

# Constitution

All members of the Korthals Griffon Club of Great Britain undertake to abide by the following as its constitution:

## 1) Club Members:

The Club shall be called 'The Korthals Griffon Club of Great Britain', hereinafter referred to as 'the Club' and its objects shall be:

### Objectives:

- To promote and protect the breed to fit the breed standard and to fulfil its role as a hunting, pointing, retrieving gundog.
- To co-operate with other Clubs and organisations with similar aims on a worldwide basis.
- The Club shall be run for the benefit of the members and not as a trading business. Any profit from any Club activity whatsoever will be retained and used to the benefit of the breed, including the Club's Rescue and Rehoming Service and education of members in all aspects of the Korthals Griffon breed.

## 2) Officers, Committee and Members

The Club can consist of an unlimited number of members. There are seven types of member as follows:

- President:** To be elected for a term of five years by secret ballot at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) of fully paid-up members, and who shall be entitled to attend meetings in a non-voting capacity.
- Vice Presidents:** There shall be as many Vice Presidents as the members shall determine. All Vice-Presidents shall be elected annually at the AGM by the members by a simple majority of those present and voting. Vice-Presidents shall, on acceptance of office, automatically become honorary life members of the Club.
- Executive Officers:** The Club shall have the following Executive Officers; Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, who shall be elected for a term of five years by secret ballot at an AGM of fully paid-up members.
- Members:** An unlimited number of members.

- e) **Honorary Life Members:** A person may be elected an honorary life member of the Club at a General Meeting on the recommendation of the Committee. A member who has paid their subscription for 15 or more years may be proposed as an honorary life member by any member of the Club. Notice of a proposal to elect an honorary member must appear on the agenda of a General Meeting. Honorary life members shall have all the rights and privileges of membership but shall not be liable to pay subscriptions.
- f) **Honorary Members:** The election of honorary members shall be vested in the Committee. Such members shall be exempted from paying the entrance fee or subscription but nevertheless shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership save the right to vote at General Meetings and eligibility for election to the Committee or any Sub-Committee.
- g) **Junior Members:** Those under the age of 16 may, on payment of a small fee, become Junior Members to have access to Club Benefits although no voting rights.

### 3) Committee and Management of the Club

- a) The management of the Club shall be in the hands of the following Officers of the Club; The President, the Hon Secretary, the Hon Treasurer and a Committee consisting of a maximum of nine members of whom one third shall retire annually on a three-year rotation. Members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election every three years. Any Committee member missing for than 50% of the meetings within one year, without good reason, must retire from the Committee but may offer themselves for re-election at the next AGM. Only fully paid-up members of the Club will be eligible to be Officers of the Club or to serve on the Committee, with the exception of Presidents and Vice Presidents.
- b) To avoid any conflict of interest, members and their spouses or partners cannot be elected to serve as an officer or committee member of the Korthals Griffon Club of Great Britain (Proposed) if they are a member of any other Korthals Griffon Breed Club, Society or Association.
- c) The Hon Secretary, the Hon Treasurer and the elected members of the Committee shall have full voting rights at Committee and General Meetings.
- d) The Committee shall elect from its members a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman to serve annually for the duration of the Committee and until their successors are appointed. The Chairman (or Vice-Chairman in their absence) shall have a casting vote in addition to their Committee vote if the need arises.

- e) The Committee shall elect from its members a Field Trial Secretary to serve annually for the duration of the Committee and until their successors are appointed.
- f) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members on to the Committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between General Meetings or to fill any position deemed necessary. Those co-opted shall only hold office until the next General Meeting of the Club at which an election of Officers and Committee takes place. Co-opted Committee members shall not have voting rights at a Committee meeting.
- g) Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as deemed necessary but will be at least four times in each year, one of which will be on the same day as the AGM.
- h) A quorum for Committee meetings shall be four elected members.

#### 4) Election of Members

Each application for membership, joint and individual, of the Club will be circulated to the Committee in a timely fashion for approval. Successful applications will become full members on receipt of their fully paid subscription.

The names of all members will be held by the Membership Secretary and shared with Committee members ONLY in order to fulfil the objectives of the Club. Use of the membership list will comply with the Club's privacy policy.

#### 5) Member Information

An up-to-date list of members' names and their addresses, and those of branch members (where appropriate), must be maintained and, if requested, the list of names must be made available for inspection by the Kennel Club and members of the Club. A declaration of the number of members of the Club must be made with Annual Returns.

#### 6) Voting Rights

Each single subscription member and each party of a joint subscription membership shall be entitled to an individual vote, upon acceptance of full Club membership.

#### 7) Club Property

The property of the Club shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Club ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of these assets, the outcome of which will be notified to the Kennel Club.

