

**THE NUTMEG  
GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER CLUB  
INCORPORATED**

**BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE 1**

**Membership**

**SECTION 1. Eligibility.** There shall be six (6) types of membership open to all persons who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the objects of this chapter. These types of memberships are divided into two (2) categories, Regular and Non-regular, and shall be:

REGULAR:

- (a) *Family* – to include husband and wife. (two votes)
- (b) *Individual* – any member eighteen (18) years of age or over. (one vote)
- (c) *Junior* – any member under eighteen (18) years of age. (no vote)
- (d) *Honorary Life* – any long term member. (one vote)

The Board of Directors may by a majority vote create an Honorary Life Membership for certain individuals from among the regular Club membership, who have made substantial contributions to the Nutmeg German Shorthaired Pointer Club and to the betterment of German Shorthaired Pointers. Such Honorary Life Membership shall have voting privileges and all other privileges accorded to all other dues paying members.

NON-REGULAR:

- (e) *Associate* – any member. (no vote)
- (f) *Participating* – any entrant. (no vote)

While membership is to be unrestricted as to residence, the Club's primary purpose is to be representative of the breeders and exhibitors in its immediate area.

**SECTION 2. Dues.**

*(a) Regular Membership*

Regular membership dues shall be payable on or before the 1st day of January of each year, except for life membership, which is a non-dues paying membership. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of November, the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his/her dues for the ensuing year. The amount to be assessed shall be determined by the Board of Directors, or a meeting called for such purposes.

*(b) Non-Regular membership.*

Dues for Associate and Participating membership shall be set by a majority vote of the Board of Directors present at the first board meeting of the Club each year for the current year.

### **SECTION 3. Election to Membership.**

#### *(a) Regular Membership:*

Each applicant for Regular membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by these constitutions and by-laws and the rules of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state name, address, telephone number and Club activities of interest and it shall carry the endorsement of two (2) members in good standing. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues and initiation fee payment for the current year.

*Honorary Life:* This non-dues paying membership is bestowed upon a member, by a majority vote of the Board of directors, who has shown exemplary dedication to German Shorthaired Pointers and Nutmeg GSP. Honorary Life members have all the privileges of Individual membership including voting. Any member in good standing may nominate any current member in good standing by submitting, at any meeting of the Club, the name of the nominee and the reasons for consideration.

All applications are to be filed with the Secretary and each application is to be read at the first meeting of the Club following its receipt. At the next Club meeting, the application will be voted upon and affirmative votes of three fourths (3/4) of the members present and voting at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club may not re-apply within six (6) months after rejection.

#### *(b) Non-Regular Membership:*

Each applicant for Associate membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by these constitutions and by-laws and the rules of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state name, address, telephone number and Club activities of interest and it shall carry the endorsement of two (2) members in good standing. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues and initiation fee payment for the current year. All applications are to be filed with the Secretary and each application is to be read at the first meeting of the Club following its receipt. At the next Club meeting, the application will be voted upon and affirmative votes of three fourths (3/4) of the members present. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club may not re-apply within six (6) months after rejection.

Participating membership in Nutmeg GSPC Inc. will be for the current calendar year and is automatic with the first paid entry of a dog in a Nutmeg GSPC sponsored event.

### **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. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club and they become incurred on the first day of each fiscal year.

*(b) by lapsing.* A member will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid ninety (90) days after the first day of the fiscal year; however, the Board may grant an additional ninety (90) days of grace. 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 by-laws.

## ARTICLE II

### Meetings and Voting

**SECTION 1. Club Meetings.** Meetings of the Club shall be held at such a date, hour, and place, as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Meetings of the Club and Board of Directors should be held at least six (6) times a year. Written notice of such meetings shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be twenty (20) percent of the Regular members in good standing.

Meetings should be held in the Greater Hartford area.

**SECTION 2. Special Club Meetings.** Special Club meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority vote of members of the Board of Directors 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 five members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held at such date, hour, and place, as may be designated by the persons or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than fifteen (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 twenty (20) percent of the Regular members in good standing.

Meetings should be held in the Greater Hartford area.

**SECTION 3. Board Meetings.** Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such date, hour, and place as may be designated by the Board. Written notice of each meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a 2/3 majority of the board.

Meetings should be held in the Greater Hartford area.

**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 (3) members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held at such date, hour, and place as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such a meeting. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than fifteen (15) 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. A quorum for such a meeting shall be a 2/3 majority of the Board.

Meetings should be held in the Greater Hartford area.

**SECTION 5. Voting.** Each regular member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to one vote at any general meeting of the Club at which the member is present, except for the President whom shall preside over all Club meetings. Only if the issue before the Club body ends in a tie vote shall the President be entitled to one (1) vote and will cast that vote to break the deadlock.

In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside over Club meetings. In that event, the Vice President shall be entitled to one (1) vote but shall not be entitled to the President's deadlock vote. In the event of a tie vote with the Vice President presiding, the issue shall be tabled for the next Club meeting.

