

Constitution and By-Laws of the Working Riesenschнауzer Federation

EFFECTIVE: APRIL 30, 1997 • AMENDED: MAY 1, 2008

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

NAME

Section 1. Name. The name of the club shall be: "Working Riesenschнауzer Federation." The abbreviated name shall be "WRSF".

ARTICLE II

LOGO & COLORS

Section 1. Logo. The club's logo shall be circular in shape with two Riesenschнауzer head profiles in the center surrounded by the words WORKING RIESENSCHNAUZER FEDERATION and the year 1991. One head will represent the Black variety, and the second head will represent the Pepper/Salt variety; and one head will show cropped ears and the other will show natural ears.

Section 2. Colors. The colors shall be black and white.



ARTICLE III

PROFIT STATUS

Section 1. Profit Status. The WRSF shall be conducted as a non-profit organization. No member may derive any income from the WRSF. Persons who, in the course of official duties or in the service of the WRSF, incur expenses may apply to the Treasurer for reimbursement for these expenses. Reimbursement must be approved by the Board of Directors if over \$50.00.

ARTICLE IV

OBJECTIVES

Section 1. Objectives. The objectives of the WRSF shall be as follows:

1. To present and protect the Riesenschнауzer and its heritage as a working dog while doing everything possible to perfect its natural working qualities.
2. To maintain open dialogue with all clubs sharing similar objectives, national and international, while insuring our autonomy.
3. To advance the interests of the breed by educating its members about working ability, conformation, temperament, health, breeding, training and maintenance of the total Riesenschнауzer, sound in mind and body.
4. To establish and maintain a Registry for Giant Schnauzers, recording all earned degrees and titles from recognized and accepted organizations. (See Appendix)
5. To accept the authenticity of registrations issued by recognized curators of stud books, national and international, as a basis from which to register litters and issue certified pedigrees reflecting all titles earned. (See Appendix)
6. To conduct competitions appropriate to test the working capacities of the Riesenschнауzer including, but not limited to: protection, obedience, tracking, police trials; and conformation evaluation competitions.
7. To encourage participation in a variety of activities for which the Riesenschнауzer is suited.
8. To accept the standard of the breed as approved by the Pinscher Schnauzer Klub (PSK) as the standard of excellence by which the Riesenschнауzer shall be judged in conformation events. (See Appendix)
9. To conform with internationally accepted rules and regulations governing dog sports. (See Appendix)
10. To establish a permanent marking system to authenticate identity, veterinary evaluations and earned titles of individual dogs.
11. To protect the anatomical structure of the breed by requiring all breedable dogs to fulfill the criteria for Registry in the WRSF.
12. To publish an official publication to advance the objectives of the WRSF.
13. To abide by the WRSF Code of Ethics which describes appropriate ways to preserve and protect the integrity of the Riesenschнауzer breed according to the stated objectives of the WRSF. (See Appendix)

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BY-LAWS

Unless specifically contradicted by these By-Laws, Robert's Rules of Order shall be the accepted parliamentary authority.

ARTICLE I MEMBERSHIPS & DUES

Section 1. There shall be three (3) types of membership:

- (1) Individual Membership, open to all persons eighteen (18) years of age or older who subscribe to the purposes of this club.
- (2) Junior Membership, open to all persons up to eighteen (18) years of age who subscribe to the purposes of this club.
- (3) Honorary Membership. Conferred to an individual nominated by the Board and approved by the general membership as a mark of signal honor, which will not be given lightly for temporary advantage.

Section 2. Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities.

- (1) The Individual member shall have all rights and privileges of membership which includes the right to vote and to hold office in the WRSF.
- (2) The Junior member shall have all rights and privileges of membership, but shall not vote or hold office.
- (3) The Honorary membership is a lifetime honor which allows all rights and privileges of membership, but shall not vote or hold office.
- (4) All members shall receive the official publication and notices regarding the general business of the WRSF, and be entitled to any additional rights and privileges that are granted by the Board of Directors, these By-Laws, or are generally accepted as rights and privileges pertaining to a membership in a national organization. In addition, a member acknowledges and accepts the responsibility attached to membership by supporting the WRSF in its endeavors and decisions and by adhering to and protecting its Constitution and By-Laws and Code of Ethics.
- (5) A member in good standing may apply for a WRSF Scorebook for any Riesenschneider owned by the member.

