

TRAVIS AGILITY GROUP CONSTITUTION

Article I

Name and Objectives

The Purposes for which the corporation is organized are pleasure, recreation and other nonprofitable purposes, substantially all of the activities of which are for such purposes and no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of any private shareholder within the meaning of section 501©(7) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provision of any future federal tax code.

Section 1.

The name of the club shall be Travis Agility Group, hereinafter referred to as TAG.

Section 2.

TAG is committed to promoting dog agility for all dogs without regard to breed, pedigree or kennel club registration by:

- a. Stressing safety, sportsmanship and camaraderie;
- b. Developing competition ready handler/dog teams and conducting agility trials;
- c. Promoting dog/owner recreation, exercise and companionship while demonstrating responsible pet ownership; and
- d. Bringing the pleasure of agility to the general public through demonstrations for entertainment and public service.
- e. Providing classes and seminars for all levels of dog/handler teams.

Section 3.

TAG shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or residue from dues or residue from donations to TAG shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

BY-LAWS

Article 1

Membership

Section 1.

Eligibility.

- a. Membership shall be open to anybody who subscribes to the objectives of this Club, and shall be open to all handler/dog teams without regard to the breed, pedigree or eligibility of the dog for

- registration.
- b. No handler/dog team shall be excluded from membership based on the breed, pedigree or eligibility of a dog for registration.
 - c. Minimum training requirements shall be determined by the board of directors for each type of membership.
 - d. Each member must have an up to date signed liability waiver on file with the organization.

Section 2.

Type of Membership. There shall be three (7) types of memberships available.

- a. *Individual.* This membership is for individuals with one dog or with multiple dogs. This membership shall be given all rights and privileges as shall be determined by the board of directors. This membership allows one (1) vote.
- b. *Family.* This membership is available to families with multiple handlers and multiple dogs. This membership shall be given all rights and privileges as determined by the board of directors. This membership allows (2) votes.
- d. *Corresponding.* This membership is available to individuals who may not be able to train or meet with TAG, but wish to be on the Club mailing list. This membership provides no rights or privileges .*Junior Handler* – This membership is available to anyone 18 years or younger and shall be given limited rights and privileges as determined by the board of directors.
- e. *Student Membership* –This membership is conferred to any person enrolled in a TAG sponsored agility class. This membership shall have limited rights and privileges as provided by the board of directors.
- f. *Trial Guest* – This membership is conferred to any person entering a TAG sponsored agility trial. This membership shall have no rights or privileges.
- g. *Field Guest* – This membership is a one day membership open to any individual who wants to train on the TAG field only while accompanied by a TAG member with full rights and privileges. This membership shall have no rights or privileges.

Section 3.

Dues. Dues for each type of membership shall be voted on by the Board of Directors. Dues must be paid in full quarterly, on or before the first of July, October, January, and April. Any new member that enters in-between a period shall be assessed a pro-rated due. No member shall be eligible to vote whose dues are not paid for the current period. Corresponding members shall pay a flat rate, to be determined each year by the Board of Directors.

Section 4.

Election to Membership. Each applicant for individual, family, Junior Handler and Corresponding membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors, which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by the By-laws and rules of the Club. The application shall carry the endorsement of one (1) Board member, or two (2) Club members. The prospective member shall submit the application and the dues for the current quarter to the Secretary. The Secretary shall read the application at the next scheduled meeting, at such time the Board of Directors shall vote upon the applicant. To vote upon a membership, a quorum of the Board must be present and a majority of those present voting yes shall constitute acceptance of the application to membership. The Secretary shall inform the applicant of the Board's vote. The applicant shall not attend the meeting on which their application is being voted on.

Section 5.

Termination of Membership. Memberships may be terminated, with no fees, dues or moneys refunded, in the following ways:

- a. *By Resignation.* Any member in good standing may resign from TAG except if the member is in debt (including owing current dues) to the Club.
- b. *By Lapsing.* A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid thirty (30) days after the first day of July, October, January and April. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting, if dues are unpaid as of the date of that meeting. Those members whose dues are in danger of lapsing must be notified of this condition by the Treasurer. .
- c. *By Expulsion.* A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article V of the by-laws.
- d. *By Completion – Student membership is terminated upon completion of the course in which the student is enrolled.*

Section 6.

