

PMDC of GB Rules 2013

1. **NAME AND OBJECTS** The Club shall be called the Pyrenean Mountain Dog Club of Great Britain and shall be registered with the Kennel Club under that name. The objects of the Club shall be to encourage knowledge of the breed of dog known as the Pyrenean Mountain Dog and to maintain the standard of breeding.

2(i) **OFFICERS AND MEMBERS** The Club shall consist of an unlimited number of members and the Officers of the Club shall include a President who shall also be a Life Member, a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary and an Honorary Treasurer.

2(ii) **HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS**

The A.G.M. shall elect not more than twelve Honorary Vice-Presidents. (The title of Honorary Vice-Presidents is awarded in recognition of service to the breed). Existing Vice Presidents are automatically re-proposed. Should the club fail to hear from a vice-president for a period of 5 years their name will be automatically removed from the list of vice-presidents. Any Member wishing to propose a new name to be considered by the A.G.M. as an Honorary Vice-President shall send such a proposal to the Secretary at least two calendar months prior to the date of the A.G.M. accompanied by up to sixty words in support of such proposal. This proposal shall be included on the Agenda for the A.G.M. and if passed by a two thirds majority vote of those members attending and eligible to vote, the member thus approved shall henceforth be a Honorary Vice-President of the Club.

B) Should any member feel that a current Honorary Vice-President has acted in a manner that is inappropriate for the holder of this honour then they should write to the Secretary at least three months prior to the date of the A.G.M. stating their reasons in not more than forty words. This proposal shall be included on the Agenda for the A.G.M. (subject to legal opinion) and if passed by a straight majority the Vice-President in question shall be removed from the list of those awarded this title by the Club.

3 **COMMITTEE** The management of the Club shall (except as otherwise provided in these Rules) be in the hands of a Committee. The Committee shall consist of the President, the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer, together with 10 other members. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Club shall be Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively of the Committee. Six members of the Committee, of which one must be an Officer, shall form a quorum. The Committee shall have power to co-opt from among the members of the Club to fill vacancies or for any other purpose and shall have power to appoint Sub-Committees. The Committee shall meet at least once every six months to examine the accounts and to arrange the affairs of the Club.

4 **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

(i) The President shall be elected every five years and their Committee attendance shall be optional, The Officers (except the Vice-Presidents) and the Committee to be elected by postal ballot to be held during the first three months of each year. Nominations shall be signed by two Club members other than the nominee and shall be accompanied with the Nominee's written agreement to accept nomination together with a statement not exceeding 60 words signed by the nominee explaining in the case of those not already on the committee, his/her qualifications for the post for which he/she is nominated. Current Committee members should detail their contribution to the Club and during the preceding year qualifications for the post, again with a statement not exceeding sixty words.

ii) Nominees and nominations shall be full members who have been members of the Club for not less than 12 calendar months on 1st January of the year in which the ballot is held. Nominations shall be

sent to the Secretary not later than a date specified of which at least two weeks notice shall be given, and the Secretary shall accept every nomination which does not contravene these Rules.

iii) Each retiring Officer or Committee member shall be deemed to have been nominated for re-election unless he/she has informed the Secretary that he/she will not accept nomination, or unless he/she has been absent from half the Committee meetings of which he/she has received notice during the 12 months preceding the date set for receipt of nominations. (Except in exceptional circumstances).

iv) The Secretary shall send to each full member a ballot paper which shall list the names and addresses of the nominees, the names of their nominators and the statement of qualifications. Candidates for contested offices shall be deemed to have been nominated also for a seat on the Committee and votes cast for them in the latter capacity shall be counted if they are not elected to an office for which they have been nominated. The ballot shall be controlled by the Club's Scrutineer who alone shall receive and see the voting papers. The result of the ballot shall be announced at the Annual General Meeting of that year and those elected shall thereupon take office and subject to termination of office by resignation or otherwise shall remain in office until the announcement of their successors at the next following Annual General Meeting.

