



# RR CLUB INC CONSTITUTION

1. There is hereby constituted a Canine Club with a Constitution and Membership as herein provided which is herein called the Club.
2. The name of the Club shall be *THE RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK CLUB INC.*

#### **DEFINITIONS**

3. **“Application for Membership”** includes re-admission to membership.

**“Constitution”** means the Constitution for the time being of the Rhodesian Ridgeback Club Inc.

**“Dual Member”** means one of any two members of the same family resident at the same address or one of any two partners in the conduct of a kennel having a kennel prefix in their joint names registered with the Royal NSW Canine Council who has been admitted with the other of such persons as a Dual Member of the Club.

**“Exhibition”** includes a canine show, canine exhibition, canine parade, canine trial, canine competition, display, obedience trial, non-slip retrieving trial, contest or match.

**“Financial Member”** means a member of the Club who shall not be in default of payment of an annual subscription or any fees or other monies payable by them in accordance with the Constitution. Unfinancial shall have the opposite meaning.

**“Family Member”** means one of any two members of the same family resident at the same address who will have the same rights and responsibilities as “Dual Members” of the Club, and those of their children aged under sixteen years.

**“Financial Year”** means the financial year of the Club as defined by Rule 84

**“Honorary Member”** or “Honorary Life Member” means a person who is not a member of the Club, who upon the recommendation of the Committee or upon the written nomination signed by not less than five Members is elected by a resolution passed in General Meeting by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the members voting in person thereat as an Honorary Member for life or for such lesser period as may be so determined and who in the opinion of such Meeting has rendered outstanding services to the Rhodesian Ridgeback Club Inc. or for other good and sufficient reason and who need not comply with the provisions of Rule 6

**“Junior Member”** means a person over the age of twelve years and under the age of sixteen years who has been admitted as a member of the Club.

**“Member”** means a person who has been admitted as an Ordinary or Dual Member of the Club, and where the context so admits, shall include a person admitted to any other category of membership.

**“Member of the Committee”** in Rule 42 where the context so admits, shall be determined to include the Office Bearers.

**“Office”** means the Office of the Club, and shall be a place as determined from time to time at which the records of the Club are to be kept.

**“Office Bearers”** means the President, the Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Show Secretary and Editor for the time being of the Club.

**“Period of Membership”** in relation to a member denotes the twelve months terminating at midnight on 30<sup>th</sup> day of June each year for which such member for the time being is elected to membership of the Club or such portion of that **“Person”** where the context reasonably permits, includes an individual, a firm or partnership, a company or corporation, or any other legal entity.

**“Regulations”** means the Regulations made by the Committee with the approval of the Members pursuant to the Constitution and from time to time in force.

**“Rule”** means a provision of the Constitution and where the context so admits, includes a paragraph of sub-paragraph thereof term during which their membership continues.

**“Secretary”** means the Honorary Secretary or Secretary of the Club, and where the context reasonably permits, includes the Assistant Secretary and

any other person for the time being appointed by the Committee to exercise the functions of the Secretary.

“**Writing**” includes printing and any other like recognized means of communication or reproducing words in visible form. Words used in the Constitution and Regulations where the context reasonably permits shall have the same meaning as the definition thereof set forth in the Constitution and Regulations of the Royal NSW Canine Council. Words importing the singular number shall include the plural number.

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF  
THE RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK CLUB INC.**

4. The aims and Objectives of the Club are
  - a. to affiliate with the Royal NSW Canine Council.
  - b. to promote and encourage the breeding of healthy pure bred Rhodesian Ridgeback dogs.
  - c. to promote and raise the standard of exhibiting dogs.
  - d. to promote the holding of exhibitions and shows.
  - e. to conduct exhibitions and shows,
  - f. to foster, promote and protect the interests of exhibitors of dogs at exhibitions and shows.
  - g. to collect, verify and publish information relating to Rhodesian Ridgebacks and the breeding and ownership of Rhodesian Ridgebacks.
  - h. to educate and encourage members, breeders and judges to abide by the requirements and standards of the breed approved by the Royal NSW Canine Council for the conduct of exhibitions and shows.
  - i. to promote good fellowship and sportsmanship among members and those participating in or attending at exhibitions and shows.
  - j. to inform members and make known to them the laws of the State relating to the ownership and care of dogs and the responsibility of owners for the conduct and actions of their dogs.
  - k. to hold functions and lectures relating to dogs and to the objectives of the Club generally.
  - l. to make awards and donate prizes for competition at exhibitions and shows and for the competition by breeders and exhibitors of Rhodesian Ridgebacks
  - m. to foster relations with other Clubs and bodies having similar aims.
  - n. to promote and assist and to make contributions to canine veterinary research and other canine causes.
  - o. to be responsible for the stewardship of Club funds and property.
  - p. to provide support for lost and rescued pure bred RRs.

