

The Labrador Club Incorporated
R u l e s

1. Name

The Club shall be entitled The Labrador Club Incorporated.

2. Objects

The objects of The Labrador Club Incorporated shall be:

1. To promote the breeding and exhibition of pure-bred Labrador Retriever dogs for show, field and other purposes.
2. To use all reasonable means to protect the interests of the Breeders and / or owners of Labrador Retriever dogs.
3. To hold lecture meetings and endeavour to maintain and improve the general standard of Labrador Retrievers.
4. To promote and conduct Ribbon Parades and Shows for Labradors all of which shall be held under the rules and regulations of The New Zealand Kennel Club (Inc).
5. To affiliate with and support the New Zealand Kennel Club (Inc) and to support clubs recognised by the New Zealand Kennel Club (Inc)

3. Interpretation of Rules

In the following Rules the male gender includes the female gender and vice versa.

Zone of Influence

The zone of influence of the Club (that portion of New Zealand in which the Labrador Club Inc may organise shows, shall be that portion of the North Island of the thirty-ninth parallel of latitude

4. Management of the Club

The management of the Club shall be vested in a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Committee of a maximum of ten and a minimum of eight who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office subject to these Rules until the next Annual General Meeting. The office of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person.

The President of the Club shall be Chairman at all meetings connected with the Club's affairs and in his absence the Vice President shall officiate. In the event of their both being absent the committee may appoint a member to act in their place.

Any member of the Committee shall vacate office if:

1. He dies.
2. He is absent from three consecutive meetings without leave of absence.
3. By notice in writing to the committee he resigns his office.
4. He is convicted of any offence involving cruelty to animals.

Interim vacancies in the management shall be filled by a majority vote of the committee.

One patron and One Vice Patron shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting each year.

The committee shall have the power to decide all questions of management provided that such matters are not inconsistent with these Rules. Judges for all shows shall be selected by the committee.

5. Membership

Any breeder or owner of a Labrador or person favourable to the objects and rules of the Club shall be eligible for membership. Every member of the Club shall communicate to the Secretary any change in his address and all notices posted to the last notified address shall be valid and deemed to have been given on the day following the date of posting. Members joining the Club automatically accept all rules and by-laws of the Club and shall be supplied with a copy of such upon their election to membership.

6. Election of Members

(a) Ordinary Members

New Members shall be proposed by a financial member and shall be duly elected at the next committee meeting by a simple majority of members present. All requests for membership shall be dealt with by the committee and new members shall be advised in writing of their election.

(b) Life Members

Life membership of the Labrador Club Inc. is considered the highest honour the Club can award to a member and is the pinnacle of a member's involvement with the Club.

Any current or past financial member of the club may be nominated for Life Membership by any current financial member of the Club. It is helpful to include examples of how the nominee has gone above and beyond what could reasonably be expected of a member and why their contribution is worthy of recognition through Life Membership.

Life membership cannot be nominated by or supported (in the first instance) by an immediate family member, including husband, wife stepmother / father, son, daughter, sister, brother, partner) or de-facto partner.

CRITERIA FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The nominee should be a well-respected member of the Club, and there should be a high level of recognition from the Club's membership of the nominee's work for the Club over a number of years.

The nominee ideally, will have met 2 of the following criteria:

1. The nominee has been a member of the Club for at least 10 years and shown an ongoing commitment to the Labrador Club over that time.
2. The nominee has served on the Committee for at least 5 years or has undertaken duties/tasks above and beyond the duties of a Club member.
3. The nominee has demonstrated a positive influence on Club events, functions or assets, or has assisted in the mentoring of new, younger, or existing members over a 5-year period (e.g., working to expand the membership, encouraging and advising new Club members, taking part in Club activities).
4. Has participated in club functions/events or supported club functions/events even when not participating, for at least 5 years. These events could include, but are not limited to - ribbon parades, fun days, club walks, championship shows, other social events, fundraising functions & initiatives.
5. Evidence that the nominee has met the objectives of promoting and protecting the breed.

NB. The Committee has the discretion to take into account all and any other criteria when considering a nomination.

NOMINATION PROCEDURE FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Ideally the nomination should not be disclosed to the nominee prior to approval and subsequent awarding at the next Labrador Club Inc. Annual General Meeting.

1. Nomination should be presented in writing by a current financial member of the Club and be supported and seconded by another current financial member of the Club, demonstrating the criteria met. It should be delivered to the Secretary to table at the next scheduled committee meeting.
2. For the nomination to proceed it must achieve at least 80% support of the entire committee (including the executive). NB. In the case of a current committee member being nominated for Life Membership; it must achieve at least 80% support of the remainder of committee (including the executive) for the nomination to proceed.
3. All successful nominations are awarded their 'Life Membership' at the next Labrador Club Inc. Annual General Meeting.

