THE STANDARD POODLE CLUB

Revised in AGM 11th July 2021

**RULES**

**1. Name and Objectives.**

1. The Club shall be called the Standard Poodle Club.
2. The objectives of the Standard Poodle Club shall be:

a) To encourage the caring and responsible breeding, ownership and exhibition of Standard Poodles by:

1. Promoting its own shows.
2. Supporting other Canine Societies which offer classification for the variety at their shows.
3. Offering special prizes to encourage entries at the shows under (i) and (ii) above.
4. Submit a list of judges annually to the Kennel Club, this list to be that of the Poodle Council and to be available to Societies on request to indicate the person the Club would support at different levels of judging.
5. Gathering and disseminating information, supporting research and other activities to promote the eradication of hereditary diseases in the breed.

b) To provide a Rescue Service for the Breed.

*3)* The object of the Club is for the benefit of its members and is not to be classed for any reason as trading business. All profits and income from any source or activity of the Club is solely for the benefit of, and the further education of its members in respect of breeding, training, rearing, showing, judging and all aspects of Standard Poodles.

**2. Sphere of Activity**

1. The Club’s sphere of activity shall embrace the whole of the United Kingdom.
2. It’s sphere of activity shall be divided into suitable regions each to be represented on the Committee by an Area Representative who shall reside in the area and be responsible under the Committee for coordinating any Standard Poodle rescue activity and furthering the objects of the Club in his/her area.
3. The areas shall be:-

**1. METROPOLITAN** (Bucks, Berks, Herts, Oxfordshire, Greater London, Surrey.)

**2. MIDLANDS** (Derbyshire, Leics, Northants, Notts, Herefordshire, Salop, Staffs, Warwickshire, West Midlands, Worcs).

**3. SOUTH** (Ch. Isles, Dorset, Hants, IOW, Kent, Sussex, Wilts).

**4.SOUTHWEST** (Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Dyfed, Glamorgan, Gwent, Powys, Somerset)

**5.NORTH WEST** (Cheshire, Greater Manchester, Cumbria, Lancashire, North Wales.)

**6.EAST ANGLIA** (Beds, Cambs, Essex, Lincs, Norfolk, Suffolk)

**7.NORTH EAST** (Cleveland, Durham, Humberside, Tyne & Wear, Northumbria, Yorkshire)

**8. NORTHERN IRELAND & ISLE OF MAN**

**9.SCOTLAND**

**3. The Committee**

1. The Officers of the Club shall be the President, Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, all of whom shall be fully paid up members of the Club.
2. The Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer are ex-officio members of the Club committee. The President may attend but shall not vote at Committee meetings.
3. Patron/s, Vice President/s and Life Members may be nominated and elected by Club members as non ex-officio Officers of the Club on an annual basis.
4. All Officers and Committee Members of the Club shall be elected by the Club Membership annually and retire at the next Annual General Meeting, but shall be eligible for re-nomination and re-election.
5. The management of the Club shall be in the hands of the Committee which shall consist of its Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer together with the Area Representatives and 5 other full members of the Club.
6. At the first full meeting of the new Committee, the Committee should appoint a Rescue Co-Ordinator, Welfare

 C0-ordinator and any other position(s) they consider to be needed. These posts are on a strictly annual basis.

7)All Candidates for the Committee, their nominees and seconders shall have been fully paid up members of The Standard Poodle Club for at least two years.

8) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt Club Members on to the Committee in the event of a position becoming vacant between General Meetings and in special circumstances up to a maximum of three other members may be co-opted. Those co-opted shall only hold office until the next General Meeting of the Club at which an election of Officers and Committee takes place.

9) All members of the Committee shall be elected by the Club Membership annually and retire at the next Annual General Meeting, but shall be eligible for re-nomination and re-election.

10) No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club registered society.

11) Seven Members shall constitute a quorum.

12) At Committee Meetings, the Chairman shall have the casting vote in the event of there being a tie in a vote taken amongst attending committee members.