- q. to carry on such other activities or promote or encourage interest in the breed, upkeep and training of and the general well being and improvement of all RRs and to do all such other things as may be necessary or conducive to carrying out the Aims and Objectives of the Club.

#### **AFFILIATION WITH THE ROYAL NSW CANINE COUNCIL**

- 5. So long as the Club is an Affiliate of the Royal NSW Canine Council, every member whether a member of the Canine Council or not, shall be deemed to have agreed with the Canine Council to be bound by the Rules and Regulations for the time being in force and at all times submit to and carry out every determination, finding, decision, requirement or direction of the Royal NSW Canine Council so far as the same shall relate to them.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

- 6. The Membership of the Club shall be not less than 30 Members having the right to vote at General Meetings of the Club, provided that at all times, one-half of the Members shall be persons each of whom is:
  - a. the registered owner or part owner of a registered Rhodesian Ridgeback dog or.
  - b. a member of a household, one of whom is the owner or part owner of a registered Rhodesian Ridgeback dog.

#### **CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS**

- 7. Membership of the Club shall be divided into the following categories:
  - a. Member
  - b. Dual Member
  - c. Family Member
  - d. Honorary Member elected annually
  - e. Honorary Life Member
  - f. Junior Member, and any person elected to membership shall be deemed for all purposes to have agreed to be bound by the Constitution and Regulations for the time being in force of the Royal NSW Canine Council and of the Club.

#### **ROLL OF MEMBERS**

- 8. A roll of Members shall be kept by the Committee and shall contain the name and address and category of membership for each Member. The roll of members shall be kept current and shall be made available by the Membership Secretary for inspection by a Member at all reasonable times.

### **APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

9. An application for Membership shall be in such form as the Committee may from time to time prescribe and shall be signed by the applicant and two Members as referees and lodged with the Secretary.
10. The Secretary shall submit such application to the first General Meeting of Members next succeeding its receipt, and if such application is approved by a three-fourths majority of Members voting in person thereat, the applicant shall thereon become a Member of the Club provided that they shall pay such joining fee and subscription in respect of their category and period of membership or part thereof, as shall be determined from time to time. Upon the satisfactory completion of the foregoing, the Secretary will ensure that each new member receives a copy of the current Rhodesian Ridgeback Constitution.
11. A person may, prior to 5 p.m. on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June in each year, make application to the Committee for readmission as a member to their category of membership and upon payment of their annual subscription with such application, shall be deemed for all purposes to have been reelected as such a member. A period of grace of no more than two (2) months shall be allowed for membership renewals after which all renewals will be only accepted as new members. Privileges such as voting and participation in Club activities are lost whilst unfinancial.
12. A person elected to membership after the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December in any year upon payment of one-half of the prescribed annual subscription, applicable to the category of membership to which they are elected, shall be deemed to be a financial member for the remainder of that financial year.

### **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF MEMBERSHIP**

13. A Member shall cease ipso facto to be a member of the Club
  - a. upon termination of their period of membership, whether by passing of time or otherwise, unless they shall be readmitted pursuant to Rule 11 as a Member of the Club for a further period of membership.
  - b. if they resign by notice in writing addressed to the Secretary.
  - c. if they shall die or become bankrupt or suspend payment or compound with their creditors or be convicted of a felony.
  - d. if they become of unsound mind or a person whose personal estate is liable to be dealt with in any way under the law relating to mental health.
  - e. if pursuant to the Constitution, they shall be expelled from the Club.
  - f. if they are convicted of an offence under the Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 or Companion Animals Act 1998, or any amendment thereof, or Act substituted thereof

- g. if their membership of the Royal NSW Canine Council has been terminated by that council

#### **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION AND JOINING FEE**

- 14. The Members in General Meeting at any time and from time to time may fix the amount of the annual subscription payable by each category of membership. In a like manner determine that a joining fee shall be paid and the amount thereof. Provided always that any such alteration to the Annual Subscription or Joining Fee must be by notice of motion and included on the notice paper for a decision by the Members at the next General Meeting.

#### **PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP**

- 15. Subject to the restrictions and limitations prescribed by or pursuant to the Constitution, the privileges of a Member shall be:
  - a. the right to attend all meetings of the Club.
  - b. the right to vote on club matters as per Rule 79
  - c. the right to submit themselves as a candidate for any Office of the Club, providing they have been a member of the Club for the preceding twelve months.
  - d. to receive any publication issued by the Club.
  - e. to exhibit at any exhibition or show conducted by the Club and compete for and hold perpetual trophies
  - f. participate in social activities of the Club
- 16. A Junior Member or Honorary Member shall not be entitled to vote or take part in the proceedings of a General Meeting unless authorised by the Chairman and shall not be entitled to hold Office, but shall be entitled to exercise all other privileges of membership.

