

# Bavarian Mountain Hound Society of Great Britain

## Rules and Regulations

### October 2009 – AGM Approved

#### 1) Name and Objectives

The Society shall be called the Bavarian Mountain Hound Society of Great Britain (referred to in these rules as “the Society”)

The objectives shall be:

- a. To promote the well being and understanding of the Bavarian Mountain Hound (BMH)
- b. To encourage the use of the BMH for tracking wounded and injured deer.
- c. To maintain the breed in accordance with the Kennel Club Standard.
- d. To engage the assistance of experienced handlers/owners from both the UK and Europe to further the breed by holding Seminars, Classes, and Training Days on the Breed Standard, Tracking, and the correct handling procedure and equipment and a responsible breeding program.
- e. For appropriate Schweisshund Tracking Tests to be recognised by the Kennel Club.
- f. To hold shows in accordance with the Kennel Club Rules and Regulations.
- g. For all members to uphold the Society’s General Code of Ethics.

#### 2) Officers and Committee

The Society’s Committee shall consist of Chairman, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary and four other duly elected Members.

The Officers positions of Patron, President, Vice President, Vice Chairman, and Membership Secretary shall also be re-evaluated as the Society grows and shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting should a need arise to fill these positions.

As the Society grows the numbers of Committee Members shall also be reconsidered. When the need arises, a Show or Schweisshund Tracking Test Sub Committee will be appointed by the Society’s Committee.

No Officer or Committee Member may serve on the Committee of another BMH Club or Society.

#### 3) Committee

The management of the Society shall be in the hands of the following Officers of the Society: Chairman, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary and a Committee consisting of four duly elected Members.

Officers will serve a three year term. At the end of which they will be eligible for re-election.

Members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election every year.

The following Officers and Committee shall have full voting rights at all Committee, Annual General, & Special General Meetings: Chairman, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary and four Committee Members.

Meetings of the Committee shall be held as deemed necessary but at least one every four months.

A quorum for the Committee meetings shall be four.

The Committee shall have the power to co-opt Members on to the Committee in event of positions becoming vacant between Annual General Meetings.

Those co-opted shall only hold office until the next Annual General Meeting of the Society at which an election of Officers and Committee takes place. Co-opted Committee Members shall have voting rights at Committee Meetings.

- 4) Election of Members  
Acceptance of all Society membership applications will be at the Committee's discretion. The Society can have an unlimited number of Members with no restriction on location. A Member must have paid up membership for six months before being considered for a position on the Committee.
- 5) An up-to-date Register of Members and their address, and those of Branch Members where appropriate, must be maintained and, of so requested, made available for inspection by the Kennel Club and Members of the Society. A declaration of the number of Members of the Society must be made in Annual Returns.
- 6) Voting Rights  
Each Full Member shall be entitled to one vote immediately upon acceptance of membership of the Society.  
Postal votes are allowed, however proxy votes will not be accepted.  
Voting shall be by secret ballot or by the show of hands as decided by majority at all types of meetings.  
Available Membership:
  - a. Single Full Membership – One vote
  - b. Joint Full Membership – One vote each
  - c. Associate Membership – No voting rights
- 7) Society Property  
The property of the Society shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Society ceasing to exist, a final Special 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. (If a Registered Society is wound up or ceases to be a Registered Society under these Regulations, a final statement of accounts with a record of the disposal of the property of the Society shall be forwarded to the Kennel Club within six months and the persons named as Officers and Committee of the Society will be held responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the Society.) NOTE: Societies are advised to obtain written acknowledgements from donors of cups and trophies that are given as outright gifts to the Society.
- 8) Society Accounts
  - a. A banking account shall be held in the name of the Society at the HSBC into which all revenue shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall only be made on the signatures of two out of three Committee Officers.
  - b. The Accounts will be certified annually and presented to the Members at the Annual General Meeting.NOTE: Certification of accounts must be carried out by one qualified Accountant or two unqualified individuals with accountancy experience
- 9) Subscriptions
  - a. The annual subscriptions shall be such an amount as agreed by the Members at the Annual General Meeting and notified to the Kennel Club.
  - b. There are three classes of Society Membership
    - i) Single Full Membership
    - ii) Joint Full Membership – two persons from the same postal address
    - iii) Associate Membership – ability to enter Society events only, (no newsletters etc.)
  - c. New Members subscriptions are payable in the month of joining the Society. Their first renewal date will be on the first day of the thirteen month later, i.e. the membership of someone joining during the month of June will become payable on the first of July in the following year.
  - d. Renewing Member's subscriptions will then fall due each subsequent twelve months thereafter.