Section 3. Application.

A candidate for Individual or Junior membership must submit to the Secretary or Membership Director an application or approved form together with the appropriate dues.

Section 4. Election to Membership. Members will be approved in the following manner:

- (1) The Board of Directors shall approve a membership application form containing (but not limited to) the name, address, and the applicant's signed agreement to abide by the WRSF Constitution and By-Laws and Code of Ethics.
- (2) Applicants may be approved at any meeting of the Board of Directors or by written vote of the Directors by mail, having received affirmation by two-thirds (2/3) of the Directors either present or by mail. An application may be denied by the Board. If an application for membership is denied the application fee will be promptly returned, and the applicant must wait one year before re-applying.
- (3) Members shall be provided with an official membership card, copy of the WRSF Constitution and By-Laws and membership directory.

Section 5. Dues. Dues for each type of membership are set by and periodically reviewed by the Board.

- (1) All membership dues shall be due and payable at the time of application and every anniversary date thereafter.
- (2) Honorary members shall be charged no annual dues.
- (3) Any member whose dues remain unpaid one (1) month after the anniversary date shall be notified in writing by the Membership Director, Secretary or Treasurer that the membership has lapsed; and if said dues remain unpaid for another thirty (30) days, the member shall be automatically suspended. During such suspension a member is not allowed to vote, and if said dues remain unpaid for another thirty (30) days, the member shall be automatically terminated.
- (4) Current dues must be paid by a member while under any disciplinary suspension imposed by Article VIII.
- (5) A member who has been terminated under these rules may re-apply at any future date, but the membership will begin with a new starting date for purposes of determining length of membership.
- (6) Dues are non-refundable.

Section 6. Termination. Membership may be terminated by means of the following:

- (1) Resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the WRSF upon written notice to the Secretary, but no member may resign while in debt to the club.
- (2) Lapsing. Termination of membership by lapsing shall be enforced as provided in this Article, Section 5, Part 3.
- (3) Expulsion. A member may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VIII.
- (4) Memberships are not transferable and shall terminate automatically with the death of a member.
- (5) The Membership of any person who is convicted of a felony, while a member, will be reviewed by the Board.

ARTICLE II
MEETINGS & VOTING

- Section 1. Annual Meeting. An Annual General Membership Meeting of the WRSF shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Working Trial whenever possible. The time and location of the Annual Meeting shall be set by the Board of Directors and if not held at an Annual Trial it will be held in conjunction with an event considered to be of interest to the general membership. Written notice of the meeting shall be included with the notice of the Annual Trial or, if held separately, mailed by the Secretary to all members of the WRSF at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.
- Section 2. Quorum. A quorum shall consist of twenty (20) members or 10% of the total membership, whichever is less, for any Annual Meeting. Unless otherwise expressly provided for within these By-Laws, all matters requiring a vote shall be decided by a simple majority of members present and voting. Individual members in good standing shall each be entitled to one vote. There will be no voting by proxy unless specifically directed and allowed by the By-Laws.
- Section 3. Meetings of the Board of Directors. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least two (2) times each year, either in person or by telephone conference. Dates and times of such meetings shall be sent in writing to all members of the Board at least seven (7) days before the meeting. Special Board Meetings may be called by the President or by a majority vote of the members of the Board. Each Board member shall receive one vote and a simple majority shall decide all issues not specifically requiring a larger majority.
- Section 4. Method of Voting. Any issue which requires a vote by the Membership or the Board may be decided by a procedure determined by the Board to be the most judicious method for a timely return of the vote. This may include, but not be limited to: show of hands, voice, written ballot, electronic or another means of tabulation.