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

A measure will be considered passed if it receives a majority vote of the members in attendance at any Club meeting.

## ARTICLE III

### Directors and Officers

**SECTION 1. Board of Directors.** The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and five (5) other persons, who shall be regular members in good standing. Officers shall be elected for two year terms. Board members shall be elected for two year terms as follows: three directors elected in years ending in even numbers, two directors elected in years ending in odd numbers. Elections shall be held at the Club's Annual Meeting as provided in Article IV. The Board of Directors 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 by-laws.
- (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 charge of the correspondence, notify the members of meetings, notify new members of matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. The Secretary shall have 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 by-laws.
- (d) *The Treasurer* shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging to the Club. The Treasurer shall deposit the same in a bank designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. The books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and the Treasurer shall report the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported, and at the annual meeting the Treasurer shall render an account of all moneys received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer should be bonded and the expense borne by the Club.
- (e) *The offices of Secretary and Treasurer* may be held by the same person in which case the Board shall be comprised of the officers and six (6) other persons.

**SECTION 3. Vacancies.** Any vacancies occurring on the Board or among the officers during the year shall be filled until the next election by a majority vote of all the then 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 as prescribed above.

**SECTION 4. Voting.** Each member of the Board of Directors shall have one (1) vote each, except for the President who shall preside over all Board of Directors meetings. Only if the issue before the board ends in a deadlock vote, shall the President be entitled to one (1) vote and may cast that vote to break the deadlock.

In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside over the Board of Directors. In this event, the Vice President shall be entitled to one (1) vote but shall not be entitled to the President's deadlock vote. In the event of a deadlock vote with the Vice President presiding, the issue shall be tabled until the next board meeting.

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

A measure will be considered passed if it receives a 2/3 majority vote of the Board Of Directors.

## ARTICLE IV

### The Club Year, Annual Meeting, Elections

**SECTION 1. Club Year.** The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the first day of January and end on the thirty-first day of December.

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 December at which officers and directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret, written 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 their successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within thirty (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 nominated candidates for the other five 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. Before or during the month of September, the Board shall select a nominating committee consisting of three (3) members and two (2) alternates, not more than one of whom be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committee and the alternates of their selection. The Board shall name a Chairperson for the Committee. It shall be the Chairperson's duty to call a committee meeting on or before October 1.

- (a) *The Committee shall nominate* one candidate for each open office, and one (1) candidate for each open position on the Board, and 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 notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated no later than two weeks prior to the October meeting.
- (c) *Additional nominations* may be made at the October meeting by any regular member in attendance provided that the person so nominated does not decline when his/her name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, his/her nominator shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his/her willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position, except as provided for in Article III Section 2 (e), and the additional nominations which are provided for herein may be made only from among those Regular members who have not accepted a nomination of the Nominating Committee.
- (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 committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as may well be served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board. The following shall be standing committees.

- (a) Show Committee
- (b) Field Trial Committee
- (c) Hunt Test Committee

The Board of Directors at the summer meeting shall appoint an Audit committee to review the treasury records for the year. The Audit committee shall report it's findings to the Board at the first board meeting of the Club each year.

**SECTION 2.** Any committee appointment may be terminated by a 2/3 majority vote 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 another member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club or the breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$10.00 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the Board following a hearing. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of 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 or the breed. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed, it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date of a hearing by the Board not less than three (3) weeks nor more than six (6) weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by registered mail together with a notice of the hearing, and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear on his/her own defense and bring witnesses if desired.

**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 suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club, for not more than six (6) 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/her fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board's recommendation. Immediately after the Board has reached a decision, its findings 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 sixty (60) days but not earlier than thirty (30) days after the date of the Board's recommendation of expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his/her behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the Board's findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his/her own behalf. The meeting shall then vote by secret ballot on the proposed expulsion. A two-thirds (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 by-laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary and signed by twenty (20) percent of the Regular membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the Regular members with recommendations of the Board by the Secretary for a vote within three (3) months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

**SECTION 2.** The constitution and by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Regular 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 Regular member at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Dissolution

**SECTION 1. Dissolution.** The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of its Regular members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club "other than for purposes of reorganization" whether voluntary or involuntary, or by operation of the 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 as selected by the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE IX

### Order of Business

**SECTION 1. General Membership Meetings.** At meetings of the Club the rules contained in the current edition of Robert's 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 by-laws and any special rules of order the Club may adopt. 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
- Reports of Committees
- Election of Officers and Board (at annual meeting)
- Election of new members
- Unfinished business
- New business
- Adjournment

**SECTION 2. Board of Director Meetings.** At meetings of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

- Readings of minutes of last meeting
- Report of President
- Report of Secretary
- Report of Treasurer
- Reports of Committees
- Unfinished business
- New business
- Adjournment