



# The Miniature Pinscher Club Rules and Code of Ethics

## **1. Name and Object**

The Club shall be called the 'Miniature Pinscher Club' (hereinafter called 'the Club') and its object shall be to foster and promote the interest of the Miniature Pinscher in Great Britain.

## **2. Officers and Members**

The Club shall consist of a President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, a committee of ten (10) members, one of whom is the Chairperson, and an unlimited number of members.

## **3. Committee**

The management of the Club shall be in the hands of a committee of ten (10) members, all of whom shall retire annually, but shall be eligible for re-election. The President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be ex-officio members of the committee. Meetings of the committee shall be held as often as may be deemed necessary and five (5) members shall form the quorum for the transaction of business.

No individual who has been a member for less than three consecutive years in the current term shall be elected on to the committee.

The committee shall have the power to co-opt in the event of a vacancy occurring. Those co-opted shall only hold office until the next general meeting of the Club at which an election of officers and committee takes place. First from the list of unsuccessful candidates and then from outside

At its first meeting of the year, the committee shall, by a show of hands, elect a Chairperson who will act in this capacity for a year.

No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the committee or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club registered society.

## **4. Election of members**

A candidate for membership of the Club shall be proposed and seconded by fully paid up members and then elected or balloted for by a majority vote of the committee at one of its meetings. A life member can be created by a majority vote of the committee at one of its meetings.

After election, and when their membership fee has been paid, members, after an unbroken term of 12 calendar months membership, shall have the following rights:

single members - one vote  
joint members - one vote each  
junior members - no vote  
voting by proxy - not allowed.

Joint membership will be restricted to one membership per person

Will apply to 2 people who own a dog registered with the Kennel Club in their joint names

Will apply to 2 people who are either married or in a relationship and living at the same address

## **5. Subscriptions**

The annual subscription shall be such amount as agreed by members in general meeting and notified to the Kennel Club. On payment of this fee, all new members shall receive a Club badge. The annual subscription becomes due on 1st January in each year, and if not paid by 31st January shall be deemed in arrears. Any Member whose subscription remains unpaid by the 1st March of the current year will cease to be a Member. Such a person must then apply for Membership. No ballot papers will be issued to Members whose subscriptions are in arrears seven days prior to the date of issue of Ballot Papers. The membership fee of members who join after the 1st October is valid until 31st December of the following year

## **6. Junior Members**

There shall be a junior membership of the Club, subject to the following limitations:-

Age limit 16 years

No voting powers

No eligibility for committee

Annual subscription as decided each year at the AGM

Junior members will have all other membership privileges.

## **7. Expulsion of Members**

Any member who shall be disqualified under the Kennel Club Rule a11.j.(5) and / or Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the Miniature Pinscher Club.

If the conduct of any member shall be, in the opinion of the committee, injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interest of the Club, the committee may, at a meeting, the notice convening which includes as an object the consideration of the conduct of the member, determine that a Special General Meeting shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her.

Notice of both meetings shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising him/her of the date, place and hour of the meeting so that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at the Special General Meeting a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, his or her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of members, and he/she shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a member of the Miniature Pinscher Club, except that he or she may within two (2) calendar months from the date of such meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose.

If any member is expelled for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, dog shows, trials or competitions, the club will report the matter in writing to the Kennel Club within 7 days and supply any particulars required.

## **8. Club Accounts**

A banking account shall be opened in the name of the Miniature Pinscher Club, into which all revenue of the Club shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall only be made on the signature of two (2) of the following:-

- President
- Vice President
- Chairperson of the committee
- Honorary Treasurer
- Honorary Secretary

The account shall be kept by the Honorary Treasurer and certified annually and presented to the members at the annual general meeting. Certification of the accounts must be carried out by one qualified accountant or two individuals with accountancy experience, unconnected to the committee. Those undertaking the certification must be independent from those who prepared the accounts.

## **9. Financial Year**

The financial year of the Club shall be from 1 January to 31 December.

## **10. Annual general meeting**

The Annual general meeting shall be held no later than 30th June. The meeting will be held in person, the committee will in the event of national events preventing in person events or weather that prevents safe travel organise the holding of a virtual meeting using a secure online platform. Members will be given at least 14 days notice of the new date if a virtual meeting is to be held.

The AGM will be for the following purpose:-

To receive the report of the committee

To discuss and approve the balance sheet

To fix the annual subscriptions

To elect officers and committee members

To appoint the scrutineer

To discuss any resolution duly placed on the agenda, of which prior notice has been given to the secretary.

No business shall be transacted at an AGM unless notice appears on the agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those, which in the opinion of the Chairperson of the meeting, are urgent.

Ten (10) fully paid up members of the club shall form the quorum for the transaction of business at the AGM

Members will receive by post at least 21 days' notice of an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, and all items for inclusion on the agenda must be in the hands of the Honorary Secretary at least 14 days before the meeting.

Members will receive by post or email (based on their preferences) at least 21 days' notice of an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, and all items for inclusion on the agenda must be in the hands of the Honorary Secretary at least 14 days before the meeting.

The appointment of officers and committee at the Annual General Meeting shall be by the result of a postal ballot, the returns of which go to a scrutineer who submits the outcome of the ballots in a sealed envelope to the AGM where the seal is broken in the meeting by the chairperson.

