

NAME AND OBJECTIVES

ARTICLE I

SECTION 1 – NAME

The name of the Club shall be ***SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WHIPPET ASSOCIATION***.

SECTION 2 – OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Club shall be:

- A. To do all possible to bring the natural qualities of Whippets 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 Whippets shall be judged.
- C. To encourage sportsman-like competition at all events;
- D. To conduct sanctioned matches and dog shows according to the Rules and Regulations of the American Kennel Club, and to hold track and field functions for which they were bred, according to the rules and regulations of the national organizations under whose auspices said track and field trials are held.

SECTION 3 – NONPROFIT STATUS

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 – BY-LAWS

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 two types of membership, single membership and family membership, open to all persons eighteen (18) years of age or older who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club. Each adult member comprising a family unit shall be entitled to a vote. Family members ages nine (9) through seventeen (17) shall be Junior members of the Club with all the privileges of membership but no voting power, and shall be ineligible to hold office.

SECTION 2 – DUES AND APPLICATION FEE

- A. Single Membership dues shall not exceed \$20.00 per year; Family Membership dues shall not exceed \$25.00 per year. Dues shall be determined at the annual meeting by the members present.
- B. A fee of five dollars (\$5.00) shall accompany an application for membership.
- C. New members joining after October 1 of any year shall pay only one-half year dues, plus the applicable fee.
- D. Dues are payable on or before the first day of January. During the month of December, the Treasurer shall notify electronically, wherever possible, each member a statement of his dues for the ensuing year, and dues shall be considered delinquent if unpaid within sixty (60) days of notice being sent and shall result in termination of membership.
- E. No member may vote if indebted to the Club.

SECTION 3 – ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP

- A. Each applicant shall apply on a form approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant for membership agrees to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Club and the Rules and Regulations of the American Kennel Club. The application shall carry the endorsement of two members of this Club. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues payment for the current year and the application fee as specified above.
- B. Applications shall be filed with the Membership Chairman, and each application is to be read at the first general membership meeting following its receipt, and the application will be voted upon at the next Club meeting. Affirmative votes of three-fourths (3/4 of the members present and voting at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant.
 - A. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club may not reapply within six (6) months after rejection.

SECTION 4 – TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Memberships may be terminated:

- A. By resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written or verbal notice to the Membership Chairman and a Board Member, but no member may resign when in debt to the Club. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club and they become incurred as of January 1st.
- B. By lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid as of January 31st; however, the Board may grant an additional ninety (90) days of grace to such delinquent member 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.
- C. By expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VI of the By-Laws.

ARTICLE II – MEETINGS AND VOTING

SECTION 1 – CLUB MEETINGS

- A. Regular Meetings. There shall be at least four (4) general membership meetings a year, at a location to be determined by the Board of Directors. Notification of said meeting shall be made electronically, wherever possible to the membership, at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting. Notification can also be made via the Club newsletter, respecting the ten (10) day time frame, if required. Wherever possible, meeting dates will also be published on the Club website – www.socalwhippet.com. The quorum for such meetings shall be the members present.
- B. 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. Such Special Meetings shall be held at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. The Secretary shall make notification of said meeting electronically, wherever possible, to the membership, at least five (5) and no more than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting. 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 the members present.
- C. Board Meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at times designated necessary by the Board of Directors. Meetings may be held electronically via secure chat rooms and/or electronic or telephonic conferencing. Notification of said meeting shall be made electronically, wherever possible to the membership, at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. Notification can also be made via the club newsletter, respecting the five (5) day time frame, if required. Whenever possible, meeting dates will also be published on the club website – www.socalwhippet.com. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

- D. Special Board Meetings. 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 as least three (3) members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such a meeting. Notification of said meeting shall be made electronically, wherever possible to the membership, at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. Notification can also be made via the club newsletter, respecting the five (5) day time frame, if required. Whenever possible, meeting dates will also be published on the club website – www.socalwhippet.com and said notice shall state the purpose of the meeting, and no other Club business may be transacted thereat. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.
- E. Voting. Each member not indebted to the Club shall be entitled to one (1) vote at any meeting of the Club at which he is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any Club meeting or election. Members desiring an absentee ballot for the annual election meeting must petition the Board of Directors prior to such election meeting. A member in good standing shall be defined as a member who has attended a majority of the meetings within the last twelve (12) months and who is not indebted to the Club. Voting may be conducted electronically.
- F. Location of Meeting. All meetings shall be held within a location determined by the discretion of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III – DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

SECTION 1 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President, and five (5) other persons, all of whom shall be elected for one (1) year terms at the Club's annual meeting as provided in Article IV and shall serve until their successors are elected. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors. The Past President shall be entitled to vote on all Club matters.

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 meetings.

