

THE SOUTHERN ALSATIAN TRAINING SOCIETY



RULES

Revised February 2016

Approved by the Kennel Club

Name

1. The Society shall be called the Southern Alsatian Training Society

Objects

2. The objects of the Society shall be:
 1. To instruct by elementary and advanced tuition the owners of German Shepherd Dogs and other breeds owned by members (whether novices or experienced) in the correct training of their dogs.
 2. To encourage and support the inclusion of obedience and like classes at all dog shows which schedule our breed.
 3. To arrange demonstrations and lectures by well known trainers and breeders and breeders on matters of interest to members.
 4. To advise members on matters of difficulty.
 5. To promote the breed according to the Kennel Club standard.

Membership

3. The Society shall consist of an unlimited number of members, whose names and addresses shall be entered on a database kept for the purpose by the Secretary. This database shall be available for inspection, if so requested, by members of the Society or by the Kennel Club.
4. All applications for membership shall be submitted to the Committee for approval.

Finance

5. The financial year of the Society shall run from 1st January to 31st December.
6. The annual subscription, entitling membership of the Society shall, for each member, be such sum as decided by the members at the Annual General Meeting except in the case of additional related members resident at the same address whose annual subscription per person shall be 50% of the members' annual subscription.
7. A member shall become a life member on the payment in one sum of ten annual subscriptions.
8. Subscriptions are payable on application for membership and subsequently on 1st January each year.
9. At the beginning of each year notice shall be sent to members that the annual subscription became due on 1st January. No person shall enjoy any privilege of membership until the annual subscription has been paid.
10. The Accounts will be certified annually and presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting. Certification of accounts must be carried out by one qualified accountant or two individuals with accountancy experience. Those undertaking the certification must be independent from those who prepared the accounts.

A copy of the annual statement of accounts for the last financial year, which must be sent to all members of the society, or provision may be made for a copy of the annual statement of accounts to be made available on request to members 14 days prior to the AGM. Additionally, the annual statement of accounts will be available for inspection by the members at the Annual General Meeting and at times to be stipulated in the rules.

11. No member is empowered to pledge the credit of the Society without first obtaining the written authority of the Committee, which shall be written in the minutes and all items of expenditure likely to exceed £100 shall first come to the Committee for approval.
12. The funds of the Society shall be deposited in a Bank, Building Society or Post Office Account approved by the Committee and all cheques shall be signed by any two of the following officers: Chairman, Honorary Treasurer or Honorary Secretary.
13. No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society.

Expulsion

14. Any member who shall be suspended under Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(5) and / or disqualified under 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 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 a Meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such condition as the Kennel Club may impose.
15. 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.

Officers and Committee

16. The officers of the Society shall be a President, an unlimited number of Vice Presidents, Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer.
17. The Committee shall consist of the President, Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and not more than ten other members.
18. Vice Presidents may attend Committee meetings without power to vote.
19. Vice Presidents shall be nominated by the Committee and elected by members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting.
20. The officers shall be elected by the incoming Committee at the first Committee meeting held following the Annual General Meeting.
21. Any members of the Committee absent from three successive meetings shall have attention drawn to the fact and, failing a satisfactory explanation, the seat shall be declared vacant.
22. In the event of vacancies occurring during the year, the Committee shall have the power to fill the same by co-option.

23. The detailed business of the Society shall be conducted by the Committee who shall have power to give special prizes or donations from the funds of the Society to further the objects laid down in rule 2.

Quorum

24. A quorum of Committee meetings shall be five and of the Annual General Meeting shall be twelve. A quorum of a Special General Meeting shall be twenty-five, all of whom must have been paid up members for the preceding six months.

Meeting

25. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of March after not less than twenty eight days' notice to members in writing. No business shall be transacted at an Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof appears on the agenda with the exception of those matters which, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, are urgent. At this meeting the Committee for the ensuing year shall be elected, the balance sheet duly audited by an independent auditor shall be presented and the Committee reports shall be read.
26. Nominations for membership of the Committee shall be sent to the Honorary Secretary not less than ten days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
27. Election of the Committee shall be by a show of hands or written ballot. The fourteen nominations polling the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected.
28. A member desiring to move any alterations or addition to the existing rules or any other business at the Annual General Meeting must give notice in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least 21 days prior to the meeting. Proposed changes to the rules must be on the notice of the meeting or sent to members 14 days prior to the meeting.
29. The Honorary Secretary may at any time call a General Meeting, a quorum of which shall be twelve.
30. The Honorary Secretary shall, upon a requisition signed by twenty five members and specifying the business, for which such a meeting is required, summon a Special General Meeting. Not less than 14 clear days' notice shall be given in writing to the members of a General Meeting. Should the Honorary Secretary fail to call the meeting, the requisitionists may do so. The meeting shall be held not less than seven or more than fourteen days after the receipt of the requisition by the Honorary Secretary.

Property

31. All winners of challenge cups and other trophies, which are not won outright, must return them to the Cup Steward prior to the event at which they will next be on offer. The Cup Steward will issue a reminder 28 days before the required return date. It shall further be the duty of the Cup Steward to obtain a signature of the winners of the trophies who must also be asked to sign a declaration to the effect that they are solely responsible, whilst in their possession, for the safety, insurance, return in the condition received and replacement / repair if lost / damaged, of the trophies.

Dissolution

32. In the event of the winding up of the Society the assets shall be divided equally among the fully paid up members at the time of the dissolution.

General

33. No alterations or additions to these rules shall be made except at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, notice of which includes details of the proposal to alter the rules.
34. No alterations shall be brought into force until the Kennel Club has been advised and given its approval of the alterations.
35. In any case not covered by these rules the decision of the Committee shall be final.
36. The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the rules and regulations of the Society and in all cases relative to canine or Society matters.
37. The Society shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.
38. The officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Honorary Secretary for continuance of registration and that by 31st July each year, other returns, as stipulated in Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies, be forwarded to the Kennel Club. The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Honorary Secretary of the Society which may occur during the course of the year.