

**Rules of**

**The New Zealand**

**Gundog Trial Association (Inc.)**

20 January 2021

## NZGTA Rules

## **Foreword**

The New Zealand Gundog Trial Association (Inc.), until 1987 known as the Dominion Gundog Trial Association (Inc.) and formerly the New Zealand Kennel Club Gun Dog Trial Executive, is associated to the New Zealand Kennel Club (Inc.) under the terms and conditions laid down concerning the establishment of the Association by the Kennel Club on 26th May, 1936. 'Limited' N.Z.K.C. membership has been approved to any person who is a financial member of the Association. This membership entitles only such rights and privileges as participating in Field Trial Championships, being appointed to the Field Trial Judges Panel and being able to transfer a registered dog. It means that such members are subject to the Disciplinary Rules of the N.Z.K.C. Association members desirous of additional rights and privileges afforded through the N.Z.K.C. i.e. Registration of dogs/litters, to enter a dog in a championship show, etc., must apply for full membership and pay the normal subscription.

In addition to this 'limited' membership, the Association itself has the privilege of being represented at Annual Conferences or Special General Meetings by the President and three zonal delegates, and to submit remits for consideration at these meetings. The Executive Council of the N.Z.K.C. further delegated power, under approved Rules and Regulations to the Association Executive for the Conduct and Control of Field and Water Trials for purebred gun dogs. Such authority includes responsibility for the formulation and implementation of Rules and Regulations for Championship Trials, the setting of the types of, and standard of points for field trials, the issue of Challenge Points and recognition of Field Trial Champions and Field Champions, the testing for and issue of Qualifying Certificates. The Council retained the right to designate the breeds of dogs deemed 'Gun Dogs' for trialling purposes and in stipulating the requirement for such dogs to be registered with the Kennel Club.

## **Rules**

### **1. Name**

The Name of the Association shall be the "New Zealand Gundog Trial Association Incorporated" (hereinafter called "The Association").

### **2. Objects**

- a. To promote, foster, and regulate the conduct Gundog Trials throughout New Zealand, under the authority of the New Zealand Kennel Club, of which the Association forms part.
- b. To promote the holding of Gundog Championship Trials, and to regulate the allocation of such Championships.
- c. To make Rules and Regulations for the proper carrying out of these objects.

### **3. Membership**

- a. The Association shall consist of the members of the Affiliated Clubs holding Gundog Field Trials under the Rules and Regulations of the Association.
- b. New Clubs desiring to affiliate with the Association may, on giving one (1) month's prior notice in writing, be affiliated at an Annual General Meeting; or their affiliation may be approved by the Executive, subject to confirmation at the next Annual General Meeting.
- c. Members of Affiliated Clubs shall be deemed to be members of the Association and members of Clubs applying for affiliation shall be deemed to be members upon affiliation.
- d. Honorary Life Members: Persons recommended by the Executive as having done outstanding work for the Association or Gundog Trials generally may be elected honorary life members of the Association at an Annual

General Meeting. Any individual or club nominating any person for consideration as an Honorary Life Member must submit a written resume detailing the relevant history of the nominee to the Executive.

#### **4. Annual Subscription**

- a. Every Affiliated Club shall on the 1st September each year pay to the Association the sum of \$50, or such sum as decided upon by the Annual Meeting, as its affiliation fee for the following year (normal calendar year). Any club that has not paid its affiliation fee by 1<sup>st</sup> October that year shall be deemed un-financial and shall not be entitled to vote at the AGM or hold championship field trials in the following normal calendar year.
- b. Insurance Levy - Every Affiliated Club shall on the 1st September each year pay to the Association the appropriate share of the annual insurance account for the following calendar year. Any club that has not paid its insurance levy by 1<sup>st</sup> October that year shall be deemed un-financial and shall not be entitled to hold field trials or club events for the following calendar year.

