Rule Changes 2017

The previous rules were spilt into a constitution consisting of the following sections of the previous rules: A, B, C, D, P, Q, R & S and the remaining sections into rules for the running of the organization.

The constitution now consists of:

A: Mission statement and declaration

B: General

C: Membership

D: Annual General Meeting

E: GSDL-WDG Committee

F: Discipline

G: Revenue

H: Winding up

I: Accounting

The rules now consist of:

A: GSDL-WDG Branch club affiliation

B: Training

C: Judges

D: Helpers and tracklayers

J: Club trials

K: GSDL-WDG Championships

L: WUSV/FCI World Championships

M: The GSDL-WDG All-Breed Championship Trial Management

N: Universal Sieger

O: Sponsorships

As agreed at the 2017 AGM the following has been added to the constitution:

B3: The Committee of the GSDL-WDG shall be made up of up to 9 people…… (the words ‘up to’ has been added)

B4: Added to the end of B4: the proposer and/or seconder of the agenda item must be present at the meeting for the item to be discussed and voted upon.

B5: Split into B5 and B6. Added to B5: No member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any of the privileges of membership and if the member shall fail to pay outstanding subscriptions by the end of March, he/she will be considered a new member, should he/she reapply for membership.

B6: The rest of B5 is now B6 and added to the end: Members without voting rights may attend the meeting but will not be entitled to vote on any matters presented.

C4: There are six (6) types of membership available.  (Types of membership increased from 4 to six)

Two new types of membership added:

* Joint OAP membership entitling two votes at the annual meeting
* Joint OAP and single membership entitling two votes at the annual meeting

C5: Added:

* Joint OAP membership - £48
* Joint single and OAP membership - £51

New C6, C7, C8 & C9 added:

C6: The Council shall have power to elect Honorary WDG Members on such terms and conditions as it may deem expedient. Honorary GSDL members shall not be considered WDG members and will not have voting rights.

C7: The liability of Members shall be limited to the amount of their subscription as provided herein.

C8: Members of the Council and of any Sub-Committee and officials of the WDG shall be indemnified by the WDG against any legal claim made against them, in connection with any oral or written statement, made by them in good faith in the course of, or in furtherance of their WDG duties or responsibility.

C9: An up to date list of members and their addresses, and those of branch members where appropriate, must be maintained and, if so requested, made available for inspection by the Kennel Club and members of the society. A declaration of the number of members of the society must be made with Annual Returns

**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 ipso facto cease to be a Member of the Society.

If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Society be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Society, the Committee of the Society may, 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 Society shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her.

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 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 Society 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.

If the Society expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, Dog Shows, Trials or Competitions, the Society must report the matter in writing to the Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.

**New section D, covering annual and special general meetings added:**

**D. Annual General Meeting**

D1. Notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be posted on the GSDL-WDG website at least 4 weeks prior to the meeting.

D2. Quorum at the Annual General meeting shall be 50% +1 of the members present who are eligible to vote (if there’s an uneven number of members present, quorum shall be ((number of members present minus 1) divided by 2) + 1).

D3. The Constitution of the GSDL-WDG may not be altered by the GSDL-WDG except at an annual general meeting or a special general meeting, notice of which includes details of the proposal to alter the Rules. (New Rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet The Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately and be included in the Society’s Constitution with effect from the Society’s annual meeting). No business shall be transacted at an Annual General Meeting 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. The committee shall have the power to deal with all matters in relation to the day to day running of the organization which are not specifically provided for in the Constitution.

**SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING**

A Special General Meeting shall be Called by the Committee

1. At the committee’s discretion
2. If 10% of the fully paid up members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so. No business other than that detailed on the agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting.

Quorum for a special General meeting shall be at least 10% of the current fully paid up members.

**D1 (now E1) amended to:**

E1. The GSDL-WDG Committee shall manage the day to day affairs of the GSDL-WDG, and shall comprise of up to nine GSDL-WDG members and be voted for on a rotation basis (one third of the number of committee members stepping down each year and offering themselves for re-election if they so wish). The Committee members to retire in each year shall be those who have been longest in the office since the last election, but as between persons who became Committee members on the same date, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot.

**E5: Added to the end:** Seven days’ notice shall be given for the holding of committee meetings, except in the case of any emergency, when three days’ notice shall suffice.

