



# DREVER Association of America

**\*Note: The Drever Association of America is working on achieving AKC recognition of the Drever breed. With this in mind, we have written our Constitution and By Laws to be meet AKC requirements. We will hold any and all events under the same rules that apply to AKC events. Our members will be held to the same rules as if we were already an AKC recognized breed and club.**

## CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE I

**SECTION 1. NAME** The name of the club shall be the Drever Association of America

**SECTION 2. OBJECTIVES** The objectives of the club shall be:

- (a) to encourage and promote the selective breeding of quality purebred Drevers and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to fit the standard;
- (b) to encourage the organization of independent local Drever Specialty Clubs in those localities where there are sufficient fanciers of the breed to meet the requirements of the American Kennel Club;
- (c) to urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI) as the only standard of excellence by which Drevers shall be judged;
- (d) to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, obedience trials and other performance events;
- (e) to provide for the welfare of the breed through a program of Drever Rescue and continuing education;
- (f) to conduct sanctioned matches, obedience trials and specialty shows under the rules of the American Kennel Club.

**SECTION 3.** The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of the any profits or remainder of 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 four (4) types of membership open to all persons who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club. They are Junior, Associate, Active and Life. Membership is NOT limited to residents of the United States.

**Junior Membership:** To protect the future of our breed; DAA offers a Junior membership for children at least ten (10) years, and less than eighteen (18) years of age who are seeking Active membership. Junior members shall be eligible for Active status upon their 18th birthday provided the individual has been a Junior member for three (3) years or more. A Junior member having served less than three (3) years Junior status shall automatically receive

Associate member status upon his/her eighteenth (18) birthday. Junior members have no voting or office holding privileges.

**Active Membership:** This shall be open to all persons eighteen (18) years or older who have completed a total of not less than three (3) years as a Junior member or one (1) year as an Associate member. Members shall be in good standing with the American Kennel Club and must subscribe to the purposes of this Club. Active members shall pay dues and shall have voting privileges. After having served 36 months as an Active member, a member shall be granted office holding privileges and may hold office.

**Associate Membership:** This shall be assigned to persons eighteen (18) years or older who are seeking Active membership status. If no negative response is submitted by any member within a year and the member's dues are current, the Associate member will be presented to the Board to be voted to an Active membership status (in accordance to Article I. Election to Membership). Associate members have no voting, nor office holding privileges.

**Life Membership:** This may be bestowed upon any member, or any other person, who has a long record of service to the breed and/or Club. The recipient of this membership shall pay no dues, and he/she shall still have voting and office holding privileges in the Club. Should an Active member be chosen to receive a Life membership, he/she, may refuse the life membership and remain an Active member in good standing if he/she so desires. The Board of Directors or the membership may make nominations at the Annual Meeting. Any person(s) so nominated must be approved by a majority vote of those present who are eligible to vote.

**SECTION 2. Dues.** Membership dues shall be set by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The dues shall not exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per year per individual or forty dollars (\$40.00) per year per household, to remain in effect until such time as an increase is deemed necessary by the Board of Directors. Household membership is defined as two members residing at the same address. There will be no dues charged for a Junior Membership. Dues are payable in U.S. funds and are due and payable on or before the first (1) day of January each year. Upon renewing the dues each year the member is agreeing to abide by the current Constitution, By-Laws and Code of Ethics that are in force as of the year in renewal. Past due indebtedness to the Club and any bank charges for returned checks will be paid by the applicant/member before membership is valid or is renewed. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of October, the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his dues for the ensuring year.

### **SECTION 3. Election to Membership**

(a) Junior Membership. An applicant for Junior membership shall apply on a form approved by the Board of Directors which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by the Constitution, Bylaws, and the Code of Ethics of the DAA and the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club. The application for Junior membership shall state the name and address of the applicant and shall carry the endorsement of either one (1) family member and one (1) unrelated person or two (2) persons unrelated to each other or the applicant, who are both Active Members in good standing.

(b) Associate/Active Membership. Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form approved by the Board of Directors which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by the Constitution, Bylaws, and the Code of Ethics of the DAA and the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name and address of the applicant and it shall carry the endorsement of two (2) active members not

related to each other or the applicant, having been active members of not less than three (3) years and of good standing.

Dues for the current year shall be included with the application and shall be made payable in U.S. funds to the DAA. The application shall be mailed within thirty (30) days of the last signature to the Secretary for publication in the next DAA Bulletin and at the same time send collected dues to the Treasurer with a copy of the application. Within thirty (30) days from receipt of the application, the Secretary shall then send to the applicant a receipt of acknowledgement.

A member who has served three (3) years Junior and/or one (1) year Associate status shall be eligible for Active membership if no negative response is submitted by any member within that time frame and their dues are current. The Junior/Associate member shall by majority vote of the Board, be voted to an Active membership with full voting privileges.

If a negative response is received by the Secretary, it shall be his/her duty to inform the Junior or Associate member and his/her sponsors that a negative response has been received and forwarded to the Ethics Committee for their consideration. The Ethics Committee shall send a complete copy(ies) of the negative response(s) to the Junior/Associate member and their sponsors. The Junior/Associate member shall have thirty (30) days to respond to the Ethics committee with a rebuttal. The committee shall consider all documentation. If the Committee believes the negative response has merit, then the chairman of the Ethics Committee shall forward the decision to the Board of Directors within sixty (60) days of his/her receipt of the negative response. The Board of Directors shall then vote on whether the Junior/Associate member should be removed from membership in the Club. The Board of Directors vote shall be by secret ballot and shall be conducted by mail or at the next scheduled meeting of the Board, at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors. In order for the Junior or Associate member to be removed from membership, the Board of Directors must accept the negative response by a majority vote.

