Adopted by the club membership on August 19, 2021.

# **ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY. There shall be three classes of membership: Individual, Family, and Associate, open to all persons who express an interest in the sport of dog agility.

1. Individual Members shall consist of persons 18 years of age and older who shall be entitled to every privilege and to participate in all benefits of the Club, to include: Individual Members shall be entitled to receive the member discount on all FRAC trials and events; Individual Members shall be included in “Club Members in Good Standing”; Individual Members shall have voting rights within the Club; Individual Members shall be qualified to run for Club office positions; Individual Members shall be eligible to receive Club awards; Individual Members shall be invited to all Club meetings, including the Annual Meeting; Individual Members shall be included in any Club quorum counts; and Individual Members shall be given access to the Club Group Site (together these privileges and benefits are referred to as the “Club Benefits”).

1. Family Membership shall consist of two or more members of the same household. Family members shall be entitled to every privilege and to participate in all benefits of the Club including Club Benefits.
2. Associate Membership shall consist of persons 18 years of age and older. They shall be entitled to receive the member discount on all FRAC trials and events. They shall NOT be entitled to any other Club Benefit

SECTION 2: DUES.

1. Individual and Family Members -- The Board of Directors shall determine the amounts of dues but not to exceed $50 for Individual Membership and $75 for Family Membership. Dues are payable on or before the 1st day of February each year. If the Board has not acted upon the amounts of dues by December 15th each year, then the current amounts will remain unchanged for the ensuing year. The Vice President shall send renewal notices to members by January 1st.
2. Associate Members – The Board of Directors shall determine the amounts of dues for Associate Members. Dues are payable along with payment to any Club event. Associate Membership during shall be determined by The Board of Directors and posted on the Club even premium.

SECTION 3: EXPECTATION. Club Members in Good Standing are expected to volunteer for at least two positions relating to club events, committees or other functions per membership year.

SECTION 4: TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.

1. Individual and Family memberships may be terminated:
2. by resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary.
3. by lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues have not been paid by March 1.​ In no case may a member be entitled to vote whose dues are unpaid.
4. by expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VIII of these bylaws.

(b) Associate Memberships may be terminated by majority vote of The Board of Directors or by lapsing for the failure to pay dues by March 1 of each year.

# **ARTICLE II - MEETINGS**

SECTION 1: ANNUAL MEETING. T​he Annual meeting of the Club shall be held in the month of January at a place, date, and hour designated by the Board of Directors. Notice of the Annual meeting will be sent by the President or Secretary to each member in good standing at least 30 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for the Annual meeting shall be 10% of the members in good standing.

SECTION 2: GENERAL MEETINGS. G​eneral meetings of the club will be held in the months of February through November at a place, date, and hour designated by the Board of Directors. Notice of the meeting will be sent by the President or Secretary to each member in good standing at least 14 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for a General meeting shall be four board members.

SECTION 3: SPECIAL CLUB MEETINGS. S​pecial Club meetings may be called by the President or by a majority vote of the members of the Board who are present at a meeting of the Board, or shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by 10% of the members of the Club who are in good standing. Such meeting shall be held at such place, date, and hour as designated by the Board of Directors. Notice of such meeting shall be sent by the Secretary at least 14 days and not more than 30 days prior to the meeting. The notice of the meeting shall state the purpose of the meeting, and no other club business may be transacted. The quorum for such a meeting shall be 10% of the members in good standing.

SECTION 4: BOARD MEETINGS. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such times and places as are designated by a majority vote of the entire Board or when called by the President. Notice of each such meeting shall be made by the President or Secretary to each member of the Board at least 14 days prior to the meeting date. The quorum for a Board

Meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 5: COMMUNICATION.​ The Board of Directors may conduct its business via mail, electronic mail, or phone.

SECTION 6: PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS BY ELECTRONIC MEANS. All club meetings may be conducted in person, by electronic means, or a combination thereof. Participation in any club meeting by means of telephone or video conference or similar communications equipment by which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time, will be allowed at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Such participation shall constitute presence in person at the meeting.