#### **CONDUCT OF MEMBERS**

- 17. Member upon election to any category of membership, shall strictly observe and act in conformity with and not otherwise than in accordance with the Constitution and Regulations of the Club and of the Royal NSW Canine Council, and will uphold the honor of and use their best endeavors to, further the aims and objectives of the Club.
- 18. If called upon so to do by the Committee, a Member shall supply upon Statutory Declaration duly made by them or their agent or servant as may be determined by the Committee any information to the Committee pursuant to Rule 19.
- 19. If upon such inquiry, the Committee is of the opinion that the Member has willfully infringed any of the Rules or Regulations of the Royal NSW Canine

Council or of the Club, or has been guilty of any conduct prejudicial to the Club or to any Member thereof, the Committee may call their attention to it in writing addressed to such Member and shall call upon such Member to show cause why they should not be expelled from the Club or have their membership suspended.

20. If such member does not within a period of twenty-one days of the date of the aforesaid notice, either resign their membership or offer an explanation of the circumstances, either in person or in writing as they may elect to, the Committee at a meeting thereof convened for that purpose, and if such explanation is not acceptable to the Committee, it may recommend to the Members at the first General Meeting thereof convened subsequent to such inquiry, that the Member be suspended from membership for such period as the Committee may think fit or that such Member be expelled from the Club. At such a meeting, the Member shall be entitled to be heard and to give explanation of the circumstances and to call witness's on their behalf.
21. If the recommendation of the Committee or an amendment thereof is approved by a resolution passed by a majority of three-fourths of the Members voting in person thereat, such member shall forthwith be suspended from membership, or expelled as the case may be, and they shall have no claim whatsoever against any Member so voting. The Royal NSW Canine Council will be notified of the suspension. Any Member so dealt with will have no right to appeal to the Royal NSW Canine Council.

#### **COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE**

22. The Office Bearers of the Club shall be:
  - a. the President
  - b. one Vice-President
  - c. the Secretary
  - d. the Treasurer
  - e. the Show Secretary
  - f. the Editor

No office bearers of the club shall stand for the same office for more than three years in succession. A member shall not hold more than one office on the committee of the club at any one time and that no two signatories on the club's account(s) shall be from the same family or partnership.

23. The Executive comprises the President, Secretary and Treasurer.
24. Other office bearers of the committee are the Vice President, Show Secretary and Editor.



### **DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT**

25. The President shall:
- a. facilitate all club activities
  - b. chair meetings of the committee

### **DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY**

26. The Secretary shall exercise and perform all the usual secretarial functions and generally attend to the secretarial work of the Club and in particular shall keep and maintain:
- a. roll of Members (to be kept current by Membership Secretary)
  - b. minutes of all proceedings of meetings of the Committee and of the Club.
  - c. all necessary records of the affairs of the Club.
  - d. an indexed list of resolutions of the Club pertaining to their Constitution and ensure that the changes are ratified by the Department of Fair Trading.

### **DUTIES OF THE TREASURER**

27. The Treasurer shall:
- a. receive all monies paid to the Club and cause the same to be paid into the banking account of the Club kept for such purpose within fourteen days of the receipt thereof.
  - b. keep all necessary books of account and financial statements as shall be required by the Auditors.
  - c. prepare the Annual Balance Sheet and Accounts and accompanying reports.
  - d. submit financial reports to all meetings of the Committee and the Club. Should the Treasurer be unable to attend any meeting of the Committee or the Club, they will submit these reports to the Secretary before the commencement of each missed meeting.
  - e. produce to the Members in General Meeting the club financial books when requested to do so.
  - f. keep vouchers for payments authorized by the Club and the Committee.
  - g. keep a true and correct inventory of all property of the Club.

### **DUTIES OF THE SHOW SECRETARY**

28. The Members shall appoint a Show Secretary and their duties shall be determined by the Members in General Meeting. The Show Secretary shall keep:
- a. a register of the persons who are appointed by the Members as Judges.
  - b. a complete record of awards made at all exhibitions and shows conducted by the Club.

### **DUTIES OF THE EDITOR**

29. The Club shall publish a Newsletter to be known as the "Rhodesian Ridgeback Club Newsletter" that will be distributed to the Members of the Club every alternate month. The Members shall elect an Editor at the Annual General Meeting who will collect and publish such information as will further the Aims and Objectives of the Club.

### **COMMITTEE**

30. There shall be a Committee consisting of the Office Bearers and five Members.
31. The Committee shall manage and have the entire control of the affairs of the Club subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.
32. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Members in General Meeting by resolution passed by a simple majority of the Members voting in person thereat, may overrule a decision of the Committee, except a decision of the Committee, to pay any account payable by the Club, or by a resolution passed by a simple majority of the Members voting thereat may instruct the Committee in the light of objections expressed by any Member to any such decisions to review the decisions at its next meeting and make its further recommendation to the Members at the next General Meeting thereof.

