

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

- a) To encourage and promote quality in the breeding of purebred Bouvier des Flandres and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection;
- b) To urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by The American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which the Bouvier des Flandres dogs shall be judged;
- c) To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows and obedience trials and other competitive events;
- d) To conduct sanctioned and licensed Specialty Shows and obedience trails under the rules of The American Kennel Club.

Code of Ethics

Adopted February 1992

This Code is designed to establish a standard of conduct to be followed by all members of the Bouvier des Flandres Club of Southeastern Michigan in the course of breeding, selling, exhibiting and advertising Bouviers.

I. General

Each member of the Club will consider the welfare of the breed when engaged in any activities involving the breeding, exhibiting and selling of Bouviers, and will refrain from any actions which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the breed and the Club.

II. Breeding

- a.) All breeding stock shall be in good health and free from communicable disease.
- b.) While x-raying of breeding stock is not mandatory, it is highly recommended and individuals whose dog or bitch is to be bred to another's are urged to furnish and request such x-rays for the stud and bitch.
- c.) A bitch shall be bred only to one stud dog during any one estrus cycle.
- d.) No bitch shall be bred more often than two out of three heat seasons (and then only if in excellent health) and never at the time of her first season unless this occurs after 12 months of age.
- e.) Full disclosure, when requested by either party to a proposed breeding, of what the dog or bitch has previously produced and background details as known.
- f.) To breed carefully and with discrimination for the purpose of improving the breed, not just for profit.
- g.) It is recommended that, to protect all parties, stud service contracts be made in writing, executed by both parties.
- h.) A Bouvier without registration papers shall not be used for breeding.

III. Sales

- a.) No member of the Club shall engage in wholesaling of litters of Bouviers or individual sales of puppies or adults to pet shops, per dealers, catalog houses or other commercial establishments, nor shall they be given as prizes in contests not
- b.) All Bouviers sold shall be in good health and condition, free from communicable

disease. No adult or puppy shall be sold without adequate disease in terms of its age.

c.) Prices of puppies and adults shall be based on individual quality. Pet quality stock shall not be misrepresented as show

d.) Any puppy sold as a show prospect which subsequently develops a congenital or disqualifying fault defect shall be:

(1) replaced by the breeder with another show prospect puppy,

(2) the money refunded and the dog returned to the breeder, or

(3) the buyer's money refunded to the extent of the difference between the price paid and the price of pet puppies sold from the same or similar litters, the buyer retaining the dog.

e.) A puppy or adult showing serious deviation from the standard, rendering it unsuitable for breeding, shall be sold only with a statement to that effect signed by both breeder and buyer. Papers may or may not be withheld, at the breeder's discretion, bearing in mind that the buyer may wish to use the dog for obedience training and exhibition. It is recommended that if papers are given under such circumstances, that the breeder require sterilization, especially in the case of a bitch. All other puppies or adults shall be registered, or shall be eligible for registration, with AKC and the buyer shall be provided with accurate

IV. Exhibiting

All members of the club shall conduct themselves at all times in a manner which will reflect credit upon themselves and upon the breed, regardless of the location or circumstances, but especially when attending dog club meetings or shows, whether as an exhibitor or a spectator.

V. Advertising

All advertising shall be truthful and ethical. Any claims made must be provable. Fraudulent advertising, misrepresentations or misleading statements shall constitute prima-facto evidence of violation of the intents of this Code.

In the case of untruthful or unethical advertising, the censured member must, at his expense, have a retraction printed in the same publication and in the same size as that of the advertising for which he was censured.

VI. Infractions

Violations or infractions to the Code are to be brought to the Board's attention and dealt with in the manner prescribed by the Club's Constitution and By-Laws.

* By vote of its membership the BDFC of SEM has agreed to abide by this Code of the AbdFC.

Constitution

Constitution Adopted June 14, 1978

Revised March 6, 2007

Latest Printing June 12, 2007

ARTICLE I -- NAME AND OBJECTS

SECTION 1. The name of the Club shall be the Bouvier Des Flandres Club of Southeastern Michigan.

SECTION 2. The objects of the Club shall be:

- a.) To encourage and promote quality in the breeding of purebred Bouvier Des Flandres and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection.
- b.) To urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which the Bouvier Des Flandres dogs shall be judged;
- c.) To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike conduct from participants at dog shows and obedience and other competitive events;
- d.) To conduct sanctioned matches, dog shows, obedience trials and any other event of which the club is eligible under the Rules and Regulations of The American Kennel Club.

SECTION 3. The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or remainder or residue from dues or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

SECTION 4. The members of the Club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such By-Laws as may be required to carry out these objects.

