



MGDA CONSTITUTION

2021

Preserving Working Retrievers since 1935

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CONSTITUTION OF “THE MANITOBA GUN DOG ASSOCIATION INC.

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ARTICLE I

Name

The name of the organization shall be “The Manitoba Gun Dog Association Inc.”

ARTICLE II

Affiliation

The Association shall work in co-operation with the National Retriever Club of Canada, the Canadian Kennel Club and Canadian National Master Retriever Club and may further affiliate itself with organizations devoted to the aims and objects of the Association, any such affiliation to be approved by the Association in a Standing Resolution to be attached to the by-laws hereunder.

ARTICLE III

Objects

The objects of the Association shall be:

- To hold or arrange field trials and hunt tests, either formal or informal; matches; competitions and displays and to offer and grant to contribute towards the provision of prizes, awards and distinctions.
- To advance the knowledge and practice of conservation by the breeding, training and the proper use of retrievers and other dog breeds approved eligible by Canadian Kennel Club.
- To elevate the breed standards of all retrievers and other dog breeds approved eligible by Canadian Kennel Club.
- To promote facilities for competition and recognition, and the encouragement to secure better man-dog-conservation understanding.
- To promote social interaction between the members and their guests.
- To acquire and dispose of lands, buildings, easements, or properties, real and personal, which may be requisite for the purpose of, or capable of being used in connection with any of the objects of the corporation.
- To establish and maintain a clubhouse and grounds.
- To acquire and dispose of equipment and provisions.
- To operate on a nonprofit basis. Any resulting surplus shall not be used to the benefit of any member of the club.
- To provide charitable donations to Manitoba residents or to Manitoba based charities that are registered under the Income Tax Act and are non-political.

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ARTICLE IV

Area of Operation

The area of operation of the Association shall be in and throughout the entire Province of Manitoba as the members and members of the Executive shall see fit.

ARTICLE V

Repeal and Amendment of the Constitution

Section 1 - Amendments may be proposed:

- a) By the Executive;
- b) By a duly proposed and seconded motion from the floor at the Annual or Special General Meeting.

Section 2 – The Secretary shall forward a copy of all proposals to each member of the Association at least twenty (20) days prior to the Annual Meeting or Special General Meeting at which the proposals are to be considered.

Section 3 – Proposals as set out in Section 1 shall be voted upon at the next Annual or Special General Meeting, whichever shall occur first, after the twenty (20) days’ notice.

Section 4 – A two thirds majority of the votes cast shall be required to pass an amendment.

Section 5 – The Constitution, or any portion thereof, may be repealed by the same procedure as herein prescribed for the amendment of said Constitution.

Section 6 – Amended Constitutions will be submitted to the Canadian Kennel Club for their records.

Dated at Winnipeg, Manitoba, this 26th day of November, 2014

Colin McMichael

President

Crystal Fulton

Secretary

CONSTITUTION OF “THE MANITOBA GUN DOG ASSOCIATION INC.

BY-LAWS OF “THE MANITOBA GUN DOG ASSOCIATION INC.”

ARTICLE I

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1– A member of the Association shall be anyone interested in the promotion of the work of the Association and whose application and or dues have been received and accepted.

Section 2– In order to be eligible for membership in the Association a person must be at least eighteen (18) years of age at the date of making the application, except where the applicant is requesting admission as a Junior Member.

The Executive of the Association shall have the power to accept or refuse an application for membership. Written notice, stating the reason for rejection, must be provided to applicants who are refused membership.

The Executive of the Association shall have the power to expel a member for just cause. Written notice must be provided to the member stating the reason for expulsion.

Acts such as theft from the Association, cruelty and abuse of dogs (animals), acts contrary to direction from the field trial / hunt test committee and expulsion from the Canadian Kennel Club are cause for rejecting an application for membership or expulsion from the Association.

In order for an application for membership to be validly constituted it shall be accompanied by the annual dues for that year.

Subject to the foregoing, membership in the Association shall be divided into six (7) classes:

- a) Active member;
- b) Active Spousal member;
- c) Life member;
- d) Associate member;
- e) Honorary member;
- f) Spousal member;
- g) Junior Member

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Section 3– An active member is one whose application and dues have been received, accepted and who participates actively in the promotion, operation and endeavors of the Association. Active members may vote at meetings and hold office in the Association.

