



**ASSOCIATION**  
**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

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## 1. AMWA OBJECTIVES

- To encourage people to work their Alaskan Malamutes.
- To encourage co-operation between Alaskan Malamute owners and admirers for the good of the breed, the exchange of views and information on all subjects appertaining to the breed.
- To promote and encourage the breed's working ability.
- To provide an available source of advice on the breed of a general nature for the assistance of members and for the promotion of good public relations.

## 2. COMMITTEE

- 2.1. The management of the Association shall be in the hands of the Committee consisting of the Chairperson (elected annually by the Committee), Secretary, Treasurer and a minimum of 6 members. Maximum of 15 including officers.
- 2.2. All Committee members shall retire bi-annually, but shall be eligible for re-election at the **Annual General Meeting**. The Chairperson, Hon Treasurer and Hon Secretary shall retire annually, but shall also be eligible for re-election.
- 2.3. Meetings of the Committee shall be held at least three times a year and be held where possible at AMWA events. As many additional meetings as deemed necessary may be called (not including any special Committee Meetings called for a specific purpose) and shall consist of a quorum of at least 2/3rds of members including officers. ALL Committee Meetings of any description are only to be called by the Hon Secretary and should give reasonable notice so that ALL Committee members have the opportunity to attend. ALL Officers and members to attend at least two out of three Committee Meetings in any one year or they will automatically be removed from the Committee unless there are exceptional circumstances for non-attendance. In the absence of a Chairperson, a Chairperson of the day will be elected by the Committee members present. ALL Committee Meetings are to be minuted and these shall be sent to all serving Committee members.
- 2.4. The Chairperson has the deciding vote in the event of a split Committee vote.
- 2.5. If any Committee places are vacant at any time through resignation, etc, the Committee will have the power to co-opt at the next Committee meeting to fill the place/s.
- 2.6. Should a Committee position become vacant between Committee meetings, the remaining Committee members may engage another person to act in that position (this could be another Committee member) until a replacement is duly

elected at Committee meeting by a majority vote of all members present. Any vacant position will be advertised *to the members* not less than 14 days prior to the Committee meeting.

In this constitution references to "*to the members*" means giving a notice to the members of the Club: on the Club website; or by email; or by post; or partly by one means and partly by another.

- 2.7. It is the responsibility of the Chairperson to ensure that any vacant position is filled in a timely manner.
- 2.8. Any financial or legal liability incurred by Committee Officers or Committee members during the course of exercising their bona fide powers shall not be their personal liability, but shall be the responsibility of the Club as a whole.
- 2.9. The Committee hold the right to amend or change the "Event Rules and Regulations" if it is deemed that an existing rule or regulation could constitute a health and safety risk.

### **3. ELECTIONS**

- 3.1. Each nomination for election shall be proposed and seconded by Adult Society members and shall carry the Candidate's written consent that they are willing to stand for election or re-election.
- 3.2. The Candidate shall also provide an election statement of not more than 200 words, which the Committee shall cause to be examined to ensure that it contains no misleading or incorrect statement. This statement will then be published to the membership via the Club website; or by email; or by post; or partly by one means and partly by another.

### **4. MEMBERSHIP**

- 4.1. Anyone interested in Sled Dog pursuits with Alaskan Malamutes, **and other sled dog breeds.**
- 4.2. Annual membership fees must be sent to the Membership Secretary by **1<sup>st</sup> January** of each year (A Membership Secretary shall be appointed by the Committee). Having updated the membership list accordingly, the Membership Secretary shall pass the Subscriptions on to the Hon Treasurer for banking and, if requested by the members, a receipt shall be issued. If membership fees remain unpaid after **31<sup>st</sup> January**, the Committee have the power to erase the member from the list of members. If the Committee

receive a satisfactory explanation for late renewal by the member then, at their discretion, they may re-admit the member on payment of the arrears.

