

SUN COUNTRY TERRIER CLUB

Constitution and Bylaws revised, February 7, 2007

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

NAME AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1.

The name of this Club shall be the **SUN COUNTRY TERRIER CLUB**. (Herein referred to as the "Club")

Section 2.

The Club is organized exclusively for the pleasure, recreation, and other non-profitable purposes substantially all of the activities of which are for such purposes and no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of any private shareholder.

The objectives of the **SUN COUNTRY TERRIER CLUB** shall be:

- A. To encourage and promote quality in the breeding of all breeds in the Terrier group.
- B. To urge members and breeders to accept the standards of terriers, as approved by the American Kennel Club, as the only standards of excellence by which terriers shall be judged.
- C. To encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, obedience trials and working trials.
- D. To provide a local forum for communication promoting the welfare of dogs in general, and to maintain harmonious and mutually beneficial relationships with that segment of the general public that does not own a dog or dogs.
- E. To conduct matches, shows, obedience trials and other events as sanctioned 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 profit 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 Bylaws as may be required to carry out these objectives.

Bylaws
ARTICLE I

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. ELIGIBILITY.

There shall be two types of membership open to all persons eighteen years of age or older who subscribe to the purposes of the Club and are in good standing with the American Kennel Club. Those membership categories shall be active membership, which carries with it the right to vote and hold office; and associate membership, which shall enjoy all the privileges of membership except voting and office holding. Junior membership (without the right to vote or hold office) shall be open to those persons under eighteen year of age. 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 of Greater Phoenix. Additional membership classes may be included only by Bylaw amendment, stating the duties and privileges of each class.

Section 2. DUES.

Individual membership dues shall not exceed \$50 per year and shall be determined annually by the Board of Directors and shall be payable by January 1st. Dues for other classifications of membership (if any) may be prorated to a lesser amount. During the month of November the Treasurer shall send to members a statement of their dues for the ensuing year.

Section 3. ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP.

Each applicant for membership, with the exception of the charter members, shall apply on a form which has been approved by the Board of Directors, and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by this Constitution and Bylaws and by the rules of The American Kennel Club. The application shall contain pertinent biographical detail about the applicant and it shall carry the endorsement of two members in good standing (not related to the applicant or to each other except in sponsoring an applicant for Junior Membership). Club functions attended by the prospective member shall also be noted thereon. All applications are to be filed with the Membership Chairperson and are to be read at the first meeting of the Board following receipt. The Board shall forward a recommendation for or against membership to the general membership. At the first general membership meeting following the board meeting, the application shall be read to the membership. At the next meeting, the application shall be voted upon and affirmative votes of 3/4 of the members present and voting by secret ballot at that Meeting shall be required to elect the applicant. The prospective member shall submit dues for that year with the application for membership. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club may not re-apply within six months after such rejection.

Section 4. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.

Membership may be terminated:

- A. **BY RESIGNATION.** Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Corresponding Secretary.
- B. **BY LAPSING.** A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 60 days after the first day of the fiscal year; however, the board may grant an additional 30 days of grace to such delinquent members at its

discretion. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting whose dues are unpaid as of the date of the meeting.

C. **BY EXPULSION.** A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided for in Article VI of these Bylaws.

ARTICLE II MEETINGS AND VOTING

Section 1. GENERAL MEETINGS.

Meetings of the Club shall be held in the greater Phoenix area no less than six times each year, in the months of September, November, January, March, May and July, or such date, hour, and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Corresponding Secretary at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be 20% of the eligible voting members.

Section 2. SPECIAL CLUB MEETINGS.

Special Club meetings may be called by the President, or by a petition of not less than a quorum of the voting Membership, 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. Such a petition shall be filed with or recorded by the Corresponding Secretary. Such meetings shall be held in the greater Phoenix area, at such place, date, and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed by the Corresponding Secretary at least 5 working days and not more than 10 working days prior to the date of the meeting. Said notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other Club business may be transacted therein. The quorum for such meetings shall be 20% of the eligible, voting members.

