

BRITISH COLUMBIA LABRADOR RETRIEVER (1995) SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION

1. The name of the society is the British Columbia Labrador Retriever (1995) Society.
2. The purposes of the society are:
 - a. To maintain the Labrador Retriever with its original instincts, disposition, temperament, abilities, intelligence, type, and conformation.
 - b. To foster appreciation of the Labrador Retriever by the holding of field trials, conformation shows, and obedience trials thus encouraging the interest of the membership in the objects of the club.
 - c. To cooperate with other clubs, organizations, and groups on the conservation, restoration, and management of wildlife and wildlife areas.
3.
 - a. The society shall be incorporated as a nonprofit organization within the Province of British Columbia.
 - b. The society shall pay no dividends nor make up any distributions on unearned remuneration to any member of the society.
 - c. Upon winding up or dissolution of the society and after payment of all just debts and accounts, any monies or assets remaining in the name of the society shall be donated to one or more recognized charitable organizations in Canada.
 - d. The provisions of this section (3) are unalterable.

PART 1 – MEMBERSHIP

1. MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

There shall be four categories of membership.

- a. A single membership is open to a person eighteen years of age or older.
- b. A family or basic membership is open to members of an immediate family. A maximum of 2 adult voting memberships will be included in this category.
- c. A junior membership (non-voting) is open to a person who has not reached his/her eighteenth birthday.
- d. An honorary membership (non-voting) may be awarded by the society from time to time.

e. The society's non-voting members shall not exceed the voting members.

2. DUES

The amount of the annual membership dues, in each of the three categories (1: a, b, & c) shall be determined by the eligible voting members of the society present at the annual general meeting.

3. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

An application for membership in the society in 1:a, b, or c categories shall be made in writing in a form approved by the board or directors. An applicant shall become a member on:

- a. Acceptance by a majority of the eligible voting members of the society present at any general meeting.
- b. Payment of current year dues.
- c. Agreement to abide by this constitution and bylaws and the code of ethics of the society.

4. MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING

A member is in good standing who:

- a. Upholds the constitution and complies with the bylaws.
- b. Abides by the code of ethics of the society and is courteous, cooperative, and responsible in his/her relationship with other members.
- c. Meets his/her dues obligation within the 60-day period allowed.

5. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

A member ceases to be a member of the society:

- a. By delivering his/her resignation in writing to the secretary of the society.
- b. When the person's membership dues remain unpaid 60 days after the first day of the society's fiscal year.
- c. By expulsion from the society.

- d. Upon the member's death.
6. EXPULSION
- a. A member may be expelled if their conduct:
 - i. Is determined to have been unbecoming to the society.
 - ii. Is likely to endanger interests or reputation of the society
 - iii. Constitutes a willful breach of constitution, bylaws, or the code of ethics of the society.
 - b. A member may be expelled by a special resolution for the expulsion passed at any general meeting. A vote of support by 75% of eligible voting members of the society present at the meeting is required.
 - c. There must be notice of the special resolution for expulsion, which shall be accompanied by a brief statement of the reason or reasons for the proposed expulsion.
 - d. The person who is the subject of the proposed resolution for expulsion shall be given the opportunity to be heard at the meeting before the special resolution is put to a vote.

PART 2 – MEETINGS AND VOTING

1. General meetings of the society shall be held at least 6 times in each calendar year, at such an hour and place as may be designated by the board or directors or executive committee. Members of the society shall receive 14 days notice in advance of each meeting.
2. The directors or 10% of the members, if they think fit, may for special purpose, convene a special general meeting at any time. The purpose of the special general meeting shall be documented in writing and the members of the society must be given at least 14 days notice in advance of the meeting. The agenda of a special general meeting must be circulated with the notice of the meeting. The agenda shall include the text of any special resolutions to be addressed by the meeting.
3. The annual general meeting for the society shall be held within 15 months of the date of incorporation and after the that an annual general meeting shall beheld at least once in every calendar year and not more than 15 months after adjournment of the previous annual general meeting. Written notice shall be given to members of the society at least 14 days in advance of the meeting date.

