

Constitution

Article I

Name and Objects

Section 1. The name of the club shall be **Desert Fun Bunch Sighthound Club**.

Section 2. The objects of the club shall be to:

a.) Further the advancement of all Sighthound breeds.

b.) Do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of lure coursing tests & trials.

c.) Conduct lure coursing tests and trials under the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club.

d.) Conduct coursing ability tests and Fast CATs under the rules and regulations 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 ensure 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 bylaws as may be required to carry out these objects.

BYLAWS

Article I

Membership

Section 1. Eligibility. There shall be *regular membership* open to all persons 18 years of age and older, who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to all the purposes of this club, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender identity, sex, ancestry, citizenship status, mental or physical disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, veteran status, or military status. This person must have owned a sighthound and aspire to participate (with or without said sighthound) in AKC lure coursing events held by the club.

There shall be an *associate membership* open to any individual 18 years of age and who subscribes to the purposes of this club and who owns a dog registered with AKC and wants to participate in coursing events open to non-sighthounds. There are to be no voting privileges or right to hold office for this type of membership. Cost will be the same as set forth for regular membership.

While membership is to be unrestricted as to residence, the club's primary purpose is to be representative of the breeders and exhibitors in the club's designated territory.

Section 2. Dues. Membership dues shall not exceed \$25.00 per year and is payable on or before the 1st day of January 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 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 bylaws and the rules of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name and address of the applicant and it shall carry the endorsement of one DFB member in good standing. 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. During that club meeting, the application will be voted upon and affirmative votes of $\frac{2}{3}$ 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 reapply within six months after such rejection.

Section 4. Termination of Membership. Memberships may be terminated in one of the following ways;

- 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 debts to the club and they are incurred on the first day of January of each year.
- b. By lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 30 days after the first day of January of each year. The board may grant an additional 30 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 bylaws.

Article II

Meetings and Voting

Section 1. *Club Meetings.* There shall be at least 6 meetings of the general membership per year at such hour and place as may be designated by the board of directors. Written notice of each such meeting shall be emailed by the Secretary at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting. The focal point of these meetings is to conduct routine business of the club. These meetings may be held via remote conferencing. The holding of a meeting via teleconferencing or video conferencing must be approved by all members of the board. These meetings will be held (in person or via remote conferencing) in the club's designated territory with a focal point of Cave Creek, Arizona, with territory consisting of all communities north to Prescott, south to Laveen Village, and east to Gold Canyon. A quorum for club meetings is 10% of members.

Section 2. *Special Club Meetings.* Special club meetings may 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 place, date and hour as may be designated by the Board of Directors. The meeting shall be held within 30 days of receipt of the petition. Written notice of such a meeting shall be emailed by the Secretary at least five 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 focal point of these meetings is to conduct urgent business of the club. This meeting may be held via remote conferencing. The holding of this meeting via teleconferencing or video conferencing must be approved by all members of the board. These meetings will be held (in person or via remote conferencing) in the club's designated territory.

Section 3. *Board Meetings.* *Meetings of the board of directors shall be held at least 6 times per year at such hour and place as may be designated by the board and within the club's designated territory.* Notice of each such meeting shall be emailed by the recording secretary at least five days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the board. The focal point of these meetings is to conduct routine business of the club. This meeting may be held via remote conferencing. The holding of this meeting via teleconferencing or video conferencing must be approved by all members of the board.

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 members of the board. Such special meetings shall be held at such places (within the club's designated territory), date, and hour as may be designated by the President. Written notice of such meeting shall be emailed by the Secretary at least five 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. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the board. The focal point of these meetings is to conduct urgent business of the club. This meeting may be held via remote conferencing. This meeting may be conducted via teleconference if all members of the board approve.

Section 5. *Voting.* Each regular member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of the club at which the member 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 shall be composed of the officers and 3 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 all 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 the President, in addition to those particularly specified in these bylaws.
- 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 all of the matters of which a record shall be ordered by the club, notify officers and directors of their election to office and carry out such other duties as

prescribed in the bylaws. The Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify new members of their election to membership, keep a roll of the members of the club with their addresses, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these bylaws.

- d. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all money due or belonging to the club. Funds shall be deposited in a bank account designated by the board, in the name of the club. The books shall at all times be open to inspection by the board and a report shall be given at every meeting on the condition of the club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported; and at the annual meeting an accounting shall be rendered of all moneys received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation of any financial documents or filings as needed.

Section 3. Vacancies. Any vacancies occurring on the board or among the offices during the next annual election by a majority vote of 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 the 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 first day of January and end on the last day of December. The club's official year shall coincide with the fiscal year.

Section 2. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting shall be held the month of December, at which officers and directors for the ensuing year shall be announced from among those elected in accordance with Section 3 of this Article. They shall take office at the beginning of the club's official year. Each retiring officer shall turn over to the successor in the office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the election.

Section 3. Elections. Voting shall take place via secure electronic ballot. The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The 3 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. By the month of September, the board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three members. The board shall name a chairman for the committee and it shall be that person's duty to call a committee meeting, which shall be held on or before the October meeting. The nominating committee may conduct its business by mail, electronic mail, teleconference or video conference.

- a.** The committee shall nominate one candidate for each office and 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 the October meeting, notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.
- c.** Additional nominations may be made at the October/November meeting by any member in attendance, provided that the person so nominated does not decline when their name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, the prepares shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying willingness to be a candidate. 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.

Article V Committees

Section 1. The board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the club. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the board. Special committees may also be appointed by the board to assist with 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 any of 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 the charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the club. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$25.00, 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 the next board meeting, and the board shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute prejudicial to the best interests of the club. If the board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the club, it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the board entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date for a hearing by the board not less than three weeks nor 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 hearing.

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 reprimand or suspend the defendant from privileges of the club for not more than six 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 a case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before their 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'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 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 on their own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the board's finding and recommendation, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak on their own behalf if they so wish. The 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 board's suspension shall stand.

Article VII

Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to the constitution and bylaws 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 promptly be 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 months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

Section 2. The constitution and bylaws may be amended by 2/3 secret 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. 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 purpose of reorganization whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the club nor any proceeds thereof nor assets of the club shall be distributed to any members of the 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 board members.

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:

1. Roll Call
2. Minutes of Last Meeting
3. Report of the President

4. Report of the Secretary
5. Report of the Treasurer
6. Reports of the Committees
7. Election of Officers and Board (at Annual Meeting)
8. Election of New Members
9. Unfinished Business
10. New Business
11. Adjournment

Section 2. At meetings of the board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

1. Reading of the Minutes of the Last Meeting
2. Report of the Secretary
3. Report of the Treasurer
4. Reports of the Committees
5. Unfinished Business
6. New Business
7. 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.