Special proviso: In the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of the auditor or the scrutineer, the committee shall have the power to appoint a replacement who shall act until the next AGM.

The agenda for the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting and the annual statement of accounts will be available and circulated before or at the meeting. The certified accounts will be made available to members 14 days prior to the AGM

### **11. Special General Meeting**

A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Honorary Secretary if ten (10) members send in a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so. No other matter except the matter on the agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting. The committee of the Club is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting.

Ten (10) fully paid up members of the club shall form the quorum for the transaction of business at the Special General Meeting

### **12. Amendments to the Rules**

The rules of the Club shall not be altered except at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, the notice for which contains specific proposals to amend the rules. Any alterations to the rules passed at such a meeting shall not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has been advised and given its approval to the alteration.

New rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately and be included in the Club's constitution with effect from the Club's next Annual General Meeting.

### **13. Club Property**

The property of the Club shall be vested in the committee and in the event of the Club ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of assets, and the outcome of the meeting notified to the Kennel Club.

### **14. Guarantors**

The individual making the application on behalf of the club or society will agree that the officers and committee in place at the time of the event will assume full responsibility for ensuring that it will be conducted safely and in accordance with Kennel Club regulations.

### **15. Clubs Judges List**

The Club will produce updated lists of judges each year for submission to the Kennel Club as part of the annual returns.

'A1' list: This list is comprised of people who have previously been approved by the Kennel Club to award CCs in this breed and have the support of the Miniature Pinscher Club. Membership of the Club is not a pre-requisite. Nominees must provide a CV. Judges being nominated to judge the Club's championship show must not have judged the breed for a minimum of 2 years prior to the date of the show.

'A2' list: This list is comprised of people who fulfil all the requirements for the A3 list and who have been assessed in accordance with Kennel Club requirements and accepted by the Kennel Club for inclusion on an A2 list and have the support of the Miniature Pinscher Club. Membership of the Club is not a pre-requisite.

'A3' list: This list is comprised of persons whom the Club would support to award challenge certificates but who, as yet, have not been approved by the Kennel Club. Membership of the Club is not a pre-requisite.

'B' list: This list is comprised of all persons the Club would support to judge the breed without challenge certificates. Membership of the Club is not a pre-requisite. To be considered for inclusion on the list their names must be submitted to the committee on the prescribed form, and appointment will be by majority decision of the judges sub-committee.

'C' list: For aspirant judges who have shown an interest in the breed and have the support of the Club. This list would normally include persons who have judged the breed at limited and/or open shows but do not yet qualify for the 'B' list.

See Judging Criteria.

### **16. Membership List**

The club will maintain an up to date list of members names and their addresses, and send the total number of members to the Kennel Club with the annual returns and if so requested, make an up to date list of members names available for inspection by members of the the Miniature Pinscher Club or the Kennel Club

### **17. Annual Returns to the Kennel Club**

The officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, the maintenance of title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Honorary Secretary for continuance of registration, and that by 31 July each year, other returns as stipulated in the Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities to be forwarded to the Kennel Club.

The officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Honorary Secretary of the Club which may occur during the course of the year.

### **18. Kennel Club – Final Court of Appeal**

The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the rules and regulations of the club in all cases relative to canine or society matters

### **19. The Club**

Shall not join any federation of societies or clubs

### **20. Winding up of the club**

If the club is wound up or ceases to be registered society under these regulations, a final statement of audited accounts with a record of the disposal of the property of the society shall be forwarded to the Kennel Club within six months and the persons named as officers and committee of the society on the last return furnished to the Kennel Club, will be responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the society.

## **The Miniature Pinscher Club Code of Ethics**

The club code of ethics is no longer a guideline and now becomes part of the Club rule's.  
All members of the Miniature Pinscher Club undertake to abide by its general Code of Ethics.

### **Club members:**

- Will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
- Will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, or who carries out a caesarean section on a bitch, may report such operation to the Kennel Club.
- Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
- Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
- Will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
- Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.
- Will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
- Will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
- Will clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
- Will only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and will help with the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change.
- Will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
- Will ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents at the earliest opportunity, if not immediately available.
- Will not sell any dog to commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. Will not sell by sale or auction Kennel Club registration certificates as stand alone items (not accompanying a dog).

- Will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise dogs nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog.
- The loan of a bitch for breeding purposes must be effected through the Kennel Club as per Kennel Club Regulations for loan of a bitch.
- No bitch will be bred from, which will be under 18 months of age at the time of birth of her puppies.
- We advise members to have all Miniature Pinschers they own tested for Patella Luxation. Which should be carried out no earlier than 12 months of age and results submitted to the breed health co-ordinator.
- All dogs that members intend to use as part of any breeding programme must be tested and results submitted to the breed health co-ordinator before any mating takes place.
- A dam should not have whelped more than 4 litters.
- The dam should not be over the age of 8 years at the date of whelping
- Mating's should not take place between Father & Daughter, Mother & Son or Sister & Brother
- The dam should not have more than 2 litters delivered by Caesarean Section
- The dam should have 12 months between each litter
- A dog should be 12 months of age before it can be used at stud.

Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.