

# YORKSHIRE RETRIEVER FIELD TRIAL SOCIETY

Est. 1911

Kennel Club Identification Number 1109



President: **THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE DL**

Chairman: **Mr Christopher Bourne-Arton**

Vice Chairman: **Major General (Rtd) Mike Wilson**

## RULES & CONSTITUTION OF THE YORKSHIRE RETRIEVER FIELD TRIAL SOCIETY

- 1. NAME AND OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.** The Club shall be called The Yorkshire Retriever Field Trial Society, and its objects shall be to improve the working qualities of the Retriever, and to encourage Game Keepers in Yorkshire in the working and handling of dogs in the field. For this purpose working trials shall be held annually.
- 2. CONSTITUTION.** The Society shall consist of a President, a committee and a membership limited to 300. Membership shall be offered to those people who, in the opinion of the Committee, will best advance the objects of the Society.
- 3. ELECTION OF MEMBERS.** Each candidate for admission to the Society shall be proposed and seconded by members of the Society. The candidate's name, rank, residence shall be sent to the Secretary for consideration by the Committee.
- 4. SUBSCRIPTIONS.** The annual subscription shall be £10 per annum, £12 if paid by cheque for Full Members, £12 Joint Members (only one of whom may enter the Society's Trials), £5 Junior Members (under 16), payable in the year of joining and thereafter on 1<sup>st</sup> January so long as membership is continuous. Any Member who fails to pay their following years membership by 31<sup>st</sup> March will automatically cease to be a member. Members between the ages of 16 and 21 years will also pay £5 per year membership but unlike those under 16 years; they will be eligible to vote. Every new member will pay a joining fee of £20: this does not apply to persons under 21 years. Any member wishing to become a life member can do so on payment of £150, if paying as a new member then the joining fee of £20 will also need to be paid.  
Rates of membership can be revised by a motion proposed and carried at the Annual General Meeting of the Society.
- 5. VOTING RIGHTS.** Each member shall be entitled to one vote. Joint members to have one vote only. Members shall not be entitled to a vote during the year in which they join the Society.
- 6. RESIGNATIONS.** Any member may withdraw from the Society on giving notice in writing to the Secretary at any time. The subscription must be paid for the current year in which notice is given.
- 7. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS.** Any member who shall be disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A11.i (5) and/or Kennel Club Rule A11.i (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, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the interest of the Society, the Committee may at a meeting, the notice of which includes an item to discuss such conduct, call a Special General Meeting of the Society to determine a motion to expel the Member.  
Any member so accused shall receive particulars of the complaint against them with the notice of the Special General Meeting, so that they may attend and offer an explanation. If at the Meeting a motion to expel is passed by a two thirds majority of those members present and voting, the Member's name shall be erased from the list of members and they will thereupon cease to be a member of the Society.  
Any Member so expelled shall have the right to Appeal to the Kennel Club within two calendar months of the Special General Meeting, upon and subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose.  
The Society must report the matter to the Kennel Club within seven days of the Special General Meeting and supply any particulars required by them.
- 8. COMMITTEE.** The Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and not less than nine members of whom one third shall be elected annually to serve for a period of three years. The President, Chairman and Vice Chairman shall be elected to serve for a period of three years. The Secretaries and Treasurer shall be elected for a period of one year. Elections of the Officers and Committee shall take place at the Annual General Meeting of the Society.  
There may be ex officio members of the Committee. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members in any unforeseen circumstances to fill a vacancy on the Committee until the next Annual General Meeting. A quorum shall be three. No person whilst an un-discharged bankrupt may serve on the Committee of, or hold office or appointment within, the Society.
- 9. COMMITTEE MEETINGS.** Committee Meetings will be held at such time and place as the Chairman may determine. Notice of such Committee Meetings shall be sent to each member of the Committee at least seven days before the meeting. The posting by the Secretary of a properly worded notice shall be deemed to give notice of a Committee Meeting. A Committee Meeting may be held at any Field Trial Meeting of the Society, without prior notice.

