethics, and the rules of the American Kennel Club.

Each applicant's application for Regular or Junior Membership shall carry the written and executed endorsement of two regular members of the Club in good standing who live in different households and have agreed to sponsor the applicant for membership. Withdrawal of endorsement by one or both sponsors shall render the application incomplete and it will be returned to the applicant. If, at the time of consideration of the application by the Board, either sponsor is no longer a member in good standing, the application shall be considered incomplete and returned to the applicant. Incomplete applications for Junior Membership will be returned to the applicant. For any application for Regular Membership that is considered incomplete due to lack of eligible sponsors, the applicant will be given the option of having the incomplete application returned to him or her to acquire the appropriate sponsors, or having the membership application submitted as a completed application for Associate Membership. For any application for Regular Membership submitted by an Associate Member, the applicant will remain an Associate Member until the applicant's name appears in the Newsletter as a newly-elected Regular Member.

Each applicant shall pay any fees and dues when required, in accordance with the application process and procedures adopted by the Board of Directors.

The applicant's name and relevant information shall be published in the Club Newsletter for

consideration by the Club's members, who will be allowed a reasonable period of time within which to comment regarding each applicant. Any comments received will be considered privileged communication, the contents of which must not be disclosed.

Affirmative votes of 2/3 of the Board of Directors shall be required to elect an applicant. The name and address of an applicant who has been properly elected to membership shall be published in the Club Newsletter. Membership of the elected applicant shall begin with the date of publication of the Newsletter in which the applicant's name appears as a newly elected member.

Applicants for any type of membership who have been rejected may not reapply for six (6) months, except that an application for Regular Membership or Junior Membership which has received a negative vote by the Board may be presented by one of the applicant's endorsers at the next Annual Meeting of the Club and, following discussion, the Club may elect such applicant by favorable vote of seventy-five percent (75%) of the regular members present.

Section 4. Member in Good Standing

A member in good standing shall be any duly elected member (in accordance with ARTICLE 1, SECTION 3) whose membership privileges are not suspended as a result of disciplinary action (in accordance with ARTICLE VI), and who has met his financial obligations to the Club, including dues and all other amounts that the member has become obligated to pay to the Club or any committee thereof. If any amount owed to the Club by a member shall remain unpaid ninety (90) days after notice to pay said amount is received from the Board of Directors, then the member owing said amount shall automatically lose his status as a member in good standing and shall be suspended from all rights and privileges in the Club until the amount so owed is paid. No regular member may vote who is not a member in good standing.

Section 5. Termination of Membership

(a) **By Resignation.** Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary. Members who are not members in good standing may not terminate their membership by resignation until any and all outstanding debts are paid in full.

(b) **By Lapsing Membership.** 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 Financial/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 lapsed membership may be reinstated, upon Board approval, within the 90-day grace period upon payment of the current annual dues and a late fee to be determined by the Board at the beginning of each calendar year. If it is not changed the fee will revert to the last time such fee was determined. A lapsed member is not entitled to receipt of the AMCA Newsletter nor to any other privileges of the membership. The AMCA is under no obligation to provide back issues of the Newsletter or other mailings to those who missed the same by virtue of their late renewal of membership.

(c) **By Expulsion.** Membership of any member may be terminated by expulsion as provided in ARTICLE VI, Section 5 of these Bylaws.

ARTICLE II-DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Section 1. Board of Directors.

The Board shall consist of the president, vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer, and six (6) directors-at-large, all of whom shall be regular or lifetime members in good standing and who are residents of the United States. Three directors-at-large shall be elected at each Annual Meeting, and shall serve for two years or until their successors

are elected or vacancies are filled as provided in ARTICLE II, SECTION 4 of these Bylaws. General management of all affairs of the club shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors. Each Board member shall be responsible for conducting these affairs through a monthly exchange, as provided in ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, of these Bylaws. Failure to participate fully in Board discussions and voting may be grounds for a charge of dereliction of duty, as provided in ARTICLE II, SECTION 3.

Section 2. Officers

The officers of the club, consisting of president, ~~one~~ vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, and treasurer, shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the club and its meetings, and the Board meetings.

The officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting, and shall serve for two years or until their successors are elected or vacancies are filled as provided in ARTICLE II, SECTION 4 of these Bylaws. The president, vice president, and treasurer shall be elected together in years alternating with the recording secretary and corresponding secretary.

(a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the club and Board and shall be entitled to vote at such meetings. He/she shall exercise the usual functions of a presiding officer and shall enforce a strict observance of the Constitution and Bylaws.

(b) The Vice President shall carry out such duties and functions as may be directed by the Board, and shall have the power to act and exercise the duties of the president in the absence of the president. In case of death or incapacity of the president, the vice president will undertake all duties and functions of the presidency.

(c) The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the club and of the Board and all other matters of which record shall be ordered by the Board; and shall be responsible for notifying the membership of meetings and other matters directed by the Board.

(d) The Corresponding Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence of the club and shall also be responsible for notifying new members of their election to membership. He/she shall furnish each applicant household with a copy of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Code of Ethics, keep a roll of the members' names and addresses and carry out such other actions, duties and functions as may be directed by the Board.

(e) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due and belonging to the club and receipt therefore. He/she shall deposit same in a bank satisfactory to the Board, in the name of the club, and shall pay out such sums as are required to implement activities and functions which are formally authorized by the Board. The books shall be, at all times, open to inspection by the Board and he/she shall report to the Board at every meeting, or as otherwise required, the condition of the finances of the club, and every item of receipt or payment not before reported. At the Annual Meeting he/she shall render an account of all moneys received and expended during the previous club year. The club shall be insured in such amount and through a type of policy as the Board of Directors shall determine which will cover the actions of the Treasurer. The premium on such bond shall be paid out of the funds of the club.

Officers and Directors shall participate fully in Board discussions and voting, and always act in a manner consistent with the best interests of the entire Board of Directors and the Club.

Section 3. Misconduct or dereliction of duty in office.

Misconduct shall be construed to be the failure of a Board member (officer or director-at-large) to abide by the standing rules of this Constitution and Bylaws. Dereliction of duty shall be construed to be the failure of any Board member (officer or director-at-large) to perform the duties of the Board position elected to, as outlined in these Bylaws. Should a Board member

refuse to resign for cause, that is, misconduct or dereliction of duty in office, the Board member in question can be deposed from office or directorship by one of the following:

(a) a two-thirds vote of all the members of the Board, after the subject Board member has been provided an opportunity to respond;

(b) a petition by 20% of the regular membership requiring the Board to immediately present to the regular membership a ballot for or against removing a specific Board member for cause, so long as the subject Board member is provided an opportunity to respond. Removal shall require the assent of two-thirds (2/3) of those regular members voting.

Charges may be preferred by any member in good standing as provided in ARTICLE VI of these By-laws. Any vacancy occurring on the Board as a result of a deposed Board member shall be filled as provided in ARTICLE II, SECTION 4 of these Bylaws.

Section 4. Vacancies

Any vacancies occurring on the Board or among the officers during the year shall be filled for the remainder of the current term by a majority vote of all the then members of the Board, except that a vacancy in the office of president shall be filled automatically by the vice-president for the remainder of the term, and the resulting vacancy in the office of vice-president shall be filled by the Board.

Section 5. AKC Delegate

Every three (3) years the Board of Directors shall appoint a regular member of the club, who may be a member of the Board, to serve as delegate to the American Kennel Club. The delegate serves at the pleasure of the Board and may serve unlimited terms. Unless the appointment has been withdrawn by the Board, or the delegate has resigned, the delegate shall serve until the credentials of his successor have been approved by the AKC.

Section 6. Policy

The Board of Directors shall interpret the Constitution and Bylaws, and may from time to time, as required, make regulations and establish procedures on matters not herein provided.

ARTICLE III MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the club shall be held in the months of September through November in conjunction with the club's National specialty show if possible, at a place, date, and hour as may be designated by the Board. Written notice of the annual meeting shall be published in the newsletter and/or sent via email to all club members by the Recording Secretary a minimum of 30 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for the annual meeting shall be ten (10) percent of the eligible voting members in good standing as of that date. Non-voting members do not count towards the determination of a quorum. The meeting will be held in person when possible, and in all cases in accordance with the current edition of the *Appendix to Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*. The meeting may be held by methods such as electronic, virtual, teleconference or methods as may be developed, according to New Hampshire State Law, when authorized by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Special Club Meeting

Special club meetings may be called:

- (a) by the president, by a majority vote of the regular members of the Board present at a meeting of the Board, or who vote by electronic means
- (b) or by the secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by 10% of the members of the club who are in good standing.

