

Rules of the Irish Setter Association, England

Title

- 1) The Association shall be called Irish Setter Association, England.

Objects

- 2) The Object of the Association shall be to promote and encourage the Health & Welfare of Red Irish Setters, and to advance, in accordance with the Kennel Club Standard, the quality of the breed.

Membership

- 3) There shall be no limit to the number of members.
- 4) The financial year shall commence on the 1st January and end on the 31st December, following. The Annual Subscription shall be such amount as agreed by members in General Meeting and notified to the Kennel Club. The Annual Subscription shall be payable on 1st January each year. No one whose subscription is unpaid shall be entitled to compete for Special Prizes or Cups offered for competition by members of the Association, or to any of the privileges of membership, and if any one fails to pay the annual subscription by the last day of February in any one year the Committee shall have the power to erase his/her name from the list of members, but if the committee shall subsequently receive a satisfactory explanation the individual(s) may be re-admitted to membership.

Voting Rights

- 5) Each individual member and each member of a partnership shall be entitled to a single vote in accordance with Rule 13.
- 6) Any member who shall be disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(5) and/or Kennel Club rule A11.j.(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the Society for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification. If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Association be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Association, the committee of the Association 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 of the Association shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her. Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising him/her of the place, date and hour of the Meeting that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at the Meeting a resolution to expel is passed by two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting, his/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 Association, except that he/she may, within two calendar months from the date of such a Meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose. If the Association expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, Dog Shows, Trials or Competitions, the Association must report the matter in writing to The Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.
- 7) Anyone ceasing to be a member of the Association shall forfeit all right to any money he/she may have paid to the Association, whether as subscription or otherwise, and shall have no claim in respect of his/her membership on the funds or property of the Association.
- 8) All members shall abide by the current rules & regulations of the Irish Setter Association, England.
- 9) No member shall make use of the title of the Association for purposes of private advertisement nor in personal letters to the Press without the consent of the Officers. No member, except the Hon. Secretary acting in accordance with the authority of the Committee, shall give publicity in the Press to matters relating to the management or affairs of the Association, or to the proceedings at Association meetings.

Management

- 10)
 - a) The general direction of the Association shall be in the hands of a Committee consisting of a President, Chair, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer (which four are hereinafter referred to as "the officers") and twelve other members who shall be elected by the members. Officers and Committee Members of the Association cannot hold office or be members of the committee of any other Irish Setter breed club in the UK. The Committee shall have power to decide upon any matter not provided for in these Rules and in the event of a situation arising to which these Rules are not applicable the Committee are empowered to take such action and decisions as may seem to them best calculated to protect the interests of the Association.
 - b) The Officers shall be responsible for the day to day working of the Association.
 - c) The Field Trial Sub-Committee is a Joint Committee with the Setter & Pointer Club and shall consist of 5 members elected from each Club. At

the Annual General Meeting each year the members present shall elect five members to constitute the ISAE membership of the Field Trials Subcommittee for that year. This Subcommittee shall at its first meeting elect its own Chairman, Hon. Field Trial Secretary and Hon. Field Trial Treasurer. It shall be responsible, subject to Rule 12(b), for all matters connected with Field Trials organised by the Association. The Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer shall be ex officio members of the Subcommittee. Minutes of Field Trial Subcommittee meetings shall be submitted to the General Committee, via the Hon. Secretary, within two calendar months of any meeting being held. The Hon. Field Trial Secretary will provide a report on the Association's field trial activities during the past year for inclusion in the Annual Review, and this report will also be read to those members present at the AGM.

- 11) The Hon. Secretary shall prepare each year a report on the activities of the Association during the year. The Hon. Treasurer shall prepare a statement of the Association's financial position. These reports shall be submitted for approval by the Annual General Meeting next following and each member shall be provided with a copy.
- 12) Any member shall be entitled to propose as an Officer or a member of the Committee any other member who is willing to stand for election, providing the nominee has been a member of the Association for the last three years. Any nomination must be seconded by another member and must be sent in writing to the Hon. Secretary to reach him/her not later than 10th January in any year. A postal ballot of the membership as at 31st December of the previous year shall be held, prior to the Annual General Meeting, in respect of all nominations received on or before 10th January in any year.
 - (a) The full term of office for Officers and Committee members shall be three years and shall take effect from the date of the Annual General Meeting. Officers and four Committee members, in set rotation, shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election.
 - (b) In the event of a vacancy occurring on the Committee or Field Trial Subcommittee or among the Officers in any year, the Committee shall have power to co-opt any member to fill the vacancy for the remaining term of office of that Committee member replaced, the appointment to be confirmed by the members at the Annual General Meeting following.
 - (c) In the event of its being necessary to hold any election in any year the Hon. Secretary shall post ballot papers to all members not later than 31st January in that year and shall arrange for such papers to be counted by an independent scrutineer so that the result may be declared in such manner as the Hon. Secretary may decide as soon as possible after the final date for the return of ballot papers, which shall not be less than 14 and not more than 21 days after the date of their being sent out.
 - (d) Should a vacancy occur after the announcement of the election, that vacancy shall not be considered (except by co-option) until the next election.
 - (e) No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within the Association.

