

# Rocky Mountain Borzoi Club

## Constitution

### ARTICLE I

#### Name and Objects

SECTION 1. The name of the Club shall be the **Rocky Mountain Borzoi Club**

SECTION 2. The objects of the Club shall be:

- A. To encourage and promote quality in the breeding of purebred Borzoi and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection;
- B. To urge all members and breeders to accept the standard of excellence by which the Borzoi shall be judged;
- C. To do all in its power to protect and advance the interest of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows and obedience and lure coursing;
- D. To conduct licensed and sanctioned specialty shows, obedience trials and lure coursing trials under the rules of the American Kennel Club.

SECTION 3. The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or remainder or 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 By-Laws as may be required to carry out these objects.

## BY-LAWS

### ARTICLE I

#### Membership

SECTION 1. **Eligibility -**

There shall be four (4) types of membership:

- A. *Individual* - shall be open to all persons eighteen (18) years of age or over, who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who are subscribers to the purposes of this Club.
- B. *Junior Member* - shall be open to all persons between the ages of ten (10) and seventeen (17) who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who are subscribers to the purposes of this Club.
  - (1) Junior Members shall not have the right to vote or hold office.
  - (2) A Junior Member may automatically convert to regular membership upon reaching their eighteenth birthday.
  - (3) Junior Members will be eligible for all special awards given by the Club and welcomed to participate in all Club activities and as spectators at all general membership meetings with a voice but no vote.
- C. *Family* - shall be open to two (2) or more family members, who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who are subscribers to the purposes of this Club.
- D. *Associate Member*- shall be available to any individual who wishes to receive the Clubs' newsletter only. This individual needs only to apply for membership and be approved by majority vote.
- E. Full membership with voting privileges shall be restricted to the residents of the state of

Colorado. The Club's primary purpose is to be representative of breeders and exhibitors of Borzoi in the greater Denver area.

- F. Full membership applicants must attend two (2) Rocky Mountain Borzoi Club functions, one of which must be a meeting, and be approved by a majority vote.

**SECTION 2. Dues -**

- A. Membership dues shall be **\$20.00** per year for Individuals, **\$30.00** per year for Families, and **\$15.00** per year for Associates, payable on or before **January 1<sup>st</sup>** of each year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. New members who pay after October 1<sup>st</sup>, do not have to pay for the following year. During the month of November, the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his dues for the ensuing year.
- B. Junior Membership dues shall be the same as that of the individual membership, except when either or both parent(s) are members in good standing and reside at the same address: In which case, the dues shall be one half (**\$10.00**) of the regular membership dues. In this case, no separate club bulletins or any other club matter shall be mailed to said Junior Member.

**SECTION 3. Election to Membership -**

- A. Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by these Constitution and By-Laws and the rules of The American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address, and any other information as the Board of Directors may direct. It shall carry the endorsement of two members who are in good standing. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues, which will be current for the year in which the application is approved. The dues shall be refunded if the application is rejected. Applicants may be elected at any meeting of the Board of Directors. Each application shall be acted upon at the first such meeting to occur after the filing of said application with the Secretary and printed in the next available club publication.
- B. New members will be elected by the RBC members in good standing present at a general membership meeting by secret, written ballot.
- C. An application which has received a negative vote by the Board may be presented by one of the applicant's endorsers at the next meeting of the Club. The Club may elect such applicant by favorable vote of seventy-five percent (75%) of members present and voting. The vote may be by secret ballot if the endorser so requests. Otherwise, no applicant who has been rejected at any meeting may be considered at any meeting held within twelve (12) months after the date of the last such 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 while in debt to the Club. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club and they become incurred on the first day of each fiscal year.
- B. **By lapsing.** A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid ninety (90) days after January due date. However, the Board may grant an additional ninety (90) days of grace to such delinquent members in meritorious cases. 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.
- C. **By expulsion.** A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided for in Article VI of these By-Laws.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **Meetings and Voting**

#### **SECTION 1. Club Meetings -**

- A. Meetings of the Club shall be held within the greater Denver area at least six (6) times a year, at a place, date and hour designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.
- B. The **quorum** shall be twenty percent (**20%**) of the membership authorized to vote.

#### **SECTION 2. Special Club Meetings -**

- A. Special Club Meetings may be called by the President or by a majority vote of the members of the Board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board; and shall be called by the Secretary, upon receipt of a petition signed by five (5) voting members of the Club who are in good standing.
- B. Such Special Meetings shall be held in the greater Denver area at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary to all members at least five (5) days and not more than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting. Said notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other Club business shall be transacted thereat.
- C. A **quorum** of such meetings shall be twenty percent (**20%**) of the voting members in good standing.

#### **SECTION 3. Board Meetings -**

- A. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least six (6) times a year within the greater Denver area at such date, hour and place as may be designated by the Board.
- B. Written notice of each such meetings shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting, via First Class Mail.
- C. A **quorum** for such meetings shall be a **majority** of the Board.