#### **5. Resignation of Affiliated Clubs**

Any Affiliated Club may resign from its affiliation by giving the Secretary of the Association not less than one (1) month's notice to that effect, and paying its affiliation fees, levies and other monies due and fulfilling all its obligations under these rules, up to the date of its resignation. In the event of resignation of any affiliated club the assets, after payment of liabilities, shall be paid to the Association and held in trust for 10 years.

#### **6. Disaffiliation of Clubs**

If in the opinion of the Association it is desirable that any Affiliated Club should be disaffiliated, the Association may, by

a majority of three-fourths of the votes of the delegates present at any Annual General Meeting, remove such club from the register of affiliated clubs on the books of the Association. Members of such club shall thereupon cease to be members of the Association unless they are a financial member of another affiliated club.

## **7. Notice of Disaffiliation**

Notice shall be sent to the Club in question at the latter's last known address and may be sent to any or every other Affiliated Club.

**8. Assets after disaffiliation:** In the event of disaffiliation of any club the assets, after payment of liabilities, shall be paid to the Association and held in trust for 10 years.

## **9. Officers**

- a. The officers of the Association shall be a Patron(s), Executive Committee, Secretary- Treasurer and Field Trial Secretary, notwithstanding that the position of Field Trial Secretary can also be held by the Secretary-Treasurer.
- b. The Executive Committee shall comprise the President (who shall be chairperson), and six members, of whom three shall reside in the North Island and three in the South Island, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting in each year, and shall hold office until retirement, or removal from office or the election of successors in office.
- c. The affairs of the Association shall be administered by the Executive Committee.
- d. The Executive Committee shall be elected from members of the Association duly nominated in writing, signed by the President and Secretary of an Affiliated Club or by any two members of the Association, the nomination paper to be in the hands of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Association not less than 12 weeks

before the Annual Meeting, and the names of those nominated shall be sent to Affiliated Clubs with the notice of business for that meeting. In the event of insufficient nominations being received, candidates to fill the vacancies may be nominated and elected from amongst those members present at the Annual General Meeting.

- e. The Secretary-Treasurer and Field Trial Secretary shall be elected at an AGM and duly nominated in writing, signed by the President and Secretary of an Affiliated Club or by any two members of the Association, the nomination paper to be in the hands of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Association not less than 12 weeks before the Annual Meeting, and the names of those nominated shall be sent to Affiliated Clubs with the notice of business for that meeting. In the event of insufficient nominations being received, candidates to fill this vacancy may be nominated and elected by those members present at the Annual General Meeting.
- f. After the Annual General Meeting, at the first meeting of the elected Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall elect a Vice President from within the Executive Committee.

## **10. Casual Vacancies**

The Executive Committee shall have power to appoint a member to fill any casual vacancy on the Executive to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.

## **11. Administration** The affairs of the Association shall be administered by the Executive Committee.

## **12. Financial and Trials Year**

The financial year shall begin on 1st day of September and end on the 31st day of August in the year next following. The trials

year shall be the normal calendar year commencing 1st day of January and ending 31st day of December the same year.

### **13. General Meeting**

- a. A general meeting of the Association shall consist of the Executive Committee and one delegate from each Affiliated Club.
- b. A Delegate appointed by an Affiliated Club for this purpose may attend and vote at a general meeting of the Association. A member of the Executive Committee who is not also a delegate, may speak at a general meeting but shall not be entitled to vote.
- c. All appointments of delegates shall be advised in writing from the Secretary of the Club they represent to the Secretary of the Association prior to the commencement of the meeting.
- d. No delegate to a general meeting may represent or vote for more than one Affiliated Club.
- e. No delegate from a Club which is in default in payment of its affiliation fee or any other money due to the Association shall vote at any general meeting until such payment is made.
- f. Any club unable to send a delegate to any meeting in another Island may vote on matters arising by sending their vote to the Secretary of the Association at least 7 days before the meeting. The vote must come from the Secretary of that club.

### **14. Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held at such date during the month of October in each year and at such time and place as the Executive shall from time to time determine. The Secretary of the Association is to notify all Affiliated Clubs by post or email of such meeting.