Funds

- 13) A banking account(s) shall be opened in the name of the Association with a bank to be decided by the Committee. All the revenue of the Association shall be paid into such account and withdrawals therefrom shall only be made on the joint signatures of the Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary. Either one qualified or two unqualified Auditors unconnected to the committee, will be appointed by the members to certify the accounts for presentation annually at their General Meeting. The certified accounts will be made available on request to members fourteen days prior to the AGM.
- 14) After payment of all expenses the General Fund of the Association shall be utilised to further the objects of the Association as the Committee may decide.

Meetings

- 15) An Annual General Meeting of all the members shall be held as early as practicable after 1st January each year. At least eight weeks notice of the Meeting shall be given to each member in writing or in the Canine Press.
- 16) Any member wishing to place any business on the Agenda of a General Meeting must give notice in writing to the Hon. Secretary at least six weeks prior to the date of the relevant meeting.
- 17) A Special General Meeting shall be called at any time the Committee may decide or on demand of twenty-five members made to the Hon. Secretary in writing. No business other than that detailed on the agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting.
- 18) Fourteen days clear notice of the Annual General Meeting or of any Special General Meeting is to be given to each member in writing by the Hon. Secretary. The notice shall contain a copy of the Agenda. The

quorum for any General Meeting shall be 5 Members, including at least one Officer.

- 19) The Committee shall meet as often as may be necessary. Five, including at least one Officer, shall constitute a quorum of the Committee. The Rules of the Association 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 proposed alteration to the Rules may not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has been advised and approved the alteration. New rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately.
- 20) The Hon. Secretary shall call a meeting of the Committee whenever requested so to do by five members of the Committee. In the event of his/her failing to call a meeting to be held within one calendar month of such request being made, any five members of the Committee may depute and authorise one of their number to call a Special Meeting of the Committee, and, fourteen days notice having been given, such Special Meeting shall be competent to act and decide as though the meeting had been summoned in the normal way by the Hon. Secretary.
- 21) Any member shall be entitled to record his/her vote and opinions by letter to be read at any meeting which he/she is entitled to attend or by proxy.

Judges' List

- 22) The Association shall maintain an Approved List of judges in the format and manner required from time to time by the Kennel Club, and according to criteria to be determined by the General Committee of the Association provided these reflect the existing Kennel Club policy as a minimum. The criteria will be published to members of the Association when changed, and to new members, and to others who may request them.

The Judges List, or part of it, may - if the Committee agree - be jointly prepared with (an) other breed club(s).

Inherited Diseases

- 23) Members shall comply with the terms of the codes of practice agreed between the breed clubs, and with the Kennel Club, in relation to health conditions for which there is an approved DNA test. The tests are designed to identify, control and/or eliminate these health conditions. Such compliance will include the publication of the results of the DNA tests. This rule applies to existing DNA tests and new DNA tests as they are developed, approved by the Kennel Club, and become available for use.

General

- 23) The Association recognises the Kennel Club as the final authority for interpreting the rules and regulations of the society in all cases relative to canine or society matters.
- 24) The property of the Association shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Association ceasing to exist, a final General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the Association's assets and the outcome of the meeting notified to the Kennel Club.
- 25) The Association shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs. With the authority of the General Committee, the Association will work in co-operation with other Clubs/Societies in the interests of the Breed.
- 26) The Association must send the total number of Members and those of branch members where appropriate, to the Kennel Club with their Annual Returns. The Association will maintain an up to date list of members and, if so requested, make this available for inspection by The Kennel Club and members of the Club.
- 27) The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Hon. Secretary for the continuance of registration and that by 31st July each year, other returns, as stipulated in Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities, be forwarded to the Kennel Club.

The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any change of Secretary of the Association, which may occur during the course of the year.

29) Code of Ethics

All members of the Irish Setter Association, England undertake to abide by its general Code of Ethics.

Club members:

- 1) Will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
- 2) 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.

- 3) Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
- 4) Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
- 5) Will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
- 6) Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.
- 7) Will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
- 8) Will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
- 9) Will clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
- 10) 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.
- 11) Will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
- 12) 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.
- 13) 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).
- 14) 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.
- 15) Will agree not to breed from a bitch in any way which is deleterious to the bitch or the breed. With this in mind, Members should not breed from a bitch under the age of 2 years under any circumstances, or on successive seasons, save in exceptional circumstances or where twelve months have elapsed between seasons.
- 16) Will agree not to allow their stud dogs to be bred from in any way which is deleterious to the breed. Members should not allow their dog to be used on a bitch under 2 years of age or if on successive seasons, save in exceptional circumstances or where twelve months have elapsed between seasons.

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.

30) Breaches of the Association's Code of Ethics

In the event of it being brought to the Committee's notice that a member may have breached any part of the ISAE Code of Ethics, a letter will be sent by the Secretary, pointing out the apparent breach, intimating that the Committee would hope that this had been unintentional and that it would appreciate a written explanation. Should no satisfactory explanation be forthcoming, or should a second breach of any part of the code occur, the Committee will consider action against the member. That action to be in direct proportion to the seriousness of the breach. As stated in the Code of Ethics, this could result in expulsion from ISAE club membership, disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities as deemed appropriate.

31) Sportsmanship

Bad manners/poor sportsmanship/bad behaviour both at the Irish Setter Association, England's events/shows and on social media, are not in the interest of the breed or the Irish Setter Association, England and will not be tolerated. A first letter of warning will be sent to the person/persons concerned. Any continuation of this behaviour may result in the expulsion of the person(s) from the membership and/events of the ISAE, under rule 6.

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