### **MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE**

33. Meetings of the Committee shall be held at least every alternate month at such place and at such time as the Committee from time to time determines
34. The Secretary or their representative shall attend all meetings of the Committee. The Minutes of such meetings shall be signed by the Chairman as confirmation and shall be accepted as evidence of the proceedings of the meeting.
35. The quorum for a Committee Meeting shall be not less than five.
36. The Secretary shall call a Meeting of the Committee whenever requested so to do by the President or by three Members of the Committee.
37. The President or in their absence or if they be unwilling to act, a Vice-President present or if present they shall be unwilling to act, then a Member of the Committee elected by the Members thereof present in person shall be the Chairman of a meeting of the Committee.
38. A Member of the Committee shall not vote in respect of any matter in which they may be perceived to have a conflict of interest.

39. Any decision made by a Committee or Sub-Committee of which includes a member who is later disqualified then any decision made by the Committee or Sub-Committee remains valid.
40. A resolution in writing signed by all Members of the Committee shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Committee duly held and convened. Any such resolution may consist of several documents in like form each signed by one or more Members of the Committee.
41. A Member of the Committee absenting themselves from three consecutive meetings without leave of the Committee shall ipso facto cease to be a Member of the Committee, and if an Office Bearer they shall ipso facto also cease to hold that Office.
42. A casual vacancy occurring amongst Members of the Committee caused by the death or resignation of a Member thereof or by a Member ceasing for any reason to be a Member of the Committee, shall be filled by the Committee at its next meeting and the Member so appointed shall hold that Office until their appointment is confirmed by the Members at the next General Meeting or the vacancy is otherwise filled by the Members.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE**

43. The Office Bearers and the members of the Committee and Public Officer shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and shall take office at the close of the Annual General Meeting at which they are elected.
44. Nomination of Members proposed as Office Bearers or as Members of the Committee shall be made in writing to the Secretary at least twenty-eight days before the date of the Annual General Meeting, and shall be signed by at least one Member and the nominee.
45. Any member wishing to be nominated for a committee position including office bearers shall have been a member of the Club for at least the preceding twelve months prior to nomination.
46. If the positions of Office Bearers or Members of the Committee are contested then every Financial Member of the Club shall be sent a ballot paper and such Member shall be deemed a "Postal Voting Member".
47. A list of such nominations shall be sent to each of the Postal Voting Members at least fourteen days prior to the Annual General Meeting. Such list shall contain in

respect of all candidates for the Committee whose name appears thereon the number of such meetings held during the past year, and the number thereof that they attended, whilst they were a Member of the Committee.

48. If no nomination is received for the Office of President or Vice-President, or if a Member for such Office declares at the Annual General Meeting verbally or in writing that they are unwilling to stand for that Office, or if the number of Members required for the election as Members of the Committee are not nominated, the Members may propose and second orally at the Annual General Meeting, sufficient Members to fill any such Office.
49. If there be more than the required number of Members nominated to the election of any Office, an election by ballot shall take place, but if there be only the requisite number, the Chairman shall declare those nominated to be duly elected.
50. If the election of the Office Bearers and Members of the Committee shall be by ballot, the list of nominations sent to the Postal Voting Members as aforesaid shall constitute a voting paper for Postal Voting Members and shall indicate by an asterisk and footnote those members eligible for reelection. The Secretary shall initial and number consecutively the top right hand corner of the ballot paper and keep a true record of the number of ballot papers issued.
51. For the purpose of the ballot a Returning Officer and not less than two scrutineers shall be appointed by the Members at, and as the first business of, the Annual General Meeting. Upon the appointment of the Returning Officer and scrutineers, the Secretary shall hand to the Returning Officer a list of Members of the Club entitled to vote. If any ballot paper shall indicate that any Member has purported to vote for a greater or lesser number of candidates than the number of vacancies that have to be filled, or if the ballot paper has not been endorsed and numbered by the Secretary as aforesaid, or the returning envelope containing the ballot envelope has not been signed by the Member purported to vote, such ballot paper shall be declared informal and the votes of that Member shall not be counted.
52. A voting paper shall be prepared by the Secretary with the names of the candidates listed thereon in alphabetical order that shall be posted to each Postal Voting Member not later than fourteen days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.
53. Each Postal Voting Member wishing to participate in the ballot shall strike out from the voting paper all names except the names of the candidates for whom they wish to vote and shall insert the voting paper only and without any other matter in the ballot envelope and endorse on the outside flap of the ballot

envelope forwarded by the Secretary for that purpose and return such envelope properly sealed so as to arrive at the Club's Office not later than 5.00pm. (which shall be the time of closing of the postal ballot) of the day appointed for the holding of the Annual General Meeting at which the result of the ballot is to be declared as hereinafter provided.