**New section E6 added:**

E6. Quorum for committee decisions shall be 50% +1 of the current committee members (if the committee consists of an uneven number of members, quorum shall be (((number of committee members minus 1) divided by 2) + 1) ie. For a committee of 9, the quorum shall by 5)

**E7 reworded to:**

E7. Anyone seeking election for a vacant position on the GSDL-WDG Committee must have been a GSDL-WDG member for three complete years consecutively prior to the year in which they offer to stand for election and be proposed and seconded by current GSDL-WDG members.

**New section E8 added:**

E8. No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee of or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club registered Society.

**New section E10 added:**

E10. In the event of a vacancy arising on the Committee by death, resignation, or expulsion of a Member or due to insufficient nominations for the committee at the AGM, the Council may fill the vacancy/vacancies by co-opting, but a Member so co-opted shall retire at the next Annual General Meeting. A Member requires a minimum of three full consecutive years Membership in order to qualify for co-option. If for any reason the Committee are unable to obtain a quorum (e.g. Committee Membership having fallen to less than five) the Committee shall have the power to hold a Committee meeting for the purpose only of co-opting sufficient members to enable a quorate meeting to be held. In these circumstances the Committee shall immediately call a Special General Meeting at which the co-opted Members shall first of all retire and an election held to fill the remaining vacancies on the Committee.

**New sections I2 and I3 added:**

I2. The Financial year of the GSDL-WDG shall be the calendar year commencing on 1st January and ending on 31st December in each year.

I3. The GSDL-WDG accounts will be certified annually and presented to the Members at the Annual General Meeting. NOTE: Certification of accounts must be carried out by one qualified Accountant or two unqualified individuals with accountancy experience.

As agreed at the 2017 AGM the following has been added to the rules:

Added to D14.:

To obtain a tracklayer license you must have been a member of the GSDL-WDG for a least 3 months prior to licensing.

Added to J6:

handlers who have been ………. for at least 3 months

Added new J17:

J17. All trials must be applied for to the GSDL-WDG event co-ordinator at least 28 days prior to the trial date or at least 6 weeks prior to the trial date if using a foreign SV approved Judge

Added to K1:

who have been members for at least 3 months prior to the trial

Added to M8: The words ‘have been’ and ‘for at least 3 months’ have been added

M8. Handlers must have been fully paid up members of a GSDL-WDG for at least 3 months at time of entry.

L2. Handlers must be fully paid up members of the GSDL-WDG at least three (3) months – Changed from four(4) to three(3) month

Added to N1: The words ‘at least 3 months’ added

Handlers must be fully paid up members of the GSDL-WDG at least 3 months

As agreed at the committee meeting on the 27-10-2017 the following amendments has been made to the rules:

Added to A1(a). The proposed name of the club,

which must be unique, the same club name must not be used if affiliated to another IPO organisation.

Deleted A1(c). Upon approval by the GSDL-WDG Committee, the new Club must complete the required Kennel Club Branch Club registration form. The form shall be supplied by and must be returned to the GSDL-WDG General Secretary who shall forward it to the Kennel Club for approval.

B2. The words ‘of & temperament’ has been added

B2. ….. of suitable temperament for the sport.

Added to C1. Applicants to become GSDL-WDG Apprentice Judges….

* Must be under the age of 55 when commencing the apprenticeship.

Added to D1. Qualification as a helper is possible at the following events

* + - Helpers must be put forward by their club for licensing

Added to D2. Maintenance of the helper licence.

Or if they wish to carry on doing helper work in trials past the age of 60, in which case they must license triennially.

New rule D10 added:

D10. All attendants intending to handle a dog as part of the training or licensing of the helpers, must first sign in with an official.

Added to D13. ‘C’ Grade helpers

(unless they are past the age of 60)

Deleted J8. Helpers must not wear hats when working in Trials.

Deleted J18: The hosting club must notify all other clubs secretaries by either mail or email of the upcoming trial at least 28 days prior to the closing date.

K3. The venue for the event should if possible be a stadium - The words ‘if possible’ added

Added to L13. The GSDL dogs for the GSDL/BAGSD Joint Selection trial shall be selected as follows:

* All dogs entering the Joint Selection trial must provide proof of acceptable BVA and/or SV hips and elbows scores.

M1. Changed to say ‘March/April’ rather than April.

M2. Changed to be in line with L9:

M2. The selection of the judge shall be the responsibility of the host club, unless the trial is held at a club ground, in which case the judge will be selected by the GSDL-WDG committee. The judge must be a SV recognized judge and the GSDL-WDG Committee have final approval.

Deleted O3: The Treasurer of the GSDL-WDG Committee shall be responsible for producing an Annual Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet in respect of the GSDL-WDG at the Annual General Meeting.