An application which has received a negative vote by the majority of the Board may be presented in person or by letter by one (1) of the applicant's sponsors at the next Annual Meeting of the Club. The membership may elect such applicant by favorable vote (written ballot) of seventy-five percent (75%) of the eligible voting members present. No applicant who has been rejected by the Board of Directors or the general membership may reapply for membership within twelve (12) months of the rejection.

**SECTION 4. *Termination of Membership.*** Memberships may be terminated:

(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. Obligations other than dues are considered a debt to the club and must be paid in full prior to resignation.

(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 in meritorious cases, however a \$20 late fee may be applied. 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. A member whose dues have lapsed after this time must reapply for membership as outlined in Article I. Section 3. Election to Membership.

(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. *Annual Meeting*** The annual meeting of the club shall be held during the month of July in conjunction with the Club's Specialty Show if possible, at a place, date, and hour designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of the Annual Meeting shall be mailed by the Corresponding Secretary to each member at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for the Annual Meeting shall be ten percent (10%) of the Active and Life members in good standing.

**SECTION 2. *Special Club Meetings*** Special Club meetings may be called by the President or by a majority of the members of the Board who are present at the Board meeting, or who vote by mail, email, fax or any other electronic devices deemed acceptable to the Board. The Special Club meeting shall be called by the Corresponding Secretary upon receipt of a petition, stating the subject of said meeting, and signed by ten percent (10%) of the Active and Life members in good standing. Such meetings shall be held at a place, date, and hour as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of such meetings shall be mailed by the Corresponding Secretary at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the meeting. The quorum for a special club meeting shall be ten percent (10%) of the Active and Life members in good standing.

**SECTION 3. *Board Meetings*** The first Board meeting shall take place in the month of August, following the Board's assuming office on the first of July. Other meetings of the Board of Directors shall be at least one (1) per quarter or if greater in number, shall be designated by the President or by a majority vote of the entire Board. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed or emailed (provided all board members are provided with means to receive email) by the Secretary to each member of the Board at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for a Board meeting shall be a majority of the Board voting in person, mail, fax or any other electronic device deemed acceptable by the Board.

**SECTION 4. *Board Business*** The Board of Directors may conduct its business by mail, email, fax, other electronic devices (provided each board member has means of this use), through the Secretary, or by the telephone conference call (provided it does not conflict with any other provision of these bylaws). Board business may be conducted by email provided that 1) each member has the means to participate; 2) a procedure is in place to verify the identity of the individuals participating to ensure that they are the eligible board members; 3) a mechanism is in place to verify that the eligible board members are "listening"; 4) all board members agree to participate in this manner. Any business discussed or voted on by telephone conference, mail, fax or email shall be confirmed in writing by the Secretary within seven (7) days..

**SECTION 5. *Voting*** Each member in good standing, whose dues are paid for the current year, shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the club at which he is present. Any item requiring membership vote shall be voted on in person, mail, fax or any other electronic device deemed acceptable by the Board. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any club meeting or election.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **Directors and Officers**

**SECTION 1.** The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. There shall also be up to four (4) Board Members, all of whom shall be Active or Life members in good standing and who are residents of the United States. All of whom shall be elected for a two (2) year term. General Management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

(a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board and shall have the duties and powers normally apparent to the office of President in addition to those particularly specified in these by-laws.

(b) The Vice-President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in the 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 of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the club; have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify new members of their election to membership, notify officers and directors of their election to office, keep a roll of the members of the club with their addresses, which shall be sent to any member in good standing, upon written request, not more than once every club year, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these bylaws.

(d) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club. He/she shall deposit the same in a bank approved by the Board in the name of the Club. His/her books shall at times be open to the inspection of the Board and he/she shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported and at the Annual Meeting. He/she shall render an account of all monies received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.

**SECTION 2. 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 the 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 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**

### **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 begin immediately at the conclusion of the election at the annual meeting and shall continue through the election at the next annual meeting.

**SECTION 2. Annual Meeting.** The annual meeting shall be held in the month of July, at which officers and directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret 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 each retiring officer shall turn over to the successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the election.

**SECTION 3. Elections.** The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office 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 March, 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 Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen and alternates of their selection. The board shall name a chairman for the committee and it shall be such person's duty to call a committee meeting, which shall be held on or before April 1st.

(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 on or before May 1st.

(b) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Secretary shall notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated postmarked no later than May 10th.

(c) Additional nominations may be made in writing by any member in good standing, provided that the person so nominated agrees to accept the duties and responsibilities of the office if so elected. The proposer 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. Nominations must be received by the Secretary no later than June 10th.

(d) The Secretary shall notify the members in writing of the candidates so nominated, including biographies, postmarked no later than June 25th.

(e) Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or in any manner other than as provided in this Section.

## **ARTICLE V Committees**

**SECTION 1.** The board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the club in such matters as dog shows, obedience trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership, and other fields 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 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 all the privileges of The American Kennel Club automatically shall be suspended from the privileges of this club for a like period.

**SECTION 2. *Charges.*** An individual member may prefer charges against another individual member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the club or the breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$100.00 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 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 breed. If the board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the club or the breed, 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 and the specifications to the accused member by registered mail together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if he wishes.

**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 all 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 case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before his 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 in his 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 in his own behalf if he wishes. 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 percent 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 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 a 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.

**SECTION 3.** At such a time as the Drever Association of America becomes a member club of the American Kennel Club the following shall become effective – No amendment to the constitution and bylaws that is adopted by the club shall become effective until it has been approved by the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club.

## **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 good standing. In the event of the dissolution of the club other than for purposes of reorganization 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.** 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:

Roll Call

Minutes of last meeting

Report of President

Report of Secretary

Report of Treasurer

Reports of committees



Election of officers and board (at annual meeting)

Election of new members

Unfinished business