54. Forthwith after the appointment of the Returning Officer and the scrutineers, the Returning Officer shall count or cause to be counted by the said scrutineers the votes as recorded on the voting papers so received at the Club's Office. Such votes shall be counted in the presence of the President or the Vice-President and of any person or persons standing for election who may attend.
55. The Returning Officer shall declare the result of the ballot immediately after the votes have been counted, and announce the number of votes polled by each candidate, and in the event of equality of votes in favour of any candidate which could affect the election of a candidate, the Members of the Annual General Meeting shall elect one of such candidates to fill the vacancy for which they were nominated by a Resolution passed by a simple majority of Members present and voting thereon. The Returning Officer shall deliver all ballot papers so counted to the Secretary in a sealed envelope or wrapper who shall keep the same for a period of 90 days from the date of the Meeting.
56. If any question shall arise as to the validity or invalidity of a voting paper, or whether any particular Member has or has not been elected to any particular Office, a statement by the Returning Officer that the relevant voting paper is or is not valid or that a particular Member has or has not been elected to a particular Office shall be conclusive.

#### **SUB-COMMITTEES**

57. On the recommendation of the Committee or upon a motion of a Member, the Members in General Meeting may at any time and from time to time appoint a Sub-Committee from amongst the Members of the Committee or the Members for such purpose and with authority to exercise such powers and duties as the Committee or the members in their discretion may recommend and the Members thereof shall hold office during the pleasure of the Members.
58. The Members as aforesaid may by resolution, remove from office a Member of a Sub-Committee and may in like manner appoint another eligible person in their stead.
59. The Quorum for such a Sub-Committee shall be determined by the Members at the time of its election. In addition a Chairman is appointed.

60. Any such Sub-Committee may be empowered to exercise the powers and duties committed to it for a term extending beyond the term of office of the Committee recommending it, provided that such an extended term is ratified by the Members in the General Meeting.
61. Subject to the consent of the Members any such Sub-Committee may co-opt additional Members to assist in its duties.

#### **RULINGS AT MEETINGS**

62. All questions arising at a General Meeting or at a meeting of the Committee or of the Sub-Committee, other than questions of order or practice which shall be decided by the Chairman, shall be decided by the majority of votes cast at such meeting and in the case of equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

#### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS**

63. The Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Club shall be held within three months of the end of the financial year. At this time reports from the President and Secretary will be provided.
64. The business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting shall be:
  - a. to confirm the Minutes of the preceding Annual General Meeting.
  - b. to receive and adopt the balance sheet and accounts of the Club and the accompanying reports thereon.
  - c. to receive from the Returning Officer pursuant to Rule 54, the result of the ballot of the election of the Office Bearers and Members of the Committee
  - d. pursuant to Rule 43-56 , to elect Office Bearers or Members of the Committee.
  - e. to appoint an Auditor.
  - f. to transact any other business written notice of which shall have been given to the Members at least seven days prior to the date of such meeting.
  - g. to elect Patrons

#### **GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS**

65. An ordinary General Meeting of the Club shall be held at least every alternate month upon such day and upon such time and at such place as the Members at their preceding meeting shall determine or if not so determined as shall be convened pursuant to the Constitution.
66. The business of an ordinary General Meeting shall be:
  - a. to note apologies for non attendance.
  - b. to confirm the Minutes of the preceding ordinary General Meeting.

- c. to transact business arising out of such Minutes.
- d. to receive the reports from the Committee, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Show Secretary and the Editor any other such reports as may be required to be given.
- e. to receive the reports of Sub-Committees.
- f. to elect new Members.
- g. to consider and deal with business deferred from the previous meeting.
- h. to consider and deal with motions of which due notice has been given.
- i. to consider and deal with correspondence received since the previous General Meeting.
- j. to pass accounts for payments
- k. to receive notices of motion.
- l. to receive motions off the floor.
- m. to hear through the Chairman's answers to questions from Members and where appropriate to deal with subject matter thereof
- n. to deal with such other business as the Chairman or the Members may allow.

67. The Quorum at a General Meeting shall be no less than five Members present in person.

#### **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS**

68. A Special General Meeting may be convened by the Secretary at the direction of the President or of the Committee or on the written request of Five Members.

69. The business to be transacted at the Special General Meeting shall be set out in the notice governing the same, and no other business shall be transacted.

70. Then as per Rules 37-39

#### **NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

71. Every General Meeting shall be convened by a notice given by the Secretary to each Member of the Club specifying the date time and venue of such meeting. The signature to such notice may be written stamped, impressed, typed or printed. Every such Meeting shall commence not later than 8.00pm.

72. At least seven days prior notice shall be given in respect of each such meeting. Provided that with the sanction of a General Meeting one notice containing particulars required by Rule 67 in respect of each such General Meeting to be held during the Financial Year may be sent within the time aforesaid to the Members in the month of July each year or at such other time of the Financial Year in respect of future General Meetings in that year as a General Meeting may

direct. Provided further that a copy of a notice of a motion received in writing from a Member shall be sent by the Secretary to each Member within the time aforesaid of the General Meeting at which the same is to be dealt.