- e. No Member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any of the privileges of membership and if the Member shall fail to pay their outstanding subscriptions by the end of two months after it becoming due, shall then be automatically erased from the register. Acceptance back on to the register will depend upon a new application, and at the discretion of the Committee, the payment of all the arrears.

NOTE: Once Members have been accepted for membership and providing they continue to pay their membership subscriptions at the correct time they cannot be refused renewal of membership. With the exception of default on subscriptions, the only way to remove a Member from the Society's register is by following the procedure defined in paragraph ten of these Rules and Regulations.

#### 10) Expulsion of Members

Any Member who shall be suspected under Kennel Club Rule A42j(5) and/or any Member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A42j(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a Member of the Society.

If the conduct of any Member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Society, be injurious to the character or interests of the Society, the Committee of the Society 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 Society 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 advertising the place, date and hour of the Meeting that he/she may attend and offer explanation. If at the Meeting a resolution to expel is passed by a 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 Society except that he/she may, within two calendar months from the date of such Meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such condition as the Kennel Club impose.

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 seven days and supply any particulars required.

#### 11) Financial Year

The financial year of the Society shall be from 1st January to 31st December.

#### 12) Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting shall be held during March. This date to be reassessed annually, to make sure Society Members are better able to attend.

- a. There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the Society held at least once a year, to receive the report of the Committee and Financial Statements, to elect Officers and Committee Members and to discuss any resolution duly placed on the agenda of which prior notice has been given to the Hon. Secretary.
- b. Any item for inclusion on the agenda must be forwarded with the signatures of the proposer and seconder to reach the Hon. Secretary by the date specified on the nomination paper, which shall be no more than three calendar months before the Annual General Meeting.
- c. No business shall be transacted at the Annual General Meeting unless notice there of appears on the agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those which in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting are urgent.
- d. A minimum of fourteen clear days notice in writing to be given of an Annual General Meeting and the agenda to be circulated with this notice.
- e. At the Annual General Meeting a quorum shall consist of those members present after fifteen minutes have elapsed from the advertised start of the meeting.

13) Special General Meeting

A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Hon. Secretary if seven Members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so. The Committee of the Society is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting.

No business other than that detailed on the agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting. Written notification shall be sent out fourteen clear days before the Special General Meeting.

14) Amendment to Rules

The Rules of the Society may not be altered except at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, the notice of 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 will be adopted immediately.

15) Annual Returns to the Kennel Club

The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, the Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Hon. Secretary for 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 shall be forwarded to the Kennel Club.

The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary of the Society which may occur during the course of a year.

16) Kennel Club Final Authority

The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the rules of the Society in all cases relative to canine or Society matters.

17) The Society shall not join any Federation of Societies of Clubs

18) No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee of or hold any other Office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society.

19) Society Activities

All cups and trophies are the property of the Society and if awarded shall be returned at the request of the Committee. All cups and trophies must stay in the United Kingdom.

20) All press releases, public facing articles, or responses, relating to or about the Society must be pre-approved and authorised by the Chairman. The Chairman may also appoint a suitable Member or Members to look after certain aspects of promoting the Society.

21) Honorariums are to be continually assessed and discussed at Annual General Meetings until the Society has sufficient funds to support such expenditure.