Section 4– An active spousal member is one whose spouse is an Active or Life member; whose application and dues have been received, accepted and who participates actively in the promotion, operation and endeavors of the Association. Active Spousal members may vote at meetings and hold office in the Association.

Section 5– Life member may be conferred by the Association with all the privileges of an Active member.

Section 6– An Associate member is one whose application and dues have been received, accepted and is unable to participate in the operation, promotion and endeavors of the Association but who shall remain affiliated and receive regular communication in the form of a newsletter. Associate members may neither vote at meetings nor hold office in the Association.

Section 7– Honorary member may be conferred by the Association. Honorary members may neither vote at meetings nor hold office in the Association.

Section 8– A Spousal member is the husband, wife, partner or significant other of an Active or Life member. A Spousal member may participate actively in the promotion, operation and endeavors of the Association but does not vote at meetings or hold office in the association.

Section 9 - A Junior Member is one who has one or more family members who are active adult members and/or is sponsored by an active adult member and who is between the ages of 12 - 17. Junior members can participate actively in the promotion, operation and endeavors of the Association but may not vote. Junior members between the ages of 12 – 17, must be accompanied by an active adult or active adult spousal member while on the grounds. Membership of a Junior member will be the same as an associate membership.

Section 10– The membership year shall commence on the first day of November and shall conclude on the last day of October next following.

Section 11– Memberships may be terminated as follows:

- Resignation: Any member in good standing may resign from the Association upon providing written notice to the Secretary.
- Lapsing: A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member’s dues remain unpaid after January 31st.
- Expulsion: A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided for in Article 1, Section 2 of the By-Laws.

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ARTICLE II

ORGANIZATION

Section 1 – The Executive of the Association shall be the following: The President, the first and second Vice-Presidents, The Past President, The Secretary, the Treasurer or a Secretary-Treasurer and the Directors. For the purpose of filing an annual return with the appropriate office of the Province of Manitoba, the Executive members will be listed as the “Annual Directors”.

Section 2 - Directors of the Association shall be four (4) in number and each shall serve for a period of two (2) years. Two (2) Directors shall be retired each year (at the end of the two (2) year term) and two (2) shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting.

Section 3 – The Executive of the Association shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting by a majority vote of the members present and voting. They shall serve for a period of one year except as hereinbefore set out but shall be qualified for re-election.

Section 4 - The Executive shall manage all business and activities of the Association.

Section 5 – All Executive shall serve without remuneration, reside in the Province of Manitoba and be in good standing with the Canadian Kennel Club.

ARTICLE III

DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

Section 1 – The President shall:

- preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive
- by appointment, fill any vacancy that may occur among the elected officers or Committee Members of the Association during the interval between Annual Meetings;
- be ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 2 – The First Vice- President shall:

- in the absence of the President preside over the meetings of the Association and of the Executive;
- be Chairperson of the Nominating Committee.

Section 3 – The Second Vice-President shall in the absence of the President and the First Vice-President assume the duties of the latter.

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Section 4 – The Secretary shall:

- keep the minutes of the Association and the Executive in books provided for that purpose;
- see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these by-laws or as required by law;
- be custodian of the records of the Association;
- keep a record of the names of the members guests and visitors in attendance at the meetings;
- conduct all official correspondence of the Association and keep copies of same;
- notify applicants of their election to membership and members of their election to office, or their appointment to Committees;
- exhibit at all reasonable times the Association’s records to any of the members of the Executive upon application during business hours at the place where such books and records are kept;
- in general, perform all duties necessary or incidental to the office of Secretary and such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to the office by the Executive.

Section 5 – The Treasurer shall:

- have charge and custody of and be responsible for, all funds and securities of the Association and deposit such funds in the name of the Association in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as shall be selected by the Executive;
- exhibit at all reasonable times the books of accounts and records to any of the members of the Executive upon application during business hours at the place where such books and records are kept;
- render a detailed report of the finances of the Association whenever called upon by the Executive or by the auditor of the Association and present an Annual Report to the Association at the Annual General Meeting;
- receive and give receipts for money due to the Association from any source whatsoever;
- in general, perform all duties necessary or incidental to the office of the Treasurer and such other duties as may from time to time be assigned by the Executive.

Section 6 – The Directors should reflect a balance of experienced and new Association members. In general they shall be used in such a way that their technical and past experience in Association, Field Trial and Hunt Test matters may be a value to the Executive and the Association.

ARTICLE IV

COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Special temporary Committees, Chair people and event Secretaries may be appointed by the Executive on an Annual basis.