### **15. Special General Meetings**

The Executive Committee may from time to time convene a Special General Meeting at such convenient place and time as the Executive shall decide. The Executive shall convene a special general meeting upon the requisition in writing of any five Affiliated Clubs stating the purpose of which such special meeting is required. Voting shall be the same as at Annual General Meetings. The Secretary of the Association shall notify all Affiliated Clubs by post or email of such meeting.

## **16. Notice of Business**

- a. The Order of Business for every Annual or Special General Meeting shall be prepared by the Executive.
- b. In the case of an Annual General Meeting the order paper shall include;
  - i. A report of the proceedings of the Association during the year;
  - ii. A balance sheet and Statement of Receipts and Expenditure which have been reviewed by an independent, qualified accountant, approved by the Executive;
  - iii. The election of officers for the ensuing year;
  - iv. Any remits and recommendations forwarded to the Association by an Affiliated Club not later than 12 weeks before the day for holding the Annual General Meeting;
  - v. Any remits and recommendations put forward by the Executive;
  - vi. Any further business which concerns the Association.
- c. Not less than 21 days before the Annual General Meeting a notice thereof and of the business (so far as is available) to be transacted thereat (together with a copy of the remits and recommendations received in the case of the Annual General Meeting) shall be sent to every Affiliated Club.

## **17. Procedure at General Meeting**

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- a. At all General Meetings the President shall be Chairperson. Should the President be absent, or unable, or unwilling to take the chair, the Executive Committee shall appoint someone to chair the meeting in his/her place.
- b. On all questions whether upon an election or consideration of a motion, or amendment every representative of an Affiliated Club lawfully present shall be entitled to one vote to be exercised in person but not by proxy.
- c. The election of the Executive Committee shall be conducted by secret ballot. Scrutineers to be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.
- d. On all other questions voting shall be by voice, or by show of hands if called for by one person present, or by secret ballot if demanded by not less than five persons present.
- e. On all questions the President or other person occupying the chair shall have a deliberative vote and in the case of equality of votes he/she shall have a further casting vote.
- f. At all General Meetings ten persons shall constitute a quorum.

## **18. Procedure at Executive Meetings**

- a. The Executive Committee shall meet at such times and places as may be directed by the President or by a majority of members of the Executive.
- b. At all meetings of the Executive voting shall be by voice, or if called for by one member by a show of hands.
- c. On all questions the President or Chairperson for the time being shall have a deliberative vote, and in the case of equality of votes he/ she shall have a further casting vote.
- d. At all Executive Meetings four members shall constitute a quorum.

- e. A motion approved by the President and submitted in writing by the Secretary of the Association to all members of the Executive shall, if approved by a majority of the Executive, be deemed to be a valid resolution and be recorded in the minute book of the Association accordingly.
- f. Any Executive Committee member in New Zealand shall be given notice of a meeting either by letter, email, facsimile, or telephone but it shall not be necessary to give notice of a meeting of the Executive Committee to any Executive Committee Member for the time being absent from New Zealand. There shall be no time within which such notice shall be given and the failure to give or non-receipt of such notice to or by any member shall not invalidate any meeting of the Executive Committee. A meeting of the Executive Committee at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any authorities, powers and discretions by or under this Constitution for the time being vested in or exercisable by the Executive Committee generally.
- g. For the purposes of this Constitution the Executive Committee may conduct the business of the Executive Committee by:
  - i. Unanimously assenting to a resolution (or resolutions) by written electronic communication, and any such resolution(s) may consist of several documents in like form, and at a subsequent meeting of the Executive Committee, confirming the resolution(s) and entering in the minute book of the proceedings, or
  - ii. The contemporaneous linking together by simultaneous audio or audio and visual means of a number of the Executive Committee not less than the quorum, whether or not any one or more of the Executive Committee is out of New Zealand, and such communication shall be deemed to constitute

a meeting of the Executive Committee and all the provisions in this Constitution as to meetings of the Executive Committee shall apply to such meetings by telephone or by simultaneous audio or audio and visual means so long as the following conditions are met:

- a. All the Executive Committee for the time being entitled to receive notice of a meeting shall be entitled to notice of such a meeting and to be linked by such means for the purposes of such meeting. Notice of any meeting may be given by such means, and
- b. Each of the Executive Committee Members taking part in such a meeting must be able to hear each of the other members taking part from the commencement of the meeting and throughout it, and
- c. At the commencement of the meeting each member must acknowledge his or her presence for the purposes of a meeting of the Executive Council to all the other members taking part, and
- d. A member may not leave the meeting by disconnecting, unless he or she has previously obtained the express consent of the President or Chairperson of the meeting, and a member shall be conclusively presumed to have been present and to have formed part of the quorum at all times during such a meeting, unless he or she has previously obtained the express consent of the chairperson to leave the meeting as aforesaid, and
- e. A minute of the proceedings at such a meeting shall be sufficient evidence of such proceedings and of the observance of all necessary formalities if certified as a correct minute by the chairperson of the meeting.

## **19. Powers of the Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee shall have the power to:

- a. To decide any question not covered by these Rules and the Regulations hereunder, and to rule on the interpretation thereof;
- b. To consider and settle disputes between clubs and members of clubs;
- c. To admit as a "Club" for the purpose of these Rules any club or society which proposes to hold gundog trials pursuant to these Rules. Such admission shall be subject to the approval of the next Annual General Meeting;
- d. Generally to control all championship and other gundog trial meetings;
- e. To allocate or approve all championship trial dates and to approve of the grounds over which such trials are to be conducted;
- f. To hear and decide all disputes arising out of Gundog trial affairs;

The Common Seal is to be held in the custody of the Secretary of the Association. It is to be attached to certificates won by dogs for Field Trial Champions, Grand Field Trial Champions, Field Champions or Grand Field Champions. The certificate is to be signed by the President and the Secretary.

## **20. Funds**

- a. The funds of the Association shall be under the control of the Executive. Investments may be made by direction of the Executive as it may from time to time determine. Cheques or Electronic Payments will be signed by any two of either the President, Secretary of the Association or an Executive member nominated by the Executive.

- b. No member or person associated with a member of the organisation shall derive any income, benefit or advantage from the organisation where they can materially influence the payment of income, benefit or advantage. Except where that income, benefit or advantage is derived from:
  - (i) Professional services to the organisation rendered in the course of business charged at no greater rate than current market rates; or
  - (ii) Interest on money lent at no greater rate than current market rates.

## **21. Property**

No member ceasing from any cause to be a member of any Affiliated Club ceasing from any cause to be affiliated shall have any claim whatever upon the funds or property of the Association.

## **22. Dissolution**

In the event of the dissolution or winding-up of the Association, the surplus assets thereof (after payment of liabilities) shall be transferred to the New Zealand Kennel Club.

No addition to or alteration of the pecuniary profit clause or the winding up clause shall be approved without the Inland Revenue Department's approval. No addition to or alteration or recession of the rules shall be approved if it affects the pecuniary profit clause or winding up clause.

## **23. Alteration of Rules**

The Rules of the Association may be altered, added to, or rescinded by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of those who vote at any Special General or Annual Meeting; but not less than 12 weeks' notice in writing of the proposed alteration, specifying the rule or rules proposed to be altered, shall be given previously to the Secretary of the Association, who shall notify such proposed alteration in the circular calling the meeting, and shall forward a copy of such proposed

alteration or alterations to each Affiliated Club or Society twenty-one clear days before the meeting.

#### **24. Field Trials**

All field trials held by Affiliated Clubs shall be held under the Rules and Regulations of the Association.

#### **25. Regulations**

The Executive shall have power to make, amend or cancel Regulations for the conduct of Field Trials. Regulations for various breeds, and for registration of gundogs.

#### **26. Contingencies**

Any matters or questions not covered by these Rules and Regulations made thereunder, shall be dealt with by the Executive, as nearly as may be in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the N.Z. Kennel Club.