(c) Junior Members

Children under the age of fifteen years may be admitted as Junior members on payment of the subscription as approved at an Annual General Meeting. Junior members shall have no voting powers and cannot nominate or second any candidate standing for the management of the Club.

(d) Overseas Members

The committee shall have the power to elect on the recommendation of a member seconded by another member as overseas members such persons as reside outside New Zealand who are desirous of becoming members and who shall have signed the appropriate application form for membership. Overseas members shall not be liable for any subscriptions or be eligible for election to the management of the Club and shall have no voting rights.

7. Election of Officers and Committee

- a. Only Ordinary members who have been Financial during the previous financial year and Life Members shall be eligible for election as officers or committee members.
 - b1. Nomination for officers and committee members to be elected at the Annual General Meeting may be lodged in writing with the Secretary seven (7) clear days before the Annual General Meeting. Each candidate must be duly proposed and seconded by a financial member of the Club and the candidate need not necessarily be present at the meeting provided he has signified in writing his consent to nomination.
 - Or b2. Nominations for officers and committee members may be proposed by and seconded by a financial member at an Annual General Meeting with the proviso that the candidate is present to signify his consent to nomination or the proposer is able to table the written consent of the candidate.
- c. Any officer other than the President may hold more than one office at the same time, other than that of auditor, and the President, if elected, may be appointed a delegate.
- b. Where the number of candidates who have been duly proposed and seconded and who have signified consent to nomination exceeds the number to be elected, a secret ballot shall be held amongst those present at the Annual General Meeting.
- c. No one shall be eligible for the position of President of the Club unless he has served on the management of the Club.

- d. A person to be eligible for election to the executive committee of The Labrador Club Inc must reside within the approved zone of influence of the Club.

8. Financial Year

The financial year shall commence on 1st January and end on 31st December of each year.

9. Subscriptions

- a. The annual subscription shall fall due on January 1st each year. Fixing of the annual subscription shall be at the discretion of the Committee.
- b. New members shall pay a full year's subscription for the financial year in which they join.

10. Club Privileges

Only financial members are entitled to Club privileges.

11. Annual General Meetings

The Annual General Meeting of the members or the Club shall be held no later than February 28th each year. The order of business shall be as follows:

- a. Roll Call and Apologies
- b. Adoption of Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
- c. President's report
- d. Balance Sheet
- e. Election of Officers and Committee
- f. General Business

12. Special General Meeting

A Special General Meeting of members of the Club shall be called by the Committee or on requisition in writing to the Secretary signed by six members whereupon fourteen (14) days' notice in writing shall be forwarded by post by the Secretary to all members specifying the business of the meeting to which discussion shall be confined.

13. Quorums

A quorum at an Annual General Meeting shall be ten members. A quorum at a Special General Meeting shall be twenty members. If within half an hour of the time appointed for any Special General Meeting a quorum is not present it shall be dissolved. The quorum for a committee meeting shall be seven members present of whom two shall be officers of the Club.

14. Voting at Annual and Special General Meetings

- a. Voting at General Meetings shall be restricted to Life Members and Ordinary Financial Members whose period of membership in the Club is not less than three months.
- b. Voting on all elections shall be by secret ballot.
- c. Voting at General Meetings on all matters other than elections shall be by voices or show of hands or if the Chairman or two members present shall require by secret ballot.
- d. Where a secret ballot is to be held two scrutineers shall be appointed at the meeting prior to the taking of votes.

The Chairman shall, at his discretion, have a casting vote in addition to his deliberative vote.

15. Committee Meetings

The Committee shall meet as often as it shall deem necessary but not less than four times a year. The Committee shall have the power to appoint subcommittees for any special objects and delegate to such subcommittees the power of the Committee relating thereto. A meeting of the Committee may be summoned at any time by the President or in his unavoidable absence by the Vice President or at the request of five of the Committee. In the absence of the President or Vice President the Committee shall appoint a Chairman from their number. The Chairman shall at his discretion, have a casting vote in addition to his deliberative vote.

16. Accounts and Record

A register containing the names and addresses of all members shall be kept up to date by the Secretary. The Secretary shall keep proper minutes of the proceedings of all meetings and committee meetings. The Committee shall elect a Trophy Steward who shall maintain a record of the permanent trophies of the Club and perform such other duties in relation to prizes or trophies as may be reasonably required by the Committee.

