

Michigan Performance Dog Club

UKC Dog Events – Nosework, Dock Jumping, Shed Hunt

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION

Article I. Association Name. This association shall be known as the Michigan Performance Dog Club, herein also referred to as "MPDC" or "the Association."

Article II. Purpose. The Association is formed for the following purposes:

- A. To promote the working dog sport activities in the United States
- B. To encourage sportsman-like competition at working dog trials and tests.

Article III. Association Profits. The MPDC shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or remainder or residue from dues or donations to the MPDC shall benefit any member or individual.

Article IV. Rules For Licensed Events. All licensed events sponsored by the MPDC will be run in accordance with the rules, policies and procedures of the United Kennel Club (UKC).

Article V. Affiliation. MPDC shall be affiliated with the United Kennel Club (UKC).

Article VI. Revisions. The members of the Association shall adopt and may from time to time revise such bylaws as may be required to carry out these objectives.

BYLAWS

Article I. Membership.

Section 1. Eligibility. There shall be 5 types of membership open to any breeder, owner or fancier of the sport who subscribes to the purposes and objectives of the Association, the Association's Standing Rules and who is in good standing with the UKC.

Section 2. Types Of Membership.

Section 2.1. Regular affiliate Membership. A regular affiliate membership shall be open to all persons 18 years or older. Regular members are entitled to one vote and are eligible to hold office in the Association.

Section 2.2. Family/Household affiliate Membership. Open to any two members of a household 18 years of age or older. Each Family/Household affiliate membership is entitled to two votes. In the event that a separation of a couple occurs, each person will become a regular member.

Section 2.3. Junior Membership. A junior membership is open to any individual who is 12 through 17 years of age. No additional fees will be assessed and junior members are not allowed to vote. Juniors may convert to Regular membership upon reaching their 18th birthday. Junior members shall not be entitled to vote or eligible to hold office, but shall be eligible for annual trophies or awards offered by or through the Association.

Section 2.4. Probationary Membership. A probationary membership is open to all persons 18 years of age or older. Probationary members shall not be entitled to vote or eligible to hold office, but shall be eligible for annual trophies or awards offered by or through the Association.

Section 2.5. Honorary Members. This may be granted by a majority vote of the membership eligible to vote at any regular or special meeting. All training fees, dues and initial membership fees shall be waived for a period of one year. Extensions may be voted on and will be considered individually yearly. If the extension is voted down, the honorary member will be given the opportunity to become a regular affiliate member with all membership and training fees to apply.

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Section 3. Dues. Membership dues are as follows:

Section 3.1. Amount. Annual membership dues shall be determined by the membership not to exceed \$500.00 per person per year.

Section 3.2. Payment of dues. Dues are payable on or before the 31st day of May each year.

Section 3.3. Dues statement. During the month of April of each year, the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of dues for the ensuing year.

Section 4. Application For Membership.

Section 4.1. Submitting the Application. Each applicant for membership in the MPDC shall apply on a board-approved Application for Membership which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by the Constitution, Bylaws, Standing Rules of the Association and the rules and regulations of the United Kennel Club. The prospective member shall submit the completed application, and a letter which will state why the applicant desires to become a member of MPDC to the Secretary.

Section 4.2. Election to Probationary Membership. Within thirty days of receipt of an application and letter the Secretary will present the information at regular membership meeting. This portion of the meeting shall be closed to non-members of the Association. Affirmative votes of 2/3 of the eligible affiliate members present shall be to elect the applicant into the probationary membership. Once the applicant has been voted into membership, they must submit dues payment for the current year. The initial membership fee of \$300 must be paid no later than 180 days (6 months) after their election to membership, with 1/3 (\$100) due immediately and the remaining \$200 payable in increments of at least \$50 per month. Dues and initial fee along with annual renewal fees are non-refundable.

Section 4.3. Election to affiliate membership. Probationary membership members will have a one year probation period. At the end of that year, the affiliate members will vote on acceptance as an affiliate status. The member will be considered a full affiliate member based on a majority vote of those affiliate members present and voting at a membership meeting.

Section 4.4. Election to Junior membership. Members requesting to join under Junior membership must complete an Application for Membership as well as submit a letter stating why they desire to become a Junior Member. The letter must be signed by the Junior applicant and the applicant's parent or legal guardian. Within 30 days of receipt, the information will be presented at a regular membership meeting for a vote.

Section 5. Rejected Applications. All membership applicants. Applicants for probationary membership and junior membership who have been rejected by the MPDC may not reapply within twelve months after rejection.

Section 6. Club Participation. Members are expected to participate in at least 75% of all club activities including, but not limited to: trials, seminars, night trials, etc. per year. Members who fail to meet this expectation shall automatically revert to a probationary member the year following the year of non-compliance.

