

**CLUB RULES**

1. The Club shall be known as Dog’s ‘R’ Us.

2. The club shall consist of a committee of **8** people and unlimited number of members.

The committee shall consist of **4** officers and **4** members.

The Officers shall be: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer

3. The management of the club shall be in the hands of the committee who will be elected annually, any decisions of the committee will require a minimum of **5** votes.

4. After 3 months membership, fully paid-up members will have voting rights at an AGM.

5. The committee shall meet monthly at a venue and time agreed at the previous meeting.

The minutes of the meeting will be available to members attending the club within one week of the following meeting.

6. Any member will have the right to attend a committee meeting but will not have voting rights at the meeting.

7. Membership will be confirmed upon receipt of a completed application form and full payment of dues.

8. All members agree to abide by the club rules.

9. (Removed 20th November 2023)

10. The property of the club shall be vested in the committee, in the event of the club ceasing to exist a final general meeting shall be called to decide disposal of the clubs assets.

Cessation of the club can only occur if a minimum of three-quarters of the members vote in favour of cessation.

11. The club accounts shall be held in the name of the club Dogs ‘R’ Us Agility Club at an appropriate financial institution, which offers FSCS protection on the chosen account, into which all revenue will be paid. Withdrawals shall only be made on the signatures of at least two of the four officers of the club for payment by cheques. Internet banking including payments by BACS and transfer of monies between DRUAC accounts must be sanctioned by the committee. The chairperson and treasurer must access the account(s) using a secure internet connection.

12. Accounts must be certified by an independent accountant and presented at the annual general meeting (AGM).

13. The annual subscription and dues shall be as agreed by the members at the AGM and that the agreed fees and dues shall be written into the rules. Membership fees are non-refundable.

Commencing **March 2024:**

Adult subscription £20.00 per 12 months

Junior subscription £10.00 per 12 months

**Note** This is irrespective of which month one joins Dogs R Us Agility Club

Honorary members will be exempt from annual membership fees however will still be liable for weekly dues

Adult weekly dues: £3.00 per member running a dog on the open course only.

Junior weekly dues: £2.00 per subscribed handler running a dog on the open course only.

Age of a junior is 16 years inclusive.

Elementary, Starter and Novice four-week courses should be prepaid at a cost of £20.00 per course. Ad-hoc workshops cost £5 per class on the day. If a handler has pre-paid for a training class they may run a dog on the open course at no additional cost, attendance at more than one training/workshops on the day would incur an additional cost as per above.

14. Any member whose subscription is unpaid **or has failed to complete an annual renewal Membership Form within 30 days of the renewal** date maybe erased from the register and acceptance back into the club would be upon receipt of a new application form and payment of arrears.

15. Once accepted as a member, providing they continue to pay their subscription at the correct time a member cannot be refused renewal of membership. The only exception to this would be (see 16).

16. If the conduct of any member has, in the opinion of the committee of the club, caused or likely to cause damage or harm to the character or interests of the club, or its members, or the member is in breach if the club rules, then then the committee of the club may raise the issue for discussion, at a monthly meeting (see rule5) which includes as an object the consideration of the member's actions.

A minimum 14 days’ notice of the meeting must be given to the member in writing, stating particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and time of the meeting so that they may attend and offer an explanation.

If at the meeting, following discussion, a unanimous vote by all present of the committee with a minimum of (see Rule 3) committee members being present, votes in favour of expulsion the member shall forthwith be erased from the list of members.

The member shall have a period of 30 days to appeal to the Chair of the club in writing.

Failure of the members to attend the meeting shall not delay the discussion or decision of the committee and the member will be notified of the decision of the committee in their absence in writing within 7 days of the meeting

The meeting’s Agenda should be published to members 14 days in advance, Agenda to include time, date, venue where meeting will be held and items for discussion.

17. The financial year shall run from the **1st March to last day in February** and the accounts should be presented at the next general meeting following the end of the financial year at a suitable venue, date and time to be agreed by the committee and members. A separate financial report shall be presented at the **AGM** giving the amount of monies available to the club as of the **31st October** so that the charity donation amounts can be presented to the AGM for discussion and voting

The AGM shall:

* Receive the report of the committee and balance sheet.
* Elect committee members.
* Discuss any business placed on the agenda (Note) No business shall be discussed not previously placed on the AGM Agenda.
* Notice of the AGM shall be given to the members in writing with **30 days’ notice.**

Items to be included in the AGM must be with the secretary in writing **14 days** before the meeting.

The agenda will be circulated **7 days** prior to the meeting.

18. A special general meeting shall be summoned by the Secretary if two-thirds of members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a special general meeting to do so. The committee of the club is also empowered to call a special general.

Only business detailed on the agenda can be discussed at the special general meeting.

A special general meeting shall be notified in writing, to all members and **30 days’** notice shall be given.

19. Any loans to the club by members shall be on the understanding that they are interest free and timescales for repayment will be agreed and documented between the club and the member.

20. Dogs must be a minimum of 18 months old before they will be allowed to use the equipment set, as designated by Kennel Club rules for the dogs’ height in force at the time. Dogs under 18 months of age may be accepted into formal training classes or trained by the member subject to breed, handler limitations and committee decisions subject to the experience of the committee at the time.

21. Removed (11/11/2015)

22. Whilst the Club will hold Insurance cover it is the responsibility of each member to ensure that they hold suitable insurance cover for themselves and their dog(s).

23. A club member can only train a registered dog on the course.

24. Amendments to the rules may not be altered except at a General Meeting. The notice for which should contain specific proposals to amend the rules.

25. A member will not be allowed to run on an open course until they have either completed a DRUAC beginners course or been assessed as per the assessment criteria in force at the time.

26. It is the handler’s responsibility to ensure that:

* They have sufficient knowledge to assess the risks and have assessed any risk
* The dog is old enough to safely carry out what it is being asked to do
* The dog is fit and well enough to carry out what it is being asked to do.

27. The charity nomination in writing must be with the secretary **14 days** prior to the AGM.

* The member nominating the charity must attend the AGM and give a brief insight into the work of the charity and why they think them worthy of a donation
* A representative of the charity is to attend the closing social event at Ashwood Nurseries (Sunday) at a time agreed to collect the donation.
* Charities supported should be British based with a Midlands based representation

28. Removed (12/11/2018)

29. Any member providing training during Sunday meetings are exempt from weekly dues for that day, the member conducting training must only take their dog onto that course for a demonstration purpose only, once the exercise is complete the trainers dog needs to be secured outside the course.

30. All members present agree to assist the setting up of the equipment or to dismantle and pack away.

31. The retiring committee will be invited to hold office alongside new committee members for a period ending at the closing social in December of the same year to allow continuity of the club.

END

REVISED NOVEMBER 2023