

**Constitution and By-laws
Evergreen Shiba Inu Club**

Article 1

Name and Objects

Section 1. The name of the club shall be The Evergreen Shiba Inu Club.

Section 2. The objects of the club shall be:

(a) To encourage and promote quality in breeding of purebred Shiba Inu's and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection:

(b) To urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed approved by The American Kennel Club and the National Shiba Inu Club of America as the only

standard of excellence by which means the Shiba Inu shall be judged:

(c) Do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, obedience trials, Agility trials and Tracking tests.

(d) To conduct sanctioned and licensed specialty shows and obedience trials, agility and tracking tests under the rules of The American Kennel Club.

Section 3. The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or remainder or residue from dues or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

Section 4. The members of the Club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such by-laws as may be required to carry out these objects.

By-laws

Article 1

Membership

Section 1 *Eligibility*. There shall be 2 types of membership open to all persons eighteen years of age and older who are in good standing with The American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purpose of this Club. In the case of a family membership, a household shall be entitled to a maximum of 2 votes per household.

While membership shall be unrestricted as to residence, the Club's primary purpose is to be representative of the breeders in its area.

Section 2. **Dues**. Membership dues shall not exceed \$15.00 for a single member per year and dues shall not exceed \$20.00 for a family membership per year, payable on or before the 1st day of (March) of each year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of (Jan) the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his dues for the ensuing year.

Section 3. *Election to the Membership*. Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by these constitution and by-laws and rules of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address, and occupation of the Applicant and it shall carry the endorsement of two members. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues payment for the current year.

All applications are to be filed with the Secretary and each application is to be read at the first meeting of the Club following its receipt. At the next meeting the application will be read once more and will be voted upon by secret ballot and an affirmative votes of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the members present and voting at the meeting shall be required to elect the applicant.

Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club may not re-apply within 1 year after such rejection.

Section 4. *Termination of Membership*. Memberships may be terminated:

(a) *By resignation*. Any member in good standing may resign from the club upon written notice to the Secretary: but no member may resign when in debt to the

club.

Dues obligation is considered a debt to the Club and become incurred on the first day of each fiscal year.

(b) *by lapsing.* A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 60 days after the first of the fiscal year: however the Board may grant an additional 30 days of grace to such Delinquent members in meritorious cases. A member must have his/her check to the Corresponding Secretary by the 1st day of March. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting whose dues are unpaid as of the date of that meeting.

(c) *By expulsion.* A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VI of these by-laws.

ARTICLE II

Meetings and Voting

Section 1. *Club Meeting.* Meetings of the club shall be held within the the Greater Centralia WA area of every other month beginning in Jan of the New Year at such an hour and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors. The Recording Secretary shall mail written notice of each meeting at least 5 days prior to the date of the meeting. The Quorum of such meeting shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

Section 2. *Special Club Meeting.* Special Club meetings may be called by the President, or a majority vote of the members of the Board and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held in the greater Centralia,WA. Area at such a place, date and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such a meeting Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed by the Recording Secretary at least 5 days and not more then 15 days prior to the date of the meeting, and said notice shall state the purpose of the meeting, and no other club business may be transacted there. The quorum for such a meeting shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

Section 3. *Board meetings.* Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held every other month in the greater Centralia, WA. area at such hour and place designated by the Board. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Recording Secretary at least 5 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

Section 4. *Special Board Meetings.* Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President; and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held in the Greater Centralia WA area at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such meeting. Written notice of such shall be mailed by the Recording Secretary at least 5 days and not more than 10 days prior to the date of the meeting, any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business shall be transacted there. A quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

Section 5. *Voting* Each member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the club at which he/she is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any club meeting or election.

Article III

Directors and Officer

Section 1. *Board of Directors.* The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary Treasurer and two other persons all of whom shall be members in good standing and all of whom shall be elected for one-year terms at the Club's Annual meeting as provided in Article IV and shall serve until their successors are elected. . General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

Section 2. *Officers.* The Club's officers, consisting of the President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary. and Treasurer shall serve their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meetings.

(a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of the President in addition to those particularly specified in these by-laws.

(b) The Vice- President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the Presidents' death, absence or incapacity.

(c) The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board and all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. The Recording Secretary will also keep roll of the members of the Club with their address, notify members of meetings and carry out such other duties as are prescribed by these by-laws. The Corresponding Secretary He/She shall have charge of all correspondence, and notify new members of their election to membership, notify officers and directors of their election to office,

(d) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club. He/she shall deposit the same in a bank designated to the Club. In the name of the Club. His/Her books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and he/she shall report to them each meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported; and at the annual meeting he/she shall render an account of all monies received and expended during the previous calendar year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such an amount, as the Board of Directors shall determine.

(e) The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person in which case the Board shall be comprised of the officers and 3 other people.

SECTION 3. Vacancies. Any vacancies occurring on the Board or among the officers during the year shall be filled until the next annual election by the majority vote of all the then members of the Board at its first regular meeting following the creation of such vacancy, or at a Special Board Meeting called for the purpose; except that a vacancy in the office of President shall be filled automatically by the Vice-president and the resulting vacancy in the office of the vice-president shall be filled by the Board.