Section 3. BOARD MEETINGS.

Meetings of the Board of Directors shall occur no less than six (6) times each calendar year. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the board. Unless excused by the Board of Directors, Board Members who attend less than one-third of the scheduled Board meetings during the Club's official year shall be considered to have tendered their resignation. The ensuing vacancy shall be filled or provided for in Article 111, Section 3.

Section 4. SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS.

Special Meetings of the board may be called by the President, and shall be called by the Corresponding Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three members of the Board. Such a special meeting shall be held in the greater Phoenix area at such place, date, and hour as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such a meeting. Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed by the Corresponding Secretary at least 5 working days and not more than 10 working days prior to the date of the meeting. Any such notices shall state the purpose of the meeting, and no other business may be transacted there at. The quorum for such meetings shall be a majority of the Board.

Section 5. VOTING.

Each member in good standing, whose dues are paid for the current year, shall be entitled to one vote at any general or special meeting of the Club at which they are 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 consist of the President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past-President (in an advisory capacity), and five other persons, all of whom shall serve for two-year terms commencing at the Club's Annual Meeting as provided for in Article IV as follows: In even-numbered years, the members shall elect the President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, and two board members and in odd-numbered years, the members shall elect the Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and three Board members. Directors and officers shall serve until their successors are elected, but shall not serve more than three consecutive terms in one position except the office of Treasurer which has no term limits. 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, Corresponding Secretary, Recording 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 the Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of Presidents 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 Corresponding Secretary shall preside in the absence of the President and Vice-President at any meeting. The Corresponding Secretary shall keep and maintain adequate records of all Club correspondence, prepare and mail all notices, ballots, petitions, and any and all other correspondence as the Board may direct, shall notify all nominees of their nomination and all electees of their election to office, advise all committee appointees of their appointment and duties, and notify all candidates for membership of their election or rejection. The Corresponding Secretary shall be charged with all the duties and responsibilities normally ascribed to the office and such others as may be assigned by the President and/or the Board.
- D. The Recording Secretary shall preside in the absence of the President, Vice-president and Corresponding Secretary. The Recording Secretary shall have custody of the Club's official Constitution and Bylaws and shall record any and all amendments. The Recording Secretary shall keep minutes of all Club and Board meetings and furnish copies of all minutes to each member of the Board prior to the next meeting of that particular body. The Recording Secretary shall have all the duties and responsibilities normally appurtenant to the office and such other duties as may be directed by the board.

E. The Treasurer shall preside in the absences of the President, Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, and Recording Secretary at any meeting. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging to the Club and shall deposit the same in a bank designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. The Club's books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board, and the Treasurer shall report to the Board at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported. At the last meeting of the fiscal year, the Treasurer shall render an account of all moneys received and expended during the fiscal year. Each check written shall require the signatures of the Treasurer and one other member of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall keep a roll of all members and their addresses and keep the Corresponding Secretary currently posted. The Treasurer may be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors 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 the 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 January and end on the last day of December, effective January 1, 1994. The Club's official year shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the annual meeting and shall continue through the next annual meeting.

Section 2. ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting shall be held in the month of November at which Officers and Board members for the ensuing two years 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 retiring officers shall turn over to their successors in office all properties and records relating to their office within thirty days after the election. In the event there is no contested election for an office(s), the President may entertain a motion to dispense with a written, secret ballot and direct the Recording Secretary to cast one ballot electing the officer(s) so nominated.

Section 3. ELECTIONS.

The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The 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 July, 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 Corresponding Secretary shall notify the committee persons and alternates of their selection. The Board shall name a chairperson of the Committee and it shall be the Chairperson's duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before August 15th.

- A. The Committee shall nominate one candidate for each office and five candidates for five other positions on the Board and, after acquiring the consent of each person to nominate, shall immediately report those nominations in writing to the Corresponding Secretary.
- B. Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Corresponding Secretary shall, at least two weeks before the October Meeting, notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.
- C. Additional nominations may be made at the October Meeting by any eligible voting Member in attendance provided that the person nominated accepts when their name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, the proposer shall present to the Corresponding Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying their 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.
- D. Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or in any manner other than as provided for in this Section.

