

# **Eurasier Society UK**

# **Eurasier Society UK Society Rules**

# 1. NAME AND OBJECTIVES

The Society shall be called the Eurasier Society UK and its objectives shall be:

To promote the health, welfare and protection of the Eurasier, bearing in mind that the Eurasier is a companion dog.

To encourage and create opportunities for Members and breed enthusiasts to increase their Eurasier knowledge in areas such as; health, behaviour, responsible breeding, ownership, conformation and canine activities such as showing and agility.

To be a point of contact for any Eurasier in need.

#### 2. MANAGEMENT

The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Committee of not less than 5, and not more than eleven members, which shall include the following 4 honorary Officers: a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

A quorum for all meetings managing Society business shall be 3 committee members.

#### 3. COMMITTEE

At least one third of the Committee Members, including the Officers, shall retire at each Annual General Meeting and may stand for re-election. The posts vacated throughout the year are considered to be by natural wastage and shall contribute towards the one third quota. All Committee Members shall retire after serving on the Committee for three years and may stand for re-election. If insufficient members are retiring on this basis to achieve one third of Committee Members, the required additional Committee Members shall be drawn by lot.

All retiring Officers and Committee Members wishing to stand for re-election must notify the Secretary in writing\*, stating which office they wish to stand for where applicable, at least twenty-one days prior to the Annual General Meeting. New nominations, either as an Officer or Committee Member, must be proposed and seconded by two fully paid-up members and confirmed by the written agreement to stand of the person concerned, and should reach the Secretary at least 21 days before the Annual General Meeting. A complete list of candidates, together with the names of proposers and seconders, shall be circulated to members with the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting. Elections shall be by those members present at the Annual General Meeting.

\*In writing shall include electronic correspondence such as e-mail and fax.

All Officers and Committee Members shall have full voting rights at Committee and General Meetings.

The Committee shall have the power to co-opt suitably qualified Members on to the Committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between Annual General Meetings. Those co-opted shall only hold office until the next Annual General Meeting of the Society at which an election of Officers and Committee takes place. Co-opted Members shall have full voting rights at Committee Meetings. No individual who has been a Member for less than six months may be elected on to the Committee.

A Committee Member must have served at least six months before being eligible for election as an Officer.

No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee of or hold any office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society.

No person who is currently serving as a Committee Member of another UK Eurasier club may serve on the Committee of Eurasier Society UK.

#### 4. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as deemed necessary but at least one every twelve months.

If the Chair is absent from the meeting a Chair must be nominated from those present. If the Secretary is absent from the meeting a minute taker must be nominated from those present. All Committee Members not able to attend should, wherever possible, send apologies and a report of their area of responsibility and activities since the last meeting.

Committee Members attending Society Business can request to be reimbursed with mileage and costs incurred.

If a Committee Member misses more than two consecutive Committee Meetings his/her attention shall be drawn to the fact and, unless an adequate reason is given, such member's seat on the Committee may be declared vacant.

#### 5. MEMBERS

The Society shall consist of an unlimited number of members, open to the world, who shall be persons interested in the promotion of Eurasiers.

Applications for membership shall be made on the appropriate form, either in writing or electronically. All applicants shall be required to abide by the Rules and the Code of Ethics of the Society; these shall be available on the Society's website or provided by an alternative means upon request. Applications shall be considered by the Committee and a decision shall be taken by majority. The Committee reserves the right to refuse membership without explanation.

Any member may resign from the Society on giving notice in writing to the Secretary. A member leaving the Society shall not be entitled to receive back any money which may have been paid to the Society or on account of the Society, during his or her membership, or have any claim against the Society.

An up to date list of Members and their addresses, and those of branch Members where appropriate, must be maintained and, if so requested, make the list of names available for inspection by the Kennel Club and Members of the Society. A declaration of the number of Members of the Society must be made with annual Returns.

A list of members who are Society recognised breeders shall be held by the Society Health and Breeding Coordinator. The Health and Breeding Subcommittee shall be available to these breeders for advice on all breeding matters. A list of stud dogs available to Society recognised breeders shall also be held. Breeders who have a Society endorsed litter shall be expected to pay for the current year's membership for all their puppy owners. The Society may decline to endorse an individual litter bred by a Society recognised breeder without explanation. Overseas Members shall not be recognised as Society Breeders.

Being a member of the Society does not automatically give a right to be part of any Social Media Group operated by Eurasier Society UK. The Committee reserves the right to remove a member from these platforms without notice and without explanation.

#### 6. VOTING RIGHTS

Each Member shall be entitled to one vote after three months membership. Joint Members shall be entitled to one vote for each member of the partnership. Voting rights shall be restricted to those members domiciled in the United Kingdom.

At any meeting (i.e. Committee, AGM, SGM) voting shall be as decided by majority, by a show of hands. In the event of a tie on any vote the Chairperson shall have a casting vote. This shall also apply to meetings attended by VOIP or video link and voting via web based applications.

No Junior Members (i.e. under 18 years of age) may stand for office bearer or Committee or be entitled to full voting rights.

Secret voting shall be permitted if a meeting request it.

In the event of more than one nomination for the same post or more nominations than posts available being received, a secret ballot shall be arranged to determine those individuals to be elected for roles.

#### 7. CLUB PROPERTY

The property of the Society shall be vested in the Committee.