- 4.3. New members paying the first time after **1<sup>st</sup> October** shall have their membership extending for the following year.
- 4.4. The Club reserves the right to refuse membership where there is a risk that the potential members membership could bring the Club into disrepute. The majority Committee decision is final.
- 4.5. Members must abide by the spirit of the Constitution and the Club Management Documents.
- 4.6. Members are responsible for their own safety and well being when participating in any Club activity or social event.

## **5. MEMBERSHIP FEES**

- 5.1. Fees are as follows:-
  - Single membership will be **£15.00** per annum
  - A partnership (2 people) is eligible for joint membership of **£20.00** per annum; each partner being eligible to vote at meetings.
  - **Junior Membership (age 8 – 17 inclusive). Junior Membership will be £5.00 per annum. Under 18's are considered minors and therefore do not have the right of a member vote, nor are they eligible to enter adult event classes. The committee reserve the right to consider applications from parents of 16-18 year for adult membership.**
- 5.2. Membership fees may be amended at the AGM.
- 5.3. Minutes of the AGM are available on request and will cost 50p plus an SAE.

## **6. GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

- 6.1. **Annual General Meetings** will be held in the month of August and will cover the following:-
  - The election of Officers and Committee;
  - Rules of the Association;

- Financial matters/membership fees;
  - Any other business (not to be voted on).
- 6.2. Members will receive one month's notice of an **Annual General Meeting**.
- 6.3. The rules of the Association shall not be altered except at an **Annual General Meeting** or a Special General Meeting.
- 6.4. At any meeting, a resolution put to the vote shall be decided by a show of hands of those entitled to vote.
- 6.5. Where more than one nomination for an elected position has been received, either a secret ballot or secret to the nominee ballot may take place if requested by either the nominee or those entitled to vote.
- 6.6. If any member has a item for discussion at the AGM, but is unable to attend the meeting, they may bring that item to the Committee for inclusion in the agenda so it may be put forward to the membership.
- 6.7. Agenda items not of origin from within the Committee shall be lodged with the Secretary at least 28 days preceding the AGM and be signed by a proposing and seconding member. Only motions and agenda items duly submitted for the AGM will be eligible for discussion and voting decisions. The AGM's agenda shall be placed on the Club website at least 21 days before the AGM.
- 6.8. All full members present at the AGM are entitled to vote.

### **Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)**

- 6.9. The Chairperson, or 3 Committee members, or a petition signed by not less than 20% of Club members may call an EGM. Notice of an EGM must be circulated at least **35 days** in advance. The notice must be given to the members.
- In this constitution references to "*to the members*" means giving a notice to the members of the Club: on the Club website; or by email; or by post; or partly by one means and partly by another.
- 6.10. Motions for discussion at EGM, not of origin from within the Committee, shall be lodged with the Secretary at least 28 days preceding the EGM, and be signed by a proposing and seconding member. Only motions and agenda items duly submitted for the EGM will be eligible or discussion and voting decisions. The EGM's agenda shall be placed on the Club notice board at least 21 days before the EGM.
- 6.11. All full members present at the EGM are entitled to vote.

- 6.12. An EGM shall be quorate provided the number of full members exceeds the number of Committee members present.

## **7. ASSOCIATION ACCOUNTS**

- 7.1. A bank account shall be opened in the name of the Association into which all revenue of the Association shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall only be made on the signature of the Hon Treasurer and Hon Secretary **or Chairperson**.
- 7.2. The accounts shall be kept by the Hon Treasurer. Auditors shall be appointed at each AGM, who **may** audit the Association's accounts for the ensuing year before the AGM.
- 7.3. The Association's accounts shall run from 1st April to 31st March annually.

## **8. DISTRIBUTION OF PROFITS**

- 8.1. In no circumstances can any profit be distributed to members, but any surplus income earned shall be contributed to a General Fund for furthering the objectives of the Club.

