

By-Laws
Of
NATIONAL ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I

NAME

SECTION 1. The name of this Club shall be the NATIONAL ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE II

OBJECTS

SECTION 1. The objects of the Club shall be:

- (a) To conduct annually a National Championship Trial open to such English Springer Spaniel dogs as shall qualify therefor under the rules of this Association and the American Kennel Club, Inc.
- (b) To do all such acts and things as are incident or conducive to the premises and generally do all acts and things to exercise all the powers now or hereafter authorized by law necessary to carry on said corporation or to promote any of the objects of said corporation, all of which shall be conducted without pecuniary profits.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Any field trial club, which during the current year or two (2) preceding years has held or has American Kennel Club, Inc., approval to hold a member or licensed field trial for English Springer Spaniels under the rules of the American Kennel Club, Inc., and any other field trial club invited to join by a majority vote of the members of this club, shall, upon application and approval of the membership committee and payment of the annual dues as shall have been provided for the Board of Directors, become a member club and thereafter designate an individual member of said club, who need not be an officer thereof, to represent it in this club as a delegate at the annual or special meetings.

SECTION 2. Each member club shall designate one of its members to become a delegate by submitting to the Secretary of this Club a duly attested written credential executed by an officer of such club other than the delegate nominating such member to be a delegate not later than January 31st of each year. Upon receipt by the Secretary of such credential if said member club is in good standing, the candidate shall forthwith become a delegate.

SECTION 3. The delegate of each member club so selected shall be the representative of the member club in carrying out its responsibilities to the National Association. The Board of Directors may establish procedures for the carrying out of those responsibilities.

SECTION 4. The Secretary shall direct all communications to the delegate so designated and the Board of Directors may establish rules by which the Secretary shall be governed in his communications with the delegates.

SECTION 5. Each member club may from time to time change its delegate by revoking in writing its designation of said delegate.

SECTION 6. Each delegate in good standing shall be entitled to one vote in person or by written proxy at all meetings of this Club. No person can represent more than three member clubs in person or by proxy. The delegate representing a member club who has not held a trial for English Springer Spaniels for three (3) years next preceding the annual meeting shall not be entitled to vote on any question.

SECTION 7. Each member club shall receive a copy of the By-laws.

ARTICLE IV

INITIATION AND FEES AND DUES

SECTION 1. The annual dues are to be set at each annual meeting of the delegates, and shall be sufficient to carry on the functions of this Club. Notice and demand for payment of such dues shall be given by the Treasurer to each member club immediately following the annual meeting, and shall be payable on or before August 1 of the following year. Special assessments shall be payable in the manner and to the extent as provided for in the resolution of the delegates approving such special assessment.

ARTICLE V

RESIGNATION

SECTION 1. Any member club in good standing and not indebted to the Club may in writing resign at any time and upon receipt thereof, such resignations shall take effect immediately.

ARTICLE VI

NONPAYMENT OF FEES AND DUES

SECTION 1. Any member club whose dues remain unpaid at the time of the annual meeting of the delegates, shall upon a vote of the majority of the delegates be suspended from membership. The Secretary shall thereupon notify such club of its suspension by registered mail and if such dues remain unpaid for sixty (60) after receiving notice such member club shall be dropped from the rolls of the Club.

ARTICLE VII

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

SECTION 1. The delegates by a two-thirds vote of the assembled delegates (quorum required) may suspend or expel any member club or delegate for conduct on its or his part which in the opinion of the delegates endangers the welfare of character of the Club, but no member club or delegate shall be suspended or expelled without the opportunity to be heard. Hearing shall be given at such time and place as a majority of the delegates may decide.

ARTICLE VIII

GOVERNMENT

SECTION 1. The control and general management of this Club shall be vested in a Board of Directors made up of the officers of the Club. One such director shall be selected from an area comprising all states on the Atlantic seaboard, the New England States, and the states of West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Another director shall be selected from states west of the eastern boundaries of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico. Another director shall be selected from the area comprising the remaining states. The balance of the directors may be selected without regard for domicile.

SECTION 2. The Board of Directors shall have full power to conduct the business of the Club and its property, policies, and any and all of its business dealings.

SECTION 3. The officers of the Club shall be President, two Vice Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The office of the Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same individual. All officers shall be members of a member club in good standing.

SECTION 4. The officers shall be elected at the annual meeting of the delegates for a term of one year commencing on the succeeding first day of January or until the election and qualification of their successors.

SECTION 5. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors. He shall have power to appoint committees, to perform duties prescribed by the resolution authorizing their appointment. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and shall perform all the duties incident and customary to his position and the office or which are required by law.