13) The Committee may elect a Vice Chairman from amongst its Members as and when required who shall act as Chairman at Committee Meetings in the absence of the elected Chairman.

14) Except for exceptional circumstances a Committee Meeting will be called only by either the Hon. Sec or Chairman.

**4. Members**

1. Candidates for membership of the Club shall be proposed by 2 existing fully paid up members and vetted by the Committee at the first available committee meeting after payment of the appropriate subscription. In particular, no applicant who has been convicted of an offence with respect to cruelty to animals shall be accepted as a member.
2. Single Membership, Joint Membership and Junior Membership (for persons between the age of 8 and 18) shall be available. Members under the age of 18 shall not have voting rights.
3. A list of members and their addresses shall be made available for inspection, if so requested, by the Kennel Club
4. No Officer or member of the Club shall incur any liability, financial or otherwise, in the name of the Club other than current or routine expenses without the authority of the Committee.
5. All fully paid up members (including Joint Members as individuals) shall each have one vote on all matters put before general meetings and in elections.
6. Members shall be expected to adhere to the Club’s Code of Ethics.

**5. Election of Committee**

1. The annual election of Officers and Committee members, named in Rule 3, shall be by secret ballot conducted by an independent scrutineer who shall be approved by the Committee.
2. Only fully paid up members on the preceding 31st day of December shall be entitled to nominate and vote in the election of Officers and committee. Subject to this proviso, members may nominate and vote for any seat on the Committee except those reserved for Area Representative, for which only members residing in that area may nominate. Any vote for Area Representatives will be subject to the normal election rules of the Club.
3. Nominations for the positions of Officers and members of the club committee shall be called for when notice of convening the Annual General Meeting is given, in

 accordance with Rule 6.2. Candidates shall be nominated and seconded by fully paid up members and sent to the Hon. Secretary one month before the Annual General Meeting. Voting Papers shall be distributed with the agenda 21 days before the Annual

 General Meeting. The results of the ballot shall be announced at the Annual General Meeting.

4) No member of the Club who is already an Officer of another Breed Club may be nominated for a position as an Officer of the Standard Poodle Club.

**6. General Club Meetings.**

1. All persons attending a General Meeting must be fully paid up members for the current year.
2. Notices convening a General Meeting of the Club shall be posted or published at least 2 months before the proposed date of the meeting. Items for the agenda shall be due to the Hon. Secretary one month before such a meeting.
3. The agenda shall be circulated to members 21 days before the meeting.
4. All Items for the Agenda must be sent by post or email to the Secretary. If a member putting an item forward for the agenda is unable to re present at AGM they may nominate another member who has been briefed by them to present the item to the meeting.
5. A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Hon. Secretary if 25 members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed. No matte other than those appearing on the agenda shall be discussed at a Special General Meeting.

4. The chair at all General Meetings shall be offered to the President. In the event of the president declining, the chair shall be taken by the Chairman. In the event of neither being available a Chairman for the meeting shall be elected by the members present at the meeting.

**7. Annual General Meeting**

1. Wherever feasible the Annual General Meeting shall be held in March each year notification shall be in accordance with Rule 6.2
2. It’s purpose shall be to receive the Chairman’s report, the Hon. Treasurer's report and Balance Sheet, a report on the Rescue Service , to approve the appointment of auditors, to announce the results of the annual election of Officers and Committee and to discuss any resolutions duly placed on the agenda of which prior notice, in accordance with Rule 6.2, has been given to the Hon. Secretary.
3. No business shall be transacted at an Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof appears in the agenda, with the exception of routine matters which in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting are urgent.
4. The Annual General Meeting shall be chaired in accordance with Rule 6.4

**8. Club Rules.**

The Rules of the Club shall only be altered at a General Meeting. Any alteration of the rules shall not be brought into force until the Kennel Club has been advised and given its approval of the alteration.

