



Club Constitution

1. Name

The Club will be called **Canicross Aberdeenshire** (herein after referred to as the Club).

2. Aims and Objectives

The aims of the Club are:

- To allow dog owners to be active with their dogs in and around Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire (herein after referred to as the Area).
- To encourage and promote cani-sports as a sport and recreation.
- To provide a safe, fun, friendly, supportive environment for owners and their dogs.
- To make cani-sports available to all newcomers.
- To have information available on a variety of kit and equipment.

The objectives of the Club are:

- To encourage, arrange, and post information on the Club Facebook page about regular meets over a variety of terrain.
- To encourage representation of the Club at organised canicross events and races and to encourage all Club members to be positive ambassadors of the sport.
- To encourage responsible canine care.
- To encourage and support newcomers by inviting them to attend an organised meet where a Run Leader or Committee Member is present (herein after referred to as a Club Run) in order to offer practical assistance and guidance.
- To gather information on safe fitting and appropriate use of canicross kit and equipment from reliable sources and to make the information available to all members.

3. Membership

- Membership of the Club will be open to any person, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. However, limitation of membership according to capacity is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.
- Applications from children under the age of 16 will only be accepted if their parent or guardian is an adult member of the club and where this adult member will be entirely responsible for them at all club activities.
- Each membership application must be made using the membership application on Entry Central. The Committee shall have the right to reject any application for membership it deems unsuitable. The appropriate subscription must accompany the application for

membership.

- The Committee shall have the power to suspend or exclude any member. In exercising these powers the Committee shall act reasonably.
- Appeal against refusal or removal of membership may be made to the Secretary.

4. Subscriptions

- Annual subscriptions shall become due for payment on **1st November each calendar year**, with the amount due being decided at the AGM.
- The Club will keep subscriptions at a level that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- There shall be adult, junior and spouse memberships.

5. Management

- The management of the Club shall be vested in a Committee consisting of the Chairperson Secretary and Treasurer who shall be officers of the Club together with a maximum of seven other members. The Committee shall be appointed at the AGM and must be registered Club members.
- Three elected Committee members are required for a quorum for a Committee meeting to take place providing the Chairman or Secretary is also present.
- All members volunteering for the Committee must be nominated and seconded by a registered Club member.
- Officers will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. Committee members may not serve in the same position for more than two years.
- In the case that there are no other candidates for an office bearer role – a committee member will be permitted to stand and exceed the above maximum continuous time served.
- The Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies if they arise and to co-opt members for particular projects, but co-opted members shall not have a committee vote.
- The Committee shall also have the power to establish any sub-committee deemed appropriate to assist in meeting the objectives of the Club and to delegate these sub committees such duties as may be considered appropriate.
- The Committee shall have the power to appoint individuals to perform specific duties on behalf of the Committee and to delegate to those individuals such duties as they consider appropriate.
- The decision of the Committee about operation of the Club shall be final unless over-ruled at a General Meeting.
- The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the rules or for anything else relating to the Club not provided therein and their decision shall be final and binding on Club members.

6. Annual General Meeting

- The AGM shall be held in the months of September or October, or as dictated by the practical circumstances of the time.
- At the AGM the meeting will:
 - Receive the annual report from the Chairperson.
 - Receive the financial statements and the Treasurer's report.
 - Elect the Committee for the ensuing year.
 - Consider any amendment to the constitution of which due notice has been given to all members. Any proposed change to the constitution must be received by

the secretary at least 14 days preceding the meeting in order that all members shall have sufficient notice of the proposal.

- Transact any other notified business.
- At least 21 days' notice shall be given to members of the date, venue and agenda items for the AGM.
- All registered members of the Club at the meeting who are aged 18 years or more shall have one vote. In the case of equality of votes the Chairperson will have a second, casting vote. Voting shall be by a show of hands except where the Chairperson decides voting shall be by ballot.

7. Extra Ordinary General Meeting

- An EGM may be called by the Committee to discuss changes to the Constitution and Rules or any other club business too urgent to wait for the AGM.
- An EGM must be called if 25% of voting members so petition the Secretary in writing.
- 21 days' notice of an EGM must be given to all the members by email or in writing together with the motion/s to be discussed. No other business shall be conducted.
- Procedures for voting shall be as used for the AGM.

8. Finance

- The financial year of the Club shall end on 31st July.
- All funds belonging to the Club shall be deposited with a Bank or Building Society in accounts that shall carry the Club title. All accounts shall operate on two signatories, one of whom will be the Treasurer and the other either the Chairperson or Secretary.
- Expenditure above the agreed budget levels may only be authorised at a Committee Meeting.

9. Property and Funds

- The property and funds of the Club cannot be used for the direct or indirect private benefit of members other than as reasonably allowed by the Rules and all surplus income or profits are reinvested in the Club.
- The Club may provide sporting related equipment, insurance cover and other ordinary benefits.

10. Discipline and Appeals

- Any complaints regarding the behaviour of Club members should be submitted in writing to the Secretary via email: canicrossaberdeenshire@gmail.com
- The Committee will meet to consider a complaint within 28 days of a complaint being lodged.
- The Committee has the power to take appropriate action including the termination of membership.
- The outcome of any decisions should be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made. There will be the right of appeal to the Management Committee following disciplinary action being announced. The committee should consider the appeal within 28 days of the Secretary receiving the appeal.

11. Data Protection & Privacy

- The Club will act according to General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) to ensure that

Club Members' personal data is protected.

- The Club's '**Personal Data & Privacy Policy**' is available to view on the Club's Facebook page and on request.
- Any questions or concerns about how, why and when the Club processes and stores personal data can be directed to the appointed Data Protection Officer by email: canicrossaberdeenshire@gmail.com

10. Dissolution

- A resolution to dissolve the Club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM through a majority vote of the membership.
- In the event of dissolution, the assets of the Club that remain will become the property of another like-minded group/club and/or a Canine Rescue Organisation agreed on by the Club Committee.

11. Alterations to the Constitution

The Constitution may be altered but only by a resolution passed by two-thirds of those present and voting at an AGM or an EGM called for that purpose.

12. Club Colours

The Club colours Teal & White (and/or Graphite).

13. Declaration

Canicross Aberdeenshire hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

REVISION NUMBER: 2
UPDATED: 02/12/20
UPDATED BY: Lauren Horgan
POSITION: Club Secretary
KEY CHANGES: - Amend Membership application process (30/09/18)
- Reviewed content and updated logo (02/12/20)

Please note that printed copies of this Constitution are not controlled.