# **ARTICLE III - DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

SECTION 1: BOARD OF DIRECTORS. T​he Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three to four other persons, such that the Board shall contain seven or eight members, all of whom shall be members in good standing. The Officers and Directors shall be elected for two-year terms. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors, including but not limited to adherence to all state and federal laws and oversight of the fiscal health of the club.

1. The initial Board of Directors, including Officers, will be appointed. The initial Vice President and two of the initial Directors will serve a one-year term in order to establish overlapping terms amongst the Board.

1. All subsequent Boards will be elected as proscribed in Article IV, Section 4.

SECTION 2: OFFICERS. T​he Club's officers, consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meetings.

1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President in addition to those particularly specified in these bylaws.

1. The Vice-President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's death, absence, or incapacity. The Vice President shall also perform other duties as specified in these bylaws and as designated by the Board of Directors. The Vice President shall also keep a roll of the members of the Club.
2. The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board and of all votes, and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. The Secretary shall notify members of meetings, notify Officers and Directors of their election to office, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these bylaws.
3. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club. The Treasurer shall deposit the same in a bank approved by the Board, in the name of the Club. The books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board, and the Treasurer shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances. The Treasurer may be bonded in such amount, as the Board of Directors shall determine.

1. The terms of the outgoing Secretary and Treasurer will overlap one month with term of their successor.

SECTION 3: VACANCIES. A​ny vacancies occurring on the Board during the year shall be filled for the unexpired term of office by a majority vote of all the current members of the Board, except when a vacancy in the office of President shall be filled

automatically by the Vice-President, and the resulting vacancy in the office of Vice-President shall be filled by a vote of the Board.

**ARTICLE IV - THE CLUB YEAR, VOTING, NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS**

SECTION 1: CLUB YEAR. T​he Club's membership year and term of office for elected nominees shall begin on the 1st day of February and end on the 31st day of January. Each retiring officer shall turn over to his successor all properties and records relating to that office by January 31​st,​ with the exceptions in Article III Section 2 item (e).

SECTION 2: VOTING. A​t the Annual meeting or at a special meeting of the Club, voting shall be limited to those members in good standing who are present at the meeting.

SECTION 3: ANNUAL ELECTION. F​or the election of the Board of Directors, the vote shall be conducted at the Annual Meeting and by secret ballot, if needed. Ballots shall be certified and counted by two inspectors of election during the Annual meeting. The inspectors of election shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and must be Club members in good standing who are not members of the Board of Directors, nominees for election, or relatives of the nominees. The person receiving the largest number of votes for each position shall be declared elected. If any elected nominee is unable to serve for any reason, the vacancy so created shall be filled by the new Board of Directors in the manner provided by Article I​ II ​Section 3. All of the ballots cast for the election of Officers and Directors shall be available during the Annual meeting and will be destroyed by the Secretary 30 days thereafter.

SECTION 4: NOMINATIONS AND BALLOTS. N​o person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated in accordance with these bylaws. A Nominating Committee shall be chosen by the Board of Directors before June 15​t​th​h.​ The

Committee shall consist of three members, all members in good standing. The Board shall name a chairman for the Committee. The Nominating Committee may conduct its business by mail, phone or electronic mail.

1. The Nominating Committee shall nominate from among the eligible members of the Club one candidate for each expiring office, and for each other available position on the Board of Directors and shall procure the acceptance of each nominee so chosen. The Committee shall then submit its slate of Candidates to the Secretary who shall send the list to each member of the Club on or before October 15th so that additional nominations may be made by the members if they so desire.

1. Additional nominations of eligible members may be made by written petition addressed to the Secretary and received at their regular address on or before November 15th, signed by five members and accompanied by the written acceptance of each such additional nominee signifying his willingness to be a candidate. No person shall be a candidate for more than one position, and the additional nominations that are provided for herein may be made only from among those members who have not accepted a nomination of the Nominating Committee.

1. If no valid additional nominations are received by the Secretary on or before November 15th, the Nominating Committee's slate shall be declared elected at the time of the Annual Meeting, and no balloting will be required.

1. If one or more valid additional nominations are received by the Secretary on or before November 15th, each member in good standing shall receive a ballot listing all of the nominees for each position in alphabetical order.