73. Notice of a General Meeting shall be deemed to have been given to each Member if it is published in the Club's Newsletter provided that such publication is made and dispatched to the Members not less than fourteen days nor more than fifty-six days prior to the date of the meeting or if it is served upon them personally or if it is sent through the post in a pre-paid letter, envelope or wrapper addressed to such Member at the address furnished by them to the Secretary or their last address known to the Secretary. A notice sent to one of a Dual or Family Membership shall be deemed for all purposes to have been notice given to each of such Members.
74. The accidental omission to give notice to a Member or if a Member shall fail to receive a notice sent aforesaid, shall not invalidate a General Meeting.
75. A notice sent by post shall be deemed to have been served on the day following that on which the letter, envelope or wrapper containing the same is posted. In providing such service, a certificate signed by the Secretary that the letter, envelope or wrapper was properly addressed, postage prepaid and put into the Post Office or a receptacle provided by Australia Post for the purpose of posting letters, shall be conclusive evidence thereof.

#### **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETINGS**

76. If at a General Meeting or at a Committee or Sub-Committee meeting a quorum shall not be present after a lapse of thirty minutes from the appointed time thereof, the Meeting shall thereupon lapse.
77. A General Meeting of Members or a Meeting of Members of a Committee or of a Sub-Committee shall have the power to adjourn its proceedings from time to time for any period not exceeding at any one time, one month.

#### **VOID MEETINGS**

78. If a Member who is entitled to attend and vote at a General Meeting of Members or at a meeting of a Committee or Sub-Committee is denied entrance to such a meeting, or if during such a meeting they are removed or compelled to leave the meeting other than for good and sufficient reason as provided by this Constitution, all business conducted thereat shall be void and of no force or effect as though such meeting had not been held.



### **VOTING OF MEMBERS**

79. At meetings of Members or of the Committee or of a Sub-Committee the mode of voting in the first instance shall be by way of a show of hands. If required by any Member voting can be by a ballot. The Committee can also authorise electronic voting. The Chairman shall have an ordinary, and in the case of equality, a casting vote and all questions shall be decided by a majority of Members voting.

### **TRUSTEES**

80. The Members in General Meeting shall appoint not less than three Trustees and unless otherwise determined, the President, Secretary and Treasurer for the time being in office shall be the Trustees and shall hold all the property of the Club, real and personal on behalf of the Members. A Trustee in like manner may be removed at any time and from time to time and another person appointed in their stead.

### **PROPERTY**

81. The income and property of the Club howsoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Aims and Objectives of the Club as set forth in this Constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to the Members of the Club. Provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officer or servant of the Club, or any Member of the Club in return for any services actually rendered to the Club, or reasonable or proper rent for premises demised or let by any Member to the Club.
82. If upon winding up or dissolution of the Club there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the Members of the Club, but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Club, and which shall prohibit the distribution of it's or their income and property among it's or their Members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Club under or by virtue of Rule 78 hereof, such institution or institutions to be determined by the Members of the Club at or before the time of dissolution, and if and so far as effect cannot be given to the aforesaid provisions, then to some charitable object.
83. If for any reason whatsoever the Club cannot continue to function or meet it's financial commitments, the Members at a General Meeting may by a three quarter majority wind up the Club and levy each Member an amount sufficient to meet the outstanding debts. The amount to be limited to no more than one years ordinary membership subscription.

### **FINANCIAL YEAR**

84. Financial Year of the Club shall commence on the first day of July in each year, and terminate on the thirtieth day of June in the following year.

### **BANKING ACCOUNT**

85. The Committee shall cause an account to be opened with a recognized banking institution and kept in the name of the Club.
86. All cheques payable to the order of the Club shall be endorsed in such a manner and by such persons as shall be appointed for that purpose from time to time by the Members in General Meeting and deposited to the credit of the Club's banking account.
87. All monies payable on behalf of the Club shall be paid by cheque drawn upon the Club's bankers that shall be signed by the Treasurer and any one of the Office Bearers. Notice of each such authority or change thereof shall be given to the Club's Bankers forthwith whenever the need shall arise.

### **ACCOUNTS**

88. The Treasurer shall keep or cause to be kept true accounts of all monies received, of all payments made by or on behalf of the Club, and of all assets and liabilities, the manner in which income and expenditure of the Club have been dealt with which at all times shall show the true financial position of the Club.
89. The Club's books of account shall be kept at such place of security as the Members in General Meeting shall determine from time to time.