v) Any Officer or Committee member during his/her period of office shall not serve as an Officer or Committee member or run any event for any other Pyrenean Mountain Dog Club registered with the Kennel Club

5. **BANKRUPTCY** No person, whilst an undischarged bankrupt, may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society

6 **MEMBERSHIP** a) Any person interested in the Pyrenean Mountain Dog, whether an owner or not, shall be eligible for membership provided that his/her application for membership has been made in writing to the Secretary accompanied by his/her first subscription and is not been rejected by the Committee. If the application is not so rejected the Secretary shall notify the applicant in writing of his admission to membership, furnish him/her with a copy of the Rules and issue receipt for his/her subscription. If the application is rejected the Secretary shall inform the applicant and shall return to him/her the money paid as subscription.

b) A member who joins before his/her 16th birthday shall be a Junior member and shall not be entitled to vote in the election of Officers and Committee nor upon any motion at the General Meeting of the Club. All other persons for the purpose of these Rules shall be full members. A Junior shall not become a full member until his/her 16th birthday or until he/she has paid a full members subscription whichever is the later but he/she shall be liable to pay a full members subscription on the first occasion on which his/her subscription falls due after his/her 16th birthday.

c) Any full member may be elected a Life Member by a two thirds majority of those entitled to vote and voting at an Annual General Meeting of the Club but he/she shall not thereby cease to be a full member. Two members of the same family or two people owning one or more dogs in partnership may be joint members for the purpose of Rule 6 but each member of such joint membership shall nevertheless be a Junior or a full member as defined in this Rule. A Life member shall not be a member of a joint membership. The title of Life member is awarded in recognition of service to the Club.

d). The Club will make a list of members and their addresses available for inspection if so requested by the members of the Club or by the Kennel Club.

7 **SUBSCRIPTIONS** There shall be two classes of membership Single at £14.00 and Joint at £15.00. Overseas members to pay £5.00 extra if receiving newsletter by post . A surcharge of which the amount shall be determined from time to time by the Committee shall be added to the subscriptions payable by members residing outside Europe to defray the extra postal charges incurred in serving such members. All subscriptions are payable to the Honorary Treasurer on the 1st January each year, and if the relevant subscription has not been paid by the 1st February in the same year, the membership will be deemed to have lapsed. Thereafter, any person wishing to enjoy the privileges of membership must make a fresh application as if for a new membership, which will be subject to the procedure outlined in Rule 6.a. Notwithstanding the foregoing a first subscription received during the last three months of a year shall be deemed to include the subscription for the whole of the next following year.

8 **RESIGNATION** Any member may resign his/her membership by giving notice to the Secretary in writing to that effect provided that if notice be given after 1st January in any year he/she shall be liable to pay his/her subscription for that year.

9 **EXPULSION.** A) Any member who shall be suspended under Kennel Club Rule A42j(4) and/or any member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A42j(8) shall, ipso facto, cease to be a member of the Society for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification. If the conduct of any member shall in the opinion of the Committee of the Club be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Club or the breed, the Committee of the Club 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 Club 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 advising him/her of the place, date and hour of the meeting so that he/she may attend and offer an 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 be forthwith erased from the list of members and he/she shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a member of the Club, except that he/she may within 2 calendar months from the date of such meeting appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose.

B) 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.

10 **EFFECT OF CEASING TO BE A MEMBER** Any person on ceasing to be a member of the Club shall forfeit any right to and claim upon the Club its property and funds arising solely from his/her membership.

11 **CLUB ACCOUNTS** A banking account shall be opened in the name of the Club into which all revenues of the Club shall be paid The Banking Account shall be operated by the Honorary Treasurer for the time being. Cheques shall be signed or endorsed on behalf of the Club by any two members of a

panel of three signatories, the panel to be appointed annually by the Committee from amongst the President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer for the time being. The Accounts of the Club shall be kept by the Honorary Treasurer and shall as soon as practicable after the end of the financial year The accounts will be certified annually and presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting . Certification of Accounts must be carried out by one qualified Accountant or two unqualified individuals with accountancy experience. However a full audit can be called for at the discretion of the Committee or by the membership at an Annual General Meeting or at a Special General

Meeting. The financial year for the Club shall end on 31st December each year, to which day the accounts of the Club shall be balanced.

