



BUCKEYE KEESHOND CLUB
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
January 1986 -- Revised March 2010

ARTICLE I: NAMES AND OBJECTS

SECTION 1. The name of the Club shall be the Buckeye Keeshond Club

SECTION 2. The objectives of the Club shall be:

- (a) to encourage and promote the selective breeding and protection of purebred Keeshonden and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection;
- (b) to urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the Keeshond Club of America and the American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which Keeshonden shall be judged;
- (c) to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging ethical breeding practices and sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, obedience, rally and agility trials;
- (d) to conduct sanctioned and licensed specialty shows, obedience, rally, and agility trials under the rules 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 by-laws as may be required to carry out these objects.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Eligibility. There shall be three types of membership in the Buckeye Keeshond Club. Memberships will be open to those persons who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club.

- (a) Full voting membership will be open to all persons eighteen (18) years of age and older.
- (b) Associate membership will be open to all persons desiring to receive Club communications and attend Club events. Associate members will have no vote and will not be eligible to hold office.
- (c) Nonvoting junior membership will be open to all persons under the age of eighteen (18). Junior members shall not be eligible to hold office.

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. Membership dues shall be:

Single membership:	\$15.00	Couple: \$20.00
Associate Member	\$10.00	
Junior member:	\$ 5.00	
Late fee after 90 days:	\$ 5.00	

Dues are payable on or before the first day of July of each year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of April the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his dues for the ensuing year. Each individual full member shall be entitled to a vote. Dues received after 90 days from statement date will be assessed an additional \$5.00.

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 these constitution and by-laws and by 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. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues 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 3/4 of the members present and voting at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant. Applications for Associate membership requires only a majority vote of the members present.

Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club may not reapply within six months after such 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. 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 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 90 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.
- (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 Jurisdiction. The Club shall have jurisdiction within the following Ohio counties:

Lorain, Cuyahoga, Lake, Ashtabula, Geauga, Trumbull, Portage, Summit, Medina, Wyandot, Crawford, Richland, Ashland, Wayne, Stark, Mahoning, Columbiana, Marion, Morrow, Holmes, Carroll, Union, Delaware, Knox, Coshocton, Tuscarawas, Carroll, Harrison, Jefferson, Guernsey, Muskingum, Licking, Franklin and Madison. A schematic of the jurisdiction is attached.

SECTION 2. Club Meetings. Meetings of the Club shall be held within the Club's assigned jurisdiction on no fewer than five (5) occasions, one of which will be of an educational nature. These meetings will be rotated geographically within the Club's jurisdiction and will be held at such hour and place and on such date as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Meetings for the upcoming year will be determined at the last meeting of the year and communicated to the membership in January of each year. The Secretary shall provide written notice of each meeting via email to those members having e-mail and via mail to all others at least 25 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be 20 percent of the voting members in good standing.

SECTION 3. Special Club Meetings. Special Club meetings may be called by the President or by a majority vote of the members of the Board 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 within the Club's assigned jurisdiction at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. The Secretary shall provide written notice of such a meeting via e-mail to those members having e-mail and via mail to all others 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 thereat. The quorum for such a meeting shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

SECTION 4. Board Meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least four (4) times per year within the Club's assigned jurisdiction. The Secretary shall provide written notice of each such meeting, including exact date, time and location, via e-mail to those members with e-mail and via mail to all others at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 5. 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 within the Club's assigned jurisdiction at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such meetings. The Secretary shall provide written notice of such meeting via e-mail to those members with e-mail and via mail to all others 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 thereat. A quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 6. Voting. Each full 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 is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any Club meeting or election. Associate and Junior members are not eligible to vote at any time.

ARTICLE III: DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Board of Directors. The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and four (4) other persons, 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 in Article IV and 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 matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. He shall 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 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 shall deposit the same in a bank designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. His books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and he 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 shall render an account of all moneys received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded should the Board so vote in such amount as the Board 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 July and end on the 30th day of June.

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 July 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 his successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 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 four (4) nominated candidates for other 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. During the month of February the Board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three members and two alternates, not more than one of whom may be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committee and alternates of their selection. The Board shall name a Chairman for the Committee and it shall be his duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before April 1st.

- (a) The Committee shall nominate one candidate for each office and four (4) candidates for the other positions 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, before April 15th, notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.
- (c) When the Secretary submits the Nominating Committee report to the membership, he shall also ask for additional nominations. Additional nominations may be made in writing to the Secretary by any member in good standing provided that proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position, and the additional nominations which are provided for herein may be made only from among those members who have not accepted a nomination of the Nominating Committee. Additional nominations must be received by the Secretary no later than June 1st.
- (d) The Secretary shall, no later than June 1st, notify each member in writing of all candidates so nominated and provide information on the date and location of the annual meeting.
- (e) 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 specialty shows, obedience trials, 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.

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 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 interest 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 in his/her own defense and may bring witnesses.

SECTION 3. Board Meeting. 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, with a majority vote of those present, suspend the defendant from all privileges for 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 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 of the Board's recommendation of expulsion. 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 findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak, in his own behalf, if he she so wishes. The meeting shall then vote by secret written 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 by-laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by twenty percent (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 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 2/3 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 two 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 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 members in good standing at the time of dissolution.

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, Reports 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 majority vote of those present, shall be: Reading of minutes of last meeting, Report of Secretary, Report of Treasurer, Reports of Committees, 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 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.



ASSIGNED JURISDICTION FOR THE BUCKEYE KEESHOND CLUB (See Article II, Section 1)