

GREAT PYRENEES CLUB OF SOUTHERN ONTARIO
CONSTITUTION INDEX

<u>ARTICLE</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
I. Name	1
II Location	1
III Aims and Objectives	1
IV Membership	2
V Definitions of Membership	2 – 3
VI Executive	3 – 4
VII Amendments to the Constitution	4
VIII Dissolution of the Club	4
Ending	5

GREAT PYRENEES CLUB OF SOUTHERN ONTARIO
CONSTITUTION

Article I - Name

Section 1 The Club shall be known as the “Great Pyrenees Club of Southern Ontario”, (GPCSO) and shall hereinafter be referred to as the “Club”.

Article II - Location

Section 1 The general geographical boundaries of the Club are all of Ontario below the 46th degree of latitude, and for greater clarity means extending west to the United States border, east to the Quebec border, north to the 46th degree of latitude and south to the Great Lakes.

Article III - Aims and Objectives

Section 1 The objectives of the Club shall be to:

- (a) advance by all legitimate means the interests of the Great Pyrenees Breed;
- (b) encourage and maintain the highest standards for the Breed;
- (c) assist breeders, owners and the general public in furthering their knowledge and appreciation of the Breed;
- (d) promote and hold Specialty Shows, Boosters, Sanction Matches, Fun Matches and Obedience Trials;
- (e) promote and encourage social activities with owners and their dogs outside of conformation and obedience showing, including but not limited to picnics, parades, walks etc.;
- (f) to establish and maintain a Great Pyrenees Rescue Sub-committee, dedicated to the rescue of the Breed and placement of rescue dogs with responsible owners and to foster such rescue dogs until suitable homes can be arranged; and
- (g) develop a code of ethics

within the Club’s geographical region and elsewhere as necessary.

Article IV - Membership

Section 1 Membership shall be limited to those persons interested in furthering the Objectives set out in the Constitution and who agree to abide by the Constitution and By-laws, the Code of Ethics of the Club and Conditions set out in the Membership Application.

Section 2 Membership shall be divided into seven classes as follows:

- (a) Active
- (b) Family
- (c) Junior
- (d) Associate
- (e) Senior/Disabled
- (f) Lifetime
- (g) Honourary

Article V - Definitions of Memberships

Section 1 Active Member

An Active Member shall be a person 18 years of age or older who has been accepted in accordance with the Club By-Laws. Active Members shall be entitled to any and all privileges of the Club.

Section 2 Family Membership

A Family Membership shall include two or more members of one family residing together. The Family Membership shall consist of a maximum of two active members, plus any children under the age of 18. The Active Members shall be designated on the renewal form at the beginning of each Club year and shall have all rights associated with regular Active Membership, except that they will only receive one newsletter, one copy of all correspondence and one copy of the Constitution and By-Laws. However, each Active Member will each be entitled to his or her own voting privileges.

Section 3 Junior Member

A Junior Member shall be a person under 18 years of age who has been accepted in accordance with the Club By-Laws. Junior Members shall be entitled to any and all privileges of the Club, except holding Office and voting but can participate in meetings.

Section 4 Associate Member

An Associate Member shall be a person 18 years of age or older, who resides outside the geographical boundaries of the Club and is therefore not usually able to participate in regular Club activities, but who wishes to be kept informed of the Club activities and personnel. An Associate Member shall be accepted in accordance with the Club By-Laws. An Associate Member shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Club, except holding Office.

Section 5 Senior/Disabled Membership

A Senior Membership shall be for people sixty-five (65) years of age and older. A Disabled Person's membership shall be for persons on fixed incomes, over the age of 18 years. They both shall be considered as full Active Members with voting privileges.

Section 6 Lifetime Membership

A person who has been a Member for twenty (20) years shall be eligible for a Lifetime Membership. A Lifetime Membership will be granted upon the unanimous vote of the Executive Council. A Lifetime Membership shall be for life and such member shall be entitled to any and all privileges of the Club.

Section 7 Honorary Membership

An Honorary Member shall be a person whose contributions are deemed to be in the best interests of the Club; who has shown a direct and promotive interest in Great Pyrenees for a period of at least five (5) years and whose interests are with and for Great Pyrenees. The name of a person being considered for Honorary Membership must be submitted to the Executive Council and approved unanimously and thereafter the name with appropriate resume as to why he or she is being considered will be published in the Official Club communiqué. If no objections by a Member in good standing are made to the proposal, in writing and received within 30 days of such publication, Honorary membership shall be conferred. Honorary Membership shall be for life and such member shall be entitled to any and all privileges of the Club.

ARTICLE VI - Executive

Section 1 The affairs and business of the Club shall be managed and supervised by the Executive Council and shall be composed of Members as set out in the By-Laws. The Executive Council may exercise all such powers and do

all such acts and things as may be exercised or done by the Club. The Executive Council will act in a manner which is in the best interest of the Great Pyrenees breed and the membership of the Club and will abide by the Constitution and By-laws.

ARTICLE VII - **Amendments to the Constitution**

Section 1 The Constitution of the Club may be amended from time to time only by a written instrument tabled at the Annual General Meeting. All proposed amendments, either from the Executive Council or any member, must be in writing and must be received by the Secretary not later than sixty (60) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Section 2 The membership will be notified of the proposed amendment(s) at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting, which proposal will normally be included with the notification of the Annual General Meeting.

Section 3 The suggested Amendment(s) to the Constitution will be discussed and may be further amended at the Annual General Meeting. The amendments shall be voted upon by the Membership, at the Annual General Meeting. Comments on the suggested Amendment(s) may also be submitted in writing by those unable to attend the Meeting. These comments will be brought to the attention of the Membership at the meeting.

Section 4 In order for a suggested Amendment to the Constitution to pass, 75% of those voting must agree to it.

Section 5 An amendment shall become effective immediately upon its enactment under Section 4, in the absence of any date specified in the amendment for same to come into force.

ARTICLE VIII - **DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB**

Section 1 The Club may be dissolved at any time by the violation of its own Constitution or upon a 90% vote of the general Membership. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, none of the property of the Club nor any proceeds thereof nor any assets of the Club shall be distributed in any form to any Members or to the Members as whole, but after payment of the debts of the Club, its property and assets shall be turned over to an established Organization for the benefit of the Great Pyrenees Dog. Such an organization shall be selected solely by the Executive Council at the time of dissolution.

THIS CONSTITUTION was adopted February, 1996

THIS CONSTITUTION, having been amended at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, on September 14, 2008, by a 75% majority vote, is hereby Certified by the Executive Council.

SECRETARY

PRESIDENT

FOR THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.