ARTICLE III
OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Section 1. Officers. The Officers of the WRSF shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Membership Director.
- Section 2. Board of Directors. The Board of Directors of the WRSF shall consist of the Officers of the WRSF and two (2) Directors-at-Large. All Officers and Directors are elected by the Membership. In addition the Board may appoint Directors for limited terms, according to Article VII, who will have special duties and responsibilities to the Board and the membership. General management of WRSF affairs, including all activities and finances, shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors. The Board shall be responsible to the general membership for the stewardship of WRSF funds, and for the diligent pursuit of the WRSF's objectives.
- Section 3. Terms of Office. The election of members to the Board shall be on a staggered basis so that approximately half of the Board will be elected each year. The term of office for each member of the Board will be specified within the duties of that office. There are no limits to the number of consecutive terms a member may serve on the Board, regardless of the office, except that when a term is completed the member must be re-nominated for a new term according to the By-Laws.
- Section 4. Duties of the President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the WRSF and of the Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally granted to the office of President, in addition to those specified by these By-Laws, and represent the WRSF to other organizations and to the public. The President shall be elected for a term of two years and shall have been a member of the Board of Directors for at least one year.
- Section 5. Duties of the Vice-President. The Vice-President shall have the duties and powers of the President in the event of the President's absence or incapacity, and shall assume the office of President in case of the President's removal, resignation, death or inability to serve. The Vice-President shall be elected for a term of two years, and shall have been a member of the WRSF in good standing for at least one year at the time of election.
- Section 6. Duties of the Secretary. The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings and all other business activities of the WRSF and Board of Directors. The minutes of all meetings shall be mailed to the Board within fifteen (15) days after the event. A record shall be kept of all votes taken, and of all other matters as ordered by the Board. The Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence of the WRSF, notices of meetings, and notify Officers and Directors of election to office. The Secretary shall affix the official WRSF Seal and date on all official documents. In addition, the Secretary shall have such additional duties as are prescribed by these By-Laws, or shall be prescribed by the WRSF or the Board. By consent or direction of the Board, the Secretary may delegate such functions as seem appropriate. The Secretary shall be elected for a term of two years and shall have been a member of the WRSF in good standing for at least one year at the time of the election.
- Section 7. Duties of the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting, accounting for, and handling all funds of the WRSF. The Treasurer shall insure that all funds are deposited in such bank or other depository as the Board of Directors

shall designate, and shall see that disbursements are made as proper and necessary to meet the just and due obligations of WRSF. The Treasurer shall be bonded, and the cost of such bonding shall be borne by the WRSF. The Treasurer shall maintain adequate and detailed accounts of the WRSF's finances, and any additional assets or property, and shall make current reports of such accounts, including all previously unreported transactions, at all Board and Annual Meetings. The Books of the WRSF shall be open to any Board member at any Board meeting, to any member of the WRSF at any Annual Meeting, and otherwise as directed by the President. The accounts of the WRSF shall be audited each year in April by a person or persons appointed by the Board, and before relinquishing the accounts to an incoming Treasurer after an election, and such audit shall be reported at the Annual Meeting and published in the official publication. In addition, the Treasurer shall have such additional duties as are prescribed by these By-Laws, or shall be prescribed by the WRSF or the Board. The Treasurer shall be elected for a term of two years and shall have been a member of the WRSF in good standing for at least one year at the time of the election.

Section 8. Duties of the Membership Director. The Membership Director shall be responsible for providing and receiving membership applications from all prospective members, issue all members an official membership card, and a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws. The Membership Director shall maintain a roll of the names, addresses, and if possible, telephone numbers of all members of the WRSF and make such roll available to all members. The Membership Director shall advise the Secretary and/or Treasurer in a timely fashion of the dues status of any member of the WRSF, of voting eligibility and provide the Nominating Committee with a list of members eligible for candidacy to office. In addition, the Membership Director shall have such additional duties as are prescribed by these By-Laws, or shall be prescribed by the WRSF or the Board. The Membership Director shall be elected for a term of two years and shall have been a member of the WRSF in good standing for at least one year at the time of the election.

