**Portuguese Pointers of Great Britain (the "Society")**

**Society Constitution**

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| 1. **Name and objects** |
| * 1. The Society shall be called the Portuguese Pointers of Great Britain (including Ireland) and its objects are: |
| * + 1. to encourage and promote the Portuguese Pointer breed as a show and working HPR gundog; |
| * + 1. to safeguard the health, temperament and welfare of the breed; |
| * + 1. to maintain the breed standard by which the breed should be judged to encourage its acceptance by breeders and judges alike; |
| * + 1. to participate in training events, country fairs/shows and seminars; |
| * + 1. to promote the breed through social events. |

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| 1. **officers and committee** |
| * 1. The Society shall consist of: |
| * + 1. Chair; |
| * + 1. Vice-Chair; |
| * + 1. Treasurer; |
| * + 1. Secretary; |
| * + 1. Vice-Secretary; |
| * + 1. 2 elected committee members (the Elected Committee Members); and |
| * + 1. Unlimited number of Members. |
| * 1. The positions listed in clauses 2.1.1 - 2.1.6 shall collectively be referred to as the Executive Committee. |
| * 1. The Committee reserves the right to increase the size of the Committee by: |
| * + 1. Increasing the number of Elected Committee Members who may be appointed; and/or |
| * + 1. Proposing additional positions within the Executive Committee   in order to reflect the size and changing needs of the Society. No changes to the size of the Committee or the positions available shall be made without first seeking a resolution of the Members at the Annual General Meeting or, if appropriate, an Extraordinary General Meeting. |

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| 1. **committee and Management** |
| * 1. The management of the Society shall be conducted by an Executive Committee of not more than nine Members. |
| * 1. The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected by the Members and shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election. |
| * 1. The positions of Treasurer, Secretary, Vice Secretary and Elected Committee Members shall be elected by Members for a period of 2 years and shall be eligible for re-election. |
| * 1. All members of the Executive Committee shall have full voting rights at Committee and Annual General Meetings. |
| * 1. Committee Meetings shall be held as often as deemed necessary but at least one every 3 months. |
| * 1. The quorum for Committee Meetings shall be five. |
| * 1. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt Members on to the Committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between Annual General Meetings. |
| * 1. Those co-opted shall only hold office until the next Annual General Meeting of the Society at which an election of Officers and Elected Committee Members takes place. Co-opted member shall not have voting rights at Committee Meetings. |
| * 1. No individual who has been a member for less than 3 months may be elected on to the Committee. |
| * 1. The election of members of the Executive Committee shall be by electronic vote. Details of the ballot will be sent to each Member of the Society by the Secretary at least 14 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting and shall be received and counted by the Chair at the Executive Meeting held prior to the Annual General Meeting. |
| * 1. Any member of the Executive Committee who fails, without good reason, to attend any two Committee Meetings during any year of their holding office shall retire immediately from the Executive Committee and be ineligible for re-election the following year, but shall be eligible for re-election in any subsequent year thereafter. |
| * 1. The Committee shall have the power to call a General Meeting of the Members at any time to arbitrate on any matters of dispute or deal with any other business requiring the Members to vote. |

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| 1. **Powers of the Executive Committee** |
| * 1. The Executive Committee shall have the power to: |
| * + 1. deal with any questions which arise and which are not provided for in this Constitution; |
| * + 1. fill any vacancies occurring in their numbers between Annual General Meetings. |
| * 1. The Executive Committee shall have the power to deal with all expenses incurred on behalf of the Society. |

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| 1. **Club Property** |
| * 1. The property of the Society shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Society ceasing to exist, a final Annual General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the Society's assets and the outcome of the meeting notified to the Kennel Club. |

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| 1. **Club Accounts** |
| * 1. A Banking Account shall be held in the name of the Society at NatWest Plc into which all revenue of the Society shall be paid and from which withdrawal shall only be made on the signatures or written confirmation of the Treasurer and any other one Executive Committee Member. |
| * 1. The accounts will be prepared by the Treasurer annually on or about 31 December. The accounts will be certified and presented to the Members at the Annual General Meeting. |
| * 1. The accounts must be certified by a qualified accountant or by two unqualified individuals with accountancy experience and must be independent of the Treasurer. |
| * 1. A copy of the annual statement of accounts will be made available to Members on request 14 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. |
| * 1. The annual statement of accounts will be sent to Members by email at least 14 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. |

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| 1. **Membership** |
| * 1. The Society shall consist of an unlimited number of Members. |
| * 1. The Society shall make and maintain an up-to-date list of Members and their addresses. A declaration of the number of Members of the Society must be made at the Annual General Meeting. |
| * 1. Applications for membership should be made on the membership form (obtainable from the Secretary). |
| * 1. Any Member may withdraw from the Society at any time on giving notice to the Secretary, provided always that such Member shall remain liable for their subscription for the current year in which they give notice. |
| * 1. Following withdrawal, the Member shall have no further claims upon any property or funds belonging to the Society. |