**9. Club Financial Accounts.**

1. A bank account shall be opened in the name of the Club into which all revenue of the Society shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall be made on the signature of two out of three signatories, approved by the Committee, none of whom shall be living at the same address, but one of whom shall be the Hon. Treasurer.
2. The accounts shall be kept by the Hon. Treasurer, and one or more auditors shall be appointed to audit the Club’s accounts before the Annual General Meeting.
3. The financial year of the Club shall begin on 1st January and end on the 31st December.

**10. Subscriptions**

1. The amount of any joining fee and of the annual subscription for the ensuing year and the terms of Joint and Junior Membership shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting after consideration of the Committee’s recommendations which shall be published in the official notice convening the meeting.
2. Annual Subscriptions shall be due before 31st January each year.
3. No person whose subscription is unpaid one month after it has become due shall be entitled to any of the privileges of membership and the Committee shall have the power to delete his/her name from the list of members after giving the member one months notice of such action.

**11. Club Property**

1. The property of the Club shall be vested in the Committee and in the event of the Club ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the assets of the Club.
2. No offer of a challenge cup or trophy shall be accepted except on the clear understanding that it becomes the property of the Club, unless the donor makes any condition to the contrary, in which case the terms shall be agreed between the donor and the Committee in writing**.**

**12. Expulsion of Members.**

1. Any member who shall be suspended by Kennel Club Rule A42j(4) and/or any member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club Rule 42j(8) shall, ipso facto cease to be a member of the Club for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification.
2. If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the committee of the Society, be injurious to the character or interest of the Society, the committee of the Society may, at a meeting, the notice convening which includes as an objective the consideration of the conduct of a member, determine that a Special General Meeting shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her.
3. Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and hours of the meeting that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at that meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, his/her name shall be forthwith erased from the list of members, and he/she shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a member of the society, except that he/she may, within two calendar months from the date of the meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to, such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose.

**13. Annual Returns to the Kennel Club.**

1. The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, Maintenance of the Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary for continuance of registration, and that by the 31st July each year, other returns, as stipulated in Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Registered Societies, Branches of Societies and Breed Councils and the affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities, will be forwarded to the Kennel Club.
2. The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of the month in which the Society’s Annual General Meeting is held and to notify the Kennel Club of any subsequent amendments to that date.

**14. Final Court of Appeal**

1. The Kennel Club shall be the final court of appeal in all matters under dispute.

2) The Club shall not join any federation or Society of Clubs**.**

**15. Code Of Ethics**

The Standard Poodle Club shall have a Code of Ethics. All Members shall agree to abide by the Code of Ethics as agreed at that time.

**16. The Standard Poodle Club Rescue Service.**

The Standard Poodle Club shall provide a Standard Poodle Rescue Service. The Standard Poodle Rescue Service is affiliated to and responsible to the Standard Poodle Club. Its organization and management is vested in the hands of the Officers and Committee of the Club.

(STANDARD POODLE CLUB) Code of Ethics

**GENERAL CODE OF ETHICS - All members of the (Standard Poodle Club) undertake to abide by its general**

**Code of Ethics**

**Club members**

1) Will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.

2) Will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, or who carries out a caesarean section on a bitch, may report such operation to the Kennel Club.

3) Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.

4) Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.

5) Will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.

6) Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.

7) Will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.

8) Will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.

9) Will clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.

10) Will only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and will help with the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change.

11) Will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.

12) Will ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents at the earliest opportunity, if not immediately available.

13) Will not sell any dog to commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. Will not sell by sale or auction Kennel Club registration certificates as stand alone items (not accompanying a dog).

14) Will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise dogs nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog.

Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and aware of /or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.

It is recommended that members make the Standard Poodle Club Breed Health Administrator (BHA) aware of any of their dogs or progeny diagnosed with inherited disease. These will then be placed on the Open Register to track Sebaceous Adenitis (SA) and Addison’s Disease (AD).