Such special meetings shall be held by methods, such as electronic, virtual, teleconference or methods as may be developed in accordance with New Hampshire State Law, to be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be sent via USPS and/or via email by the Recording Secretary thirty (30) 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 at the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be ten (10) percent of the eligible voting members in good standing. Non-voting members do not count towards the determination of a quorum.

Section 3. Board Meetings and Business

- (a) **Board Meetings.** The first meeting of the Board shall be held within a 48-hour period of the Annual Meeting declaring the election results following the election. Other meetings of the Board shall be held by methods such as electronic, virtual, teleconference or methods as may be developed, in accordance with New Hampshire State Law, as designated by the Board. Written notice of each such meeting shall be sent via USPS and/or via email or other electronic means by the Recording Secretary at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board. If an ad hoc meeting is required with urgency, the 14-day notice requirement may be waived with a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Board.
- (b) **Board Business.** The Board may also conduct business by telephone conference or video conference or by any other methods such as electronic, virtual, or methods as may be developed. Items voted upon by any method other than "in-person" meetings must be confirmed in writing by the Recording Secretary or President within seven days.

ARTICLE IV- THE CLUB YEAR, VOTING, NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS

Section 1. Club year

The fiscal year of the club shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31. 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. The elected officers and directors shall take office upon the conclusion of the election at the Annual meeting. Each retiring officer shall turn over to his/her successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the election.

Section 2. Voting

At the Annual Meeting (or at any special meeting of the club) voting shall be limited to those regular and lifetime members in good standing whose dues are paid for the Financial/Fiscal year and who are present at the meeting.

The annual election of officers and directors, amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws, annual increase in dues in excess of 20%, or changes to the standard for the breed shall be decided by ballot, either mail or electronic, or a combination that permits all regular members to

participate, directed to such person and place as the Board may designate. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted at any club meeting or election. The Board of Directors may submit other specific questions to the regular members for decision by ballot, conducted as above.

Section 3. Annual election

The election of officers and directors shall be conducted by secret ballot in any manner provided for by the laws of the state in which the club is incorporated (New Hampshire). Ballots to be valid must be received by an independent professional/third party agency designated by the board before the deadlines set by the board. Paper ballots may be received by the Elections Committee using procedures according to ARTICLE IV, Section 4. Ballots shall be counted by the independent professional/third party agency hired to send, receive and count ballots prior to the annual meeting, as provided under ARTICLE IV, Section 4 of these Bylaws. In the event of a tie, consideration will be given to the geographic location and familial relationship of the board members to ensure diverse representation, as determined by the seated board prior to the Annual meeting.

Section 4. Nominations and ballots

No person may be a candidate in a club election who has not been nominated in accordance with these Bylaws. A nominating committee shall be chosen by the Board of Directors before February 15. The committee shall consist of five (5) members from different areas of the USA and two (2) alternates, all regular members in good standing (none of whom may be a member of the current Board of Directors). The Board shall name a chairman for the committee according to the Standing Rules. The nominating committee may conduct its business by mail, by teleconference, or by such other means as permit all committee members to participate.

