

## **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE 1**

**NAME:** This organization shall be known as “MICHIGAMME ENGLISH SETTER CLUB, INC.,” a non-profit organization.

**OBJECTS:** The objects of this club shall be to promote the English setter, to popularize and publicize the English setter as an all-purpose dog for show, field, and obedience competition and for a family pet, companion, and hunting dog; to provide suitable and proper facilities for showing, improving, training, and exhibiting the English setter; to provide a meeting place for its members; and to promote social activity among its members; also, to encourage adherence to high standards of conduct and to the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club.

### **ARTICLE 2**

**SECTION 1. QUALIFICATIONS:** Any person who has attained the age of eighteen (18) years, and who resides within the state of Michigan or other territory determined by a majority of members at any regular meeting, shall be eligible for membership.

**SECTION 2. MEMBERSHIP:** There shall be two (2) classes of membership: Members and Honorary Members. Any person who is in good standing by virtue of payment of membership dues and adherence to the Constitution and By-laws of this club shall be eligible for membership. Members must attend at least five regular business meetings of this club during a club year to have voting privileges at the club year’s annual meeting. Any person who has performed meritorious service for the benefit of English setters in the state of Michigan can be nominated for Honorary Membership. Upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the qualified members present at any annual meeting, the Honorary Membership shall be granted. Unless rescinded, this Honorary Membership shall be for life. Honorary Members shall have no voting privileges.

**SECTION 3. APPLICATIONS:** A prospective member shall attend two (2) regular meetings of this club prior to submission of an application for membership. The first year’s dues shall accompany each application (to be refunded if membership is not granted). When such application is submitted, two (2) members of the Executive Committee shall be appointed to review the qualifications of the applicant and shall submit their findings at the next regular meeting. If the applicant’s qualifications are satisfactory, a majority vote of the Members present shall grant membership.

However if a prospective member is unable to meet the two-regular meeting requirement, the prospective member can attain membership by one of two methods: they can be sponsored by an Member in good standing of the club or sponsored by the breeder of their English setter(s), if said member is in good standing with the English Setter Association of America. An application and dues, accompanied by a detailed letter of recommendation from the sponsor of said prospective new members, must be submitted to the club for review. If the applicant’s qualifications are

deemed satisfactory, a majority vote of the Members is needed to grant membership. Dues will be refunded if membership is not granted.

**SECTION 4. DUES:** Annual dues are payable to the Treasurer on or before January 1 of each year. The annual dues shall be a sum set by a two-thirds vote of the Members at any annual meeting, provided that the membership has been advised of the proposed changes to the Constitution and By-laws prior to said annual meeting.

**SECTION 5. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:** Memberships may be terminated: 1) by resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the club upon written notice to the Secretary: no member may resign when in debt to the club. 2) by lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid as set forth in Section 6. 3) by expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion if, after a hearing before the Executive Committee, it has been determined that a member is guilty of misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the breed or the club.

**SECTION 6. DELINQUENT DUES:** The treasurer shall notify by certified mail any member delinquent in the payment of dues thirty (30) days after the due date. The name of such member shall be reported to the Executive Committee at the next regular meeting following the notification, and in the absence of extenuating circumstances, the member shall be suspended and the member's name removed from the roster. Application for re-instatement to membership shall be made in the same manner as original applications for membership as prescribed in Section 3.

### **ARTICLE 3**

#### **ELECTIONS**

**SECTION 1. MANAGEMENT OF THE CLUB:** The business of the club shall be conducted by an Executive Committee consisting of five (5) officers of the club: a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Executive Director. Preferably the President and Secretary shall be from the same geographical area. Unless elected to another office the immediate past President will be the Executive Director. The term of Executive Director shall be for one year. If there is no past President to assume the office of Executive Director, one shall be elected in the same manner as the other officers of the club.

No member, officer, or executive of this club shall receive any salary, remuneration, fees, or profits from the activities of the club.

**SECTION 3. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS:** Nominations for each of the offices of the club shall be made from the floor by Members in good standing at the annual meeting. **ONLY MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING, AS DEFINED IN ARTICLE 1, SECTION 2, ARE ELIGIBLE TO SEEK NOMINATION OR BE NONMINATED FOR OFFICE.** After nominations for each office are closed, the members in good standing shall cast their ballots. The Secretary shall then announce to the membership each elected officer.

SECTION 4. TERMS OF OFFICE: The term of office for all officers shall be for one (1) year.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **AMENDMENTS**

SECTION 1: This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the Members present at any Annual Meeting, provided that the membership has been advised of proposed changes to the Constitution and By-laws prior to said Annual Meeting.