ARTICLE IV

The Club Year, Annual Meeting, Elections

Section 1. Club Year. The club's fiscal year shall begin the 1st day of January and end of the 31st day of December. The Club's official year shall begin at the conclusion of the election at the annual meeting and shall continue through the election at the next annual meeting.

Section 2. *Annual Meeting* The annual meeting shall be held in the month of January at which Officers, and Directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret, written ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 4 of this Article.

They shall take office immediately upon conclusion of the election and each retiring officer shall turn over his successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after election.

Section 3. *Elections*. The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The two nominated candidate for the other positions on the Board who receive the greatest number of votes for such positions shall be declared elected.

Section 4. *Nominations* No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated. During the month of September, the Board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three members and two alternates, not more then one of who may be a member of the Board. The Corresponding Secretary shall immediately notify the committeeman and alternates of their selection. The Board shall name a Chairperson for the Committee and it shall be their duty to call a committee meeting, which shall be held on or before the 15th of October.

(a) The committee shall nominate one candidate for each office and two candidates for other positions on the Board. Upon securing the consent of each person so nominated, the Chairman shall immediately report his or her nominations to the Corresponding Secretary in writing.

(b) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committees report, the Corresponding Secretary shall notify the membership 2 weeks prior to the November of the candidates. Any member will take additional nominations at that meeting in attendance provided that the person so nominated does not decline when their name is proposed. If a proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting,

their proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from which the proposed candidate signifying their willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position unless it is the Secretary and Treasurer position. If the same holds the Secretary and Treasurer position person a 3rd person will be added to the Board.

Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or any manner other than as provided in this Section.

ARTICLE V

Committees

Section 1. The Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as to Specialty shows, Obedience trials, Agility Trails,

Tracking Test, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other fields, which may be served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to final authority of the

Board. Special committees may also be appointed by the Board to aid in on particular projects.

Section 2. Any committee appointed may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board upon written notice to the appointee; and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose services have been terminated.

ARTICLE VI

Discipline

Section 1. *American Kennel Club Suspension.* Any member who is suspended from the privileges of The American Kennel Club automatically shall be suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period.

Section 2. *Charges.* Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club or Breed. Written

charges with specification must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$50.00, which will be forfeited if the Board following a hearing does not sustain such charges. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the Board or present them at a Board meeting. **The Board shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the club. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct, which would be prejudicial to the best interest of the club, it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction.** If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges it shall fix a date of a hearing by the Board not less than 3 weeks nor more than 6 weeks thereafter. The Corresponding Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by registered mail together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in their own defense and bring witness if they wish.

Section 3. Board Hearing. The Board shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the hearing, but both complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in that regard. Should the charges be sustained, after hearing all evidence and testimony presented by complainant and defendant, the Board may, by majority vote of those present, reprimand or suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than 6 months from the date of the hearing. And, if it deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before his fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board recommendation. Immediately after the Board has reached a decision, its finding shall be put in written form and filed with the Corresponding Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the Board's decision and penalty, if any.

Section 4. Expulsion. Expulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only at a meeting of the club following a Board hearing and upon the Board's recommendation as provided in Section 3 of this Article. Such proceeding may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within 60 days but not earlier than 30 days after the date of the Board's recommendation of expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the Board's findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present to speak in his own behalf if he wishes. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A 2/3 vote of those present and voting at the meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted, the Board's suspension shall stand.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to the constitution and by-laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Corresponding Secretary signed by 20% of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such a petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the members with the recommendations of the Board of Directors by the Corresponding Secretary for a vote within three months of the date when the petition was received by the Corresponding Secretary.

Section 2. The constitution and by-laws may be amended by a 2/3 secret vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for the purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each member at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

ARTICLE VII

Dissolution

Section 1. *Dissolution.* The Club may be dissolved at any time by written consent of not less than 2/3 of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club other than for the purpose of reorganization, whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation law, none of the property of the Club nor any of its proceeds thereof nor any assets of the Club shall be distributed to any members of the Club until after payment of the debts of the Club its property and assets shall be given to a charitable organization for the benefit of dogs selected by the Board of Directors.

Article IX

Order of Business

Section 1. At meetings of the Club, the order of business, so far as the character and nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows:

Roll Call

Minutes of the last meeting

Report of the President

Report of the Secretary

Report of the Treasurer

Reports of Committees

Election of Officers and Board at annual meeting

Election of new members

Unfinished business

Adjournment

Section 2. At meeting of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by majority vote of those present, shall be as follows

Reading of the minutes of the last meeting

Report of the Secretary

Report of Treasurer

Reports of Committees

Unfinished business

Adjournment

Article X –

Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. The rules contained in the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised," shall govern the club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any other special rules of order the club may adopt.

The bylaws of a club that is a member of The American Kennel Club should include, without parentheses, the references to Delegate, which appear.