12 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held before May 31st in each year, upon a date and time to be fixed by the Committee for the following purposes:-

a) To receive from the Committee a report, balance sheet and statement of accounts for the preceding financial year and an estimate of the receipts and expenditure for the current financial year.

b) To consider and, if approved, sanction any duly made alteration to the Rules.

c) To elect or re-elect Vice-Presidents and to receive the results of the postal ballot for the Officers and Committee.

d) To deal with any special matter which the Committee desires to bring before the members and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the Committee and to discuss any matter of which prior notice shall have been given to the Secretary.

Notice convening the General Meeting shall be sent to the members not less than 14 days before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with. No business shall be transacted at an Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof appears on the Agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those which, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, are urgent.

13 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING A Special General Meeting may be convened at any time by the Committee and shall be convened within 21 days from the receipt by the Secretary of a requisition in writing signed by not less than 25 full members specifying the object of the meeting, for any of the following purposes:-

a) To consider, and if approved, sanction any duly made alteration of the Rules.

b) To deal with any special matter which the Committee may desire to place before the members including the expulsion of a member.

c) To receive the resignation of the Committee or to remove any member or members thereof from office and to fill any vacancy or vacancies caused thereby.

d) To deal with any special matter which the members requiring the Meeting may desire to place before the Club.

Notice convening the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the members not less than 14 days before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with. No business other than that named in the notice shall be brought before a Special General Meeting.

14 CHAIR AND VOTING At all General Meetings of the Club the President or in his/her absence the Chairman or in the absence of both of them then the Vice-Chairman shall take the chair. Every member present entitled to vote shall have one vote upon every motion and in the case of equality of votes the Officer in the Chair shall have a second or casting vote.

15. ALTERATION OF RULES The Rules of the Society may not be altered by that Society except at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting notice of which includes details of the proposal to alter the Rules . Such alterations shall not be brought into force until the KC has been advised and given its approval to the alterations. New Rules introduced specifically to meet the Kennel Club's requirements shall be adopted immediately and be included in the Society's Constitution with effect from the Society's Annual Meeting. No business shall be transacted at an Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof appears on the Agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those which in the

opinion of the Chairman of the meeting are urgent. For the purpose of this Rule the Code of Practice shall be deemed to be a part of these Rules.

16. **SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES** Any dispute or difference which may arise as to the meaning or interpretation of these Rules or as to the powers or proceedings of the Officers or the Committee may be submitted to and determined by the Kennel Club whose decision shall be final and binding upon all members of the Club.

17 **CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP** Every member shall be bound by and submit to these Rules and the current issue of the Code of Practice which shall for all purposes be part of these Rules. A member shall not by reason of his/her membership be under any financial liability except for payment of his/her annual subscription.

18 **NOTICES**

All notices required by these Rules to be given to members of the Club may be given by email to all members currently taking their newsletter by email, to all other members, by pre-paid letter addressed to a member at the last address which he/she has furnished to the Secretary and shall be deemed to have been given at the expiration of 48 hours after the posting of the letter except for addresses outside the United Kingdom. Members must furnish the Secretary with any change of address.

19 **PROPERTY OF THE CLUB** The property of the Club shall be vested in the Committee. The donor of any property shall be required to sign a paper acknowledging that such property is an outright gift to the Club

20 **FEDERATIONS** The Club shall not join any federation of Societies or Clubs.

21 **DISSOLUTION** If at any General Meeting a resolution for the dissolution of the Club shall be passed by a majority of the members present and such resolution shall at a Special General Meeting held not less than one month thereafter at which not less than one half of the members shall be present be confirmed by a resolution passed by a majority of two thirds of the members entitled to vote and voting thereon, the Committee shall thereupon or at such future date as shall be specified in such resolution proceed to realise the property of the Club and after discharge of all liability shall dispose of the assets as decided upon by the members.