SECTION 2. CONTINUATION OF ORGANIZATION: This organization, the MICHIGAMME ENGLISH SETTER CLUB, INC., shall not be abolished so long as one member wishes to continue with it. This section may not be amended.

### **RULES AND BY-LAWS**

#### **RULE 1.**

NOTICE OF MEETINGS: Written notice of meetings of the club shall be sent out to each member by the Secretary at least five (5) days in advance, mailed to the last address on file with the Secretary, except in the case of an emergency, at which time notification of such shall be communicated by any rapid method. In the event of absence of the Secretary, the President shall act.

AGENDA: The President shall prepare and read to the members an agenda of the important subjects to be discussed at regular meetings.

### **MEMBERSHIP PROCEDURE**

SECTION 1. RECORDS: The Secretary shall keep a complete roster of all persons who have been or still are members of the club, showing all pertinent data covering their length of membership, addresses, official positions, committees served soon, and status of dues payments.

RULE 1: Puppy matches, field trials, and obedience tests, held under the sponsorship of the club shall be managed by special committees appointed by the President.

RULE 2: Bench Show Chair for Specialty Shows shall be appointed by the President. The Bench Show Chair shall appoint the Bench Show Committee.

RULE 3: The Members of the club shall have the final decision on any and all judging assignments for all conformation and field trials.

RULE 4: Any and all charges and expenses contracted for by all committees and any and all income, gifts, donations, and financial benefits pertaining to any club activities shall be read to the club's membership by the Treasurer at the earliest possible date after the event. THE FINANCIAL BOOKS FOR THE SAID EVENT MUST BE CLOSED WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS FOLLOWING THE DATE OF THE EVENT.

RULE 5: Detailed or itemized reports need to be read by the Treasurer only at the annual meeting or on instruction by the Executive Committee of the Club.

RULE 6: To provide a systematic plan for handling billing dues, any person accepted to membership after the ninth month of any year shall be considered a member in good standing for a period of one year from the date of the next annual meeting.

RULE 7: The funds of the club shall be kept in such bank or banks as approved by the Executive Committee and shall be disbursed by check signed by the Treasurer or the President and one Vice-President. The check stubs or disbursements journal shall be used so as to clearly set forth for what obligation, or obligations, such check was drawn.

RULE 8. AUDIT: An annual audit shall be made covering financial transactions of the club by a committee of up to three (3) Members appointed for the purpose by the President. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to provide the audit committee with such records and accounts as are necessary for their audit. The audit committee shall report its findings for a club year to the club on or before the fourth regularly club meeting following the annual meeting for that year.

COMMITTEES: Committees, upon appointment, shall perform the duties entrusted to them for the best interest of the club, and shall, upon the termination of the duties assigned, furnish reports to the Executive Committee for filing.

AUTHORITY OF COMMITTEES: Neither the chairman, nor the members of committees, may incur expenditures payable out of the funds of the club unless specifically authorized by the Executive Committee; nor shall any such committee or its chairman, or members, solicit funds or receive monies on behalf of the club or such committees except as authorized by the club or the Executive Committee.

CASH AND TROPHY CONTRIBUTIONS: Any cash contribution or donation to the club shall be credited to the general fund, unless under the terms therefore a special fund is prescribed, and disbursement of any such funds shall follow the terms defined for the distribution.

## MEETINGS

### THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

At all meetings, the President shall call the meeting to order and request the Secretary to call the Roll of Members and certify to the members in attendance.

The order of business thereafter shall be as follows:

1. Report of the Secretary
2. Report of the Treasurer
3. Report of committees
4. Unfinished business
5. President's agenda
6. New business
7. Date and place of next meeting
8. Discussions
9. Adjournment

The governing rules are to be followed in this order:

1. The Constitution
2. The Rules and By-laws
3. Motions made and approved at meetings

No motion shall be made and approved at any meeting which shall conflict with the Constitution or By-laws; in the event that this is done, then said motion or order shall be null and void.

All members of the club shall be furnished with a copy of the Constitution and By-laws of the club.

These Rules and By-laws are hereby approved by vote of the membership at its regular meeting, and the membership agrees to be governed by these articles as set forth.

## HISTORY OF REVISION TO THE CONSTITUTION

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CONSTITUTION &amp; BY-LAWS COMMITTEE</u>
	Winifred Ball Gordon Parham, Chairman Paul Vollman
January, 1971	Ron Ransier Mrs. Marge O'Connell Sydney Ackerman Mrs. Luanne Carlisle Fred Bublitz
February, 1974	
January, 1983	Mary O'Connell Hugh Murdoch Harvey Wooding Jane Wooding
July, 1985	Mary Lou Dinon, Chairman Marge O'Connell Terry Bush
September, 1994	Carey Clark, Chairman Doug Rivait
September, 1997	
September, 1999	