#### 8. WINDING UP

In the event of the Society ceasing to exist for any reason, a Special General Meeting shall be called to decide upon the disposal of the Society's assets. The Kennel Club shall be notified as soon as a decision is made to wind up the Society and, within six months of such date, shall be supplied with a final statement of audited accounts and a record showing disposal of all the Society's assets.

The persons named as Officers and Committee of the Society on the last return furnished by the Kennel Club will be held responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the Society.

#### 9. CLUB ACCOUNTS

A banking account shall be held in the name of the Eurasier Society UK with the HSBC Bank, into which all revenue of the Society shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall be made by any two Officers of the Society. These shall be by physical signatures or a two-level electronic authorisation system.

The Treasurer shall keep full and proper accounts and shall prepare annually a statement of accounts which shall be certified by an approved Auditor appointed annually by the Committee for this purpose. Those certifying the accounts must be independent of the committee. Copies of the audited accounts will be distributed at the Annual General Meeting and made available on request to all members who are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting. The certified accounts shall be made available on request to members fourteen days prior to the AGM.

The Financial Year of the Society shall run from 1st January to 31st December.

#### 10. SUBSCRIPTIONS

There shall be an annual Subscription, payable on 1st January each year, of such a sum as the members shall decide from time to time by resolution at the Annual General Meeting and notified to the Kennel Club.

A first subscription received during the last three months of a year shall be deemed to include the subscription for the whole of the following year.

Until further notice, annual rates shall be:

Single Membership £12.00

Joint Membership (2 adults living at the same address) £18.00

Junior Membership (up to 18 years) £3.00

Overseas Membership £6.00

No member shall be allowed to vote, or enjoy any privileges of membership, whilst their current subscription and any debt due to the Society remains unpaid, and for which application has been made. If the member shall fail to pay outstanding subscriptions by 1st April his/her name shall be automatically erased from the register. Acceptance back on the register shall be dependent upon a new application and payment of any outstanding subscription or other debt.

#### 11. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

Any member who shall be disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A11.j. (5) and/or Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a Member of the Society.

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.

Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and hour of the Meeting 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 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.

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.

#### 12. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

An Annual General Meeting shall be held as early as possible in the New Year, and not later than 30th June each year.

The nature of business shall be:

- (i) to receive the reports of the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer
- (ii) to receive the Society's audited accounts
- (iii) to elect the Officers. Committee and Auditor
- (iv) to discuss any other items on the Agenda

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 Chairperson of the Meeting, are urgent.

A written notice (e-mail accepted) giving the date, time and venue of the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to all Members of the Society at least 28 days prior to the meeting date.

All items for the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting must be received by the Secretary at least 21 days prior to the Meeting. The Agenda will be circulated ten days before the Meeting.

A quorum for the Annual General Meeting shall be five members, including Committee Members.

Any decision taken at an Annual General Meeting shall be valid and binding for the whole of that year and cannot be the subject of a Special General Meeting during that year.

#### 13. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Secretary if 10 Members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so. It shall be held at the earliest possible date convenient to the Committee after the request for the Meeting is received.

The Committee of the Society is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting.

No business other than that detailed on the Agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting. Members shall receive 14 days written notice of a Special General Meeting. A quorum for such a meeting shall be 5 members, including Committee Members.

#### 14. RECORDS

The Committee shall undertake to keep a Minute Book which shall contain a full record of all business transacted at General Meetings and Committee Meetings, including a record of all Guarantees offered by the Society.

Such Minute Book, Membership list, Accounts and Balance Sheet and also any other documents belonging to the Society, shall be produced to the Kennel Club at any time when required.

# 15. AMENDMENTS TO RULES (INCLUDING THE CODE OF ETHICS)

The Rules of the Society may not be altered except at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, the notice for which includes details of the proposal to alter the Rules. Any proposed alteration to the Rules shall not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has been advised and has given its approval to the alteration.

New Rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately and included in the Society's Rules with effect from the next Annual General Meeting.

#### 16. ANNUAL RETURNS TO THE KENNEL CLUB

The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, the Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary for 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 shall be forwarded to the Kennel Club.

The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary which may occur during the course of the year.

#### 17. DISPUTES

The Society has its own Complaints Procedure and will ensure this process is available to all.

#### 18. KENNEL CLUB FINAL AUTHORITY

The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the Rules of the Society in all cases relative to canine or society matters.

#### 19. FEDERATIONS

The Society shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs without prior written permission from the Kennel Club.

#### 20. SUB-COMMITTEE

The Committee may at its sole discretion form one or more Sub-committees from amongst the existing membership (including volunteers who have significant knowledge, expertise and interest in particular aspects of the breed) to aid the Committee in dealing with specific tasks. Such a Sub-committee shall be at all times responsible to the Committee in all matters.

The Committee may veto decisions made regarding issues raised at Sub-committee meetings and must ratify nominations for sub-committee members.

### 21. JUDGES LIST

The Society must produce a list of judges each year which will be valid from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December. The list must be submitted to the Kennel Club as part of the society's annual return. The purpose of breed society judges' lists is to indicate to interested parties those persons a breed society would support at differing levels of judging. Membership of the society must not be a perquisite for inclusion in the lists.

Applications for inclusion on the Judges List will be put before the Committee at the earliest meeting. All applicants will be required to meet a set form of criteria, which will be reviewed annually.