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| 1. **Subscriptions** |
| * 1. An annual subscription shall be payable by each Member. |
| * 1. The annual subscription shall be payable on 31 January each year at a rate to be determined by the Members at the Annual General Meeting. |
| * 1. Membership may consist of: an individual membership (being one person) |
| * + 1. an adult membership - £10.00; or |
| * + 1. junior membership (being one person aged 17 or under) - £0 |
| * 1. No Member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any of the privileges of membership and if the member shall fail to pay outstanding subscriptions by 31 March shall have their name automatically erased from the register. A new membership form must be completed and annual subscription paid in order to become a Member and have their name returned to the register. |
| * 1. The amount of annual subscriptions may be increased at a future date, but such amendment shall be agreed at the AGM. |

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| 1. **Voting rights** |
| * 1. Each Member shall be entitled to one vote immediately upon acceptance of membership. |
| * 1. Voting shall be by secret ballot or show of hands or by electronic voting as decided by majority at meeting. |
| * 1. Every Adult Member shall have one vote. |
| * 1. Junior Members do not have a vote. |

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| 1. **Expulsion of members** |
| * 1. Any Member who shall be disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A11.j(5) and/or Kennel Club Rule A11.j(9) shall by default cease to be a Member of the Society. |
| * 1. If the conduct of any Member shall, in the opinion of the Committee, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character, interests or objectives of the Society, the Committee may, at a Special Meeting consider the conduct of the Member. The Committee may, at their absolute discretion, after considering the conduct of the Member at the Special Meeting pass a resolution to expel the Member. |
| * 1. Notice of the Special Meeting shall be sent to the Member whose conduct is in question. Such notice shall contain: |
| * + 1. Particulars of the complaint; |
| * + 1. Details of the date, time and location of the Special Meeting; |
| * + 1. An invitation to the Member to attend the Special Meeting to offer any explanation. |
| * 1. If, at the Special Meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the Committee present and voting, the relevant Member's name shall immediately be removed from the list of Members and they shall cease for all purposes to be a Member of the Society except that they may, within 2 calendar months from the date of such Special Meeting appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such condition as the Kennel Club my impose. |
| * 1. If the Society expels any Member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, dog shows, trials or competitions, the Society must report the matter in writing to the Kennel Club within 7 days and supply any details available. |
| * 1. No business other than that detailed on the agenda can be discussed at a Special Meeting. |

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| 1. **Financial year /Annual General Meeting** |
| * 1. The financial year of the Society shall run from 1 January to 31 December. |
| * 1. The Annual General Meeting shall be held on or about May each year. |

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| 1. **Annual General Meeting** |
| * 1. The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held on a date to be fixed by the Committee. Notice of the proposed date shall be sent to Members no less than 30 days' prior to such date. |
| * 1. Any matter to be included on the agenda must be sent to the Secretary 14 days before the proposed date of the Annual General Meeting. |
| * 1. Committee Members who have served their term in accordance with clause   2. 3 shall retire, but shall be eligible for re-election. |
| * 1. Any Member may propose any Member as a candidate for the Committee, provided that the name of the new candidate be proposed and seconded and notified in writing to the Secretary together with the names of the proposer and the seconder 28 days before the Annual General Meeting and the proposer shall be responsible for the consent of the nominee to serve. |
| * 1. The procedure outlined in clause 12.5 also applies to the election of all Committee offices. |
| * 1. Any resolution passed at either the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting can only be altered or rescinded at a subsequent Annual General Meeting. |
| * 1. The quorum for the Annual General Meeting shall be 9 members. |
| * 1. The constitution of the Society may not be altered except at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting. The notice of such meeting of the Members shall contain details of the specific proposals to amend the Constitution. |
| * 1. No alternation to the Constitution shall be made which would have the effect of compromising or diminishing the overarching objectives of the Society. |

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| 1. **Extraordinary general meeting** |
| * 1. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened by the Secretary if at least 50% of Members signed a signed requisition setting out the reasons for the request and the subject matter to be discussed and requesting an Extraordinary General Meeting. The Committee is also empowered to call Special Meetings. |
| * 1. No business other than that detailed on the agenda can be discussed at an Extraordinary General Meeting. |

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| 1. **Miscellaneous** |
| * 1. The Society shall not join any federation of societies or clubs. |
| * 1. No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within the Society. |
| * 1. The Society shall not be wound up as long as 8 Members are willing to carry on under its present title. |

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| 1. **Definitions** | |
| Adult Member | A Member who is aged 18 or above |
| Annual General Meeting | a meeting of the Committee and Members held annually on or around 31st May |
| Committee | means the Executive Committee and Elected Committee Members |
| Committee Meetings | meetings of the Executive Committee and Elected Committee Members |
| Elected Committee Members | as defined at clause 2.1.6 |
| Executive Committee | as defined at clause 2.2 |
| Executive Meeting | the meeting of the Executive Committee immediately prior to the Annual General Meeting |
| Extraordinary General Meeting | is a meeting of the Members called in accordance with clause 13 |
| HPR | Hunt, point, retrieve |
| Junior Member | A Member aged 17 or under |
| Members | individuals who have applied for membership of the Society in accordance with clause 7 and who have paid their annual subscription in accordance with clause 8 |
| Society | Portuguese Pointers of Great Britain |
| Special Meeting | a meeting of the Committee in addition to scheduled Committee Meetings (as completed by clause 3.5) which shall be convened to consider such matters and on such notice as deemed reasonable and appropriate to the Committee |