Canadian Dogo Argentino Club

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

VERSION 1.0
ADOPTED FEBRUARY 8TH, 2019

ARTICLE I – Name and Objects

SECTION 1. The name of the club shall be the Canadian Dogo Argentino Club

SECTION 2. The objectives of the club shall be:

a) to encourage and promote quality in the breeding of purebred Dogo Argentinos, and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection;
b) to create and foster a community for breed advocates and enthusiasts;
c) to promote appropriate and responsible selection and ownership of Dogo Argentinos;
d) to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, obedience trials, tracking tests, agility trials, field trials and hunting tests
e) to conduct sanctioned matches, dog shows, obedience and hunting trials.

BYLAWS ARTICLE – Membership

SECTION 1. Eligibility.

There will be two types of membership open to all persons 18 years of age and older who subscribe to the purposes of this Club. While membership is to be unrestricted as to residence, the club's primary purpose is to be representative of the breeders, exhibitors, owners and enthusiasts within Canada.

Each member who is a resident of Canada will enjoy all club privileges, including the right to vote and hold office.

International Members will enjoy all club privileges, except voting and office holding.

Junior Membership – Open to children under 18 years of age; a non-voting/non-office holding membership.

SECTION 2. Dues.

Membership dues are payable on or before the 1st day of June of each year.

No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year.

During the month of May the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of dues for the ensuing year.

SECTION 3. Election to 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 the constitution and bylaws and the rules of the Canadian Dogo Argentino Club. 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 reviewed by the Board of Directors following its receipt. The Board of Directors will decide to accept or reject the application. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the club may not reapply within six months after such rejection. Applicants who have been accepted will be announced at the next meeting.

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. Obligations other than dues are considered a debt to the club and must be paid in full prior to resignation.
b) *by lapsing*. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 30 days after the first day of the fiscal year; however, the board may grant an additional 30 days of grace to such delinquent members in meritorious cases. 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 bylaws.

ARTICLE II – Meetings and Voting

SECTION 1. Club Meetings.

Meetings of the club shall be held quarterly at such date, hour and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of each such meeting shall be emailed and posted by the Secretary at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting.

The quorum for such meetings shall be 20 percent of the members in good standing.

Meetings of the club are open to the public as observers, only. Only members in good standing shall be permitted to engage and vote at club meetings.

SECTION 2. Special Club Meetings.

Special club meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority vote of the members of the board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the board; and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by at least 3 members of the club who are in good standing.

Such special meetings shall be held at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be emailed by the Secretary at least five days and not more than 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 thereat.

The quorum for such a meeting shall be 20 percent of the members in good standing.

Special Club Meetings are not open to the public.

SECTION 3. Board Meetings.

Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held each month via telephone conference call, or via video conference, or via Facebook Group Chat at such hour and place as may be designated by the board.

Written notice of each such meeting shall be emailed by the Secretary at least five 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 such place, date, and hour as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such meeting.

Written notice of such meeting shall be emailed by the Secretary at least five 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 thereat.

The 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 s/he is present.

Proxy voting will not be permitted at any çlub meeting or election.

ARTICLE III – Directors and Officers

SECTION 1. Board of Directors.

The board shall be comprised of the officers and up to 3 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, Secretary and Treasurer, shall serve in 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 President in addition to those particularly specified in these bylaws.
b) The Vice President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's death, absence or incapacity.
c) The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the club and of the board and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the club; have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify new members of their election to membership, notify officers and directors of their election to office, keep a roll of the members of the club with their addresses, which shall be sent to any member in good standing, upon written request, not more than once every club year, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these bylaws.
d) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging to the club. Moneys shall be deposited in a bank designated by the board, in the name of the club. The books shall at all times be open to inspection by the board and a report shall be given at every meeting on the condition of the club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported; and at the annual meeting an accounting shall be rendered of all moneys received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.
e) The offices of Secretary, President or Vice President and Treasurer may be held by the same person, in which case the board shall be comprised of 3 persons.

SECTION 3. Vacancies.

Any vacancies occurring on the board or among the offices during the year shall be filled until the next annual election by a majority vote of the members of the board at its first regular meeting following the creation of such vacancy, or at a special board meeting called for that 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 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 on the first day of June and end on the last day of May. The club's official year shall begin immediately 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 May, immediately following the Annual Specialty Show, at which officers and directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 4 of this Article. They shall take office

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

SECTION 3. Elections.

The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The 3 or 4 nominated candidates for 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.

a) During the month of May, the Board shall nominate one candidate for each office and positions on the board and secure the consent of each person so nominated.
b) The Secretary shall, at least two weeks before the Annual Meeting, notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.
c) Additional nominations may be made at the Annual Meeting by any member in attendance, provided that the person so nominated does not decline when their name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, the proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position (except the Treasurer).

ARTICLE V – Committees

SECTION 1. The board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the club in such matters as dog shows, obedience trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership, and other fields which may well be served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the board. Special committees may also be appointed by the board to aid it on projects.

SECTION 2. Any committee appointment 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. Dog Club Suspension.

Any member who is suspended from all the privileges of another Dog Club for reasons determined to be of merit and relevant to the CDAC shall automatically be suspended from the privileges of this club for a like period.

SECTION 2. Charges.

An individual member may prefer charges against another individual member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the club.

Written charges with specifications must be filed with the Secretary. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the board or present them at a board meeting, and the board shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the club.

If the board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the club, it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the board entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it may fix a date for a hearing by the board not less than three weeks nor more than six weeks thereafter.

The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges and the specifications to the accused member by registered mail together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if he wishes.

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 the evidence and testimony presented by complainant and defendant, the board may by a majority vote of those present reprimand or suspend the defendant from all privileges of the club for not more than six 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's recommendation. Immediately after the board has reached a decision, its finding shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The 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 proceedings shall occur at a 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 finding and recommendation, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his own behalf if he wishes. The members shall then vote by secret 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 bylaws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by 20 percent of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the members with recommendations of the board by the Secretary for a vote within three months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

SECTION 2. Under special circumstances not covered by existing bylaws or club precedents, the Board of Directors shall conduct a special meeting within 30 days to discuss recommendations for resolution. This report will be offered to the club no less than 10 days before a Special Meeting is held with the club to vote on the report and recommendations of the board.

ARTICLE VIII – Dissolution

SECTION 1. The club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than 2/3 of the members in good standing. In the event of the dissolution of the club other than for purposes of reorganization whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the club nor any proceeds thereof nor any assets of the club shall be distributed to any members of the club, but 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.