By-Laws Adopted June 14, 1978

Revised March 6, 2007

Latest Printing June 12, 2007

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Eligibility. There shall be three types of membership open to all persons 18 years of age and older who are in good standing with the AKC and who subscribe to the purposes of this club and junior memberships; 1. Individual membership - enjoys all club privileges including the right to vote and hold office. 2. Household membership - for two (2) adult

members residing in the same household, each eligible to vote and hold office. 3. Associate membership(s) - entitles member to all club privileges except voting and holding office. Associate memberships shall be offered, but not limited to, individuals who live outside the club's geographic area. Junior membership is open to children under 18 years of age. Junior members would be non-voting/non-office holding members who may automatically convert to regular individual membership at age 18.

Policy: Upon or after obtaining 18 years of age, a junior member desiring to become a regular individual member shall file a membership application with the Secretary requesting their status be changed from junior to regular individual membership. Junior members are presumed to have completed all membership requirements prior and are therefore exempt from new membership requirements, however if the assumption is lacking, these requirements must be fulfilled prior to converting. The Secretary shall read the status change request at the next regular meeting, which will immediately institute full membership privileges, specifically the right to vote and hold office. Grandfather clause applies to any previous junior membership conversion. Application may be received by the secretary in advance of obtaining 18 years, however conversion of membership can only take place upon or after obtaining 18 years of age and membership requirements have been fulfilled.

Policy: Associate members may convert to regular individual memberships or household memberships by following the "Election to Membership" process outlined in Article I, Section 3 of the By-Laws. Thus, a new membership application is to be filed with the secretary, published and voted upon. In addition, active participation in club activities and or the requirement of attending two meetings within the year relevant to requesting membership conversion is required.

SECTION 2. Dues. Membership dues shall not exceed \$60.00 per year, payable on or before the 1st day of January each year. Dues received after August 1st of a year shall be prorated at half normal membership dues for new memberships only. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. One vote per individual, excluding junior membership, thus couple membership carries two votes. During the month of November, the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his dues for the ensuing year.

SECTION 3. Election to Membership. Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by

these Constitution and By-Laws, the American Bouvier des Flandres Club Code of Ethics (attached) and the rules of The American Kennel Club . The application shall state the name, address and shall carry the endorsement of two members in good standing.

All applications are to be filed with the Secretary and each application is to be read at the meeting of the club following its receipt and each applicant and their registered dogs owned shall be published in the first club communication media following the applications receipt. This club communication media must be post marked at least 10 days prior to the next scheduled meeting prior to voting on any new applicant or the voting shall be postponed until the following months meeting at which time, if no objections are received by the Secretary, the application will be voted upon and affirmative votes of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the members present and voting by secret ballot at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant.

Applicant(s) for membership who have been rejected by the Club may not reapply within six months after such rejection.

SECTION 4. Member Not in Good Standing . A member will be considered not in good standing when any debt owed the club for any reason remains unpaid for more than 60 days. Returned insufficient checks, unpaid trophy commitments unpaid event fees etc. are examples of debts to the club. If a member is not in good standing, that member shall not be entitled to vote at any club meeting until such debt is cleared with the Treasurer.

SECTION 5. Termination of Membership. Memberships may be terminated:

(a) by resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary, but no member may resign when in debt to the Club. Obligations other than dues are considered a debt to the club and must be paid in full prior to resignation.

(b) by lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid on March 1st of the current year, however, the Board may grant an additional 30 days of grace to such delinquent members in meritorious cases. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting whose dues are unpaid for the current year.

(c) by expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VI of these By-Laws.

ARTICLE 11 - CLUB MEETINGS

Meetings and Voting

SECTION 1. Club Meetings. Meetings of the Club shall be held each month within the greater Detroit area at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Written

notice of each such meeting shall be sent by the Secretary at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for (monthly) meetings shall be 20% of voting members in good standing.

SECTION 2. Special Club Meetings. Special Club meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority vote of the members of the Board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the board; and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held within the greater Detroit area, at such place, date, and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be sent by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than 15 days prior to the date of the meeting, and said notice shall state the purpose of the meeting, and no other Club business may be transacted thereat. The quorum for (special) meetings shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

SECTION 3. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held within the greater Detroit area, at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board. Written notice of each such meeting shall be sent by the Secretary at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 4. Special Board Meeting. Special meetings of the Board are closed meetings and may be called by the President; and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held within the greater Detroit area, at such place, date, and hour as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such meeting. Written notice of such meetings shall be sent to all officers and board members by the Secretary at least three (3) days and not more than five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. Any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business shall be transacted thereat. A quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 5. Voting. Each member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to one vote, per voting matter at any meeting of the Club at which he is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any Club meeting or election, thus mail balloting is not permitted.

ARTICLE 111 - DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Board of directors.

(a) The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer all of

whom shall be members in good standing and all of whom shall be elected for one year terms; and

(b) Five (5) other persons who are members in good standing shall be elected for a two-year term, alternating three elected in one year and two in the next year.

