

AXSTANE AGILITY CLUB

RULES

1. NAME

The Club shall be called: **Axstane Agility Club**. It is a Registered Royal Kennel Club Society.

2. OBJECTIVES

- a) To provide agility and hoopers training for handlers and dogs that would enable them to compete in agility and hoopers shows.
- b) To hold Shows, extra training and Matches if agreed by the Committee.

3. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

- a) The Club shall consist of a Committee and Full, Associate, Probationary, Junior, Honorary and Life Members. The Committee must have a minimum of five and a maximum of nine Full Members, to include a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.
- b) No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any office or appointment within a Registered Kennel Club Society.

4. COMMITTEE

- a) The management of the Club and its property shall be in the hands of the Committee, (see 3(a)), half of whom shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election at the AGM having been nominated in writing. No Committee Member shall remain on the Committee for more than 2 years without re-election. Other Full and Life Members may also be nominated, and all nominations will close 30 days prior to the AGM. All nominations should be forwarded to the Secretary with proposers and seconders (both of whom are Full or Life Members).
- b) The Committee shall elect the Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary at its first meeting after an Annual General Meeting.
- c) The Committee shall be representative of the Club in its make-up, by way of types and standards of handlers and dogs (e.g. Small, Large, Grade 1, Grade 5) as far as possible. No Committee Members shall be closely related or domiciled at the same address without due consideration by the current committee members, and with only one of these being allowed to hold office.

- d) Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as deemed necessary but at least every three months. A minimum of 5 of the Committee shall form a Quorum for the transaction of business. Minutes of Committee and other meetings (Special, General, etc) must be retained and made available to the Royal Kennel Club on request.
- e) The business of the Committee shall be decided by a simple majority vote. All Committee Members present at a Committee Meeting shall have voting rights, except the Chairperson who has a casting vote.
- f) Committee Members must declare any financial or other interest in matters affecting the Club. Those with a declared interest shall not partake in any discussions or voting on that matter.
- g) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt Full and Life Members on to the Committee in the event of a position becoming vacant or deemed necessary; these co-opted Members to hold office for as long as deemed necessary or until the next AGM (whichever is the sooner).
- h) Any matters raised by a Member should be addressed to the Secretary. These should be passed to the Committee in an unbiased way. Individuals may be invited to put points to the Committee in person if the Secretary deems this necessary or desirable.
- i) The Committee shall have the power to deal with any matters not covered by these Rules.
- j) Training Rights are awarded to members currently paying their monthly training fee. Any exceptions will be considered by the whole Committee
- k) Training Rights are renewable by the Committee without application. The Training Right shall be renewable at the Club's Financial Year End date. The Committee reserves the right to change venue/classes/times.
- l) The Committee can grant temporary Training Rights for up to a period of 12 weeks. These are renewable at the discretion of the Committee.
- m) The Committee of the Club is empowered to call a Special General Meeting.

5. **MEMBERS**

The Club must maintain an up-to-date list of names of members (see 3a above) and their addresses, and, if so requested, make the list of names available for inspection by the Royal Kennel Club and Members of the Club. A declaration of the number of members of the Club must be made with the Annual Returns. The list may be requested by the insurer in case of any claim. The club's insurance cover is for documented members. A voluntary and confidential "In Case of Emergency" (ICE) contact list is kept by the club in a secure location.

a) **MEMBERS' STATUS AND ELECTION**

There shall be 6 classifications of Membership being Probationary, Associate, Full, Junior, Life and Honorary Members.

- i) **PROBATIONARY MEMBER**

A Probationary member is someone who has successfully completed the initial assessment (see handbook) and begun the 12-week probationary period. At the end of this probationary period their progress will be reviewed by their trainer, and they will either be offered Associate membership by the Committee or continue as a Probationary member to improve the necessary skills. There is no annual fee.

All new applicants and their dogs whether experienced or not, must be assessed to gauge the right level of training.