Section 7. Termination Of Membership. Membership may be terminated for the following reasons:

Section 7.1. Resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from MPDC upon written notice to the Secretary. No member may resign when in debt to MPDC. If member is in debt, the resignation will not be considered in good standing.

Section 7.2. Lapsing of Annual Dues. A membership will be considered lapsed and automatically terminated if said member's yearly dues remain unpaid 30 days after the first day of the fiscal year (June 1).

Section 7.3. Suspension. Any member who is suspended or barred from the privileges of the UKC is automatically suspended or barred from the privileges of membership in the Association for the same period of time.

Section 7.4. Expulsion. A member may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VIII, Section 4 of these Bylaws.

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Article II. Elections.

Section 1. Annual Election. The annual elections at which Officers and Directors are elected shall be conducted by secret, written ballot at the annual meeting, except that if no nominations are received by the Secretary as provided in Article V, Section 2(c), no ballot will be necessary. In this case, the persons selected by the Nominating Committee will be declared elected by the Secretary at the annual meeting of the Association. If additional nominations have been made as provided in Article V, Section 2.4, the Chairperson of the Tally Committee shall report the results of the election at the annual meeting. The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office or position on the Board shall be declared elected.

Section 1.1 Nominating Committee. Before August 15th, the Board shall select a Nominating Committee, consisting of three members and one alternate, all members in good standing, none of which shall be a member of the current Board of Directors. The board shall name one member of the committee to serve as Chairperson, who shall be responsible for setting times and dates for Committee meetings and for reporting results to the Association Secretary. The Nominating Committee may conduct its business in person or by use of mail, fax, telephone or other electronic communication, provided that all decisions must be confirmed in writing to all members of the Committee within 10 days.

Section 1.2. Tally Committee. At the same time it selects a Nominating Committee, or immediately before submitting a proposed amendment to the Constitution or Bylaws to the Secretary, the Board of Directors shall select three Association members, living within reasonable driving distance of one another, to serve as the Tally Committee, in the event that it becomes necessary to hold an election or vote on a proposed amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws, and count ballots. The board shall name one member of this committee as Chairperson, who shall receive all mail-in ballots and who shall report the results of the election to the Association Secretary.

Section 1.3. Candidates. The Nominating Committee shall nominate from among the eligible members of the Association, one candidate for each office and for each other position on the Board of Directors and shall procure acceptance of each nominee. The Committee should consider geographical representation of the membership when selecting nominees to the extent that it is practicable to do so. No person shall be nominated for more than one position. The Committee shall submit its slate of candidates to the Secretary not later than September 30th. The Secretary shall read the list at the October membership meeting, including the full name of each candidate and the state in which the candidate resides, so that members may make additional nominations, if they so desire.

Section 1.4. Additional Nominations. Additional nominations of eligible members may be made by written petition signed by ten percent of the Association members in good standing eligible to vote, addressed to the Secretary and received at the Secretary's regular address on or before November 30th, accompanied by a written acceptance of the nomination from each additional nominee. No person shall be nominated for more than one position.

- a. If no valid additional nominations are received by the Secretary on or before November 30th, the Nominating Committee's slate of candidates shall be declared elected at the time of the annual meeting and no balloting will be required.
- b. If one or more valid nominations are received by the Secretary on or before November 30th, the Secretary shall prepare a ballot listing in alphabetical order all of the nominees for each position, together with an envelope addressed to the Chairperson of the Tally Committee. Ballots will be distributed during the Annual Meeting.

Section 1.5. Counting The Ballots. Ballots must be returned by hand to the Chairperson of the Tally Committee during the annual meeting. The Chairperson shall gather the Tally Committee as soon as practicable after receiving all ballots and count the ballots. The Chairperson shall report the election results to the Association Secretary. All ballots and the envelopes in which they were received shall be given to the Secretary who shall keep them until the next annual election as part of the Association's official records.

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Section 1.6. Election Results. Election results will be announced by the Secretary at the annual meeting of the Association.

Section 1.7. Change of Officers and Board Members. The officers-elect shall take office effective January 1st and each retiring officer shall turn over to their successor all properties and records relating to that office on or before December 31st.

Article III. Contracts, Loans, Checks.

Section 1. Contracts. The Board may authorize any Officer, agent or employee to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Association.

Section 2. Loans. No loan shall be contracted on behalf of the Association, and no evidence of indebtedness shall be issued in its name unless authorized by a resolution of the Board of Directors. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section 3. Checks, Drafts, Etc. All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the Association shall be signed by the Association Treasurer, or such agent or employee of the Association and in such a manner as shall from time to time be determined by the board.