Election of all officers and directors shall take place at the Club's Annual Meeting as provided in Article IV and shall serve until their successors are elected. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. Officers.

The 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.

(a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President in addition to those particularly specified in these By-Laws.

(b) The Vice-President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's absence, death, or incapacity and shall oversee all committees.

(c) The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club; shall have charge of the correspondence notify members of meetings, notify new members of their election to membership, notify officers and directors of their election to office, keep a roll of the members of the Club with their addresses, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these By-Laws.

(d) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the Club. Monies shall be deposited in a bank designated by the Board, in the name of the Club. The books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and a report shall be given at every meeting of the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported; and at the annual meeting an accounting shall be rendered of all monies received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such an amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.

SECTION 3. Vacancies.

Any vacancies occurring on the Board or among the officers during the year shall be filled until the next annual election by a majority vote of all the then members of the Board at its first regular meeting following the creation of such vacancy, or at a Special Board Meeting called for that purpose; except that 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 the Board.

ARTICLE IV - THE CLUB YEAR, ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. Club Year. the Club's fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of January and end on the 31st day of December. The Club's official year shall begin immediately at the joint December meeting of the out going and incoming board and officers and shall continue through the elections to the next joint December meeting.

SECTION 2. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting shall be held in the month of November at which Officers, and Directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 4 of this Article. They shall take office beginning immediately upon conclusion of the December meeting and each retiring officer shall turn over to the successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the election (ie: conclusion of the December meeting).

SECTION 3. Elections. The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The nominated candidates for other positions on the Board as defined in Article III Section I, A and B who receive the greatest number of votes for such positions shall be declared elected.

SECTION 4. Nominations. No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated. During the month of August, the Board shall select a nominating committee consisting of three members and two alternates, not more than one of whom may be a member of the Board. The secretary shall immediately notify the committee members and alternates of their selection. The Board shall name a Chairman for the Committee and it shall be such person's duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before September 1st.

(a) The Committee shall nominate only one candidate for office and open position on the board. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the October meeting. After securing the consent of each person so nominated, the committee shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing by September 15.

(b) Upon receipt of the Nomination Committee's report, the Secretary shall, at least two weeks before the October meeting , notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.

(c) Additional nominations may be made at the October meeting by any member in attendance and in good standing provided that the person so nominated does not decline when their name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, the proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate

signifying willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position.

(d) Nominations cannot be made at the Annual Meeting or in any manner other than as provided in this Section.

(e) The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person, in which case the board shall be comprised of six (6) persons.

ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. The Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as dog shows, obedience trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other fields which may well be served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the board. Special committees may also be appointed by the board to aid it on particular projects. Committee appointments automatically expire at the conclusion of the December joint meeting each year unless specifically extended by the board and all committee records and club properties relating to that committee shall be turned over to the ensuing committee on or before December 31 of the current year.

SECTION 2. Any 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 services have been terminated.

ARTICLE VI - DISCIPLINE

SECTION 1. American Kennel Club Suspension. Any member who is suspended from the privileges of The American Kennel Club automatically shall be suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period.

SECTION 2. Charges. Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club or the breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$25.00 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the Board following a hearing. 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 interest of the Club or the breed. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interest of the Club or the breed 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 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/her own defense and bring witnesses if he/she wishes.

SECTION 3. Board Hearing. The Board 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 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 it 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/her fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board's recommendation. Immediately after Board has reached a decision, its findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary shall notify each of the parties of the Board's decision and penalty, if any.

SECTION 4. Expulsion. Expulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only at a meeting of the Club following a Board hearing and upon the Board's recommendation as provided in Section 3 of this Article. Such proceedings may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within 60 days but not earlier than 30 days after the date of the Board's recommendation of the expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his/her own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the Board's finding and recommendation, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his/her own behalf if he/she wishes. The members shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A 2\3 vote of those present and voting at the meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted, the Board's suspension shall stand.

ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by 20% of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the members with recommendations of the Board by the Secretary for a vote within three months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

SECTION 2. The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a 2\3 vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for the purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each

member at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

SECTION 3. No amendment to the constitution and bylaws that is adopted by the club shall become effective until it has been approved by the Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club .

ARTICLE VIII -DISSOLUTION

SECTION 1. Dissolution. The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than 2/3 of the members. 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 a charitable organization for the benefit of dogs, selected by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX - ORDER OF BUSINESS

SECTION 1. At meetings of the Club, the order of business, so far as the character and nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows:

- Roll Call
- Minutes of last meeting
- Report of President
- Report of Secretary
- Report of Treasurer
- Report of Committees
- Election of Officers and Board (at annual meeting only)
- Election of new members
- 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:

- Reading of minutes of last meeting
- Report of Secretary
- Report of Treasurer
- Report of Committees

Unfinished business

New business

Adjournment

ARTICLE X - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

SECTION 1. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws and any other special rules of order the Club may adopt.