

# CONSTITUTION OF THE N.S.D.T.R. CLUB OF CANADA

## I. NAME

1. This association shall be known as the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club of Canada, hereafter known as the Club.
2. The members of the Club are hereafter referred to as Members.
3. The Canadian Kennel Club is hereafter referred to as the C.K.C.
4. The Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever is hereafter referred to as the Toller.
5. The official Club organ is the periodical TOLLER TALK.
6. Legal Voting age refers to the age at which a person may legally vote in a federal election.
7. Club business, other than as specified in the Club Constitution and By-laws may only be conducted at an Official Meeting.
8. A member eligible to vote shall be of legal voting age and have been a member of the Club for twelve [12] consecutive months.
9. The area of operation is Canada.
10. The Club Year is January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>.

## II. OBJECTIVES:

1. To foster the well-being of the Breed.
2. To encourage a uniform standard of breeding which:
  - A] emphasizes the Tollers original purpose.
  - B] emphasizes the need to maintain all characteristics of type, including but not limited to:
    - [1] intelligence
    - [2] hunting and retrieving ability
    - [3] temperament and,
    - [4] conformationwithout an overemphasis on any one [or more] of these characteristics to the detriment of those remaining.
3. To promote the Toller wherever possible by whatever means practical.
4. To collect and assemble heredity and genetic information on the Toller, as well as relevant information of a veterinary nature, and to make this information available to all interested Members.
5. To collect and assemble historical accounts and interesting data on the Toller and to make this information available to interested Members and the general public.

6. To keep Members informed of the activities, plans, accomplishments and problems encountered by Toller owners.
7. The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit. No part of any profits, remainder or residue from any dues or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.
8. To advise and assist both Member and non-member Toller owners wherever possible.

### **III. ORGANIZATION:**

1. The Club shall be a national club, and conform to the guidelines for such standing as set out by the C.K.C. There shall be an Executive consisting of: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer (all of whom shall be members of the C.K.C.), Membership Director, and four (4) Regional Directors from at least four (4) of the six (6) regions of Canada. Each of the following zones may nominate and elect a Regional Director: Yukon and Northwest Territories, British Columbia, The Prairies [consisting of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba], Ontario, Quebec, and the Atlantic Provinces [consisting of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland]. Directors must reside in the area which they represent.
2. The Executive and other elected officers will be selected according to the procedures outlined in the Club's By-laws.
3. Indemnification of Officers. Each past and future member of the Executive and each past and future Editor shall be indemnified and saved harmless out of the funds of the Club from and against all actions, proceedings, losses, costs and expenses, claims and demands of every nature and kind which may be made, instituted, sustained, suffered, or incurred by and such Executive for or in respect of any act, deed, matter or thing whatsoever made done or permitted or omitted to be made, done or permitted by him in and about the execution of his office, save and except such actions, proceedings, losses, costs, expenses, claims and demands as are actioned by his willful neglect or default.
4. Only one member of a family residing at the same address may hold Executive Office at any time.

### **IV. MEMBERSHIP:**

1. There shall be three (3) types of memberships as follows:
  - i. Individual Member
  - ii. Honourary Member
  - iii. Family Member
2. Individual Member: Any individual may become a member of the Club providing that:
  - A] annual dues as established by the Club are paid in full, no later than sixty [60] days after the due date. The date and the amount for the annual dues shall be

established by the Executive. Club members shall be notified of this date through Toller Talk or by Mail. Failure to renew a membership by the due date results in the loss of the membership.

**B]** the individual is not currently under C.K.C. or Club censure.

**C]** the individual has not been expelled from the Club, unless the individual has petitioned the Club for re-admission and such petition has been approved.

**D]** the individual is not actively engaged in breeding, buying or selling of dogs that are not purebred.

**E]** the individual agrees not to show or exhibit for, buy from, sell to, or in any way act as an agent for a person currently under expulsion from the club.

**F]** no individual shall have the right to vote on any Club matter, nor run for elective office until such individual has been a member for a period of twelve [12] consecutive months and is of legal voting age.

**3. Honourary Member:** The Club may designate individuals as Honourary Members for exemplary service to the Club or the Breed, however

**A]** the Honorary Membership may be approved by unanimous vote of the Club Executive or by the referendum process.

**B]** and Honorary Members are not eligible to vote in Club elections, nor to hold office [elected or appointed] in the Club.

