

Meon Valley Working Spaniel Club

Constitution and Rules

Kennel Club Ref 705

1. NAME AND OBJECTS

The Club shall be called the Meon Valley Working Spaniel Club and its objects shall be to promote and encourage the training of all breeds of spaniels to work in the field and to organise Working Tests and Field Trials.

2. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

The Club shall consist of a President, Vice Presidents, Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and a committee of six. Committee can be of seven should two positions be combined.

3. COMMITTEE

The management of the Club shall be in the hands of the officers of the Club and Committee of six members, of whom all shall retire annually. Officers and Committee shall be eligible for re-election every year. All officers and Committee shall have full voting rights. Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as deemed necessary. A quorum for Committee meetings shall be four, with at least two officers present. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members onto the Committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between general meetings. Those co-opted shall only hold office until the next General Meeting of the Club, at which formal election of Officers and Committee takes place. No individual who has been a member for less than one year may be elected onto the Committee. Individuals may not be elected onto the Committee if they are deemed to have a conflicting interest. No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within the Club.

4. ELECTION OF MEMBERS

Candidates for membership shall be proposed by one existing fully paid up member and seconded by another. Applications shall be put before the Committee at their next meeting for approval and, if approved, accepted on payment of subscription. Three votes against shall exclude a person from membership. There shall be an unlimited number of members.

5. VOTING RIGHTS

Each member shall be entitled to one vote immediately upon acceptance of membership. Proxy votes are not allowed. Voting shall be decided by majority at meeting. Junior members will have no voting rights.

In the event of joint membership, one vote for each member of the partnership shall be allowed.

6. 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 the Club's assets and the outcome of the meeting notified to the Kennel Club.

7. CLUB ACCOUNTS

Banking accounts shall be held in the name of the Club at a Bank / Building Society into which all monies shall be paid and from which withdrawal shall only be made on the signatures of Treasurer/Secretary and Chairman.

The accounts will be certified annually and presented to the members at the AGM. Certification of the accounts will be carried out by one qualified accountant or two unqualified individuals with accounting experience.

8. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscription shall be such amount as agreed by members in General Meeting and notified to the kennel Club.

No member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any privileges of membership and if the member shall fail to pay outstanding subscriptions by 1st June his/her name shall automatically be erased from the register. Acceptance back on the register will be dependent on a new application.

9. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

Any member who shall be suspended under Kennel Club Rule 42J(4) and/or any member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A42j(8) shall ipso facto 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 to the character or interests of the Club, the Committee of the Club, at a Meeting the notice convening which includes as an object the consideration of the conduct of the member, determine that a Special General Meeting of the Club shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her.

Notice of the SGM shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and hour of the meeting that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at the meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by a two thirds majority of the members present and voting, his/her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of members, and he/she shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a member of the Club except that he/she may, within two calendar months from the date of such meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such condition as the Kennel Club may impose.

10. FINANCIAL YEAR / ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

The financial year of the Club shall be the first day of March to the last day of February. Secretary's / Treasurer's Honorarium shall be reviewed by the Committee annually.

The annual general meeting shall be held not more than three months from the last day of February.

11. GENERAL MEETINGS

11 (a) ANNUAL

To receive the report of the Committee and Balance Sheet, to elect Officers and discuss any resolution duly placed on the Agenda of which prior notice of not less than one week has been given to the Hon Secretary. 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 Committee are urgent. Notice of general meetings will be circulated in writing or on the Club's Website or in the Dog Press at least two weeks in advance. The Agenda will be circulated at the meeting.

11 (b) SPECIAL

A Special Meeting shall be summoned by the Hon Secretary if fifty members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a SGM to do so. The committee of the Club is also empowered to call a SGM. No business other than that detailed on the Agenda can be discussed at a SGM. Members will be notified in writing of any SGM at least two weeks in advance.

12. AMENDMENTS TO RULES

The Rules of the Club may not be altered except at a General Meeting, the Agenda of 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.

13. ANNUAL RETURNS TO THE KENNEL CLUB

The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year the Maintenance of Title Fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary for continuance of Registration and that by the 31st July each year, other returns, as stipulated in Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities to be forwarded to the Kennel Club. The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary of the Society which may occur during the course of the year.

14. KENNEL CLUB FINAL COURT OF APPEAL

The Kennel Club shall be the final court of appeal in all matters of dispute.

15. AFFILIATION TO OTHER BODIES

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

16. MEMBERSHIP LIST

A list of current members and their addresses shall be available for inspection if so requested by the members of the Club or by The Kennel Club.

Rule **A42** is changed to J3.201.14 (Also A11-15 refer)