- (a) The nominating committee shall nominate, from among the eligible members of the club, one candidate for each office and for each other position on the Board of Directors, and shall procure the acceptance of each nominee so chosen. The committee should carefully consider geographical representation and any familial relationships of the membership on the Board to the extent that it is practicable to do so. The committee shall then submit its candidates to the Board not later than March 31. The Recording Secretary shall publish the list (including the full name of each candidate and the name of the state in which he/she resides) in the club newsletter on or before June 30, in order that additional nominations may be made by the members if they so desire.
- (b) Additional nominations of eligible members may be made by written petition addressed to the Recording Secretary and received at his/her regular address on or before August 1. To be valid such petitions: must be signed by five (5) regular members; may be made only from among those members who have not accepted a nomination of the nominating committee; and must be accompanied by the written acceptance of each such additional nominee signifying willingness to be a candidate.
- (c) No person shall be a candidate for more than one position. Any member of the Board who seeks election to an alternate Board seat while still having a year to serve on his/her existing term shall be required to resign that existing seat at the time of acceptance of nomination or petition to said alternate Board seat. Any vacancy occurring on the Board as a result of this requirement shall be filled as provided in ARTICLE II, SECTION 4 of these Bylaws.
- (d) If no valid additional nominations are received by the recording secretary on or before August 1, no balloting will be required, and the nominating committee's candidates shall be declared elected at the time of the Annual Meeting.
- (e) If one or more valid additional nominations are received by the Recording Secretary on or before August 1, the Elections Committee chair or an independent professional agency designated by the Board shall, on or before September 1, send to each member in good standing a ballot listing all of the nominees for each position in alphabetical order, with the

names of the states in which they reside, by electronic means (or by trackable shipping means for US members only, together with a blank envelope and a return envelope addressed to the designated professional firm or recipient) marked "Ballot" and bearing the name of the member to whom it was sent. So that the ballots may remain secret, each mail-in voter, after marking their ballot, shall seal it in the blank envelope, which in turn shall be placed in the second envelope and return it in accordance with the directions provided addressed to the Elections Committee Chair or designated third party agency. The inspectors of election (Election committee members) or designated third party agency shall check the mailed-in returns against the list of members in good standing prior to opening the outer envelopes and removing the blank envelopes and shall certify the eligibility of the voters. A second party or the designated third-party agency/professional firm, shall verify the paper ballot entries as well as the results of the voting. Electronic ballots shall be similarly verified, secured and tabulated by the designated third-party agency. Electronic ballots must be returned on or before midnight (12.00AM) Eastern Daylight Time, 2 Days prior to the Annual Meeting; and paper ballots must be received 7 days prior to the Annual Meeting, to be valid. Results shall be considered final and announced at the Annual Meeting.

- (f) Nominations cannot be made at the Annual Meeting or in any manner other than as provided above.

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, trophies, annual prizes, membership, and other fields which may be best served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board. The Board may also appoint special ad hoc committees to assist in particular projects.

Section 2. Any committee or other board appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board, upon written notice to the appointee. The Board may appoint successors to any terminated committee member or club appointment.

ARTICLE VI- DISCIPLINE

Section 1. American Kennel Club Suspension

Any member who is suspended from any of the privileges of the AKC will automatically be suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period. American Kennel Club suspensions are published monthly in the Secretary's page of the *AKC Gazette*.

Section 2. Charges

(a)**General Charges by Members.** An individual member may prefer charges against another individual member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the club. Written notarized charges containing specific facts signed under oath ("Charges") must be filed in duplicate with the Recording Secretary together with a deposit, the amount to be established by the Board which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained or entertained by the Board. The Recording Secretary shall promptly, within 14 days, send a copy of the Charges to each Board member or present them at a Board meeting. 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 for a hearing by the Board, or a

committee appointed by the Board, not less than four [4] weeks nor more than eight [8] weeks thereafter. The Recording Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the Charges to the accused member by certified mail return receipt requested, or other form of receipted or acknowledged delivery service, and set forth a time and place at which the accused may attend and present any defense, call witnesses or answer to the Charges.

(b) **General Charges by the Board.** The Board of Directors may, on its own motion, initiate a complaint against a member for conduct prejudicial to the Club or breed. All hearings on complaints brought by the Board on its own motion shall be referred to an AMCA appointed Committee on Discipline as provided in SECTION 3.

Section 3. AMCA appointed Committee on Discipline

An AMCA appointed ad hoc Committee on Discipline (CoD) shall be appointed from time to time by the Board of Directors, and shall consist of not less than three (3) regular members in good standing, no one of which shall be a member of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors may, at its sole discretion, refer to an AMCA CoD for hearing any complaint brought by a club member who is not a Board member. Hearing by an AMCA CoD is mandatory in all cases where the complaint is brought by the Board of Directors, or by or against a member of the Board.

The decision of the AMCA CoD in all cases referred to them shall be binding upon the Board of Directors and subject only to presentation or appeal to the general membership as provided in ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5.

