

CONSTITUTION

Article I

Name and Objects

Section 1. The name of the club shall be:

Suncoast German Wirehaired Pointer Club of Mid-Florida

Section 2. The objects of the club shall be:

(a) to encourage and promote quality in the breeding of purebred German Wirehaired Pointers

(b) to urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by The American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which German Wirehaired Pointers shall be judged;

(c) 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, field trials, hunting tests, and agility trials.

(d) to conduct sanctioned matches, dog shows, obedience/rally trials, tracking tests, field trials, hunting tests, water tests, and agility trials under the rules and regulations of The American Kennel Club.

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

Section 4. The members of the club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such bylaws as may be required to carry out these objects.

BY LAWS

Article I.

Membership

Section 1. Eligibility.

There shall be three types of membership open to all persons 18 years of age and older who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this club. While membership is to be unrestricted as to residence, the club's primary purpose is to represent breeders and exhibitors in its designated region.

A full individual membership enjoys all the privileges of the club, including voting, holding office and eligibility for awards and is entitled to one single vote.

A full family membership consists of two people living in the same household, both of whom enjoy all of the privileges of the club. Each individual is entitled to a separate vote. Maximum number of votes per full family membership is limited to two.

An associate membership enjoys all of the privileges of the club except voting, holding office, and eligibility for awards. An associate membership does not count in the determination of a quorum.

In addition to the above memberships, the club shall offer a junior membership. A member under 18 years of age shall be classified as a junior member and is ineligible to vote or hold office. A junior member shall be eligible to win awards. The dog the junior is exhibiting must be owned or co-owned by the junior member, his/her immediate family as defined by the AKC (mother, father, brother, sister), or a current full member in order to qualify for junior awards.

Section 2. Dues.

Full individual membership dues shall be \$25.00 per fiscal year-one vote. Full family membership dues shall be \$35.00 per year-two votes. Associate membership dues shall be \$15.00 per fiscal year-no vote. Junior members shall be \$10.00 unless included in a family membership. Dues shall be set by the Board of Directors. A 2/3 affirmative vote of the Board of Directors shall be required to change the dues. Dues shall be payable on or before the first day of October of each year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of September the Secretary shall send to each member a statement of his or her dues for the ensuing year.

Section 3. Election to Membership.

Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form 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 American

Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address and Contact Number of the applicant. Accompanying this application, the prospective member shall submit dues for the current year.

All applications are to be filed with the secretary and each application is to be read at the first meeting following its receipt and published in the next newsletter.

If anyone is against the new member joining the club, they will need to notify the secretary within two weeks of the newsletter being distributed. A 75% vote by all members will allow membership for the disputed. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the club may not reapply within six months of rejection.

Section 4. Termination of Membership.

Memberships may be terminated:

(a) By resignation.

Any member in good standing may resign from the club upon written notice to the secretary, but no member may resign when in debt to the club. 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 90 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. No membership shall be considered lapsed until the member has been provided with written or oral notice that his or her dues are delinquent and his or her membership is subject to lapse. The notice of delinquent dues must afford the member 30 calendar days to bring the dues current.

(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 at a minimum of six annually within the greater Central Florida Area at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed, faxed, or emailed by the Secretary, at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be 15 percent of the members in good standing. It is permissible to tape record all club and board meetings for the purpose of documentation.

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, in good standing, or by a majority of members at a regular club meeting in good standing, and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five members of the club who are in good standing.

Such special meetings shall be in such 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 mailed, faxed, or emailed by the Secretary at least twenty-one days and not more than thirty 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 meeting shall be 20 percent of the members in good standing.

Section 3. Board Meetings.

Meetings of the board of directors shall be held minimum of 6 time(s) annually, at such hour and place as may be designated by the board. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed, faxed, or emailed by the Secretary at least twenty-one days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the board. It is permissible for a director to use a speakerphone to participate, if unable to attend.

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 at 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 sent by the Secretary at least 24 hours and not more than ten days prior, by postal service, fax or email. Any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business may be transacted thereat. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the board. It is permissible for a director to use a speakerphone to participate, if unable to attend.

Section 5. Voting.

Each full member over 18 years of age, in good standing, whose dues are paid for the current year, shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the club at which he is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any club meeting or election.

Article III

Directors and Officers

Section 1. Board of Directors.

The board shall be comprised of the officers and two other persons, all of whom shall be members in good standing and all of whom shall be elected one one-year terms at the club's annual meeting as provided in Article IV and shall serve until their successors are elected. The board can be nominated for consecutive years, up to three years for the same position. 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 meeting.

(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. The President shall be allowed to vote on all matters in contradiction with Roberts Rules.

(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 membership, notify officers and directors of their election to office, keep a roll of the members of the club with their addresses, 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 or 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.

(e)The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person.

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 all the then members of the board at this 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 October and end on September 30th.

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 3rd quarter of the calendar year 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 election. Members who can not attend the annual meeting may vote by ballots postmarked 20 days before the annual meeting, mailed to the club secretary.

Section 3. Elections.

The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The nominated candidates for other position on the board who receive the greatest number of votes for such positions shall be declared elected.

Section 4. Nominations.

No person may be a candidate in a club election who has not been nominated. During the month of August, the board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three members, not more than one of whom may be a member of the board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen and alternates of their selection. The board shall name a chairman for the committee and it shall be such person's duty to call a committee meeting, which shall be held on or before August 15st.

(a)The committee shall nominate one candidate for each office and for Delegate, (who may, but need not be, an officer or director of the club) and positions on the board. After securing the consent of each person so nominated, shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing.

(b) Upon receipt of the nominating committee's report, 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 general meetings 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 for the position of Delegate).

(d) Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or in any manner other than as provided in this section.

Article V

Committees

Section 1.

The board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the club in such matters as dog shows, obedience trials, field events, 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 particular projects. The board shall point a treasury committee to conduct an annual audit.

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. American Kennel Club Suspension.

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

Section 2. Charges.

Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the club. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$25.00, which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the board following a hearing.

The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of both the charges to each member of the board and 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 shall fix a date for a hearing by the board not less than four weeks nor more than six weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by US Certified mail/Return Receipt requested, 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. If charges are brought against an officer or board member, said party may not sit in judgment at his board meeting. 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 may occur at a regular or special meeting of the club to be held within 60 days but not earlier than 30 days after the date of the board's recommendation of expulsion and all members shall be given written notice of the board's decision within 15 days. 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.

No amendment to the constitution and bylaws that is adopted by the club shall become effective until it has been approved by the Board of Directors of "The American Kennel Club".

Section 2.

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

Section 3. It shall be at the President's discretion to spend up to \$100 without the approval 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 the event of the dissolution of the club other than for the 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.

Article IX

Order of Business

Section 1.

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

Roll Call

Minutes of last meeting

Report of President

Report of Secretary

Report of Treasurer

Report of committees

Election of officers and board (at annual meeting)

Election of new members

Unfinished business

New business

Adjournment

Section 2.

At meetings of the board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by a majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

Reading of minutes of last meeting

Report of Secretary

Report of Treasurer

Report of committees

Unfinished businesses

New business

Adjournment

Article X

Parliamentary Authority

Section 1.

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