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Section 2 - Approximately sixty (60) days before the Annual General Meeting the President shall appoint three members (exclusive of the First Vice-President) to the nominating Committee. These members shall be named on the notice of the Annual General Meeting. They shall bring to the Annual General Meeting a slate of one nomination for each officer of the Association and two nominations for Director of the Association as hereinbefore set out. Notice of nominations shall be circulated to the general membership at least twenty days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

ARTICLE V

ELECTIONS

Section 1 - The Executive of the Association shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Section 2 - The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of one nomination for each office and two for that of Directors. (Each nominee must have signified willingness to act before being nominated by the Committee.) Further nominations for each office and for Directors may be made from the floor, office for office after the preceding office has been voted upon. Each Officer and/or Director shall be elected by majority vote of the Active, Active Spousal and Life members present and voting.

Section 3 - A vote by a show of hands is called for on motions to close nominations from the floor.

Section 4 - Elections, if necessary, will be conducted by secret ballot. Ballots will be counted at the Annual General Meeting by three members in good standing, chosen in advance, who are neither members of the current Executive nor candidates on the ballot.

ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS

Section 1 - The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba before the end of the first week of December in the current year.

Section 2 - Special General Meetings may be held from time to time at the call of the Executive or at the request of at least fifteen (15) Active, Active Spousal and/or Life members of the Association made in writing to the Secretary.

Section 3 - The Notice of the Annual General Meeting or of a Special General Meeting shall be given to all members in writing, by mail or E-mail to the address of each member, at least twenty (20) days prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE VII

QUORUM

Twenty per cent of the Active, Active Spousal and Life members shall constitute a quorum for the Annual General or Special General Meetings. The quorum for a meeting of the Executive shall be six (6) and shall include the President or First Vice-President and either the Secretary or the Treasurer.

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ARTICLE VIII

ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1. Reading of Minutes of last Annual Meeting;
2. Business arising from Minutes;
3. Report of the Executive (Secretary);
4. Report of the Treasurer;
5. Communication;
6. President’s Address;
7. Report of the Nominating Committee (The Past President);
8. Election of Officers;
9. Unfinished Business;
10. New Business;
11. Adjournment.

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ARTICLE IX

FINANCING, BANKING AND AUDITING

Section 1 - The financial year of the Association shall commence on the first day of November and shall conclude on the last day of October next following.

Section 2 - An Annual audit of the books and accounts of the Association shall be made and a report thereon shall be made at the Annual General Meeting.

Section 3 - The annual dues as to each classification of membership shall be the amount specified and passed in the Resolutions at the Annual General Meeting.

Section 4 - The funds of the Association shall be placed in a branch in any Canadian chartered bank or trust company who is a member of the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation or credit union who is a member of the Deposit Guarantee Corporation of Manitoba, as designated by the Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer of the Association.

Section 5 - The signing of all documents and in particular, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, all bills of exchange, cheques, documents, deeds and other papers required to be executed by the Association shall be signed by any two of the following officers:

1. The President;
2. The Secretary;
3. The Treasurer.

In addition, the Executive may from time to time direct the manner in which, and the person or persons by whom a particular document type of document shall be executed.

Section 6 - The Association will be dissolved if the Association has been inactive for three years or a two thirds majority of the votes cast at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting favor dissolution.

Should the Association decide to dissolve the Associations' Executive will transfer all of the assets to the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation.

ARTICLE X

BORROWING

Section 1 - The Executive may from time to time:

1. Borrow money upon the credit of the Association;
2. Limit or increase the amount to be borrowed;
3. Issue bonds, debentures, debenture stock or other securities of the Association, and pledge or sell the same for such sums and at such prices as may be deemed expedient;
4. Hypothecate, mortgage or pledge the real or personal property of the
5. Association, or both, to secure any such bonds, debentures, debenture stock or other securities and any money borrowed for the purposes of the Association.

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Section 2- The Executive may from time to time authorize a member or members of the Executive, Association, or other person or persons, to make arrangements with reference to the money borrowed or to be borrowed as aforesaid, and as to the terms and conditions of the loan thereof, and as to the securities to be given therefor, with power to modify such arrangements, terms and conditions for any moneys borrowed or remaining due by the Association, provided however that such arrangements are limited and are specifically described in advance in a resolution passed at a regular executive meeting attended by a quorum of executive members.