## 8) Club Accounts

- a) A bank account shall be held in the name of the Club into which all revenue of the Club shall be paid. Withdrawal shall only be made on the approval of any two from the Offices of Chairman, Hon Secretary and Hon Treasurer.
- b) The Hon Treasurer shall keep a record of all monies received or paid by the Club. An Auditor appointed for that purpose at the AGM shall audit the accounts, and a Statement of Accounts circulated to all Club members prior to the subsequent AGM together with the AGM agenda. Those certifying the accounts must be independent of the committee. The certified accounts will be made available on request to members fourteen days prior to the AGM. The Hon. Treasurer will produce an ongoing report in whatever format is required by the Committee for each Committee meeting.

## 9) Election of Members

- a) The annual subscriptions and classes of membership shall be in such an amount as agreed by members at a General Meeting and notified to the Kennel Club.
- b) The annual subscriptions are payable to the Hon Treasurer on the first of January every calendar year.
- c) No members whose subscription remains unpaid is entitled to any of the privileges of membership and if the member shall fail to pay outstanding subscriptions by first of February their name will be automatically erased from the register. Acceptance back on the register will be dependent upon a new application and payment of the annual subscription.

## 10) Expulsion of Members

Any member who shall be disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A11.j. (5) and/or Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(9) shall immediately cease to be a member of the Club.

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 interest, or Code of Ethics of the Club, the Committee of the Club may, at a meeting the notice of which includes an object the consideration of the conduct of the member, determine that a Special General Meeting (SGM) or at an appropriate part of the AGM, be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her. Notice of the SGM or item at the AGM shall be sent to the accused member giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and hour of that meeting in order that he/she may attend and offer an explanation.

If, at that meeting, two thirds of the voting members present pass a resolution to expel, then his/her name will immediately be removed from the list of members and he/she will cease for all purposes to be a member of the Club, except to be able to inform an appeal to the Kennel Club within two calendar months from the date of expulsion subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose.

## 11) Financial Year

The financial year of the Club will run from 1st January to 31st December each calendar year.

## 12) The Annual General Meeting

The AGM shall be held before 31st May of each calendar year for the following purposes:

- a) To receive the Report of the Committee and a Statement of the Accounts.
- b) To elect Officers and Committee members as required.
- c) To discuss any resolution duly proposed for the agenda of which 28-days notice has been given to the Hon Secretary. Such resolutions must be signed by either:
  - i. Two fully paid-up members of the Club, or
  - ii. The Club Hon Secretary on behalf of the CommitteeIn either case the resolution must be presented by a signatory 'in person'.
- d) To appoint the Auditors.
- e) No business shall be transacted at an AGM 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.
- f) Nominations for positions of Officers or Committee should be in writing and received by the Hon Secretary not later than 28 days prior to the AGM. The proposer must state their nominee is willing to serve.
- g) All nominations shall be proposed and seconded by fully paid-up members.
- h) The Hon Secretary will give not less than 42-days notice of an AGM to all members.

### 13) Special General Meeting

A special General Meeting (SGM) shall be summoned by the Hon Secretary if 8 members send in a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting an SGM to do so. The Hon Secretary shall arrange and subsequently give notice to all members of an SGM to take place not later than 30 days from the receipt of the request.

No business other than that detailed on the agenda can be discussed at an SGM.

The President shall normally Chair and General Meeting. However, should they decline or in their absence the meeting shall elect a Chairman from those present.

### 14) Amendments to Rules and Regulations

The Rules and Regulations of the Club may not be altered except at an AGM, the notice/agenda for which contains specific proposals to amend the rules. Any proposed alteration to the rules may not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has been advised and approved the alteration. New rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately.

### 15) The Annual Returns

The officers of the Club acknowledge that during the month of January each year, the Maintenance of Title fee will be sent by the Club Hon Secretary to the Kennel Club for the continuance of the Club registration and that by 31st July each year other returns as stipulated in Kennel Club regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of a Registered Breed Society will be forwarded to the Kennel Club.

The officers of the Club will also inform the Kennel Club of any changes to the holder of the position of Hon Secretary of the Club which may occur from time to time.

### 16) Kennel Club Final Authority

The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the rules of the Club in all cases relative to canine or Club matters.

### 17) Federation of Societies

The Club shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.

## 18) Judges List

The Club shall, when appropriate, produce a list of judges for the breed in accordance with Kennel Club rules and regulations.

## 19) Code of Ethics

All members shall endeavour to comply with the Club's Code of Ethics and, where appropriate, the Breeder's Code of Best Practice as amended from time to time and strive to promote and produce stock which is sound in mind and body that most fits the breed standard.