ARTICLE V COMMITTEES

Section 1.

The Board shall each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as shows, obedience and field trials, trophies and annual prizes, membership, and other affairs 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 appointees and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose services have been terminated.

Section 3.

The President is an ex-officio member on all committees, except the nominating committee.

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 the same period of time. Following the suspension period, all membership rights and duties automatically resume.

Section 2. CHARGES.

Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the terrier breeds. Written charges, with specifications, must be filed in duplicate with the Corresponding Secretary together with a deposit of \$25 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the board following a hearing. The Corresponding 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 terrier breeds. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interest of the Club 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 weeks nor more than six weeks thereafter. The Corresponding 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 to present a defense and bring witnesses if so desired.

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 suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six months from the date of the hearing. If the Board 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 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 Corresponding Secretary. The Corresponding 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 days but not earlier than thirty days after the date of the Board's recommendation. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his or her 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 or her own behalf if desired by the defendant. 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 the 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 Corresponding Secretary signed by 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 members with recommendations of the Board by the Corresponding Secretary for a vote within three months of the date when the petition was received by the Corresponding Secretary.

Section 2.

The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, provided that 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 3/4 of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, other than for purposes of re-organization, 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 Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX ORDER OF BUSINESS.

Section 1. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS.

At meetings of the Club, the order of business, so far as the character and nature of the meetings may pertain, shall be as follows:

- Roll Call
- Minutes of the last meeting
- Report of the President
- Report of the Corresponding Secretary
- Report of the Treasurer
- Reports of Committee
- Election of officers (at Annual Meeting)
- Election of New Members
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Adjournment

Section 2. BOARD MEETINGS.

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

Minutes of Last Meeting
Report of the Corresponding Secretary
Report of the Treasurer
Reports of Committees
Unfinished Business
New Business
Adjournment

Section 3.

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. SUN COUNTRY TERRIER CLUB CODE OF ETHICS PURPOSE - This Code of Ethics is presented as a guide for all members of THE SUN COUNTRY TERRIER CLUB to use when buying, selling or exhibiting terriers.

PRACTICES:

1. Abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of the SUN COUNTRY TERRIER CLUB and the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club.
2. Keep accurate breeding records, registration papers and pedigrees.
3. Support and conduct ethical trade practices:
 - a. Maintain a professional attitude. Where sales and service arrangements are concerned, they shall be mutually agreed upon, stated in writing, dated, and signed by all parties.
 - b. All bitches and dogs used for breeding must be registered with The American Kennel Club, or the registry body in the country of origin, or the stud book governing those breeds ineligible for AKC registration.
 - c. All buyers must receive a record of immunizations, wormings, pedigree, and AKC transfer documents as agreed to under Section 3 (a) above.
 - d. Agree to not sell dogs to pet dealers or to other sources of commercial distribution, singly or in "litter lots", or as prizes in any contests or lotteries.
4. No breeding will be conducted solely for commercial purposes. All bitches and studs will be bred with intention of the litter improving the breed. A breeder has the obligation of assuring a safe and healthy home for each puppy produced.
5. Maintain the highest standards of canine health, cleanliness and care. As a minimum standard, animals will be cared for in safe, clean and vermin free shelter, run or yard with access to sufficient clean water and adequate food for each animal.
6. All advertising shall be factual, informative and free of fraudulent or misleading statements or opinions
7. Honestly evaluate the quality of any dogs sold or placed and fairly represent the evaluation as opinion.
8. Inferior animals should be neutered, or if seriously deformed, should be humanely euthanized.
9. Observe a high standard of sportsmanship, goodwill and friendship at shows, trials and meetings, assist newcomers and guests to instill the rich tradition of the SCTC and terrier breeds.
10. Participate in Club functions whenever possible and represent the Club's purposes in all canine activities.