### **AUDIT AND AUDITOR**

90. The Members at the Annual General Meeting shall appoint each year a duly qualified Auditor to be the Auditor of the Club and a person so appointed shall hold that office until the next Annual General Meeting. A casual vacancy occurring in the position of Auditor shall be appointed by the Committee.
91. A person shall not be appointed or act as Auditor of the Club:
- a. if they are not a registered Auditor as defined by the Companies Act, 1961, of the State of New South Wales;
  - b. if they are an Office Bearer or a Member of the Committee or an employee of the Club.

### **PATRON**

92. The Members at the Annual General Meeting may elect, until otherwise determined by them, not more than TWO persons to be the Patrons of the Club

who shall hold that Office until the close of the next succeeding Annual General Meeting. A Patron shall be entitled to attend a General Meeting of the Club and by invitation of the President to address the Members thereat, but unless they are a Member they shall not be entitled to enter into debate on any matter before the meeting or to vote thereat.

#### **SHOWS**

93. The Club may conduct from time to time (either alone or in conjunction with another Club or Body) in accordance with the Rules and Regulations for the time being in force of the Royal NSW Canine Council, exhibitions and shows.

#### **JUDGES**

94. The Members in General Meeting by a resolution passed by a simple majority of those voting, shall elect Judges. This appointment will be subject to approval by the RNSW Canine Council or ANKC. At least fourteen days notice shall be given to the Members of the intention to elect Judges at such General Meetings and the notice shall specify the Shows for which such Judges are to be appointed.

#### **ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

95. An amendment of or an addition to the Rules shall not be made except by a resolution passed at a General Meeting by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the Members voting in person thereat.
96. Notice of a proposed amendment of or addition to the Rules shall be posted by the Secretary to each Member not less than fourteen days immediately preceding the day fixed for the meeting at which such proposals are to be discussed.
97. An amendment to any such proposal (except to the wording and not the substance thereof) shall not be entertained unless notice thereof shall have been given to the Secretary at least thirty-five days before such meeting. The Secretary shall give notice to each Member of any such amendment forthwith.
98. Any amendment of or addition to the Constitution shall be notified to the Royal NSW Canine Council after approval by the Members of the Club and the Department of Fair Trading with the appropriate fee.

#### **PROCEDURE AT MEETINGS**

99. The Chairman of a General Meeting or of the Committee or of a Sub-Committee:
- a. shall conduct the meeting in accordance with the Rules governing any such meeting and with the law and accepted practice relating thereof;
  - b. shall make themselves familiar with such Rules and the law and accepted practice relating thereof;

- c. shall be bound by the Rules and Regulations made pursuant thereto and shall ensure that the meeting at all times conforms thereto and shall administer the same fairly and impartially;
- d. shall at all times endeavour to be concise in their statements to the meeting and be fair when summing up points at issue or as have been or are the subject of debate and to speak clearly so as to be heard by the Members;
- e. provided that a quorum is then present or if not, then as soon as a quorum is present within the allowed time, shall declare the meeting open at the hour appointed;
- f. if a quorum is not present as aforesaid, or if during the meeting there shall cease to be a quorum, shall adjourn the meeting or declare that it has lapsed as may be required by the Rules and Regulations;
- g. shall introduce the items of business in the order set out in the notice convening the meeting or as prescribed by the Rules and shall not change such order without the approval of a resolution of the Members present pursuant to a motion specifying the change required in such order;
- h. shall close the meeting promptly at the completion of the business to be transacted thereat, or unless the Members shall otherwise determine, at the time appointed;
- i. shall call upon a Member by their name to speak and shall alone determine the order of speakers;
- j. shall not be entitled to take the Chair upon their late arrival at a meeting if some other person has been elected Chairman, due to their absence unless such Chairman as an act of courtesy, resign from such position;
- k. shall not be required to accept a motion of no confidence in the Chair or that the Chairman leave the Chair provided that, except when the President is in the Chair, a Member may move that a Member who shall be named and who shall consent thereto take the Chair for the meeting, and if carried, the Chairman shall forthwith vacate the Chair and such member shall become the Chairman for the remainder of the meeting; A Member may propose or second themselves as Chairman and may vote for themselves.
- l. shall not permit discussion of any subject matter unless there is a motion thereon before the meeting and shall forthwith terminate all irrelevant discussion;
- m. shall ensure that the decision of the meeting is properly ascertained in respect of any question before it and subject to the Rules shall give to the Members sufficient opportunity to express their opposing views;
- n. shall determine whether a motion or an amendment thereof falls within the terms of the notice of the meeting or of a written Notice of Motion and shall not rule out of order a Motion which is within the competence of the meeting when all the conditions incidental to the submission of the matter to the meeting have been observed;

- o. if a poll is demanded may determine the time and manner of taking it and if it is not possible to take such poll during the course of the meeting, may adjourn the meeting for such purpose and may order a poll to be taken although the meeting desires voting by a show of hands;
- p. shall enter or cause to be entered in the Minute Book the result of a poll and such entry shall be prima facie evidence of the result thereof;
- q. where the voting is by show of hands, may require another vote although they have previously declared the result;
- r. should a motion of similar intention to one which has been previously rejected, be moved again within twelve months, then the Chairman will seek three-fourths majority approval by the members voting in person to accept the motion for discussion and subsequent voting. If such majority is not forthcoming then the motion will be rejected and no further discussion will take place;
- s. an existing motion may be rescinded at a General Meeting providing that the Chairman seeks a three-fourths majority approval by the members voting thereat to accept the rescission motion and therefore open discussion and subsequent voting. If such majority is not forthcoming no further discussion will take place.