SECTION 6. The first Vice President, or in his absence or disability, the second Vice President, shall in the absence or disability of the President perform all the duties of the President.

SECTION 7. The Secretary shall keep a complete record of all member clubs and all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. He shall keep a roll of the member clubs with their addresses and shall notify the member clubs and the Board of Directors of the Club in writing of all meetings of Directors and delegates giving the time and place thereof. He shall be the custodian of the seal and records of the Club and perform all other duties customary to his office.

SECTION 8. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due to or belonging to the Club and send out all notices respecting dues and assessments. He shall deposit all moneys in such bank as shall be designated by the Board of Directors in the name of the Club. He shall have the authority to sign checks for the withdrawal of funds from the Club's bank account. This same authority is given to the President, or to one or more Vice Presidents, whom the Directors may designate. His books shall at all times be open to the inspection by member clubs and he shall report to the delegates and to the Board of Directors at every meeting the condition of the finances of the Club when requested so to do. He shall prepare a report of all moneys received and expended during the year which shall be audited by the President. This report shall be completed by December 31 of each year and delivered to the Secretary who shall read it at the succeeding annual meeting. He shall perform such other duties as may be directed by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 9. The fiscal year of the Club shall end on December 31 in each year, and promptly thereafter, and in no event later than March 1st of the succeeding year, the retiring Treasurer shall send a financial report to all member clubs.

ARTICLE IX MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The first annual meeting of the members shall take place at 4:00 P.M. the day preceding the first day of the National Championship Trial at such place as shall have been designated as the official headquarters for the Trial. Thereafter the annual meetings shall be held at the time and place designated by the delegates at the previous annual meeting.

SECTION 2. Special meeting of the Club may be called by the President on fifteen (15) days' written notice to all member clubs designating the time and place and stating the purpose thereof.

SECTION 3. Delegates representing 50 percent of member clubs, present in person or written proxy, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

SECTION 4. Annual Meeting: The first order of business at the annual meetings shall be the presentation of credentials to the Secretary, who upon satisfying himself of the propriety of said credentials, shall read the roll of the assembled delegates. If the Secretary should be in doubt with respect to the credentials of a delegate, or if said credentials are challenged by an accredited delegate, the question shall be immediately referred to the Board of Directors who shall retire and return with their decision.

The second order of business shall be the presentation of proxies. Proxies shall be presented to the Secretary and upon satisfying himself, he shall advise the delegates representing the proxy giving clubs. If the Secretary is in doubt with respect to any of the proxies, or if the proxy is challenged by an accredited delegate, the question shall be referred to the Board of Directors who shall retire and return with their decision before the transaction of any business.

The third order of business shall be the reading and correction of the minutes of the previous annual or special meetings.

The fourth order of business shall be the reports of the retiring officers and committees.

The fifth order of business shall be the election of officers. For this purpose, the retiring President shall appoint a nominating committee of five which shall be approved by the Board of Directors. Such nominating committee shall be appointed not less than sixty (60) days prior to the meeting. The delegates are to be informed of the nominees and the chair shall at that time entertain a motion from the floor for other nominees. After the close of the nominations the President shall call for the vote which shall be by secret ballot. He shall appoint three (3) delegates to distribute, collect and tally the votes, and thereafter announce the newly elected officers, who shall be the directors of Club taking office January 1 of the succeeding year.

The sixth order of business shall be the selection of judges for the National Championship Stake as provided in Article XI of these By-laws.

The balance of the meeting shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Orders excepting that upon a vote of the majority of the delegates present, the rules may be suspended.

ARTICLE X
COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. A Field Trial Chairman and Committee of not less than nine (9) shall be appointed by the President and in his appointments he shall not be restricted to appointing those who are delegates, but all of his said appointments shall be from members of member clubs. The President of the Club shall be an ex-officio member of the Field Trial Committee.

SECTION 2. Other committees shall be appointed by the President and their appointments announced on or before April 1 of the year following each annual meeting.

ARTICLE XI
THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TRIAL

SECTION 1. The National Championship Trial shall be held at such time and place as shall, by resolution, be selected by the delegates, and shall be open to such contestants as shall qualify therefore in accordance with the resolutions of the delegates.

SECTION 2. The National Championship trial shall consist of a minimum of five (5) land series and two (2) water series or tests.