#### **SECTION 4. Special Board Meetings -**

- A. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President; and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of written request signed by at least three (3) members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held in the greater Denver area at such place, date and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meeting. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting, or telegraphic notice shall be filed at least three (3) days and not more than five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. Any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business shall be transacted thereat.
- B. A **quorum** for such meetings shall be a **majority** of the Board.

#### **SECTION 5. Voting -**

Each member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year, except Junior Members, shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the Club at which he is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any Club meeting or election.

## ARTICLE III Officers and Directors

### SECTION 1. **Officers -**

The Club's officers, consisting of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meetings.

Duties -

- A. The **President** shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President in addition to those particularly specified in these By-Laws. The President shall also automatically serve as a member of the Board of Directors for one (1) term immediately following his/her presidential term.
- B. The **Vice-President** shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in the case of the President's absence, incapacity, or death.
- C. The **Secretary** shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. He shall have charge of correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify applicants of their election to or rejection of membership, notify officers and directors of their election to office, keep a roll of members of the Club with their addresses, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed by these By-Laws.
- D. The **Treasurer** shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging to the Club. He shall deposit same in a bank designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. His books shall be open at all times to inspection of the Board and he shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt and payment not before reported; and at the annual meeting he shall render an account of all moneys received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.
- E. The offices of **Secretary** and **Treasurer** may be held by the same person in which case the Board shall be comprised of the officers and four (4) other persons.

### SECTION 2. **Board of Directors -**

The Board shall be comprised of the President, the Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and four (4) other persons, including the immediate past President, all of whom are members in good standing and who are eligible to vote. The members of the Board of Directors shall be elected for one (1) year terms at the annual meeting as provided in Article IV and shall serve until their successors are elected. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

### SECTION 3. **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 all the then 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, and Elections**

**SECTION 1. Club Year -**

- A. The Club's **Fiscal Year** shall begin on the first (1st) day of January and end on the thirty-first (31st) day of December.
- B. The Club's **Official Year** shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the election of new officers at the annual meeting and shall continue through the conclusion of the election at the next annual meeting.

**SECTION 2. Annual Meeting -**

The annual meeting shall be held in the month of December, at which Officers, and Directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret, written ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 4 of this Article. They shall take office immediately upon conclusion of the election and each retiring officer shall turn over to his successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within thirty (30) days after the election.

**SECTION 3. Elections -**

The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The three (3) nominated candidates for other positions on the Board who receive the greatest number of votes for such positions shall be declared elected. There shall be no votes cast by absentee ballots or proxy. Members must be present at the annual meeting to vote for candidates running for office.

**SECTION 4. Nominations -**

No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated. During the month of September, the Board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three (3) members and two (2) 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 may name a Chairman for the Committee and it shall be his duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before October 1.

- A. The Committee shall nominate one (1) candidate for each office and three (3) candidates for the three (3) other positions on the Board, and, after securing the consent of each person so nominated, shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing.
- B. Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Secretary shall, before October 15th, notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.
- C. Additional nominations may be made at the November meeting by any member in attendance, (nominations by letter or phone are not acceptable), provided that the person so nominated accepts the candidacy when his name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, the Secretary shall receive a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his or her willingness to be a candidate within ten (10) days from the nomination. No person may be a candidate for more than one (1) position.
- D. Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or in any manner other than as provided in this Section.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Committees**

#### **SECTION 1. Committees -**

Each year, the Board may appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as specialty shows, obedience trials, field 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. 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 the privileges of the American Kennel Club shall be automatically suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period.

#### **SECTION 2. Charges -**

Any member may prefer charges against a 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 \$10.00, 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. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the Club, it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date of a hearing by the Board not less than three (3) weeks nor more than six (6) weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges 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 both the complainant and the defendant, the Board may, by majority vote of those present, suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six (6) 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 findings 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, its findings 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 4 of this Article. Such proceedings may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within sixty (60) days, but not earlier than thirty (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 findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his own behalf if he wishes. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A two thirds (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 By-Laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary, signed by twenty percent (20%) 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 (3) months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

**SECTION 2.** The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a two thirds (2/3) 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 (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

**ARTICLE VIII  
Dissolution**

**SECTION 1. Dissolution -**

The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than two thirds (2/3) of the members. 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 the last meeting**

**Report of the President**

**Report of the Secretary**

**Report of the Treasurer**

**Reports of Committees**

**Election of Officers and Board (at annual meeting)**

**Election of new members**

**Unfinished business**

**New business**

**Adjournment**

SECTION 2. At meetings of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

**Minutes of the last meeting**

**Report of the Secretary**

**Report of the Treasurer**

**Reports of Committees**

**Unfinished business**

**New Business**

**Adjournment**

**ARTICLE X**  
**Parliamentary Authority**

SECTION 1. The rules contained in the current edition of **Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised** shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws and any other special rules of order the Club may adopt.