



Blackdown Agility Society

Rules and Regulations

Name and Objectives:

1. The Society shall be called The Blackdown Agility Society and its objectives are to promote agility in Devon and Somerset, particularly in the Blackdown Hills area; encouraging handlers towards self-improvement in the sport of agility by the provision of shows run under Kennel Club Rules and Regulations.

Procedures:

2. The Society's elected Officers will be a Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and the Committee will consist of any Member who wishes to play an active part in meeting the aims of the society. There is no limit on the number of Members, nor is there any restriction on where Members may live.
3. The management of the Society will be in the hands of the elected Officers who may serve as such for 3 years and who may seek re-election thereafter. The Committee will consist of the three elected Officers as a minimum and as many members as necessary to meet the objectives.
4. *The Society must send a list of members and their addresses and those of the branch members, where appropriate, to the Kennel Club with their Annual Returns, and if so requested, make an up to date list available for inspection by the members of the Society or by the Kennel club.*
5. Each Committee member will be entitled to one vote immediately upon acceptance of membership. Voting shall be as decided by majority at the meeting.
6. A quorum for the meetings to be 4 Members, of whom 2 must be elected Officers.
7. The Chairman has a casting vote in the event of equal voting. This in addition to his/her own vote.
8. Voting on any issue to take place at the meetings or by postal or written proxy vote, if deemed appropriate. Emails will be taken as a form of written vote.

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9. The Committee will meet as often as is deemed necessary to fulfill the group's objectives, but at least every six months. All Committee members to be notified of meetings at least 7 days in advance.
10. In the event of an Officer resigning before the Annual General Meeting, the Committee has the power to invite a Committee member to serve as an Officer, until the next Annual General Meeting, when they may choose to stand down or put themselves forward for re-election.
11. Any elected Officer who fails to attend 3 consecutive meetings without satisfactory excuse will forfeit his/her seat and be ineligible for re-election for 12 months.
12. Elected Officers of the group may not serve on any committee of any other agility club or society.
13. Candidates for membership will be accepted on payment of the proscribed subscription.
14. Members must be aged 16 or over. (An amendment following a proposal and unanimous agreement at the 2008 AGM)
15. Members are required to give some help at each of the shows run by the group.

Annual General Meeting

16. The Annual General Meeting will be held in the last two weeks of February. It will receive the report of the elected officers and the Hon. Treasurer and will elect the Officers.
17. All members will be notified in writing or by means of email, of the meeting at least 14 days in advance.
18. Only items on the agenda will be discussed, with the exception of any un-noted routine matters or those that the Chairman deems urgent.
19. Items for the agenda may be put to the Hon Secretary by any Member, but must be submitted at least 7 days before the meeting. The agenda is to be circulated by the most suitable means for each Member before any meeting.
20. A Special General Meeting will be called by the Hon Secretary if one third of the members send requests to do so; these must be written or

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by email. Only the reason for the Special General Meeting will be discussed at the meeting. The elected officers may call a Special General Meeting at their discretion. All Members will be notified in writing or by means of email, of such a meeting at least 14 days in advance.

21. The rules of the group can be changed at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting, notice of which includes details of the proposal to alter the rules following the above procedure. The rules will be effective upon acknowledged notification to the Kennel Club. New rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately.
22. *No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society.*

Finance:

23. The Hon. Treasurer will keep a register of Members and accounts. This register will be made available for inspection by the group Members or the Kennel Club. The accounts to be audited annually by a suitably qualified non-member of the group and presented at the Annual General Meeting. Only elected Officers to handle monies.
24. The financial year will be from 1st February to 31st January.
25. The property of the group is vested in the elected Officers. In the event of the group ceasing to exist, a General Meeting will be called to decide on the disposal of the group's assets and the outcome of the meeting is to be notified to the Kennel Club.
26. The Annual Subscription will be decided by the Members at the General Meeting and notified to the Kennel Club. No Member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any privileges of Membership and if the Member fails to pay the annual subscription, within 3 months of the Annual General Meeting shall have their name removed from the register. Acceptance back on the register will be dependent on paying the current membership and back arrears.
27. Banking account(s) will be held in the name of Blackdown Agility Society, into which all revenue of the group will be paid. Withdrawal from the account(s) can only be made on two signatures from the Chairman, Hon. Secretary or Hon. Treasurer, but not if any two reside at the same address.

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The Kennel Club:

28. *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 the continuance of Registration and that by 31st July each year, other returns as stipulated in Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities to be forwarded to the Kennel Club.*
29. The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the Rules and Regulations of the Society in all cases relative to Canine or Society matters.
30. The Society shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.
31. *The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary to the Society which may occur during the course of the year.*

Insurance:

32. The Group does not accept responsibility for any dog or handler or damage or loss of any personal item at any time.
33. All Members are encouraged to have sufficient third party insurance to cover the actions of their dog(s).
34. Any public event organised by the Blackdown Agility Society will have public liability insurance.

Conduct:

35. *Any member suspended under Kennel Club rule A42j(4) and/or any member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A42j(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a Member of the Society.*
36. *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 interests 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*

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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 two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting, his/her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of Members, and he/she shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a Member of the Society except he/she may, within two calendar months from the date of such Meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose.

If the Society expels any member for discreditable conduction in connection with dogs, Dog Shows, Trial or Competitions, the Society must report the matter in writing to The Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.

Health and Safety:

37. The Group reserves the right to exclude any dog or handler from any event organised by them whose behaviour is considered hazardous or dangerous.
38. Any such incident deemed hazardous or dangerous will be reported to the Hon Secretary within 14 days.
39. Members must not knowingly bring any dog to an event or meeting that has a contagious illness or been in recent contact with such a disease. If a healthy dog later shows signs of contagious infection, they must inform the organisers of the event as soon as possible.
40. Members' dogs may only attend a BAgS event if they have immunity from Distemper, Hepatitis and Leptospirosis. This may be by traditional or homeopathic means.
41. No member's bitch(es) can be brought to a meeting or Society event that is known or suspected of being 'in season'.