#### **A MEMBER PRESENT AT A MEETING**

100.A member present at a meeting:

- a. shall not address a meeting without first being called upon so to do by the Chairman;
- b. desirous of moving a motion or an amendment to a motion or of taking part in discussion shall rise and when called upon to speak shall address the meeting through the Chairman;
- c. proposing a motion or an amendment to a motion shall state its nature before so addressing the meeting;
- d. shall resume their seat immediately upon the conclusion of their remarks or if the Chairman rises or proceeds to speak or when called upon by the Chairman so to do;
- e. shall not discuss or challenge a decision of the Chairman on a point of order and shall not move a motion of disagreement with, or which would have the effect of altering any such decision;
- f. shall not interrupt a speaker unless moving a motion on a point of order whereupon the speaker shall resume their seat whilst the Member so moving is heard and the point of order determined whereupon if the decision is in their favor the speaker may proceed with their subject;
- g. may at any time rise and address the Chairman on a point of order, but shall at once state so and confine their remarks to the point of order raised; a point of order shall be taken immediately it is raised;

- h. shall not speak more than once on a motion, except the mover thereof.

### **MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

101. Motions shall be moved in the order in which the notices thereof have been received and shall not be proceeded with in the absence of the Member giving such notice unless they have authorized some other Member to move it on their behalf.
102. A motion may be moved or seconded by the Chairman or by a member.
103. Upon a motion being moved and seconded, the Chairman shall allow debate thereon as prescribed by the Rules and at the close of such debate shall put the motion to the meeting.
104. Upon a motion being put to the meeting and carried by the requisite majority of the Members, it shall become a resolution of the meeting and recorded accordingly.
105. The mover and seconder of a motion may not move or second an amendment to it, but shall be entitled to speak upon any amendment and to vote in favor of it.
106. When notice of a motion has been given in writing, an amendment thereto shall not be moved unless notice of such amendment has been given in writing. Provided that the meeting by a resolution passed by a simple majority of the Members voting in person thereat may consent to a motion of amendment moved verbally at the meeting.
107. A motion for amendment shall not be accepted by the Chairman that is or tends to be or would have the effect of being a negative of the motion intended to be amended.
108. A second or subsequent motion of amendment to an original motion shall not be moved until the previous motion of amendment has been dealt with by the meeting.
109. If a motion or subsequent motions for amendment shall be carried, the original motion as amended shall then be debated and thereafter put to the vote of the Members.
110. The mover of a motion of amendment shall not have the right to reply after the debate thereon.

111. A motion for amendment shall be put to the meeting before the original motion is put.
112. Motions for amendment shall be taken in the order in which they affect the terms of the original motion, and an amendment shall not be allowed in respect of those parts of the original motion that have already been carried.
113. Except when another Member is speaking, a Member who has not moved or seconded or spoken on a motion then before the meeting or on a proposed amendment thereto, may move at any time that the meeting proceed to the next business and such motion shall not be amended but shall be immediately put to the vote without speech or discussion. If carried the matter then before the meeting shall be disposed of for that meeting, and the meeting shall proceed to the next business. If not carried, the meeting shall deal with the original motion provided that a Member as aforesaid may again move a similar motion. The business so shelved may be brought up again at another meeting on due notice being given in accordance with the Rules.
114. Subject always to the Constitution, Members in General Meeting by resolution passed by a simple majority and voting in person may make Resolutions and may from time to time amend such Resolutions by variation, deletion or addition as they shall think fit.
115. The Regulations shall be read and construed subject to the provisions for the time being of the Constitution.

END OF CONSTITUTION -

# CODE OF PRACTICE

## COMPLIANCE

1. Each member, upon signing an application for membership or renewal of membership of *The Rhodesian Ridgeback Club Inc.*, and being duly elected to general membership of the Club, shall, in addition to agreeing to, be bound by the Code of Ethics of *The Royal NSW Canine Council* and also bound by *The Rhodesian Ridgeback Club Inc., Code Of Practice*. The Rhodesian Ridgeback Club Inc Code of Practice includes items specific to this breed only and is in addition to the Code of Ethics of the Royal NSW Canine Council.

## BREEDING

2. The Club strongly recommends puppies with *Dermoid Sinus* or any other serious genetic defect are not used in a breeding program.

- END OF CODE OF PRACTICE-