- ii) **ASSOCIATE MEMBER**

An Associate Member is someone who has paid their Associate Membership Fees after being offered Associate Membership by the Committee. They have renewable training rights.

An Associate Member must be re-elected by the Committee at the first meeting after the AGM.

An Associate Member's training rights must be re-confirmed by the Committee at the first Committee Meeting after the AGM.

- iii) **FULL MEMBER**

A Full Member is someone who has paid their annual Full Membership Fee and who has been accepted by the Committee at any committee meeting having shown commitment to the club at events and/or weekly training. Full Members can attend the AGM, have Voting Rights and may or may not have training rights.

- iv) **LIFE MEMBER**

Life Membership may be offered to a former Full Member who has stepped down from long term duties / training and is offered free membership from thereon in appreciation of their contributions to the Club. The proposal for Life Membership is considered at the first committee meeting after the AGM. Life Members can attend the AGM and have voting rights and may or may not have training rights.

- v) **HONORARY MEMBER**

Honorary Membership may be offered to those who do not handle or train dogs, but who regularly contribute at shows and events. Honorary Members have no voting rights and no training rights. An Honorary Member must be re-elected by the Committee at the first Committee Meeting after the AGM where the list of existing Honorary members is also reviewed.

- vi) **JUNIOR MEMBER**

Junior Members are those under 16 years of age at the AGM and may be Probationary, Associate, Full or Honorary members. Junior Members must at all times be accompanied by a parent/legal guardian whilst training, who will be responsible for their behaviour. Voting rights commence at the age of 18 at the AGM for Full and Life Junior members.

b) **FULL and LIFE MEMBERS' RIGHTS**

- i) At a General Meeting each Full and Life Member shall be entitled to one vote per item. Postal votes are allowed. Proxy votes are not allowed.
- ii) Full Members shall be entitled to examine the Club's accounts (at reasonable notice)

c) **FULL MEMBERS' RIGHTS**

- i) No Full Members shall be compelled to represent the Club.
- ii) Team entry fees may be paid for by the Club at the discretion of the Committee and providing there are sufficient funds.
- iii) No Full Member shall be excluded from belonging to/training with or representing another Club.
- iv) A trainer will be provided for each training session.
- v) Each training session shall be limited to an appropriate number of dogs.
- vi) If there is a majority of Full Members in a training session that is not happy with the tuition received, they may petition the Committee.
- vii) One calendar month's paid notice must be given in writing to any Full Member if their training right is not to be renewed. Full reasons must be given if the training right is withdrawn. A Right of Appeal shall exist to the Committee.

d) **FULL MEMBERS' CONDITIONS**

- i) All Full Members are required to assist in running the Club events i.e. Shows, Matches, Competition Nights etc. Failure to do so, without good reason, may result in Full Members being asked to terminate their membership.
- ii) Any Full Member who shall be more than 2 months in arrears of any subscription or fees may forfeit their training rights.
- iii) One calendar month's paid notice must be given in writing to the Club Secretary if a handler wishes to give up a training place. Refund of any monies received is at the Committee's discretion.
- iv) If a Full Member is going to be away from training for a period of time they can either pay to keep their place or advise the committee when they are able to return and await a space. Long term absence may require a re-assessment to ensure the appropriate class is attended

e) **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS' RIGHTS**

- i) No Associate Members shall be compelled to represent the Club.
- ii) Team entry fees may be paid for by the Club at the discretion of the Committee and providing there are sufficient funds.
- iii) No Associate Member shall be excluded from belonging to/training with or representing another Club.
- iv) A trainer will be provided for each training session.
- v) Each training session shall be limited to an appropriate number of dogs.
- vi) If there is a majority of Associate Members in a training session that is not happy with the tuition received, they may petition the Committee.
- vii) One calendar month's paid notice must be given in writing to any Associate Member if their training right is not to be renewed. Full reasons must be given if the training right is withdrawn. A Right of Appeal shall exist to the Committee.