1. Nominations cannot be made at the Annual meeting or in any manner other than as provided above.

# **ARTICLE V - EVENTS**

SECTION 1:​ This Club can only hold events in which all members’ dogs that are of sufficient age and health can compete.

SECTION 2: T​he Event Committee shall be allowed to participate in the event that they are coordinating.

# **ARTICLE VI - WEBSITE, GROUP PAGE**

SECTION 1: The Club shall maintain a Club Website accessible to the general public and Group Page accessible to Club members in good standing only, to inform the membership of Club business, Club events and other information of interest.

SECTION 2: The Board shall appoint a website coordinator to maintain the website. Meeting minutes and treasurer reports will be stored on the Group Page.

# **ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES**

SECTION 1: T​he Board may appoint Committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as agility trials, fun matches, trophies, newsletter, annual prizes, membership, and other activities which may well be served by committees. Such Committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board.

SECTION 2: A​ny Committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board upon written notice to the appointee, and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose service has been terminated.

# **ARTICLE VIII - DISCIPLINE**

SECTION 1: CHARGES. A​ny member may proffer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the sport of dog agility. Written charges with specifications must be filed with the Secretary. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the Board or present them at a Board Meeting, and the Board shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the sport of dog agility. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or of the sport of dog agility, it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date of a hearing by the Board or a Committee of not less than three members of the Board, not less than 3 weeks nor more than 6 weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by registered mail together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if they so choose.

SECTION 2: BOARD HEARING. T​he Board or Committee shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the hearing, but both complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in that regard. Should the charges be sustained after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by complainant and defendant, the Board or Committee may, by a majority vote of those present, suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six months from the date of the hearing. And, if the Board or Committee deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before his fellow-members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the recommendation of the Board or Committee. Immediately after the Board or Committee has reached a decision, its findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary in turn shall notify each of the parties of the decision and penalty, if any.

SECTION 3: EXPULSION. E​xpulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only at the Annual or General meeting or of the Club following a hearing and upon the recommendation of the Board or Committee as provided in Section 3 of this Article. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing on his own behalf though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The

President shall read the charges and the findings and recommendations and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak on his own behalf. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A two-thirds vote of the members in good standing present and voting at the Annual or General meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted, the suspension shall stand.

# **ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS**

SECTION 1: ​ Amendments to the bylaws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the

Secretary and signed by twenty percent of the membership in good standing.

SECTION 2: All amendments will be voted on at the Annual or a General Meeting unless the Board determines that the issue to be of such urgency as to require action sooner.

# **ARTICLE X - DISSOLUTION**

SECTION 1: The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than two-thirds of the members in good standing. In the event of the dissolution of the Club other than for the purposes of reorganization, whether voluntary or involuntary, or by operation of law, none of the property of the Club, nor any proceeds thereof, nor any assets of the Club shall be distributed to any members of the Club, but after payment of the debts of the Club, its property and assets shall be given to an organization for the benefit of dogs selected by the Board of Directors.

# **ARTICLE XI - ORDER OF BUSINESS**

SECTION 1: At meetings of the Club, business shall be conducted using the Robert's Rules of Order. The order of business, so far as the character and nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows:

Report of the President

Report of the Secretary

Report of the Treasurer

Reports of Committees

Unfinished Business

New Business

Adjournment

SECTION 2: At meetings of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

Adoption of minutes of last club and/or board meeting

Report of the President

Report of the Secretary

Report of the Treasurer

Reports of Committees

Unfinished Business

New Business

Adjournment

Revision History: The club bylaws were originally adopted by the charter members of the club in 1998. The original bylaws were amended and accepted by a majority vote of the club membership on January 20, 2011. The bylaws were amended and accepted by a majority vote of the club membership on January 21, 2016. The bylaws were amended and accepted by a majority vote of the club membership at the March 18, 2021 General Meeting. The March 2021 revisions included changing the General Meeting notification to 14 days instead of 30 days, adding Article 2, Section 6 to allow remote participation in meetings, and updating Article VI changing newsletter publication to website and Group Page updates. The bylaws were amended and accepted by a majority vote of the club membership present at the August 19, 2021 board meeting. The August 2021 revisions allowed for the inclusion of an Associate Membership class, along with associated benefits and restrictions.