



NPDC Club Rules *(updated February 2023)*

1. Name and object

The club shall be called 'The Northern Pug Dog Club' and its objects shall be to promote the breeding of pure-bred pugs and endeavour to protect the interest of the breed. Members who are engaged in the breeding of pugs are encouraged to be responsible breeders, they should ensure, to the best of their ability, that puppies are only sold or given to responsible people to minimise the likelihood of such puppies being ill-treated or ending up in the care of one of the rescue organisations.

2. Officers, committee, and members

- a) The club shall consist of President, Honorary Life-Vice Presidents, Honorary Life Members, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, a committee of 16 (sixteen) persons, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and an unlimited number of members.
- b) The term of office of President shall be limited to a period of 1 (one) year, after which, the retiring President shall be eligible for re-election.
- c) The committee shall retire annually but be eligible for re-election.
- d) The office of President, Secretary, Officers, and Committee shall be proposed and seconded and subject to a member's ballot by post.
- e) Full single membership and full joint membership shall be granted to members of 18 (eighteen) years of age and over, on the date of acceptance. Full joint memberships shall be limited to a partnership of two persons only. Members under 18 (eighteen) years of age on the date of acceptance shall be 'Junior' members. On attaining the age of 18 (eighteen) years, a junior member shall be eligible for full membership, on payment of full membership subscription for the current year, subject to rule 10a.
- f) Application for membership shall be made using the appropriate form, obtainable from the Honorary Secretary, proposed and seconded by paid-up full members. The committee reserve the right to refuse membership.
- g) Every full member shall be supplied with a copy of the club rules.
- h) The Honorary Secretary shall compile a list of members and their addresses, to be made available for inspection, if so required, by the members of the club or Kennel Club.
- i) It shall be the duty of the Officers of the Club to inform the Kennel Club of any changes to the Honorary Secretary during the year.
- j) There should be an 'Associate Membership' primary, but not exclusively designed for internet users who cannot provide the support of two full members needed for full membership. This would entitle such members to details of club shows and merchandise; but would not offer full voting rights.

3. Management of the club

- a) The management of the club shall be in the hands of the committee of 16 (sixteen).
- b) The President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be ex-officio members of the committee by virtue of their office and not committee members.
- c) Meetings of the committee shall be held as often as may be deemed necessary, a minimum of 50% of members of the committee shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.



- d) The first committee meeting held after the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in each year, shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from amongst the members of the committee of 16 (sixteen). They shall be Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the club. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings at which he or she is present, in the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman shall preside. In the event of both being absent, the committee shall elect a chairman for that meeting, from amongst the committee members present. All elected members of the committee and ex-officio members of the committee shall have voting rights. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairman shall have the casting vote.
- e) In the event of a committee member resigning during his/her term in office, such members will be replaced, at the next committee meeting, by the nominee who had received the next highest number of votes in the annual election, this member shall serve the remainder of the 12 (twelve) month period. In the event of no nominee being available, the committee shall have the power to co-opt members onto the committee to fill such vacancies. These co-opted shall serve until the next election of officers and committee.
- f) No individual who has been a full member for less than one full calendar year, may be co-opted onto the committee.
- g) A report of the business transacted at all meetings shall be entered into a minute book kept for that purpose by the Honorary Secretary. The Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall keep proper books of accounts showing all receipts and expenditure.
- h) No member of the Northern Pug Dog Club committee may, at the same time, serve on any other pug breed committee.
- i) Members of the club will be asked to submit nominations for judges prior to the Annual General Meeting. A ballot box will be provided at the venue, the vote will then be conducted during the Annual General Meeting, a full count of the votes will take place, the results will be disclosed during the Annual General Meeting once they have been checked and verified. *(Rule amended as per Annual General Meeting 2022 – wording adjusted in rule 6d [added the word 'judges'] to comply with this amendment).*

4. Subscriptions

- a) The annual subscriptions for full single membership, full joint membership and junior memberships shall be such amounts decided by the members and notified to the Kennel Club.
- b) The annual subscription shall be due on 1st January every year. Subscriptions paid on or after 1st January shall be in respect of the current calendar year only.
- c) No member whose subscription is unpaid by 31st January shall be entitled to any privileges or membership and if the member shall fail to pay the outstanding subscriptions by 31st March shall be considered lapsed, and his/her name will automatically be erased from the register. Acceptance back onto the register shall require a new application and will be subject to the same conditions of privilege as for newly joined members.

5. Club accounts

- a) The financial year of the club shall be from 1st January to 31st December.
- b) A banking account shall be held in the name of the club in which all revenue of the club shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall only be made on the signature of the Honorary Treasurer, together with signature of either the Chairman or Honorary Secretary. The accounts shall be kept by the Honorary Treasurer.