**4. Family Member:** Any family may become Members of the club, providing that:

**A]** Annual dues are paid in full.

**B]** No member of the family is currently under C.K.C. or Club censure or sanction, and

**C]** no member of the family has been expelled from the Club, unless the individual has petitioned the Club for re-admission and such a petition has been approved.

**D]** Family Memberships are only available to immediate family members residing at the same address. At the time of application for Family Membership, the names of the two [ 2 ] voting Members shall be specified.

**E]** Family Members shall have full rights, privileges and responsibilities as outlined in the Constitution and By-laws, with the exceptions that only two [ 2 ] qualified Members may vote on any Club matter, and that only one [ 1 ] subscription to Toller Talk will be provided. The two [ 2 ] qualified voting Members will be listed on the Membership list.

**5. Application for Membership.** Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by this constitution and by-laws and the Code of Ethics of the Club. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues payment for the current year.

6. Approval of Membership. Membership applications are approved by the Membership Director providing all criteria for the applicable level of membership are met.
7. Any individual rejected for membership by the Club must be provided with a written explanation.
8. Termination of Membership may occur as a result of resignation, failure to renew, expulsion by the club, or as a result of deprivation, suspension, debarment, expulsion, or termination of Canadian Kennel Club membership as imposed by The Canadian Kennel Club's Discipline Committee.

## **V. REFERENDA:**

1. All decisions affecting Club policy or the Breed Standard for the Toller shall be determined through referendum ballot.
2. The referendum process shall take the following form:
  - A] All motions put forward by a Member must be seconded by at least two other Members eligible to vote.
  - B] All such motions shall be submitted to the Secretary, who shall be responsible for submitting the motion to the Club Membership within forty five [ 45 ] days of the date of receipt. The motion may be printed and distributed in Toller Talk or may be printed and distributed separately. Other Members may submit properly seconded amendments to the motion at this time, following the procedure outlined for submission of referendum topics.
  - C] Upon passage of a period of no more than forty five [ 45 ] days, the Secretary shall arrange to have printed and distribute to all members eligible to vote, the motion and any amendments offered. These shall be made available to Members eligible to vote not less than thirty [ 30 ] days nor more than sixty [ 60 ] days prior to the referendum vote.
  - D] Each Member eligible to vote is entitled to one [ 1 ] vote in all referendum ballots.
  - E] To be accepted, each item on a referendum ballot must have a two thirds [ 66% ] vote of those votes cast. Election of Club Officers, however, requires only a plurality [ greatest number of votes ].
  - F] The results of referendum votes will be reported to Members through Toller Talk.
  - G] No motion requiring Club action by referendum shall remain outstanding for more than nine [ 9 ] calendar months from the date of receipt.

## **VI. AMENDING THE TOLLER BREED STANDARD:**

1. All proposed amendments to the Toller Breed Standard shall follow the referendum procedure outlines in article 5 of this Constitution. 2/3 vote of all eligible members who have voted is required for ammendments to the Toller Breed Standard.

2. Accepted amendments to the Toller Breed Standard shall be submitted to the C.K.C. for approval, as per C.K.C. regulations regarding revision of breed standards.

3. The Executive may appoint a committee consisting of at least three [ 3 ] Club Members, each representing a different region, only one of whom may be a member of the Executive. The committee shall, examine, review, develop and detail amendments as necessary, and elicit commentary and suggestions from other Club Members. The Chairperson of the committee shall not be a member of the Executive.

## **VII. AMENDING THIS CONSTITUTION:**

1. The Constitution presented herein shall be amended as per the referendum process outlined in Article Five [ 5 ] of this Constitution. 2/3 vote of all eligible members is required for amendments to the constitution and by-laws.

2. All proposed amendments must be accompanied by a detailed explanation in support of the proposed amendment.

3. The Executive may appoint a committee consisting of at least three members of the Club, each representing different regions, and who are eligible voters. This committee shall examine, review, develop and detail amendments as necessary, and elicit commentary and suggestions from other Club Members. No member of this committee may be a member of the Executive when appointed. The Chairperson shall be selected by the committee from within its members.