Section 4. Complaint resolution

(a) **Resolution by Hearing.** If the Board determines a hearing is required, the Board, or a committee appointed by the Board, may hear the charges, in accordance with ARTICLE VI, Sections 2 and 3. The Board or the Board's appointed committee shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the hearing, but both complainant and accused shall be treated uniformly in that regard. Should the charges be sustained after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by complainant and accused, the Board or Board's appointed committee may by a majority vote of those present reprimand or suspend the accused from all privileges of the club for not more than six months from the date of the hearing. If the Board or the Board's appointed committee deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In that case, the suspension shall not restrict the respondent's right to appear before the general membership at the ensuing Club meeting that considers the recommendation of Board or Board Committee. Immediately after the Board or the Board's appointed committee has reached a decision, its finding shall be put in written form and filed with the Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the Board or the Board appointed committee decision and penalty, if any.

(b) **Conduct of Proceedings** Any proceeding held pursuant to the foregoing subsection (a) may be conducted in person or by teleconference call or other mechanical or electronic means subject to the approval of the Board or Board appointed committee.

(c) **Publication of Penalty.** Any penalty imposed will be published in the next Newsletter with the date of suspension (if any). Any official publication of penalty should only indicate that "Subsequent to a formal hearing, member [X] was officially [reprimanded] [suspended from all privileges of the club for a period of [?] months] as a result of charges filed by member [Y]".

Section 5. Expulsion

Expulsion of a member may be accomplished only at an annual meeting of the Club following a hearing or consideration of the complaint and upon recommendation of the Board of Directors, Board Committee or AMCA CoD as provided in SECTIONS 3 and 4 of this Article. The respondent shall be allowed to appear and to speak in his or her own behalf, although no additional evidence shall be taken at this time. The President shall read the complaint and the findings and recommendations, and shall invite the respondent, if present, to speak on his or her own behalf. The regular membership shall then vote by secret ballot on the proposed expulsion. If the expulsion is not so voted, the suspension shall stand.

ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws and to the Standard for the Breed may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Recording Secretary, submitted either by mail/delivery service or electronically and signed by twenty percent (20%) of the regular membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the regular members, with the recommendations of the Board, by the Recording Secretary for a vote within three (3) months of the date when the petition was received by the Recording Secretary. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws must be in accordance with the laws of the state of incorporation (New Hampshire).

Section 2. The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended at any time by secret ballot, either mail or electronic, or a combination that permits all regular members to participate. The Breed Standard can only be revised every 5 years. However transmitted, ballot packets shall include a copy of the proposed amendment and shall specify a deadline for return not less than 30 days after the date of mailing. Only those ballots received by the required deadline shall be valid. The counting of the ballots shall be in accordance with the provisions in ARTICLE IV, Section 4(e). The favorable vote of 2/3 of the regular members in good standing who return valid ballots within the time limit shall be required to put in effect any such amendment.

Section 3. No amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws or to the Standard for the Breed that is adopted by the Club shall become effective until it has been approved by the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club.

ARTICLE VIII PROPERTY

Section 1. Property

The interest of any member in the property of the Club ceases with the termination of his membership.

ARTICLE IX DISSOLUTION

Section 1. The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than 2/3 of the regular members in good standing and in accordance with the laws of the state of incorporation (New Hampshire). In the event of the dissolution of the Club other than for the 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 unless otherwise prohibited by New Hampshire State Law.

ARTICLE X PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules as contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, shall govern the club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any other special rules of order the club may adopt.

ARTICLE XI ORDER OF BUSINESS

Section 1. Club meetings

At meetings of the Club, the order of business, so far as the character of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows:

Roll Call

Minutes of Last Meeting

Report of Board of Directors

Report of President

Report of Recording Secretary

Report of Corresponding Secretary

Report of Treasurer

Report of Committees

Unfinished Business

New Business

Election of Officers and Directors (At Annual Meeting)

Adjournment

Section 2. Meetings of the board of directors

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

Minutes of Last Meeting

Report of Recording Secretary

Report of Corresponding Secretary

Report of Treasurer

Report of Committees

Election of New Members

Unfinished Business

New Business

Adjournment