Section 3- The Executive may from time to time authorize a member or members of the Executive, association, or other person or persons, to sign, execute, and give on behalf of the association, all documents, agreements and promises necessary or desirable for the purpose of borrowing, and to draw, make, accept, endorse, execute, and issue cheques, promissory notes, bills of exchange, bills of lading and other negotiable or transferable instruments, and all renewals and substitutions thereof, which so signed shall be binding upon the Association, provided however that the provisions thereof and the modifications thereto are described and do not exceed the amounts specified in the Executive resolution described in section 2.

Section 4- The powers hereby conferred shall be deemed to be in supplement of and not in substitution for any power to borrow money for the purposes of the Association possessed by the Executive independently of a borrowing By-Law.

ARTICLE XI

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section 1- The Executive as hereinbefore set out, may from time to time make such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with these By-Laws, for the internal management of the Association and for such other purposes as the Executive may deem advisable.

ARTICLE XII

PROCEDURE

Section 1- All meetings of the Association and of its governing bodies and all other matters of practice and procedure not otherwise herein specified shall be governed by the Common-Law of Procedure of Canada as laid down and interpreted in Roberts Rules of Order (current edition) unless specifically suspended by the members at a General Meeting. The said Rules of Procedure to be incorporated and to be part of the By-Law provided same do not come in conflict with any provisions as hereinbefore set out.

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ARTICLE XIII

REPEAL AND AMENDMENTS OF BY-LAWS: ENACTING NEW BY-LAWS

Section 1 - Amendments may be proposed:

1. By the Executive;
2. By a duly proposed and seconded motion from the floor of an Annual or
3. Special General Meeting.

Section 2 - The Secretary shall forward a copy of all proposals to each member of the Association at least twenty (20) days prior to the Annual Meeting or Special General Meeting at which the proposals are to be considered.

Section 3 - Proposals as set out in Section 1 shall be voted upon at the next Annual or Special General Meeting, whichever shall occur first after the fourteen days' notice.

Section 4 - A two thirds majority of the votes cast shall be required to pass an amendment.

Section 5 - A By-Law may be repealed by the same procedure as is herein prescribed for the amendment of a By-Law.

Section 6 - Approved By-Laws will be submitted to the Canadian Kennel Club for their records.

ARTICLE XIV

CLUB RECOGNITION

The club shall employ an Awards System for the selection of praise worthy candidates based on meritoric principles.

The Executive shall be responsible on an annual basis to request (by a letter of invitation published in our regular News Letter), from current members in good standing their recommendations for praise worthy members and/or patron (corporate or individual) candidates.

MEMBER AWARDS SHALL BE EARNED AND GRANTED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER.

Milestone Awards:

Club pins shall be awarded to praise worthy individuals for acknowledgement of ten, twenty and thirty years of membership. Pins shall be awarded annually by a majority vote of the executive after a report from the membership chair person, confirming qualifications.

Service Awards:

Club Plaques shall be awarded to praise worthy individuals for acknowledgement of meritorious service for significant service contribution in the form of one task or a group of tasks. This award shall be

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considered annually. It shall be made by a majority vote of the executive after consideration of a recommendation in writing from a member in good standing.

Life Membership Award:

Life Membership Certificate and a permanent Membership Card shall be awarded to praise worthy individuals for acknowledgement of meritorious service to the club for significant contribution in the form of one task or a group of tasks. The award shall be subject to the following conditions.

1. A candidate must be a member in good standing for a minimum of 10 years.
2. A candidate must have made a significant meritorious service contribution.
3. A candidate must have served on the executive for a minimum of 4 terms.

The award may be considered annually. It shall be made by a majority vote of the executive after consideration of a recommendation made in writing by a member in good standing.

Patronage awards: shall be earned and granted in the following manner:

Service in Kind of Financial Contribution Award: Patrons Certificate or Patrons Plaque shall be awarded to praise worthy members, corporations or individuals for service in kind or financial contribution to the club. This award shall be considered annually and it shall be made by a majority vote of the executive after consideration of a recommendation made in writing by a member in good standing. A suitable letter of acknowledgement accompanied by a Patrons Certificate or Patrons Plaque shall be presented to the individual or corporation acknowledging the contribution and advising appropriate label/plaque will be affixed to our Club House Patrons Board announcing the award for perpetual future display.

Dated at Winnipeg, Manitoba this 21st day of January, 2021.

Matt Mutcherson

President