Article IV. Committees.

Section 1 Appointing Committees. The Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the MPDC in such matters as show, trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other fields which may well be served by a committee. Such committees shall be subject to the final authority of the Board.

Section 2. Terminating Committee Appointments. Any committee appointment may be terminated by majority vote of the full membership of the Board upon full written notice to the appointee, and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose service has been terminated.

Article V. Discipline.

Section 1. Working Dog Organization Suspensions. Any member who is suspended from the privileges of the United Kennel Club or any working dog organization may be suspended from the privileges of the MPDC subject to notification by the Board upon a simple majority vote.

Section 2. Charges. Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the MPDC. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$50.00 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. The Board shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the MPDC. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date for a hearing by the Board not less than three weeks or more than six 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/her own defense and bring witnesses if he/she wishes.

Section 3. Board Hearing. The Board shall have complete authority to decide whether council may attend the hearing, but both complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in that regard. All Board hearings shall be open to the general membership and interested parties provided such individuals conduct themselves in an orderly manner and do not interrupt the proceedings. Disruptive behavior will result in the individual being ejected from the hearing. Should the charges be sustained, after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by the complainant and defendant, the Board may, by majority vote of those present, suspend the defendant from all privileges of the MPDC for not more than six months from the dates of the hearing. If it deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such a case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before fellow members at the ensuing MPDC 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 and penalty, if any.

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Section 4. Expulsion. Expulsion of a member from the MPDC may be accomplished only at a meeting of the MPDC following a Board hearing and upon the Board's recommendation as provided in Section 3 of this Article. Such proceedings may occur at a regular or special membership meeting of the MPDC to be held within sixty days but not earlier than thirty days after the Board's recommendation of expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing on their own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the Board's finding and recommendations, and shall invite defendant, if present, to speak in their own behalf if desired. The members shall then vote by secret, written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A 2/3 vote of the members present and voting at the meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If membership votes not to expel, the Board's suspension shall stand for the previously determined period.

Article VI. Amendments.

Section 1. Proposing Amendments. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by 20 percent 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 the recommendations of the Board by the Secretary for a vote at a meeting subsequent to the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

Section 2. Notification of Proposed Amendments. Proposed amendments must be mailed or discussed at a general membership meeting with the recommendations of the Board before the amendments can be voted upon.

Section 3. Voting Procedures. The proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws shall be voted upon at the next meeting after the Notification of Proposed Amendments have been made known by mail or by discussion at the previous membership meeting. The favorable vote of the majority of the affiliate members attending such meeting shall be required to effect such a proposed amendment.

Section 4. U.K.C. Approval. No amendment to the constitution and bylaws that is adopted by the Association shall become effective until it has been approved by UKC.

Article VII. Dissolution. The MPDC may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than 2/3 of the members in good standing. In the event of the dissolution of the MPDC, whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of law, other than for purposes of reorganization, none of the property of the MPDC nor any proceeds thereof nor any assets of the MPDC shall be distributed to any members of the MPDC, but after payment of the debts of the MPDC, its property and assets shall be given to a charitable organization for the benefit of dogs selected by the Board.

Article VIII. Order Of Business.

Section 1. Association Meetings. At the meetings of the MPDC the order of business, so far as the character and nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows: Call to order

- Roll call - introduction and welcome of guests.
- Minutes of the last meeting.
- Board of Directors report
- President's report
- Vice-President's report
- Secretary's report
- Treasurer's report
- Training Directors report
- Committee reports
- Election of Board of Directors (at annual meeting)
- Election of new members
- Old or unfinished business
- New Business
- Adjournment
- Program (if there is to be one)

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Section 2. Board Meetings. At the meeting of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by a majority of those present, shall be as follows; Call to order

Roll Call
Minutes of the last meeting
President's report
Vice-president's report
Secretary's report
Treasurer's report
Training Directors report
Committee reports (if applicable)
Old business
New business Adjournment.

Article IX. Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised," shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any other special rules of order the Association may adopt.

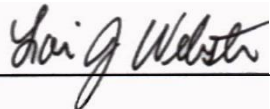
Article X. Certification. We hereby certify that the foregoing Constitution and Bylaws, consisting of 6 pages, constituted the Bylaws of the MPDC, duly adopted by its membership at a meeting properly noticed and held, and at which a quorum was present on the 17th day May, 2025.



Kurt Hebeler, President

5/17/2025

Date



Lori Webster, Vice-President

5/17/2025

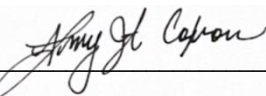
Date



Deb Hebeler, Treasurer

5/17/2025

Date



Amy Coxon, Secretary

5/17/2025

Date