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- iii) One calendar month's paid notice must be given in writing to the Club Secretary if a handler wishes to give up a training place. Refund of any monies received is at the Committee's discretion.
- iv) If an Associate Member is going to be away from training for a period of time they can either pay to keep their place or advise the committee when they are able to return and await a space. Long term absence may require a re-assessment to ensure the appropriate class is attended.

g) **LIFE and HONORARY MEMBER'S RIGHTS**

- i) No Life or Honorary Members shall be compelled to represent the Club.
- ii) Life or Honorary Members shall be entitled to represent the Club in Team events and Matches, subject to Rule 7.
- iii) Team entry fees may be paid for by the Club at the discretion of the Committee and providing there are sufficient funds.
- iv) No Life or Honorary Member shall be excluded from belonging to/training with or representing another Club.

h) **FILLER SPACES**

A Member with training rights may train any dog that has successfully completed the assessment process (see handbook) in any class provided that provided that the request is made to any member of the committee who will consider the following:

- the number training in the class does not exceed the maximum number allowed
- the dog is of a suitable standard
- the trainer of that class for the night agrees
- the dog meets the Club's standard of temperament (see handbook)

The committee member will confirm the above are met and advise the handler and Treasurer who will then invoice the filler member.

These training places will be on a first-come, first-served basis and cannot be reserved on an ongoing basis.

i) **DOGS' HEALTH**

- i) No dogs are to be brought to the venue which have contracted or been knowingly exposed to any infectious or contagious disease during the previous 21 days.
- ii) Bitches in season must not be brought to training and the mating of bitches within the precincts of the venue is forbidden. However, owners of bitches in season are still to pay their training fees.
- iii) All dogs must be on a lead or in a crate except whilst training.
- iv) Training cannot commence with the supervision of a trainer unless otherwise agreed by a member of the Committee.

6. MEMBERSHIP FEES

Each Associate and Full Member shall pay:

i) ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS - Payable at the time of joining, for the forthcoming year and renewed annually. Any Full Member who has not paid their subscription renewal by the AGM will be deemed to have forfeited their membership. Associate Members renew when the Committee approves their re-election at the first committee meeting after the AGM.

Annual Subscriptions will be proposed, seconded and agreed at the AGM. The Annual Subscription shall be notified to the Royal Kennel Club following the Annual General Meeting.

ii) TRAINING FEES - Payable regardless of attendance, by all Members with training rights, at intervals agreed by the committee. The training fees will be agreed by the Committee and due notice will be given to the Members of any changes.

7. TEAM EVENTS

A team must consist of at least two members with training rights. Teams that do not comply with the above may compete at Committee's discretion (this permission can be withdrawn at any time).

In the event that multiple teams are entered in a Show and seeding is required, this shall be performed by the Committee.

8. CLUB SHOW conflict of interest

Choice of competitors' trophy/judges' gift/catering suppliers, etc --- under Royal Kennel Club Rules the Club is required to minute any conflict of interest whereby a member may be getting benefit of any kind from choice of these providers.

9. CLUB ACCOUNTS

- a) The Financial Year of the Club shall be from 1st January to 31st December.
- b) An Account shall be held in the name of the Club. All revenue of the Club shall be paid into the account, and withdrawal shall only be made on the signature of two of the following: Treasurer, Secretary, Chairperson. The Accounts shall be kept by the Treasurer and audited according to the Royal Kennel Club rules.

Auditors shall be appointed by the Committee. The Treasurer will present the Accounts to the Auditor(s) within 2 weeks of the end of the Financial Year. Certification of the accounts must be carried out by one qualified Accountant, or two individuals with accountancy experience, unconnected to the committee. The certified Accounts shall be made available to Members 14 days prior to the AGM.