## **9. ASSOCIATION PROPERTY**

- 9.1. The property of the Association shall be vested in the Officers and in the event of the Association ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called and the assets shall be disposed of on the decision of the existing Committee.
- 9.2. All trophies and cups accepted by the Association must be an outright gift to the Association. Cups to be returned to the donator or sponsor in the event of the Association ceasing to exist.
- 9.3. A Trophy Steward will be appointed each year by the Committee. Any member receiving a trophy or cup must first sign for it in a Log to be kept by the Trophy Steward. Any member not returning the trophy or cup at least one month before the following years event for which the cup was donated, will be subject to a fine, not exceeding the cost, incurred by the Association in its course of retrieving or replacing the trophy or cup.

## **10. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS**

- 10.1. If the conduct of any member or competitor at an AMWA Event, or any prospective member or competitor at an AMWA Event, shall in the opinion of the Committee of the Association, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interest of the Association, the Committee of the Association shall be called for the purpose of **investigating any such complaint as per the complaints procedure and** passing a resolution to warn, expel, ban or all, as the case may be, him/her from the Association and/or its organised events and the individual to be notified of the same.
- 10.2. Notice of a Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint. The accused member may appeal in writing within 14 days from the date of the notification was sent. If no appeal is received within 14 days, the accused member will be advised of the place, date and hour of the meeting.
- 10.3. If, at the meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, his/her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of members for one year, after which he/she is entitled to re-apply for membership.
- 10.4. Subscription is forfeited for membership that is resigned, suspended or terminated.

## **11. CODE OF ETHICS**

- 11.1. Members will follow the rules of good sportsmanship in all Alaskan Malamute activities.
- 11.2. Members will fully explain to all prospective Alaskan Malamute purchasers the disadvantages as well as the advantages of owning the breed.
- 11.3. Members will attempt to befriend and help novice breed enthusiasts.
- 11.4. Members will help to encourage Alaskan Malamute owners to train and work their dogs in harness, so that the breed's primary function may be perpetrated.
- 11.5. The Association shall strongly discourage "commercial" breeding, and the excessive production of Alaskan Malamute puppies, and also the cross-breeding of dogs.
- 11.6. The Association views any act of ignorance, neglect or cruelty to Alaskan Malamutes with serious concern, and where relevant, may instigate action under the rules for "Complaints and Expulsion of Members" if grounds for such action are deemed sufficient by the Committee.

- 11.7. Cases of cruelty or neglect of Alaskan Malamutes by owners outside the Association's membership, but brought to its attention, shall be closely monitored with a view to constructive advice or assistance to the relevant bodies and Authorities if requested or required.

## 12. CONSTITUTION

- 12.1. *Amendments* – Members may alter or add to this Constitution within reason, at the AGM (or at an EGM if necessary). Any proposed changes shall be lodged with the Secretary at least 28 days before the AGM, and be signed by a proposing and seconding member.
- 12.2. *Disputes* – Any matter or matter of interpretation not provided for in this Constitution shall be dealt with by the Committee, whose majority decision shall be final.
- 12.3. *Minor Expenses* – All Committee positions and Support Organisers shall be voluntary, with no payment for services rendered after payment of reasonable expenses. The definition of reasonable expenses shall lie with the Committee, if a person is unsure whether an item is considered to be a reasonable expense, they should consult the Committee for guidance.

## 13. EVENTS

- 13.1. There are different type of Events that are held by AMWA. Please see their individual guidelines for specific event details.
- 13.2. All Events organised shall be limited to entrants over the age of 16, and any competitors under the age of 18 must have parental consent. The age restriction may be dropped from time to time to enable “Junior Events” to be held with a minimum age limit of 8. Any Junior entering a specially organised event must have adult supervision AT ALL TIMES. This could entail riding on the rig/sled with the Junior competitor or running alongside, and physically in contact with and in control of the lead dog.
- 13.2. Recognised, secured head protection to be worn by all Junior Rally competitors. The Association strongly advises all Adult Rally competitors to wear head protection; not to do so is at the individuals own risk.