Section 9. Duties of the Directors-at-Large. Directors-at-Large shall be elected from among the general membership to act as representatives for all the members in the work of the organization in the interval between Annual Meetings. It is expected that all Directors-at-Large, in addition to service on the Board, shall have significant committee responsibilities. Except as otherwise directed in these By-Laws Directors-at-Large shall be elected for a term of two years and shall have been a member of the WRSF in good standing for at least one year at the time of the election.

Section 10. Shared Duties. Officers and Directors may share duties and responsibilities, which may include but not be limited to: the President and the Treasurer will submit an annual operating budget for the WRSF each year; Board members will serve jointly on the Editorial Staff.

Section 11. Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring on the Board between annual elections shall be filled for the unexpired term of office by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board. Should the office of President be vacated, however, the Vice-President shall automatically become President, and a new Vice-President shall be appointed by the Board. A vacating officer shall turn over to the successor, or a member of the Board, all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days of vacating office.

Section 12. Removal from the Board. Any Board member who is under suspension or subject to any other disciplinary action, according to Article VIII, will be automatically removed from the WRSF Board. The vacant office may be filled according to Section 11, at the discretion of the remaining Board, on a temporary basis. If a disciplinary action is cancelled or acquitted the officer may resume the office for the remainder of the unexpired term.

ARTICLE IV WRSF YEAR, NOMINATIONS, AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. WRSF Year. The WRSF's official and fiscal year shall begin on the first day of May and shall end on the 30th day of April. The elected officers and directors shall take office on the first day of the WRSF's official year. Each retiring officer shall turn over to the successor, or a member of the Board, all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the official year begins.

Section 2. Nominations and Elections. Nominations and elections shall be carried out as follows:

- (1) Elections. Elections will be held annually to fill any vacant positions on the Board of Directors when required. Candidates for the Board shall be elected by the General Membership.
- (2) Nominations. A Nominating Committee shall be responsible to nominate candidates for all offices due to be filled by election. The Committee shall consist of three members from different areas of North America, all members in good standing, no more than one of whom may be a member of the current Board of Directors. The Board shall name a chairman for the Committee, and may choose to appoint this Committee as late as December 31st of each year. The Nominating Committee may conduct its business by mail.
- (3) Candidates. The Nominating Committee shall nominate from among the eligible members of the WRSF one candidate for each vacancy to occur that year, and shall procure the acceptance and biography of each nominee so chosen. Such nominations and biographies shall be presented to the current Board in February, and the Secretary shall notify the General Membership not later than March 15.

- (4) Additional Nominations. Additional nominations of eligible members may be made by written petition to the Secretary. The Secretary must receive such petitions not later than March 31, even if it is not a mail delivery day. The petitions must be signed by five members in good standing of the WRSF, and be accompanied by the written acceptance, with a biography, of each candidate signifying willingness to be a candidate. All such nominations are public information, and the Secretary shall divulge any nominations so received at any point to any member of the WRSF who inquires. No person may be a candidate for more than one position.
- (5) Election of Slate. If no valid additional nominations are received by the Secretary, the Nominating Committee's slate shall be declared automatically elected on April 1 and no balloting of the General Membership will be required.
- (6) Election by Balloting. If one or more valid additional nominations are received by the Secretary on or before March 31, the Secretary shall, on or before April 17, mail to each member in good standing a ballot listing all of the nominees for each position in alphabetical order, with the names of the states or provinces in which they reside, and biographical information provided by the candidates, not to exceed a single typewritten page for each candidate. Ballots must be returned to the person designated by the Board as the Inspector of Elections within 12 days of the date postmarked by the Secretary. Ballots shall be tallied as the Board shall direct. The Secretary shall notify the membership of election results not later than May 1.
- (7) Other nominations. Nominations cannot be made in any other manner than as provided above; no one may be elected who has not been duly nominated.

ARTICLE V OFFICIAL WRSF PUBLICATION

Section 1. Official Publication. The WRSF shall publish, on a regular basis, in a newsletter or magazine format, material which shall serve to inform the membership of business before the WRSF, and articles of interest to the WRSF. In addition to those items specifically cited for publication in these By-Laws, the Editor and Editorial Staff shall establish what shall appear in the publication on a regular basis. The official WRSF publication shall be known as and titled *Schnauzer Browser*.