4. Alteration or amendment of the constitution, bylaws, or code of ethics of the society shall be done by special resolution at any general meeting and requires a vote in support by 75% of eligible voters of the society who are present at the meeting.
5. 20% or a minimum of 7 eligible voting members of the society shall constitute a quorum at any general meeting of the society.
6. If within 30 minutes from the time appointed for any general meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall be terminated.
7. No business, other than the adjournment or termination of the meeting shall be conducted at any general meeting at a time when the quorum is not present. If at any time during any general meeting there ceases to be a quorum present, business then in progress shall be suspended until there is a quorum present or until the meeting is adjourned or terminated.
8. Eligible voting members of the society who are in good standing shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of the society at which they are present. Junior and honorary members are not entitled to vote.
9. Each issue put to a vote shall be decided according to the majority of votes cast except where the members are voting on a special resolution, in which case a resolution shall not be deemed to have been passed by the society unless 75% of the eligible voting members of the society present at the meeting have voted in favor of the said resolution.
10. Voting by proxy is not permitted.
11. Except where otherwise provided by the society or the bylaws, all matters of the procedure at any meeting of the society or the board shall be decided in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

PART – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

1. The officers of the society shall consist of the president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.
2. The executive committee shall consist of the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and immediate past president. Subject to the control of the membership, the executive committee shall have the power to transact business of the society between the meetings of the society. Three (3) members shall constitute a quorum.

3. The board of directors of the society shall consist of the officers, the chairs of the society's standing committees and the immediate past president. Subject to the control of the membership, the board shall have the power to transact business of the society between the meetings of the society. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum.
4. The officers of the society shall be elected each year at the annual general meeting.
5. Annually, the executive committee or the board of directors will recommend the society's standing committees and nominate members to serve as chairs of the committees.
6. Additional committees may be created by the board from time to time whenever it is deemed necessary or desirable. Such committees shall limit their activities to the purposes conferred by a director's resolution. Upon completion of the task for which it is appointed, such a committee shall be dissolved by the board.
7. The president shall preside at all meetings of the society and the board and shall have the powers and duties generally pertaining to this office. The president shall be a member ex-officio of all committees.
8. The vice-president shall, in the absence of the president, possess all of the powers and perform all the duties of the president.
9. The secretary shall:
 - a. Conduct the correspondence of the society.
 - b. Issue notices of the society and the board.
 - c. Keep minutes of all meetings of the society, the board, and the executive committee.
 - d. Have custody of all records and documents of the society except those required to be kept by the treasurer.
 - e. Maintain the register of members.
10. The Treasurer shall:
 - a. Keep such financial records, including books of accounts, as are necessary to comply with the Society Act.

- b. Have custody and control of all funds, see full and accurate records are kept thereof; make an annual report in writing showing the financial condition of the society and the results of the yearly operation of the society and ensure that any other financial reports which the society may from time to time require are prepared and presented.
11. Members may be special resolution remove a director or officer before the expiration of the term of office and may elect a successor to complete the term of office.
12. No director or officer shall be remunerated for their service but shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily and reasonably incurred by him/her.

PART 4 – FINANCE

1. The society shall not have the power to borrow money.
2. The fiscal year shall be from January 1 to December 31 of the same year.
3. Dues shall be determined on an annual basis at the annual general meeting of the society. A majority of 75% of the eligible voting members of the society present at the meeting shall be required for approval. The treasurer upon receipt of the application of membership shall collect dues.
4. The annual financial statement of the society shall be prepared and presented and presented to the society at the annual general meeting.
5. An audit committee shall be appointed prior to the annual general meeting. The committee shall consist of two members appointed by the board of directors. The committee members shall be neither members of the executive committee or the board of directors. It shall be the duty of this committee to review all the financial accounts of the society and to report their findings to the membership at the annual general meeting. Upon completion of their task, the committee will dissolve.
6. The books and records of the society shall be open to members at all times for inspection providing reasonable notice is given.

