



CONSTITUTION OF

THE LOTHIAN AND BORDERS GUNDOG ASSOCIATION

- **NAME AND OBJECTS;**

This Association shall be called Lothian and Borders Gundog Association, and its objects are to promote the training of gundogs, and to hold Working Tests and Field Trials.

- **OFFICE-BEARERS, COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS**

The Association shall consist of a Patron or Patrons, Honorary President, Honorary Vice-President, and a Management Committee of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Retriever Secretary, Spaniel Secretary, HPR Secretary, and at least eight committee members, plus co-opted committee members as decided by the Management Committee; and an unlimited number of Association Members.

- **MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- The affairs of the Association shall be controlled by the Management Committee.
- The Management Committee shall be comprised of the following officer bearers – Chairman; Vice-Chairman; Honorary Secretary; Honorary Treasurer; Retriever Secretary; Spaniel Secretary, HPR Secretary; and at least eight ordinary members. All members of the Management Committee shall retire on a three-yearly basis in rotation at the Annual General Meeting, and all may stand and are eligible to be re-elected.
- The meetings of the Management Committee shall be held as often as deemed necessary but at least 4 times each year in a financial year, or as required and called by the Secretary
- Committee Members must attend at least one Committee Meeting per annum
- A quorum for Management Committee meetings shall be five.
- The Management Committee shall have the power to co-opt members onto the Committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between General Meetings or in the event of the Committee determining the need for additional member or members.
- To ensure smooth running of the Association, an Office-Bearer when appealed to, and after consultation with at least one member of the Management Committee, shall be authorised to take

decisions according to Association policy, providing they are unrelated and are not part of the same household, but must report fully at the next meeting of the Management Committee.

- A member of the Association is only eligible for election to the Management Committee having been a paid-up member for a full calendar year. Nominations and subsequent voting for membership of the Management Committee shall take place only at the Annual General Meeting. Only fully paid-up members shall be entitled to make nominations or to vote.
- The Chairman or other Office-Bearer in the Chair shall have the casting vote in the event of the Management Committee being equally divided.
- No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within the Association.

- **VOTING RIGHTS**

- Each Member shall be entitled to one vote immediately upon acceptance of membership.
- Voting of members attending the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting shall be by secret ballot or by show of hands as may be decided by the Chair of the Meeting.
- Election of Office bearers or committee:
 - Any member wishing to be elected as an office bearer or committee member must notify the secretary in writing **seven days** prior to the AGM and be nominated by two members and duly signed.

- **ELECTION OF MEMBERS**

- Candidates for membership shall be proposed by one member, seconded by another member and elected by the Management Committee at a Meeting.
- An up-to-date list of members and their addresses must be maintained and, if so requested, made available for inspection by the Kennel Club and members of the Association. A declaration of the number of members of the Association must be made with Annual Returns.

- **PATRONS, PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT**

Patrons, President and Vice President shall be invited and appointed by the Management Committee. These shall be lifetime appointments although they may be reviewed by Committee. These are honorary positions which do not have any voting rights and for which no subscription is payable.

- **HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS.**

A person may be awarded the accolade and be elected as an Honorary Life Member of the Association at a General Meeting on the recommendation of the Management Committee. Any ordinary member may recommend such an award to the Management Committee for consideration. Notice of proposal to elect Honorary Life Member must appear on the agenda of the General Meeting. Honorary Life

Members shall have all the rights and privileges of membership but shall not be liable to pay subscriptions.

- **FINANCIAL YEAR**

The Financial Year shall be from the first day of January to the last day of December following.

- **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Membership of the Association shall consist of two parts –

- Joining Fee
- Annual Membership Subscriptions;

Both of these shall be set annually at the AGM

Junior Membership – those persons under the age of twenty years may join the Association. They will pay neither a joining nor annual membership fee until they reach the age of 20 years, when they will pay only the annual membership fee from that date.

- **SUBSCRIPTION IN ARREARS**

No member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any privileges of membership, nor have any claim on the funds or assets of the Association; and if the member shall fail to pay outstanding subscriptions by **31st March**, his/her name will be erased from the register. Acceptance back on the register will be dependent on a new application for membership and payment being received and a resolution of the Management Committee.

- **CLUB ACCOUNTS**

The Honorary Treasurer shall pay all monies belonging to the Association into an Association banking account which shall be operated by two of the following, provided they are not members of the same family or household; Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary.

- **ASSOCIATION PROPERTY**

Any property shall be vested in the Management Committee, and, in the event of the Association ceasing to exist, a Special General Meeting shall be called to decide on the disposal of Association assets.

- **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

A General Meeting of the Association shall be called as soon as practicable at the end of the Financial Year to;

- Receive the report from the Management Committee.
- Receive a copy of the Accounts and Balance Sheet.
- Discuss any resolution duly placed on the Agenda, of which prior notice has been given to the Honorary Secretary. (Any members desirous of moving at the Annual General Meeting in any year

resolution(s) not required for transacting the business aforesaid shall give notice in writing to the Hon. Secretary not later than February 1st in such year for inclusion on the Agenda for the AGM)

- **Elect Office-Bears and Committee.**

Note: The election of Office-Bearers and Committee shall be by vote of those present at the meeting in accordance with rule 4.

- **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.**

A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Honorary Secretary if twenty members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so. The Committee of the Association is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting.

- **NOTICE OF METINGS**

Not less that fourteen days' notice shall be given to members to attend the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting. Notice maybe given by either email, or post.

- **EXPULSION OF MEMBERS.**

- Any Member who shall be suspended under Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(5) and/or any member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A11.j. (9) shall *ipso facto* cease to be a Member of the Association.
- If the conduct of any Member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Association be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Association, the Committee of the Association may, at a meeting notice convene in which includes as an object consideration of the conduct of the Member, determine that a Special General Meeting of the Association shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her.
- Notice of Special General Meeting shall be sent to the assured Members, giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and hour of the Meeting that he/she may attend to amend offer explanation. If at the Meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting, his/her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of Members and he/she may, within one calendar months from the date of such Meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions the Kennel Club may impose.
- If the Association expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, Dog Shows, Trials or Competitors, the Society must report the matter in writing to the Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.

- **ALTERATION OF RULES**

The rules of the Association may not be altered except at an Annual General Meeting, or Special General Meeting, notice of which includes details of the proposal to amend the rules. Any proposed alteration to the rules may not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has been advised and has given its

approval for such alteration. New rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately.

- **ANNUAL RETURNS TO THE KENNEL CLUB**

- The Officer-Bearers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, Maintenance of Title Fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Honorary Secretary for continuation of Registration and that by the 31st July each year, other returns as stipulated in the Kennel Club Regulations 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 Office-Bearers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary of the Association which may occur during the course of the year.

- **KENNEL CLUB FINAL AUTHORITY**

- The Kennel Club shall be the final authority for interpreting the Rules of Lothian and Borders Gundog Association in all cases relative to Association or Canine Matters.
- The Association shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.

Approved by Members LBGA AGM 3rd March 2024. Ratified by Royal Kennel Club 19th December 2024