SECTION 3. The method for the selection of judges for the National Championship Trial shall be as follows:

- (a) The owner of a dog that has placed in an Open Stake in a member or licensed field trial and has qualified for entry in the previous year's National Open Championship shall be eligible to cast a vote in the judge selection process. However, no person shall be entitled to more than one vote irrespective of the number of dogs owned that have earned qualification. If a qualifying dog has more than one registered owner only one owner will be eligible to vote. However, if a second dog qualifies that has the same combination of registered owners, the owner not previously entitled to vote may also cast a vote.
- (b) By May 1 of each year the Secretary/Election Administrator shall be responsible for providing all information necessary in order to cause a preliminary electronic ballot to be sent to the eligible voters. The electronic election notification and ballot shall include instructions as to how to electronically cast a ballot.
- (c) Each preliminary ballot cast shall include the selection of up to four (4) qualifying judges and shall be cast on or before May 31.
- (d) On or before June 15 the Secretary/Election Administrator shall provide information necessary to prepare a final electronic ballot containing the names, alphabetically arranged, of the six (6) nominees receiving the highest number of nominations by the eligible voters. The names of all nominees who have received the sixth highest number

of nominations shall be included on the ballot. The ballot shall be distributed electronically in the same manner as the preliminary ballot.

- (e) Each final ballot cast shall include the selection of two qualifying judges and shall be cast on or before July 15.
- (f) The two judges receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared to be the judges for the National Championship Stake for the following year. In the event that more than two nominees tie for the highest number of votes, the nominee(s) who has judged the highest number of trials shall be selected.
- (g) The President, or his appointee, will notify those selected and advise the Secretary when their acceptance of the judging assignment has been received. In the event that one of the two judges originally elected cannot serve, the President, or his appointee will ascertain the next nominee in order of selection and extend the invitation to that nominee.
- (h) The names of the two individuals elected to judge the following National Championship Stake will be announced by internet posting as soon as practicable after July 15.
- (i) Should a judge who has agreed to serve be unable to do so, a substitute judge shall be selected by the officers of the Club from the list of those names appearing on the ballot, giving preference to the individual receiving the next highest number of votes following the two judges originally selected.

SECTION 4. The eligibility of prospective judges to serve as National Open Championship judges shall be determined as follows:

- (a) (i) That the prospective judge shall have judged a minimum of twelve AKC member or licensed trials (Open All Age Stake) of which two or more have been within the last three years previous to the current trial and will include judging the National Amateur Championship Trial.
 - (ii) Additionally, to be eligible the prospective judge must have handled an English Springer Spaniel in four (4) all-age licensed field trials in the US or Canada during the three (3) year period ending on the election closing date.
 - (iii) The prospective judge shall have indicated his willingness to judge the National Open Championship Stake.
- (b) To obtain verification that a prospective judge is eligible, the Secretary shall mail a Questionnaire not later than March 15 of each year to the prospective judge asking him to verify that he meets each of the requirements listed in Section 4 (a)(i), Section 4 (a)(ii) and Section 4(a)(iii). For a prospective judge to be included on the ballot he must have answered affirmatively that he meets each of these requirements. His Questionnaire must be received by mail and include a manual signature not later than April 15 each year.

ARTICLE XII

SEAL

SECTION 1. The corporate seal of the Club shall be two concentric circles between which shall appear the name of the Club, and such seal as impressed on the margin hereof is hereby adopted as the corporate seal of the Club.

ARTICLE XIII

AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. Subject to Section 2 hereof, these By-laws may be amended at any meeting of the delegates. Notice of any proposed amendment must be filed in writing with the Secretary by at least two (2) delegates in good standing at least thirty (30) days prior to any meeting and a copy thereof shall be sent forthwith by the Secretary by mail to each member club.

SECTION 2. No amendment may be acted upon at any meeting of the delegates except in compliance with Section 1 above unless the provisions of Section 1 are waived by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates with proper quorum as provided for in Article IX, Section 3.

SECTION 3. A majority vote of the delegates at any meeting, with proper quorum as provided for in Article IX, Section 3, shall be necessary for the adoption of any amendment.

SECTION 4. Gender. The use in these By-Laws of masculine pronouns (e.g. "he" or "him") and other masculine terms (e.g. "Chairman") is solely for the purpose of brevity; and any such word or phrase in any Article of these By-Laws shall be construed to encompass the correlative feminine term (e.g. "she", "her", "chairwoman" etc.)

SECTION 5. Electronic communication is the preferred method of communication. The use of the term "mail" in these By-Laws shall be considered to be replaced by "mail or electronic mail".

Approved November 30, 1961

Amended December 2, 1965

Amended November 30, 1966

Amended December 1, 1971

Amended November 29, 1972

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Amended November 9, 2001

Amended November 11, 2007

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Amended November 14, 2017