- c) Auditors, either one qualified or two unqualified, shall be appointed at each Annual General Meeting to audit the club accounts for the ensuing year. **Those certifying the accounts must be independent of the committee.**

6. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

- a) The Annual General Meeting of the club shall be held on such flexible date, decided by the committee for the following purposes:
 - i. To receive the report of the committee and balance sheet. The certified accounts will be made available, on request, to members 14 (fourteen) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
 - ii. To approve and confirm the election of officers and committee for the ensuing year.
 - iii. To discuss any resolution duly placed on the agenda, of which prior notice has been given in writing to the Honorary Secretary.
- b) No business shall be transacted at the Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof appears on the agenda, except for routine matters, or those which in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting are urgent.
- c) Preliminary notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to each full single member and each full joint membership or by notice in the Canine Press i.e. 'Our Dogs'.
- d) All nominations for President, Officers, committee, and judges, together with items for inclusion on the agenda, shall be sent to the Honorary Secretary by the date notified in the Preliminary Notice, such date not being earlier than one month prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- e) Not less than 14 (fourteen) clear days' notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given together with all relevant information concerning the meeting and business to be conducted. Such notice shall be sent to each full single member and full joint membership or by notification in the Canine Press i.e. 'Our Dogs'.

7. Special General Meetings (SGM)

- a) A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Honorary Secretary if 25 (twenty-five) members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting the Special General Meeting to do so.
- b) No business other than that detailed on the agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting.
- c) The committee is empowered to call a Special General Meeting at its discretion.
- d) Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be notified to members in writing or by notice in the Canine Press i.e. 'Our Dogs'
- e) Not less than 14 (fourteen) clear days' notice of the meeting shall be given.

8. Amendments of the rules

- a) The rules of the club shall not be altered except at an Annual General Meeting, the agenda of which contains specific proposals to amend the rules.
- b) Any proposed alteration to the rules shall not be brought into force until the Kennel Club has been advised and given its approval to the alterations.

9. Expulsion of members

- a) Any member who shall be disqualified under the Kennel Club rule A11.j.(5) and/or any Kennel club rule A11.j.(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the club.



- b) Any member who shall be suspended by the Kennel Club shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the Northern Pug Dog Club. If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the committee, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the club, the committee may determine that a Special General Meeting shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel them. Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint, and advising the place, date, and hour of the meeting in order that they may attend and offer explanation. If, at that meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by a two thirds majority of members present and voting, his/her name shall be forthwith erased from the list of members and he/she shall thereupon cease, for all purpose, to be a member of the club. Except for, he/she may appeal within two calendar months from the date of such Special General Meeting to the Kennel Club and subject to such condition as the Kennel Club may impose.
- c) In the event of a member being expelled for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, dog shows or trials, the matter shall be reported in writing to the Kennel Club within 7 (seven) days, together with all particulars required.

10. Voting rights

- a) No individual shall hold office or nominate or second any nomination for office or have vote in any club business ballot until he/she has completed one full calendar year continuous full membership, after which time a full single member and each member of full joint membership shall have full voting rights.
- b) The President, Honorary Life-President, Honorary Life members, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall have full voting rights.
- c) A junior member shall have no voting rights.
- d) At all general meetings, voting shall be by a show of hands or as decided by a majority of members attending the meeting and in the event of a tied vote, the Chairman shall have the casting vote (*rule 3d*).
- e) Proxy votes shall not be allowed at a general meeting.
- f) At least 14 (fourteen) days shall be allowed for the return of the ballot papers in any election.
- g) The ballot for judges will take place at the Annual General Meeting, by those members in attendance and voting. In the event of a tied vote from the members ballot, the matter shall be decided by the placing of judge's names in a draw, with the name drawn out having the choice of sex to the judge. (*Rule amended as per Annual General Meeting 2022*).

11. Club property

- a) The property of the club shall be entrusted in the committee who shall have the power to make all decisions relating thereto other than those not provided for in the rules.
- b) All donations of cups and trophies shall be accepted by the committee on the condition that such items are given as outright gifts to the club and as such become sole property of the club.
- c) Cups and trophies of the club can be won by fully paid-up full members.
- d) In the event of the club being wound up or ceasing to be a registered society, a general meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the club's assets and the outcome of the meeting be notified to the Kennel Club. A final statement of audited accounts, with a record of the disposal of the property shall be forwarded onto the Kennel Club within six months. The person named as officer and committee of the club on the last return furnished to the Kennel Club will be held responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the club.



12. Annual returns to the Kennel Club

The officers acknowledge that during the month of January, each year, maintenance of the title fee will be forwards to the Kennel Club by the Honorary Secretary, for the continuance of registration and that by 31st July, each year, other returns, as stipulated in the Kennel Club Regulations for the registration and maintenance of the titles of Societies of Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities, will be forwarded to the Kennel Club.

13. Responsibilities of members

Members of the club should make every effort to ensure that dogs under their control do not foul the footways and grass verges of any street, and wherever possible, should encourage other dog owner to do the same.

14. Interpretation of the rules (regulations) and court of appeal

The Kennel Club shall be the final authority for interpreting the Rules and Regulations of the club, in all cases relative to canine or club matters.

15. Federation of societies

The club shall not join any federation of societies or clubs.