

BY-LAWS ~ WILD WEST DOG SPORT

Article I) NAME AND OBJECTIVES

- 1) The name of the Organization shall be WILD WEST DOGSPORT (hereinafter referred to as "WWDS").
- 2) WWDS shall be a not-for-profit organization organized in the State of California.
- 3) The nature, object and purposes of WWDS shall not be for pecuniary gain or profit to the officers or members thereof. The specific purposes for which it is formed are as follows:
 - a) To conduct dog training, matches, trials, tracking tests and endurance tests and to promote working dog sport according to the standards, rules, by-laws and regulations of the Deutscher Verband der Gebrauchshundsportvereine (hereinafter referred to as "DVG.").
 - b) To protect and advance the sport of Schutzhund by encouraging superior and humane training methods and sportsmanlike competition at Schutzhund trials.
 - c) To interest the public in the sport of Schutzhund and to demonstrate the utility of working dogs.

Article II) MEMBERSHIP

There will be two (2) types of members: Active and Associate. Prerequisites and fees to attain either membership are defined in the current approved WWDS Standing Rules.

- 1) **Active:**
 - a) Active member status is available to persons who wish to become voting members of WWDS, and DVG members, as well as participate in the WWDS active training group
 - b) Active Member status is maintained by continuous, uninterrupted monthly payment of pre-paid training fees for a minimum of one dog, as well as yearly WWDS dues as set forth in Article III)1) and other charges and assessments paid in the amount(s) and manner described in the most current edition of the official WWDS Standing Rules. ONLY Active members in good standing are allowed to vote at club meetings.
 - c) Any lapse in the monthly payment of pre-paid training fees will result in the member being moved to Associate status.
- 2) **Associate:**
 - a) Associate Member status is available to persons who wish to become DVG members and support WWDS, but do not wish to have voting privileges.
 - b) Associate members must pay yearly WWDS dues as set forth in Article III)2).

Article III) DVG DUES, CLUB DUES AND TRAINING FEES

- 1) Active members must pay yearly renewal fees, training fees, and other assessments as set forth and published in the current edition of the WWDS Standing Rules.
- 2) Associate members must pay yearly renewal fees as set forth and published in the current edition of the WWDS Standing Rules.

Article IV) STANDING RULES

- 1) The WWDS Standing Rules shall consist of, but are not limited to, important rules of conduct, sportsmanship and field etiquette; current approved dues, fees, and fines; current approved training fees for Active Members, procedures to become an Active or Associate Member, and other important guidelines as set forth by WWDS.
- 2) The WWDS Standing Rules may be changed by a majority vote of present active members, at any club meeting or meeting called for such purpose, or via email ballot, with the exception of changes to dues, fees, and assessments, which is voted upon by the Board of Directors. Meetings may be conducted in person, online, or in the form of a conference call. The secretary shall publish the revised rules via emailed PDF 14 days prior to vote and will have hardcopies on hand during the meeting at which the new rules shall be voted upon.

Article V) DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

- 1) The Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") shall be comprised of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant-at-Arms, all of whom shall be voting members of the Board. The past president shall be an ex-officio member of the Board. Two board positions may be held by the same person in the event no other members qualify per the rules outlined in Article V).
- 2) All officers must be Active Members and in good standing with WWDS and DVG. Any member of the board of Directors, who converts to Associate membership status during their term, may be replaced as outlined in Article VI)4)e).
- 3) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board and the general membership, and shall have the duties and powers normally associated with the office of President, in addition to those particularly specified in these By-Laws. Only members that

have been continuous active members for a minimum of the prior two (2) years can be nominated and elected to this position. The term for this position is one (1) year and shall be voted on each January.

- 4) The Vice President shall have the powers and exercise the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence or incapacity. The Vice President shall assume the office of President for the remaining term in case of the President's removal, resignation, death or inability to serve. The Vice President shall also perform those duties which may be assigned, from time to time, by the President or the Board. The term of this position is one (1) year and shall be voted on each January.
- 5) The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the general membership. The Secretary shall keep records of all members' applications, signed standing rules and past and new trial results. The Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence of the Organization, notify Board members and members of meetings, maintain a roll of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of Active and Associate Members, as well as those in Provisional Application status, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these By-Laws, and may be prescribed by the membership. The term of this position is one (1) year and shall be voted on each January.
- 6) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due to WWDS. The Treasurer shall deposit the same in the WWDS bank account. The Treasurer shall also be responsible for making WWDS contract payments, such as to the Contract Training Helper, on time and in the correct amount by notifying each Active Member of required payments, due dates, and for providing both payment and accounting of such to the Contractor. Expenditures of WWDS funds shall be made only under authority granted by the general membership. The Treasurer shall maintain and make available to the membership, accounting of the Organization and at every regular meeting of the membership, report the condition of the finances and every item of receipt or payment not previously reported. The term of this position is one (1) year and shall be voted on each January.
- 7) The Sergeant-at-Arms is appointed by the WWDS president upon taking office or should it become necessary to replace and shall be solely responsible for the flow and procedures at training sessions and shall ensure that all standing rules are enforced.
- 8) The Training Director is appointed by the WWDS president upon taking office and shall oversee the progress, safety and training of all active club members, as well as evaluating potential new members/dogs or dogs new to an active club member.