Section 2. Editor and Editorial Staff. The Editor of the *Schnauzer Browser* shall be appointed by the Board of Directors to serve at its pleasure. The Editorial Staff shall be appointed by the Board for two year terms. The Editorial Staff will consist of five members: the Editor of the publication, three additional members of the Board, and a non-board member chosen by the Editor, and approved by the Board, who is a member in good standing of the WRSF.

Section 3. Duties of the Editor. The Editor of the *Schnauzer Browser* shall be responsible, under the direction of the Board, for the official publication of the WRSF. The Editor shall set general editorial and advertising policies, which are consistent with the By-Laws, and arrange for the printing and distribution of the publication, delegating duties as necessary and acceptable to the Editorial Staff, to ensure the timeliness of the publication.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

Section 1. Committees. The Board shall appoint Chairpersons and Standing Committees as required by these By-Laws, and shall create and staff such other Standing and additional Ad hoc committees as seem necessary to further the objectives of WRSF. Ad hoc committees shall serve at the pleasure of the Board, and may be dismissed or re-staffed as seems desirable to the Board. Standing Committees shall ordinarily serve for the entire club year, but Members or Chairs may be replaced for cause, including resignation or failure to perform their duties or to report to the Board.

Section 2. Standing Committees. The following Standing Committees shall be appointed each year by the Board:

- (1) Nominating Committee. As described in Article IV, Section 2, (2).
- (2) Working Trial Committee. This committee shall have responsibility for organizing the Annual Working Trial, and shall recommend to the Board the rules which shall govern the areas of competition required or allowed for by these By-Laws. This Committee shall also be responsible for recommending judges for each competition, verifying licenses and/or credentials, keeping in mind that the WRSF must have not only judges who are competent and fair, but who present an undeniable appearance of competence and fairness. While the Working Trial Committee has primary responsibility for planning and running the Trial, the Board has ultimate authority over every aspect.
- (3) Editorial Staff. As described in Article V, Section 2.
- (4) Registrar. The Registrar is responsible for receiving and verifying documents, collecting fees, maintaining records, and issuing official certificates and pedigrees as required by the official Registration system instituted by the WRSF. The Registrar will also receive applications for and issue official WRSF Scorebooks. The Registrar will collect and maintain a record of the official results of all WRSF sponsored events, including but not limited to trial scores, conformation evaluations and any other records as directed by the Board.
- (5) Conformation. The Conformation Chairperson is responsible for overseeing competitions, and assist in selecting qualified persons to officiate at competitions, who are knowledgeable in canine anatomy and the official Standard for the breed.

- (6) Liaison to PSK/ISPU. The Liaison shall maintain contact with the PSK, ISPU, and other foreign organizations and represent the WRSF to all such organizations. The Liaison will have other responsibilities as directed by the Board.

ARTICLE VII
REGIONS, REGIONAL DIRECTORS, CHARTERED CLUBS

Section 1. Regions. The Board of Directors reserves the right to determine and establish Regional divisions in North America and designate such geographic boundaries.

Section 2. Regional Directors.

- (1) The Board of Directors will appoint a Regional Director to supervise and support WRSF objectives and activities within a designated region. The Regional Director will be selected for special skills and/or knowledge, experience with the WRSF, knowledge of the dog clubs in the region, and the needs of the region which directly affect the WRSF. The Regional Director will be assigned specific duties by the Board, will have authority only over the specified region and will co-operate with any other Regional Director. The Regional Director must be fully eligible to hold office and will be appointed for a term of one year, with no limit to the number of consecutive terms the Director may serve.
- (2) The Regional Director will support and assist in bringing members of the region together for activities; assist in the development of regional clubs which may be Chartered by the WRSF and represent the members of the region. The Regional Director will report to the Board, but will not vote at any Board meeting which the Director attends.
- (3) The Board may appoint an assistant regional director to assist or to represent when the Regional Director is unavailable.
- (4) When a region contains at least three (3) or more Chartered Clubs a candidate for Regional Director may be nominated by a committee consisting of one delegate from each chartered club in the region. The candidate must then be elected by a simple majority of all WRSF members of the governed region, whether or not they are a member of a chartered club. At that time the Regional Director will become an additional "Director-At-Large" member of the Board of Directors, with a one year term.

