

Constitution and By-Laws Wheatland Golden Retriever Club of Wichita

Name and Objects

Section 1. The name of the club shall be the Wheatland Golden Retriever Club of Wichita.

Section 2. The objects of the club shall be:

- a. To provide Public Education services to the public relative to the breed and its care and training needs;
- b. to urge its members to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club;
- c. to encourage quality and responsibility in the breeding of Golden Retrievers and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection;
- d. to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike conduct at all Dog Shows and Performance Tests and Trials for which the club is eligible;
- e. to conduct Dog Shows and Performance Tests and Trials, and all AKC events for which the Club is eligible under the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club and the Golden Retriever Club of America;
- f. to support Rescue efforts for Golden Retrievers.

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 by-laws as may be required to carry out these objects.

Article I Membership

Section 1. Eligibility and Types of Membership. There will be three types of membership in the club; Individual, Family, and Junior, open to all persons who are in good standing with The American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club. Individual membership shall be

offered to individuals who are 18 years of age or older. Individual members are entitled to vote and hold office; household memberships shall be offered to 2 or more individuals who are 18 years of age or older. Household members are entitled to a maximum of 2 votes per household and are also entitled to hold office; Junior memberships shall be offered to individuals who are between the ages of 10 & 17 with no voting or office holding privileges.

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. Requirements for Membership. Applicants must be sponsored by two members of WGRC in good standing. Applicants must also attend two club meetings, or one club meeting and one club sponsored activity to be eligible for membership.

Section 3. Election to membership. Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws and the rules of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address, and occupation of the applicant and it shall carry the endorsement of two members in good standing. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues payment for the current year. All applications and dues are to be filed with the Membership Chair 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 2/3 of the members present and voting by secret ballot at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant. The Member Chair shall notify applicant upon approval. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the club may not reapply within 6 months after such rejection.

Section 4. Dues. Membership shall not exceed \$50 per year, payable on or before the 1st day of February of each year. 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 dues for the ensuing year.

Section 5. Membership Renewal deadline is February 1st. Members not renewing by that date will be sent a notification. Those who do not renew

within the following two weeks will be sent one more notice. If membership is not renewed by March 1st, they must re-submit a membership application.

Section 6. 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 by March 1. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting whose dues are unpaid as of that date.
- (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 within the Greater Wichita Area each month, at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors at the previous meeting. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting. Quorum for such meetings shall be 20% of the members in good standing. [The club and/or Board will meet a minimum of 6 times per year.]

Section 2. Special Club Meetings.

Special Club meetings may be called in any one of three ways:

- a) The President may call a special meeting.
- b) The majority of the Board of Directors who are present and voting at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors may call a Special meeting.
- c) The Secretary, upon receipt of a petition signed by five (5) Regular members in good standing, will call a Special meeting.

Such special meetings shall be held in the Greater Wichita Area 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 by the Secretary at least 5 days and not more than 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 there at. The quorum at such a meeting shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

Section 3. Board Meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held within the Greater Wichita Area at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least 5 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board. The Board will meet a minimum of six times per year.

Section 4. Special Board Meetings. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President and shall be called by the Secretary upon the receipt of a written request signed by at least three members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held in the Greater Wichita Area at such a place, date, and hour as may be designated by the person authorized to call such a meeting. Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least 5 days and not more than 10 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 there at. A quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

Section 5. Voting. Each member 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/she 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 of Directors shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Activities Director, Events Director, and Development Director, all of whom shall be members in good standing and all of whom shall be elected for one-year terms at the Club's Annual Meeting as provided for in Article IV, and shall serve until their successors are elected. General management of the Club's affairs, including the development of policies to guide the Club's operations, shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Officers. The Club's Officers, consisting of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall serve in their respective capacities both about the club and its meetings and the Board of Directors 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 matters of which the Club shall order a record. He/She shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings, 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. He/She 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 he/she shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported; and at the annual meeting he/she shall render an account of all moneys received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as the board of Directors shall determine.

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 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.

Article IV The Club Year, Annual Meeting, Elections

Section 1. Club Year. The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of January and end on the 31st day of December.

Section 2. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting shall be held in the month of November at which Officers and Directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret, written ballot from among those nominated. Within 30 days of the conclusion of the election, each retiring officer shall turn over to their successor in office all properties and records relating to that office.

Section 3. Elections. The nominated candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for each position 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 and two alternates, not more than one of who 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 the Chairman's duty to call a committee meeting. A Committee meeting shall be held by September 1st.

- a) The Committee shall nominate one candidate for each position. After securing the consent of people so nominated, the committee shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary.
- b) The Secretary shall mail written notice of the candidates to each member at least 2 weeks prior to the October meeting, at which additional nominations may be made.
- c) Any member may make additional nominations at the October meeting in attendance if the person so nominated does not decline the nomination or is not in attendance at the meeting. No person may be a candidate for more than one position.
- 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 needed. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board.

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 like period.

Section 2. Charges. Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the Breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$25 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 Club or to the Breed. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege such conduct, it may refuse to entertain the jurisdiction. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date of a hearing by the Board not less than three weeks or more than six 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 dependant may personally appear in his/her own defense and bring witnesses if he/she wishes.

Section 3. Board Hearing. The Board of Directors 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 of Directors 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 the Board deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the Club 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 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 of Directors' 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 hearing of the Board of Directors and upon that 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. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his/her own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the findings and recommendations of the Board of Directors, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his/her own behalf if he/she wishes. The Regular 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 recommendation by the Board of Director's of 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 signed by 20% 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 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 2/3 secret vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meetings called for this purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each member at least 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 2/3 of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club other than for purposes 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. After payment of the debts of the Club, its property and assets shall be given to an incorporated, not-for-profit organization(s) which benefits dogs, and particularly Golden Retrievers. The Board of Directors shall be select the organization(s).

Article IX Order of Business

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

Roll Call
Approval of Minutes of the last meeting.
Report of President
Report of Vice President
Report of Secretary
Report of Treasurer
Report of Director(s)
Report of Committees
Election of Officers and Board (at annual meeting)
Election of New Members
Unfinished Business
New Business
Adjournment

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

Minutes of last meeting
Report of Secretary
Report of Treasurer

Reports of Committee
Unfinished Business
New Business
Adjournment

Article X
Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. The rules contained in the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised", shall govern the club in all cases which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these by-laws and any other special rules or order the club may adopt.

Ratified 10-20-05