- A. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President, in addition to those particularly specified in these By-Laws. The President shall not succeed himself after having served two consecutive terms in office.
- B. The Vice President shall have the duties and exercise the power 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 Board and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. He or she shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of special meetings, keep a roll of the members 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; and at the annual meeting, he or she shall render an account of all the monies received and expended during the previous official year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount, as the Board of Directors shall determine.
- E. No one person shall be permitted to hold more than one office.
- F. No member, shall be eligible for office until he has been a member in good standing for six (6) months.

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 of the ten members of the Board at its first regular meeting following the creation of such vacancy, or at a Special Board Meeting called for that purpose; except that a 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.

ARTICLE IV – THE CLUB YEAR, ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTIONS

SECTION 1 – CLUB YEAR

The Club's official year shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the election at the annual meeting and shall continue through election at the next annual meeting.

SECTION 2 – ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting shall be held in the month of November, at which meeting Officers and Directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 4 of this Article. They shall take office effective January 1, and each retiring officer shall turn over to his or her successor in office all properties and records relating to that office on or before January 1.

SECTION 3 – ELECTIONS

The nominated candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. Following the election of officers, the positions of Board of Directors shall

be filled by the five candidates receiving the greatest number of votes and shall be declared elected.

SECTION 4 – NOMINATIONS

No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated. During the month of June, the Board shall elect a Nominating Committee consisting of three (3) members and two (2) alternates, not more than one (1) of whom may be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen for the committee and it shall be his or her duty to call a committee meeting, method of which to be determined by the chairman, which shall be held before August 1st.

- A. The Committee shall nominate one (1) candidate for each office and five (5) other positions on the Board, and after securing the consent of each person so nominated shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing.
- B. The Nominating Committee shall present the names of all candidates during the month of August. The method of notification shall be electronic whenever possible, and shall be posted on the club website – www.socalwhippet.com as well. Additional nominations may be made during the month of September to the chairman of the nominating committee electronically whenever possible. The additional nominees shall certify via electronic means, that he or she is willing to be a candidate.
- C. No person may hold more than one office.
- 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 – COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The President may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as shows, field trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership, and other fields which may well be served by committees. Such committees shall be subject to the final authority of the Board. Special committees may also be appointed by the Board to aid it on particular projects.

SECTION 2 – TERMINATION OF APPOINTMENTS

Any committee 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 those persons whose services have been terminated.

ARTICLE VI – DISCIPLINE

SECTION 1 – CHARGES

Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the sport or the breed. Written charges with specifications must

be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of ten dollars, which shall be forfeited, if such charges are not sustained by the Board following a hearing; time, place and means determined by the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy, electronically whenever possible, of the charges to each member of the Board or present them at a Board Meeting, and the Board shall consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed. 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 of a hearing by the Board not less than three (3) weeks nor more than six (6) weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by certified 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 2 – AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB SUSPENSION

Any member who is suspended from the privileges of the American Kennel Club shall automatically be suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period.

SECTION 3 – BOARD HEARING

The Board shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the hearing, but both the complainant and the 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 may, by a majority vote of those present, suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six (6) months from the date of the hearing. And, if it deems that punishment insufficient, it may 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 fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board's 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 Board's decision 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 provided in Section 3 of this Article. Such proceedings may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within sixty (60) days, but not earlier than thirty (30) days after the date of the Board's recommendation for expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the Board's findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his own behalf if he wishes. The meeting shall then vote by secret ballot

on the proposed expulsion. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting at the meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted, the Board's suspension shall stand.

ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1 - PROPOSAL

Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the members with recommendations of the Board by the Secretary for a vote within three (3) months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

SECTION 2 - AMENDMENTS

The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose. Notification of said meeting shall be made electronically, whenever possible to the membership, at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting and shall contain the proposed amendments as part of the notice. Whenever possible, the meeting date and proposed amendments will also be published on the club website - www.socalwhippet.com

ARTICLE VIII - DISSOLUTION

The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club other than for 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, it's 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 - ORDER OF BUSINESS AT REGULAR MEETINGS

The order of business at regular Club meetings, so far as the character and nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows:

- A. Call to order
- B. Reading of minutes of the last meeting
- C. Report of President
- D. Report of Secretary
- E. Report of Treasurer
- F. Reports of Committees

- G. Election of Officers and Board (at Annual Meeting)
- H. Election of New Members
- I. Unfinished Business
- J. New Business
- K. Roll Call
- L. Program
- M. Adjournment

SECTION 2 - ORDER OF BUSINESS AT BOARD MEETING

The order of business at meetings of the Board of Directors, unless otherwise directed by a majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

- A. Call to order
- B. Reading of minutes of last meeting
- C. Report of Secretary
- D. Report of Treasurer
- E. Reports of Committees
- F. Unfinished Business
- G. New Business
- H. Adjournment