Section 3. Chartered Clubs. The WRSF Rules and Regulations for Chartered Clubs must be followed in order for a club to be officially recognized by the WRSF. (see Appendix)

ARTICLE VIII
DISCIPLINE

Section 1. Discipline.

- (1) Any person associated with the WRSF, or participating in its activities, may be subject to discipline for reported and substantiated conduct which is deemed unbecoming to the membership or might discredit the WRSF. It is the duty of the Board of Directors to investigate any such report of misconduct, consider the effects to the WRSF and to inform the person of the opinion of the Board.
- (2) Suspension. Any person associated with the WRSF, or participating in its activities, may be suspended from WRSF privileges for reasons which may include, but not be limited to: in any way usurping the authority of the Board or pretending to speak for the WRSF without specific appointment; while under investigation for: violation of any animal cruelty laws, any record keeping and/or registration irregularities under any recognized registry organization's rules, charges of poor sportsmanship or misconduct at any dog club/event/trial, suspension or expulsion from any club, or for deliberate and controversial actions which may reflect negatively on the Riesenschнауzer breed or is prejudicial to the objectives and interests of the WRSF.
 - (a) While under suspension a member may not vote but must continue to pay dues in order to be automatically reinstated at the end of such suspension.

Section 2. Removal. Any Officer, Director, Committee Chairperson or other person serving as an official representative of the WRSF may be removed from the position for deliberate and flagrant non-performance of duties, or for any action or behavior which is in direct conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of the WRSF. Any such person who has been appointed by the Board of Directors may be removed by Board action. Any such person who has been elected by the General Membership may be removed by written petition addressed to the Secretary and signed by a Quorum of eligible members. Such petition will result in a recall election, with the removal to be voted upon by the General Membership, within ninety (90) days of the date the petition was received by the Secretary.

Section 3. Charges. Any member may prefer charges against another member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the stated objectives or the best interests of WRSF. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$50 for each charge, which shall be forfeited if the charge is not sustained. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the Board or present them at the next Board meeting, and the Board shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, would constitute conduct prejudicial to the objectives or interests of the WRSF. If the Board determines that such actions would not be so prejudicial, it must refuse to entertain jurisdiction.

tion. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges it shall fix a date of hearing by the Board not less than three weeks nor more than six 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 member may respond to such charges in person, if the Board is to meet in person; by teleconference, if the hearing is to be held by teleconference; or the member shall always have the option to respond to the charges in writing. Written depositions of witnesses may be presented.

Section 4. Board Hearings. The Board shall decide whether counsel for the parties may attend the hearing. After the hearing, should the Board sustain the charges, it may, by a majority of those present and voting at the Board meeting: (a) suspend the member from all privileges of WRSF for a specified time, (b) recommend that the member shall be suspended from membership privileges until the next General Meeting whereby the membership may decide the issue, or (c) recommend another form of discipline deemed appropriate to the offense. The findings of the Board and its recommendation shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary, who shall in turn notify each of the parties of the decision and penalties, if any.

Section 5. Expulsion. Expulsion of any member from WRSF may be accomplished only by a vote of the General Membership of the WRSF at the first Annual Meeting following the Board hearing, and upon the Board's recommendation as provided in Section 4 of this article. The member may have the privilege of appearing in his or her own behalf, although no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President or Secretary shall read the charges, state the Board's findings and recommendations, and invite the member to speak. The members shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion, and a 2/3 vote of those present at the meeting shall be necessary for expulsion.

Section 6. Other Disciplinary Action. The Board of Directors may initiate disciplinary action against any person or organization which negatively affects the integrity of the WRSF or is an affront to its members. Such action will not be undertaken frivolously.