- c) Any expenses incurred on behalf of the Club must be approved by the Committee.
- d) Club Assets. The Treasurer shall keep an asset register for insurance purposes, all newly purchased items added as bought. Any equipment deemed surplus shall be agreed by the committee and minuted, and if saleable a price agreed and recorded in the minutes. ALL members will be invited to purchase on a first-come first-served basis. Income generated will be recorded in the minutes and added to funds by the Treasurer.

10. GENERAL MEETINGS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

- a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held during the months of February/March for the following purposes:
 - i) to receive the Report of the Committee and Certified Accounts.
 - ii) to conduct a ballot for vacant Committee places.
 - iii) to discuss any resolution duly placed on the Agenda, of which prior notice has been given to the Secretary.
 - iv) No business shall be transacted at an AGM unless notice thereof appears on the Agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those which, in the opinion of the Chairperson of the Meeting, are urgent.
- b)
 - i) A minimum of 45 days' notice shall be given of an AGM, notice to be given to Full and Life Members in writing.
 - ii) Agenda items should be forwarded at least 30 days before the AGM, in accordance with Rule 10 a) iii)
 - iii) The Agenda for such Meetings will be circulated to Full and Life Members, a minimum of 14 days before the date of the Meeting.
- c) Any Full or Life Member who wishes to stand for election to the committee should write to the Secretary clearly and concisely stating the proposal, with the Proposer's name. Another Full or Life Member acting as seconder should countersign the proposal. All parties' names and addresses should be clearly stated, and neither should be related or domiciled at the same address. (see 4c)

- d) Proposals to be determined by a simple majority vote by Full and Life Members present at the Meeting and written votes received by the Secretary prior to the Meeting. The Chairman does not have a vote but has a casting vote in the event of a tie. (see 4e)
- e) Attendance of the AGM is restricted to Full and Life Members.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Secretary if 10 or more of Full and Life Members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so.

- a) A minimum of 21 days' notice of a Special General Meeting, including the Agenda, shall be given to each Full and Life Member in writing.
- b) No business other than that detailed on the Agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting.

11. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

- a) Any Member who shall be disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(5) and/or Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a Member of the Club.
- b) If the conduct of any Member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Club, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Club, the Committee of the Club 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 Club shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her.
- c) 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 cease for all purposes to be a Member of the Club except that he/she may, within two calendar months from the date of such a Meeting, appeal to the Royal Kennel Club upon and subject to such condition as the Royal Kennel Club may impose.
- d) If the Club expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, Dog Shows, Trials or Competitions, the Club must report the matter in writing to the Royal Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.

12. GENERAL

- a) The Rules of the Club may not be altered except at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, the Agenda for which contains specific proposals to amend the Rules.
- b) Any proposed alteration to the rules may not be brought into effect until the Royal Kennel Club has been advised and approved the alteration.
- c) New rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Royal Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately and be included in Club's Constitution with effect from the Club's Annual General Meeting.
- d) The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club whether by the Secretary or by Direct Debit for continuance of registration and that by 31st July each year, other returns, as stipulated in Royal Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities, be forwarded to the Royal Kennel Club.
- e) The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Royal Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary of the Club which may occur during the course of the year.
- f) The Royal Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the Rules and Regulations of the Society in all cases relative to Canine or Society matters.
- g) The Club shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.
- h) The property of the Club shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Club ceasing to exist, a final General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the Club's assets and the outcome of the Meeting notified to the Royal Kennel Club. If the Club is wound up or ceases to be a Registered Society, a final statement of Accounts with a record of the disposal of the property of the Club shall be forwarded to the Royal Kennel Club within six months and the persons named as Officers and Committee of the Club will be held responsible by the Royal Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the Club. Acknowledgement must be sought that any donated challenge cups or trophies are gifted outright to the club.

These rules were agreed by Axstane Agility Club Full Members at the Annual General meeting dated 26th February 2026 and then approved by The Kennel Club on 30th April 2026.