**10. POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE.** The entire control and management of the Society shall be vested in the Committee. They shall have the powers to make bye-laws and decide all matters in dispute not provided for in the rules of the Society. The Committee shall elect members of the Society and has the right to remove the name of any Member from the membership list without assigning any reason for so doing.

**11. CHAIRMAN/VICE CHAIRMAN.** The Chairman or Vice Chairman shall preside at all Committee Meetings and the Annual General Meeting. In his/her absence the Committee shall elect an acting Chairman to preside. The Chairman of any meeting shall have a casting vote.

**12. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.** The Annual General Meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Committee shall appoint. Notice convening the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to each member at least fourteen days before the date of the meeting.

At such meeting the following business may be transacted:-

Consideration of the Society's report for the previous year.

Consideration of the financial statement for the previous year. Those certifying the accounts must be independent of the Committee. The certified accounts will be made available on request to the members fourteen days prior to the AGM

Election of President

Election of Chairman

Election of Vice Chairman

Election of Secretaries

Election of Treasurer

Election of three members of the Committee who shall serve for three years

Any other business, of which due notice has been given, and of which the Chairman may approve.

**13. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.** A Special General Meeting may be called at any time and at such place as may be appointed by the President on a written request from not less than six members who must state in their request the object for which they desire a Special General Meeting to be called. Fourteen days notice shall be given in writing to all members of any Special General Meeting. The Committee of the Society is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting.

**14. LIABILITIES.** The liability of members is limited to their annual subscription. The liability of the Secretary on behalf of the Society is limited to liabilities incurred for orders given over his signature only. All monies due to the Society shall be deemed to be due to the Secretary and recoverable by him/her at law.

**15. FINANCIAL YEAR.** The Financial Year of the Society shall be from the 1<sup>st</sup> April to the 31<sup>st</sup> March each year. During that period an Annual General Meeting will be held, and any Special General Meetings which are called under Rule 13. The banking account shall be opened in the name of the Yorkshire Retriever Field Trial Society into which all net revenue of the club shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall be made on the signature of any two from:-Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. The Society may hold other bank savings or investment accounts as shall be agreed upon.

**16. CLUB PROPERTY/DISPOSAL OF ASSETS.** The property of the Society shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Society ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called to decide on the disposal of the Society's assets, and the outcome of the meeting notified to the Kennel Club.

[If a registered Club is wound up or ceases to be a Registered Society, under Kennel Club Regulations, a final statement of accounts with a record of the disposal 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 Club will be held responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the Club.]

**17. FINAL COURT OF APPEAL.** The Kennel Club shall be the final court of appeal in all matters of dispute. The Society shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.

**18. ALTERATION TO RULES.** The Rules of the Society may not be altered except at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, the notice for which contains specific proposals to amend the rules and such alterations shall not be brought into force until the Kennel Club has been advised and given its approval of the alterations.

**19. LIST OF MEMBERS.** The Society must make a list of Members and their addresses available for inspection if so requested by the Members of the Society or by the Kennel Club.

**20. ANNUAL RETURNS TO THE KENNEL CLUB.** 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 the 31<sup>st</sup> July each year, other returns, as stipulated in the Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities, be forwarded to the Kennel Club. The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any change of the Secretary of the Society which may occur during the course of the year.

**21. DRAWS FOR FIELD TRIALS.** The draw for each trial will be held at a venue advised on the schedule which will be sent to members each year. Fully paid up members will have preference in the draw for all trials, joint members will have one preferential draw between them. Newly joining members will not have the preference in a draw unless they have been a member prior to the first of July of that year.

In addition the following applies for draws of each trial:-

OPEN STAKE will be run with twenty four dogs and preference will be given to those who have achieved a first, second, third or fourth in a twenty four dog open stake; first, second or third in a twelve dog open stake; first in an all age or novice stake.

ALL AGE STAKE open to all dogs but preference will be given to those who have achieved a certificate of merit or higher in a stake qualifying for entry into the Kennel Club stud book.

NOVICE STAKE for dogs who have not gained a first, second, third or fourth in a twenty dog open stake or a first, second or third in a twelve dog open stake or first in an all aged or novice stake.

Please note all members are welcome to attend the draw for each trial.