ARTICLE IX IMPLEMENTATION

Section 1. Implementation. This Constitution and By-Laws shall become valid and effective immediately upon acceptance by a majority of eligible members voting.

ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Proposal of Amendments. Amendments to this Constitution and By-Laws must be proposed by a 2/3 vote of the Board or written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by 10% of the membership or 20 members in good standing, whichever is less. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors, and must be submitted to the WRSF members with recommendations of the Board not later than three months after the petition was received by the Secretary.

Section 2. Voting on Proposed Amendments. This Constitution and By-Laws may only be amended by a vote of the membership on a mail ballot sent to all members of the WRSF in good standing. An affirmative vote of 2/3 of those returning ballots shall be necessary to amend, substitute, or add any By-Law. Members shall have not less than two weeks nor more than 30 days to return ballots, as specified by the Board.

Section 3. Constitutional Revisions. The Board reserves the right to periodically review the Constitution and By-Laws and recommend such changes, revisions, additions or amendments deemed necessary to keep these documents current with the business of operating an organization of this nature.

ARTICLE XI DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Dissolution. The WRSF may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than 2/3 of the members in good standing. In the event of dissolution of the WRSF, whether voluntary or involuntary by operation of law, none of the property or assets of the WRSF, nor any proceeds thereof, shall be distributed to any members of the WRSF. All property and assets shall be donated and transferred to a non-profit fund, corporation or foundation which is organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of dogs, by decision of the Board.

This list constitutes decisions by the Board of Directors for the conduct of Working Riesenschnauzer Federation business, and can be altered by a majority vote of the Board, as necessary to ensure continuation of business.

STANDING RULES AND WRSF POLICIES

1. That WRSF will apply itself to fulfilling, and maintaining, the requirements for recognition by the International Schnauzer Pinscher Union (ISPU) and the Pinscher Schnauzer Klub (PSK).
2. That WRSF will follow and abide by DHV/FCI Rules and Regulations Governing the Sport of Schutzhund, Obedience Trials and Körung evaluations.
3. That WRSF will accept any individual scorebook or sportpass for any breed of dog, issued by any American Working Dog Federation (AWDF) member club, PSK, DHV or other FCI recognized organization.
4. That whenever possible the WRSF will invite PSK, DHV, and FCI approved judges to officiate at WRSF sponsored events.
5. That WRSF will accept and adhere to the PSK/FCI Standard for the Riesenschnauzer.
6. That WRSF will be a member of and fully support the AWDF, and its member clubs.
7. That the Nominating Committee will, whenever possible, be chosen from among WRSF members who are experienced dog trainers so that the direction of the WRSF will continue to be in the best interest of the Working Riesenschnauzer; and that the Nominating Committee will select candidates for office by the same criteria.
8. That WRSF will follow the initiative of the DHV and encourage participation in Obedience and Tracking, in addition to established Schutzhund Trials, by offering competitions and issuing certificates which recognize achievement.
9. The Board will communicate and conduct WRSF business between official meetings by means of a "Board Letter"; this letter will be issued by the Secretary; or via teleconference, at the President's discretion.
10. In matters before the Board, or requiring a vote by the attending members of the Board, the President will vote last.
11. That WRSF will preserve the option to accept and incorporate all breeds registered by the PSK if interest is expressed by individuals or breed clubs.

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The items listed here constitute the official rules and guidelines governing WRSF business and activities.

APPENDIX

Appendix One:

Working Riesenschnauzer Federation Registration System.
(as published by WRSF, October 1995, and modified as necessary.)

Appendix Two:

The Conformation Standard for the Riesenschnauzer.
(as published by PSK/FCI, May 18, 1979 or later)

Appendix Three:

Rules and Regulations Governing the Sport of Schutzhund.
(as published by DHV/FCI. Translations of the rules are available through schutzhund organizations such as the DVG.)

Appendix Four: (Pending)

WRSF Code of Ethics

Appendix Five:

Rules and Regulations Governing WRSF Chartered Clubs.