The Committee shall cause true accounts to be kept by the Treasurer –

1. Of all sums of money received and expended by the Club and matters in respect of which such receipt and expenditure takes place.
2. Of all the Assets, Credits and Liabilities of any description affecting any of the property of the Club. Books of the Club shall be open to inspection by members of the Club at such reasonable times as determined by the Committee.

17. Banking

All monies received shall forthwith be paid into a Bank approved of by the Committee, after being entered in the books of the Club as being received. Payment of monies shall be authorised by the Committee or by any duly constituted meeting of the membership. The Committee shall not have the power to overdraw the Bank Account of the Club. The Club signatories shall be the President, Vice President and the Secretary or the Treasurer any two of whom may jointly operate the Bank Account. Funds surplus to requirements shall be invested at the discretion of the Committee.

18. Annual Report and Balance Sheet

At the Annual General Meeting the Committee shall lay before the Club a report and an audited statement of the Income and Expenditure and audited Balance Sheet containing a summary of the property and liabilities of the Club from the time the last Balance Sheet was made.

A copy of the Annual Report and Balance Sheet shall be posted to every member of the Club together with the notice convening the meeting at least seven (7) clear days before the meeting.

19. Trophies

The Committee shall have the power to allocate trophies and cups for competition at shows as finance permits. All trophies and cups held by members must be returned to the Trophy Steward one month before the next show at which the Trophy or Cup is to be competed for. Failure to observe this rule shall at the discretion of the Committee render the holder's name liable to be expunged from the records of the award concerned. Only financial members shall be eligible to compete for the Club's perpetual trophies.

20. Cessation of Membership

- a. Any member of the Club may resign by giving notice in writing of his intention to the Committee.
- b. The Committee shall have the power to cancel the membership of a member whose subscription has remained in arrears for longer than one year.
- c. Any person ceasing to be a member shall forthwith return either in person or by post to the Trophy Steward any Trophy, Cup or property he may have in his possession which belongs to the Club.

21. Misconduct

The Committee shall have the power to call upon any member for an explanation of any charge of misconduct brought against him by any member or members of the Club and a Committee meeting may suspend any member whose membership shall be considered to have become undesirable or no longer conducive to the interests the Club provided –

1. At least fourteen (14) days' notice in writing shall be given by the Secretary to the member in question stating the grounds upon which, and the date and place of the meeting at which the question of his suspension is to be discussed.
2. Such person may be present at such Committee meeting and shall be allowed an advocate to speak upon the matter affecting the proposed suspension.
3. A decision to suspend a member in accordance with the foregoing shall be deemed to have been carried if three-fourths of those present vote in its favour.
4. A retired member or person suspended under these Rules is not entitled to recover any portion of his subscription or retain any Club property.
5. A member suspended under this Rule shall have the right of appeal at a Special General meeting of members.

This suspension may become expulsion upon the committee's calling a Special General Meeting for this purpose. A two-thirds majority shall be required to carry such expulsion.

22. Common Seal

The Secretary of the Club shall have the custody of the Common Seal of the Club and shall affix such Seal to documents only on the direction of the Committee and in the presence of the President of the Club.

23. Alteration to Rules

The Rules of the Club may be altered, added to or rescinded at any Annual or Special General meeting of the Club of which at least seven (7) clear days' notice has been given to members by post. The notice so given shall contain a copy of or state briefly the nature of the motion to be moved at the General Meeting so called.

All proposed alterations to the Rules shall be by way of notice of the motion signed by the proposer and seconder and delivered to the Secretary and shall be dealt with at the next Annual General Meeting of the Club or a Special General Meeting called for the purpose of altering or amending such rules. All such proposed alternations to the Rules shall be deemed to have been passed if two-thirds of those present and eligible to vote, vote in favour. All rule amendments duly passed in accordance with this Rule shall be submitted to the New Zealand Kennel Club (Inc) for approval prior to registration with the Registrar of Incorporated Societies.

24. Registered office

The Registered office of the Club shall be at the residence of the Secretary or such other place as shall from time to time be deemed suitable. Notice of any change in the Registered office shall be sent to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies and to the office of The New Zealand Kennel Club (Inc).

25. Winding up

If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Club, there remains after satisfaction of all liabilities, any property whatsoever the same shall not be paid or distributed among Club members but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or Body having objects similar to the objects of the Club such Institution or Body to be determined by a majority of the members at a Special General Meeting held in accordance with the Rules of the Club at or before the dissolution or in default thereof to such Institution or Body as a Judge of the Supreme Court of New Zealand may direct.