Reinstatement of membership. Memberships that have been terminated by resignation or by lapse may be reinstated by written request to the board. Such applications will be reviewed on a case by case basis by the board of directors. Under no circumstances shall a member be reinstated if the member is in dept to the club including but not limited to non-payment of dues. A member who has been expelled for cause from TAG may reapply for membership provided the cause for the expulsion no longer exists. Such applications must meet all criteria in Article 1.4 and shall be decided on a case by case basis by the board of directors.

Article II Meetings

Section 1.

Club Meetings. Meetings of the Club shall be held periodically as designated by the

Chairman. The membership is to be notified of the time and place of the meeting at least two weeks prior to the meeting date. The quorum for such meetings shall be the members with full rights and privileges in good standing present at any meeting.

Section 2.

Board Meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held as needed. A meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held before the Annual Meeting at a time and place agreed upon by the Board of Directors. Four members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum of the Board. Board meetings may be conducted without regular meetings via e-mail, telephone, fax or other equivalent method.

Section 3.

Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Club shall be held after the first day of June but before the first day of July for the purpose of elections for the Board of Directors and Officers.

Article III

Directors, Officers and Standing Committee Chairs

Section 1.

Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of the following: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Immediate Past-Chairman, two At-Large positions, and an ex-officio training coordinator, all of which will serve for a period of one (1) year. No more than two members of the same family shall serve on the Board of Directors at the same time. If, in the event, there are less than seven (7) members on the Board, the additional member shall be elected by a quorum of the Board. The general management of TAG's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors. All members shall be elected and shall fulfill their positions as described in Section 2 of this Article, with the exception of the Past-Chairman. If the Past-Chairman chooses not to serve on the Board of Directors, that position shall be filled by an At-Large member.

Section 2.

Officers. The Club's Officers shall consist of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. The maximum length of time a person may hold the same office shall be two (2) consecutive terms. The following descriptions of the positions shall include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- a. **Chairman.** The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Club and shall have the duties and powers normally assigned to the office of Chairman. The Chairman shall have the right to call meetings, appoint Special Committees, and coordinate officers, committees and the Board. The Chairman shall also act as TAG's representative to national agility organizations, by establishing and maintaining communication between the Club and sanctioning organizations.
- b. **Vice-Chairman.** The Vice-Chairman shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the Chairman in the event of the incapacity or absence of the Chairman. This person shall assist the Chairman in any

manner which the Chairman deems necessary.

- c. **Secretary.** The Secretary shall keep a written record of all meetings of the Club and handle correspondence directed to the Club. The Secretary shall maintaining a current master file of necessary business and legal forms used by the Club and a permanent record of all minutes policies and procedures approved by the club. .
- d. **Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due to the Club and shall report to the members of the Club, , the condition of the Clubs' financial status. The financial records shall be open to all members. The Treasurer shall account for all moneys received and extended and report it at the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall also maintain a current master membership roster including liability waivers.

Section 3.

Other responsibilities/positions. The Board of Directors shall see to it that a Board member, or a general club member is responsible for the following responsibilities/positions as needed:

- Public Relations
- Demonstrations
- Newsletter Editor
- Equipment Manager
- Librarian/Historian
- * And others as needed.

Section 4.

Vacancies. Any vacancies on the Board of Directors during the year shall be filled by a quorum vote of the Board of Directors. A vacancy replacement shall complete only the remainder of the year during which appointed/or voted.

Non-Liability of Directors, Officers, and Agents. The directors, officers, and agents of TAG shall not be personally liable for the debts, liabilities, or other obligations of the organization. As used herein, the term "agents" shall include any person authorized by TAG to enter into agreements for and on behalf of TAG in TAG's name, or any person authorized by TAG to express the official position of TAG or to render qualified advice of counsel on behalf of TAG.

Indemnification of Directors, Officers, and Agents. The directors, officers, and agents of TAG shall be indemnified by TAG to the fullest extent possible under the laws of the state of Texas for any acts or omissions performed in their official capacity.

Article IV

Club Year, Nominations and Elections

Section 1.

Club Year. The Club's year shall begin on the first day of July and end on the last day of June of the following calendar year. The newly-elected Directors shall take office on July 1.

Section 2.

Annual Elections. The election of the Board of Directors shall be conducted by written ballot in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

Section 3.

Voting. Voting shall be limited to those voting members in good standing who are present at meetings, except where written ballot shall be deemed necessary, such as the election of Board of Directors and changes and amendments to the By-laws. Written ballots shall be sent to all voting members by mail. All ballots must identify the positions for which elections are being held, all candidates for each such position. Members shall have fourteen (14) days from the date of the postmark to return the ballot. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted. The Board of Directors may decide to submit other specific questions for decision of the members by written ballot cast by mail. The current Chairman of the Board will count the votes, and shall designate a non-board Club member who is not running for any position to assist in the process and verify results.