If the Society is wound up or ceases to be a Registered Society under Kennel Club Regulations, a final statement of audited 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 on the last return as furnished to the Kennel Club, will be held responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the Society

22. **LIST OF APPROVED JUDGES** The Committee shall as often as required and in any case at least once a year prepare a List of Approved Judges of the Breed, which shall distinguish the judges approved for Championship Shows from those approved for Open Shows only

All aspirant judges wishing to be included in the Judges' List or existing judges seeking promotion within the Judges' List may apply, in writing, to the Secretary. Aspirant judges or judges seeking promotion will be provided with a copy of the Judge's CV Questionnaire, by the Secretary.

On receipt of a completed Judge's CV Questionnaire, the Secretary will submit it to the Committee for consideration, as soon as practical thereafter.

Once considered by the Committee for inclusion, or promotion, in the Judges' List the Secretary shall notify the outcome to the aspirant judge. Amendments to the Judges' List shall be announced to the members as soon as possible.

23 ANNUAL RETURNS TO THE KENNEL CLUB (note; In this Rule only, the word "Officers" means " The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer"). The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary for the continuance of registration and that by 31st July each year, other returns, as stipulated in Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Titles of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities, will be forwarded to the Kennel Club. The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any change of Secretary of the Society which may occur during the course of the year.

PYRENEAN MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN GENERAL CODE OF ETHICS

All members of the PYRENEAN MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN undertake to abide by its general Code of Ethics. Items 1 – 14 are also mandated by The Kennel Club.

SectionOne

- 1) Will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
- 2) Will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, may report such operation to the Kennel Club.
- 3) Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
- 4) Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
- 5) Will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
- 6) Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.
- 7) Will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
- 8) Will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
- 9) Will clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
- 10) Will only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and will help with the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change.
- 11) Will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.

- 12) Will ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents at the earliest opportunity, if not immediately available.
- 13) Will not sell any dog to commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. Will not sell by sale or auction Kennel Club registration certificates as stand alone items (not accompanying a dog).
- 14) Will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise dogs nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog.

Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.

Section Two; all Club members MUST follow these procedures ; - (This to include partnerships where both signatures are applicable in canine affairs

15. Each member/breeder shall plan each mating with the paramount intention of maintaining the standard of the Breed and shall breed only when he/she is in a position to give proper care to both bitch and offspring

Breeders shall only breed from stock which is free from known defects such as monorchidism, cryptochidism, entropion ectropian etc. As black pigmentation is a requirement of the breed only animals with apparently good pigmentation should be used in breeding

No puppy shall leave the breeder until it is 8 weeks old and exports must comply with DEFRA regulations. Upon releasing the puppy, the breeder shall follow these guidelines.

He/she shall supply a pedigree of at least four generations.

He/she shall provide written instructions on the future care of the puppy, along with a diet sheet giving details of how the puppy has been reared and fed and must provide a "Club Puppy Pack" which consists of a copy of The Pyrenean Mountain Dog Handbook together with current information sheets on the use of anaesthetics, owning a Pyrenean puppy. It is advised that additional information would be gained by reading the book entitled "The Pyrenean Mountain Dog" which gives full information on all aspects of Pyrenean ownership. *

He/she must stress the importance of worming and inoculations and shall provide records from the attending veterinary surgeon detailing inoculations given, including their dates and type of vaccine used and the date on which any future inoculations are due.

In all their activities within the breed, members should have uppermost in their minds that the Club exists to maintain the standard of breeding, and conduct of members.

The more experienced owners and breeders shall be ready to give advice and assistance to members who seek it and shall make their knowledge and experience available for the good of the breed.

20. Members must recognise their responsibility to protect the reputation of the Breed and shall not allow their dogs to roam at large unsupervised, or to become a public nuisance, or to be a charge upon an Animal Rescue Society or Dogs Home.

