



THE ESSEX FIELD TRIAL SOCIETY RULES

(Established 1951)
(Amended 30th March 2009)

The name of the Society shall be THE ESSEX FIELD TRIAL SOCIETY

1. OBJECT

The objects of the Society being: to encourage the breeding, training and handling of sound, purebred retrievers and spaniels. To run field trials for retrievers and spaniels in accordance with the Kennel Club Field Trial Rules.

The Society shall not be a trading business and be non-profit making. After deducting expenses, all income shall be allotted to prize money and the balance of the Society's funds to use for the benefit of its members, further education support of veterinary research and game conservation.

2. ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSTITUTION.

The Society shall consist of an unlimited number of members whose names and addresses shall be kept by the secretary in a register provided for that purpose which shall be available for the inspection by members of the Society or by the Kennel Club at any reasonable time.

Every candidate for membership shall be proposed by one member and seconded by another, both fully paid up and elected by the committee, such members who have been members of this society for at least one year.

3. SUBSCRIPTION.

The Annual Subscription and the joining fee for the following year shall be proposed by the Committee and be such amount as agreed by the members at the Annual General Meeting and notified to the Kennel Club. It shall be payable on election and thereafter on the 1st February each year.

No member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any of the privileges of membership and if the member shall fail to pay outstanding subscriptions by 30th April his/her name shall be automatically erased from the register. Acceptance back on to the register will be dependent upon a new application and payment of both joining fee and back arrears.

It shall be competent for any member to withdraw from the Club by giving notice to the Secretary in writing before 31st January in any year, provided always that such member shall be liable for his or her subscription for the current year in which he or she gives notice and for any other monies due to the Society. Where dogs are owned in partnership both parties must be fully paid up members for their dog to participate and only one nomination may be applied for, the same as a single member. Only paid up members may vote at Annual General and Special General Meetings.

4. COMMITTEE

The affairs of the Society shall be conducted by a President, Chairman, two Vice Chairmen, Honorary General Secretary and two Field Trial Secretaries – Retriever and Spaniel, all of whom are ex officio members of the Committee with full voting powers, and a committee of 9 members. The posts of any one of the Secretaries and the Hon. Treasurer may be held by one person.

Five members form a quorum. All officers and three members of the committee shall retire in rotation annually, but shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting. The.

No business other than that detailed on the Agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting.

The members calling the requisition will be required to deposit the sum of £50 with the requisition, which is returnable if the point of the requisition is proved.

If within twenty eight days after such a requisition the Committee do not summon such a Special Meeting, those seeking the requisition may call the meeting themselves.

Procedure of Meetings: At all General Meetings or Special General Meetings, members present and voting shall form a quorum provided at least fifteen members are present. Voting will be by a majority on a show of hands, or by secret ballot if required.

Committee shall have the power to co-opt members onto the committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between Annual General Meetings

5. POWER OF THE COMMITTEE

The entire control and management of the Society shall be vested in the Committee who shall have the power to make by-laws and decide all matters of dispute not provided for in the rules, subject to final appeal to the Kennel Club who are the final authority for interpreting the Rules and Regulations in all cases relative to Canine and Social matters.

6. ACCOUNTS

Banking accounts shall be maintained in the name of the Society, with the National Westminster Bank and the Nationwide Building Society and all cheques must be signed by any two officers i.e. President, Chairman and Treasurer. The financial year is from the 1st February to 31st January.

The accounts of the Society will be certified annually by one qualified accountant or by two unqualified individuals with accountancy experience and presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

7. APPLICATION TO COMPETE IN THE SOCIETY'S TRIALS

First preference in the Draw for all stakes will be given to those members fully paid up at 30th April of each year.

8. SOCIETY PROPERTY

The property of the Society shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Society ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the Society's assets and the outcome of the meeting notified to the Kennel Club. (If a registered Society is wound up or ceases to be a Registered Society under these Regulations, a final statement of accounts with a record of the disposal of the property of the Society shall be forwarded to the Kennel Club within six months and the person named as Officers and Committee of the Society will be held responsible for the proper winding up of the Society).

9. GENERAL MEETINGS

To receive the report of the Committee and Balance Sheet, to elect Officers and to discuss any resolution duly placed on the Agenda of which prior notice has been given to the Hon. Secretary. No business shall be transacted at an Annual General Meeting unless notice appears on the Agenda with exception of routine matters or those which in the opinion of the chairman of the Meeting are urgent.

Notice of such meetings will be given in writing. Members will be sent an Agenda at least twenty-eight days before the date when the meeting will be held.

Items for inclusion – should any member wish to include an additional item on the Agenda they should contact the Secretary with the item duly proposed and seconded, within ten days of receiving the Agenda. In this event a revised Agenda will be circulated at the Annual General Meeting. The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held within fifteen months of the preceding meeting.

10. A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Hon. Secretary if twenty five members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so. The Committee of the Society is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting. Any such meeting will be notified, in writing, to the Membership at least twenty one days prior to the meeting.

11. AMENDMENTS TO RULES.

The Rules of the Society may not be altered except at a General Meeting, the Agenda for which contains specific proposals to amend the Rules.

Any proposed alterations to the Rules may not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has been advised and approved the alterations.

12. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS.

Any member who shall be suspended under Kennel Club Rule 42j(4) and/or any member whose dog(s) is disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A42j(8) shall ipso facto cease to be a Member of the Society for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification.

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 interest 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 to expel is passed by a two thirds majority of the Members present and voting, his/her name shall thereupon 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 of the date of such Meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to condition as the Kennel Club may impose.

13. ANNUAL RETURNS TO THE KENNEL CLUB

The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary for continuance of Registration and that by 31st July each year, other returns, as stipulated in the Kennel Club Regulations for

the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils, and the affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities be forwarded to the Kennel Club.

The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary of the Society during the course of the year.

Committee shall have the power to co-opt members onto the committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between Annual General Meetings

14. ALL REGISTERED SOCIETIES – KENNEL CLUB MANDATORY RULE

No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt, may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society.

15. KENNEL CLUB FINAL COURT OF APPEAL

The Kennel Club shall be the final court of appeal in matters of dispute.

16. THE SOCIETY

The Society shall not join any federation of Societies or Clubs.