Section 4.

Nominations. Nominations shall be accepted from the general membership during the month of April. Candidacy is open to all members in good standing who are willing and able to fulfill the responsibilities and duties of the position for which they have been nominated. No member who has not been nominated may be a candidate. Nominations should be submitted directly to any Board Member. In the event that there are no nominees for any position, the Board of Directors shall solicit candidates from the general membership.

Section 5.

Election Results. The results of the Annual Election shall be published by the Secretary not more than thirty (30) days after all votes have been received and tallied, but before the Annual Meeting.

Article V

Discipline

Section 1.

a. National Club Suspension. Any member who is suspended from the privileges of any national agility organization (USDAA, NADAC, AKC, etc...) shall automatically come under review by the Board of Directors for their actions. The Board of Directors shall then decide whether to pursue any further disciplinary action.

b. Charges. Any member may prefer charges against another member for alleged

misconduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club or the sport of agility. Written charges with specifications must be filed with the Secretary, who shall notify the Board. The Board shall meet and fix a date of the hearing not less than four (4) weeks nor more than eight (8) weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges, together with the notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his or her own defense and bring witnesses, if so desired, to the accused member by registered mail.

Section 2.

Board Hearing. Both sides shall be treated uniformly in instances such as these. If the charges are sustained, after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by the complainant and the defendant, the Board may, by a majority vote of those present, suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for a period of time not to exceed one (1) year, based on the nature of the charge. The Board may also recommend to the membership disciplinary action or expulsion. In this case, the defendant has the right to appear before his fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board's recommendation. Immediately after the Board's decision, its findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary, who shall, in turn, notify each party of the Board's decision and penalty, if any.

Section 3.

Expulsion. Expulsion of a member/dog team from the Club may be accomplished only at a meeting of a quorum of the entire membership following a Board hearing and upon the Board's recommendation as provided in Section 2 of this Article. Such proceedings may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within sixty (60) days but not earlier than thirty (30) days after the date of the Board's recommendation of expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his/her own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The Chairman shall read the charges and the Board's findings and recommendations and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak on his/her own behalf if he/she wishes. The membership shall then vote, by secret written ballot, on the proposed expulsion. A 2/3 (two thirds) vote of those present at the meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted, the Board's suspension shall stand.

Article VI

Amendments

Section 1.

Amendments to the Constitution and By-laws. Amendments may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary, signed by 25 percent of the voting membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by the petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the members with recommendation of the Board by the Secretary for a vote within three (3) months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

Section 2.

Vote Amending Constitution and/or By-laws. Except as provided in Section 3 of this Article VI, the Constitution and By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members in good standing present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for this

purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each member at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 3.

Amendments Relating to Kennel Club Registration. The Constitution or By-laws shall not be amended to restrict membership in the Club to dogs registered with any breed registry or kennel club except by a ninety-nine hundredths vote of the voting members in good standing present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for such purpose, provided that any such proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each member at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

Article VII

Dissolution

Section 1.

Dissolution. TAG may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than a two-thirds (67) percent vote of the voting members in good standing. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, whether voluntary or involuntary or by law, none of the property of the Club shall be distributed to any members of the Club, but after payment of debts of the Club, its property shall be sold to the highest bidder and assets shall be given to a non-profit organization selected by the Board of Directors.

Adopted on July 1995 and signed 3/6/96 by: Nicole Sauvageau; Peggy Hammond; Kimberly Donnell; Janet Adkins; Shari Heino; Mark Donnell; Amy Cada.

Original Constitution amended 6/11/96 by: Carol Nelson Rabago; Janet Adkins; Shari Heino; Amy Cada; Kimberly Donnell; Mark Donnell;

Resolutions:

Section 1.

Trial Guest Memberships. TAG shall give guest memberships to all trial participants who enter trials at our club events. This membership is good for the length of the event and provides membership services of hospitality gifts, a current issue of our newsletter, location information, and future mailings regarding future activities of the club throughout the following year.

This resolution was approved 11/4/97 by: Gloria Wilson, Carol Nelson Rabago, Kim Donnell, Mark Donnell, Diane Webb, Robert Stewart, Amy Cada, Jim Collins, Suzen Verhoef, Judy Bradley, Kim Bradley, Nicole Sauvageau, and Peggy Hammond.