Article VI) CLUB YEAR. VOTING. NOMINATIONS. ELECTIONS

- 1) WWDS's fiscal and official year shall commence January 1 and end December 31.
- 2) Voting by the Board shall be by simple majority with no less than three (3) board members present. Board meetings may be conducted in person, online, or via conference call. No proxy voting shall be permitted. Voting may also be requested in the form of an emailed ballot. Abstentions are not permitted.
- 3) Voting at all general meetings shall be by a quorum of at least 51% of active members present who meet the voting requirements, at least one of which shall be a board member, with the exception of voting on changes of the by-laws, as set forth in Article X). Members voting must be in good standing with WWDS and DVG. Voting shall be by simple majority. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted. Voting may also be requested in the form of an emailed ballot. Abstentions are not permitted.
- 4) Elections of officers to the Board shall be as follows:
 - a) The secretary shall accept nominations between January 1st and January 15th of each year.
 - b) The secretary shall have ensured all members nominated are in good standing with WWDS and DVG, meet the requirements for the position and accept the nominations.
 - c) The secretary shall compile a list of all nominations and any written platforms for distribution to all active members.
 - d) Election of officers shall be held at the annual meeting as outlined in Article IX)1). Officers shall be elected by a simple majority of those active members present. Voting may also be requested in the form of an emailed ballot. Office to commence upon conclusion of the election process.
 - e) Any vacancies during the term of office shall be filled by appointment from the president.

Article VII) COMMITTEES

- 1) The Board of Directors may appoint committees to advance the work of WWDS.
- 2) Such committees shall be under the supervision of the Board, and shall terminate upon completion of their task or as determined by the Board.

Article VIII) POWERS OF THE BOARD

- 1) The Board shall have the power granted to it under these By-Laws. The powers of the Board shall not exceed the wishes of the general membership.
- 2) The Board of Directors can make decisions separate to the general membership if it is a decision that is deemed an emergency or has a time constraint that will not allow a general membership decision by a simple majority. Any decisions of this nature must be reported to the general membership within seven (7) days.

Article IX) MEETINGS

- 1) The annual meeting shall be held each January. The meeting may be conducted in person, online, or via conference call. Reminders shall be emailed to all members seven (7) days before such meeting by the Secretary, as well as announced at the training session, which precedes the meeting.
- 2) Voting at all meetings shall be by a quorum of at least 51% of active members present who meet the voting requirements, at least one of which shall be a board member.
- 3) Voting shall be by simple majority.
- 4) Special WWDS meetings shall be held as often as necessary to conduct the affairs of WWDS.

Article X) AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

- 1) Proposed amendments to the By-Laws must be made as a proposal by a majority of the Board or by a petition by 20% of the current active membership.
- 2) Such proposed amendments must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority at the next meeting or via email ballot.
- 3) All approved amendments will become effective immediately.

Article XI) DISSOLUTION

- 1) WWDS may be dissolved at any time by not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the membership with a thirty (30) day notification to all members.
- 2) After all accounts have been settled, all remaining assets of WWDS shall be donated to a competition fund of the DVG Western region.

Article XII) DEFINITIONS

- 1) Any referral to either general membership or membership means only Active Members in good standing.
- 2) Any referral to being a member in good standing shall mean a member who is fully up to date on all moneys owed to WWDS and/or DVG, and who does not have any pending disciplinary action with either organization.

Article XIII) DISCIPLINE

- 1) Any member or Board member who is in good standing may prefer charges against any member or Board member for conduct harmful to the interest of WWDS. Such complaint shall be in writing and signed by the complainant.
- 2) Said complaint shall be given to the Secretary who in turn shall call a Board meeting to discuss such charges (in case of a complaint against the Secretary, complaint shall be given to the President). The Board shall review the charges and recommend one of the following:
 - a) to drop all charges due to lack of grounds;
 - b) investigate said charges; or
 - c) call a hearing before the membership of said charges. If a hearing is deemed necessary, it shall be held no later than thirty (30) days from the findings of the Board.
- 3) All proceeding and findings of said hearing shall be written and available to all members.
- 4) If the accused party is found guilty, the Board may recommend to the membership one or more of the following penalties:
 - a) warning;
 - b) reprimand;
 - c) fines;
 - d) suspension; or
 - e) expulsion.

ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED by the General Membership of WILD WEST DOG SPORT on Saturday, March 19, 2016.

Ann Boyce, President