15) Breeding: Members of the SPC agree:

 a) To ensure that both sire and dam are of a suitable temperament and type and are in sound health and construction; and seek to establish a mode of inheritance of disease (testing wherever possible under the existing schemes) to preserve, safeguard and improve the characteristics of the breed. SPC recommend to hip score and eye test under the BVA/KC schemes and have a full panel of DNA tests including prcd-PRA,PRA 4 (rcd4) and vWD.

The SPC recommends to test for Sebaceous Adenitis (SA) with a normal result for Sire and Dam before breeding a litter.

The SPC recommend keeping the COI number in single figures.

 b) To ensure both parents are registered with the Kennel Club.

 c) To breed only with consideration for the breed’s welfare and not for commercial remuneration.

 d) To keep puppies in the precinct of their home environment, or securely protected until the age of eight weeks, or fully inoculated.

 e) To ensure all purchasers of puppies are fully aware of the characteristics of the Standard Poodle; paying special attention to grooming, clipping costs, exercise and feeding. And to never leave it on its own all day.

 f) To provide each purchaser with a diet sheet, worming certificate, pedigree and official welfare leaflet available from the Club. (Making use of the Kennel Club endorsement scheme where appropriate)

 g) To be responsible for all dogs/puppies bred by them, taking them back if necessary and contacting breed rescue when help in re-homing is required.

 h) Never to mate or breed from a bitch under the age of two years, or over eight years.

Bitches to be limited to four litters in their breeding lifespan, with a rest of at least one season between mating.

 i) Not to breed a litter unless care and attention can be assured for the bitch’s welfare at all times, with proper facilities for health and security for both bitch and puppies. (A person with a full time occupation is not in a suitable position to breed).

 j) Not to knowingly sell a Standard Poodle to a commercial dealer; nor to any country that does not have legislation for the protection of animals from cruelty similar to such laws as the UK, and do not have a reciprocal agreement with the English Kennel Club.

 k) To avoid inbreeding and refer to the Kennel Club’s inbreeding coefficient calculator (COI). The SPC recommend keeping the COI number in single figures.

Members adhering to the Code of Ethics of the SPC may advise the Club Secretary, of impending, or existing litters. The Secretary may then inform potential purchasers of such litters.

It is the responsibility of the breeder to ensure the suitability of a home. The service is not for those who churn out litters and wish an easy contact for sales.

**16) STUD DOG OWNERS**;- With respect to the use of, Stud Dog owning members of the SPC agree:

a) To be stringent in the assessment of the suitability of their dog to produce puppies of good temperament, which will be a credit to the breed in type, health and soundness.

b) To test the stud dogs, wherever possible, for hereditary disease under existing schemes.

c) To ensure that the bitch is sound, healthy and is tested wherever possible under existing schemes for hereditary disease, and is of the appropriate pedigree or quality to produce a desirable litter.

d) To ensure the owner of the bitch is aware of the responsibility of producing a litter as stated under BREEDING in this Code of Ethics.

e) To establish the breeders reliability in choosing homes for the puppies. Special thought must be taken before agreeing to service a bitch from a pet home.

f) To retain some responsibility for resulting puppies that may need to be re-housed in their adult life.

17) **ENVIRONMENT/OWNERSHIP**: Members of the SPC Agree:

1) To maintain a high standard of care for their standard poodle and to provide Veterinary treatment as and when required. Inoculating and worming as advised by Breeder/Vet.

2) To try and ensure tagged collars are worn when their dogs are away from home and ensure dogs are microchipped in line with current legal requirement.

3) To acknowledge responsibility to clean up after their dogs in public places.

4) To contact the Club, preferably an Area Representative, should they need help to re-home a dog.

5) To refrain from serious obedience/agility or other training until a Standard Poodle puppy is of a suitable age where it has both the strength of body and mental capacity to endure such demands.

18**. Members shall not knowingly be involved in the crossbreeding of the Standard Poodle with any other breed or non-breed dog.**