21. In all questions of ethics relating to the Breed, whether covered by this Code or not, each member shall act solely in the best interests of the Breed and shall willingly help any Pyrenean owner to uphold those interests

22. No owner shall actively encourage, advertise or assist in any way the use of the Breed in Great Britain as stock guardians for commercial purposes or the use as a guard dog for commercial premises..
23. All members must ensure that registration of their puppies is accurate and any information reported to the Committee which casts doubt upon any registration or pedigree shall be reported to the Kennel Club.
24. No bitch shall be mated before it is twenty four months old, nor should a stud dog owner allow his/her dog to be used on a bitch that is less than twenty four months old. In addition, a bitch should not be mated after its seventh birthday.
25. No bitch shall be mated if the puppies will be born within twelve months of its last litter, and similarly no stud dog owner should allow their dog to be used for such a mating without first ascertaining the date of any previous whelping from the bitch involved.
34. A maiden bitch should not be mated after her fifth birthday without veterinary advice being sought.

Section Three All members are recommended to abide by the following;

26. Each member who breeds from his/her bitch or uses his/her dog at stud shall keep accurate records of stock, matings and pedigrees.
27. Each breeder shall select sire and dam with an eye to conformation and temperament after a careful study of the Breed Standard, the relevant pedigrees and the basic principles of genetics. Each stud dog owner will satisfy him/herself as to the suitability of the bitch and acknowledge their joint responsibility for the resultant litter.
28. It is strongly recommended that all potential breeding stock be examined under the BVA/KC scheme for the control of Hip-Dysplasia whilst taking into account of the advice of the Club's information leaflet on anaesthetics available from the Secretary.
29. For his/her own protection and that of his/her buyers, the breeder should provide proof of sale and of any guarantees given. Further, it is recommended that breeders obtain individual Certificates of Health of their puppies as near as possible to the date the puppies are due to leave.
30. Breeders are recommended to have all puppies tattooed, or microchipped, or any other acceptable means of identification to help reduce the possibility of Pyreneans being abandoned without any means of their owner/breeder being identified.
31. It is strongly recommended that breeders selling puppies primarily to pet homes should consider, when registering their puppies, using the Kennel Club endorsement R with a view to controlling the perpetuation of serious faults in our breed.
32. A puppy may be sold without registration papers provided it is understood and agreed to in writing by both parties.
33. Each breeder should safeguard his/her bitches from matings which are not carefully planned.

IMPLEMENTATION .

35. Any member wishing to report an infraction of this Code shall do so in writing to the Secretary and shall include supporting evidence in writing.
36. On receiving such report the Secretary shall submit it to the Committee. If the Committee decides that it is of sufficient substance to warrant investigation the Secretary shall communicate its content to the alleged offender, inviting his/her comments in writing, to be received by the Secretary within one month. This shall be communicated to the Committee as soon as possible. If no such reply is received then the matter will be brought before the next A.G.M for their decision as to what further actions the Committee should take. The alleged offender, whether a Committee member or not may apply to attend the relevant part of a Committee meeting to support their written response. Following each attendance neither the alleged offender nor the complainant shall be present during the Committee's discussion on the alleged complaint and shall only receive the Committee's decision. If the alleged offender or the complainant is an Officer or Committee member he/she will be required to retire from the Committee meeting for the duration of the discussion. If a complaint is upheld under Section Two the member shall be informed in writing that the infringement has been proven and the letter constitutes and contains a severe reprimand and warning to future behaviour. This action will be retained in the Club's records and if any subsequent complaint is also upheld then the Committee shall use its discretion in deciding what action to take and in appropriate cases initiate action in accordance with Rule 9 of the Club Rules.
37. Any complaint must refer to infringements that occurred during the previous two years.

NOTE:- Puppy packs are available from the Club Secretary and shall comprise A Pyrenean Mountain Dog Handbook, current leaflets on Anaesthetics advice and owning a Pyrenean Puppy, and Items related to the Club.

