

# *EASTERN COUNTIES CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL SOCIETY*

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## ***RULES OF THE EASTERN COUNTIES CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL SOCIETY.***

### **1. NAME AND OBJECTS**

The Society shall be called the Eastern Counties Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Society and its objects shall be to promote and improve the Breed within the Eastern Counties by organising shows, social and educational events; and maintaining registers of stud dogs, stock for sale, and qualified judges. Members of the Society are expected to read and abide by the Society's Code of Ethics.

### **2. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

The Society shall consist of President, Vice-Presidents (unlimited in number), Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, a Committee of nine and an unlimited number of Members. Founder Members of the Society shall be residents of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Cambridgeshire or neighbouring Counties. Ordinary Membership is open to any interested persons, subject to the provisos of Rule 4. "No member of the Society will be eligible to stand for election as an Officer, or member of the Committee, if he or she is already an Officer, member of Committee or Secretary of another Cavalier Breed Club in the U.K.

Should any Officer or member of the Committee be elected an Officer or Committee member of any other Cavalier breed Club in the UK, he/she shall immediately resign from his/her office or Committee membership in this Society.

### **3. COMMITTEE**

Subject to the Proviso of Rule 4, the management of the Society shall be in the hands of a Committee consisting of Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and nine Members. The President and any Vice Presidents shall hold office for a term of five years. When a new President or Vice President is required, the Committee will choose their candidate and inform the membership prior to the AGM. If any member wishes to propose another candidate, and provided they have a seconder and the agreement of the candidate, they must inform the Secretary in writing at least 21 days before the next AGM and a ballot will be held at the AGM. Presidents and Vice Presidents may attend Committee meetings if they so desire and their vote will count if they are in attendance. The Chairman, Honorary Secretary, and Honorary Treasurer shall be ex-officio Members of the Committee. The Officers and Committee Members shall seek re-election on a rota basis, with one Officer and three Committee Members seeking re-election each year. Any person having been elected at an AGM to replace a Committee Member not completing a 3 year term, shall complete the remaining term of the person so replaced. In the event of more than one Committee vacancy so arising the number of votes cast shall determine which of the vacancies a new Committee Member will occupy. With the candidate receiving the most votes, occupying the place of the person with the longer term to be served. Nominations for Officers and Members of the Committee to be made in each case by two ordinary or honorary Members, with the agreement of the Nominee and should reach the Secretary at least twenty-one days before the meeting. All nominations need to be ordinary or honorary members of the Society.

A casual vacancy on the committee may be filled by the Committee, the person so co-opted to serve until the next AGM, when they shall be required to be proposed and seconded as nominees for the committee. Any such vacancy shall first be offered to those persons in order of voting who were proposed and seconded for election to the Committee at the preceding AGM but failed to be elected at that AGM. The Committee may from time to time co-opt an additional member on an Honorary basis solely for the purposes of rescue. This additional member will be ex-officio and will be entitled to attend all Committee meetings but will only be able to be involved with deliberations relating to

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rescue. The Committee shall be able to revoke the appointment at any time and for any reason.

The Committee shall have meetings as often as may be deemed necessary and five Members shall form a Quorum for the transaction of business.

**4. MEMBERSHIP**

**The Society shall consist of Associate Members, Ordinary Members, Honorary Members and Junior Members**

**ELECTION OF MEMBERS**

All candidates over 18 shall first become Associate Members of the Society for this they can be self nominated. They shall remain Associate Members for a period of 2 years after which they may apply for Ordinary Membership, and shall be proposed by one ordinary or honorary Member and seconded by another to whom they are personally known; and elected by or balloted for by the Committee at one of their meetings. A two-thirds majority of Committee Members at that meeting is necessary for election to Ordinary Membership. Persons under 18 are eligible for election as Junior Members. The Society will maintain a list of Associate Members, Ordinary Members, Honorary Members, and Junior members and their addresses, and will make this list available for inspection if so requested by Members of the Society or by the Kennel Club. Voting rights: each Ordinary Member and Honorary Member shall be entitled to one vote immediately upon acceptance to Ordinary Membership, i.e. Junior members, and Associate Members will not be entitled to vote, whereas joint Ordinary Memberships will have one vote for each member of the partnership.

**5. SUBSCRIPTION**

The annual subscription shall be £8.00 joint Membership £6.00 single Membership and £2.00 junior Membership or such other sums as the Committee may decide, payable to the Honorary Treasurer on the 1st January each year. No member whose subscription is unpaid shall be entitled to any of the privileges of Membership, and if any Member shall fail to pay the annual subscription by 1st March, the Committee shall have the power to erase their name from the list of Members, but if the Committee shall subsequently receive a satisfactory explanation the Member may, at the discretion of the Committee and on payment of arrears, be re-admitted to Membership.

**6. CLUB PROPERTY**

The property of the Society shall be vested in the Committee and in the event of the Society ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of any assets. Any Cups donated by Members of the Society are deemed to be given outright to the Society and be the absolute property of the Society, unless any direction to the contrary is made at the time of the gift.

**7. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS**

Any Member who shall be suspended by the Kennel Club rule A11j and/or any member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A11j 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 Society be injurious or likely to 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.

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Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused Member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising of the place, date and hour of the Meeting that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at that 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 may impose.

**8 GENERAL BUSINESS**

The Financial Year of the Society shall be from 1st November to 31st October. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in 1<sup>st</sup> quarter for the following purposes:

To receive the report of the Committee and Balance Sheet, to elect Officers, and to discuss any resolution duly placed on the Agenda of which prior notice has been given to the Hon. Secretary. 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.

The election of Officers and Committee shall be elected by postal vote held prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Subject to the provisions of rule 4: A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Hon. Secretary if 10% of Members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed; no business other than the matter on the Agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting. The Committee of the Society is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting. Members will receive 14 days notice of a General Meeting. The Rules of the Society shall not be altered except at a General Meeting or Special General Meeting. Any alterations to the Rules shall not be brought into force until the Kennel Club has been advised and given its approval of the alterations.

In the event of any contingency not provided for in the Rules, the Committee shall have power to deal with the matter as they think fit.

Voting for any item at AGM & SGM's shall only be carried by a 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s majority.

**9. CLUB ACCOUNTS**

The Committee may at its discretion establish and maintain various bank accounts and investments for such purposes as it shall think fit. The title of each account should describe the nature to which monies are raised and spent, withdrawals shall only be made on the signature of two or more Officers, one of whom shall be the Treasurer.

The accounts shall be kept by the Treasurer, and the Committee will ensure that the accounts are independently examined for the ensuing year before the Annual General Meeting and presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting. The expenses of the Society shall be defrayed from the funds of the Society, the Hon. Secretary or Treasurer being empowered to expend an amount not exceeding £100.00 without the specific consent of the Committee. In the event of a deficiency the amount involved shall be borne equally by the Founder Members the Officers, and the Members of the Committee.

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**10. KENNEL CLUB THE FINAL COURT OF APPEAL**

The Kennel Club shall be the final Court of Appeal in all matters of dispute.

11. The Society shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.
12. 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.
13. If the Society is wound up or ceases to be a Registered Society under Kennel Club Regulations a final statement of independently examined accounts with a record 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 furnished to the Kennel Club, will be held responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the Society.
14. 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 Title 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.