

American Bloodhound Club Constitution & By-law – Quick Guide

Incorporated in New Jersey 1953

1. **MEMBERSHIP**- Individual or Family – 18 years or older
Junior – under 18 years old -
Honorary – 2/3 majority vote by ABC Board – 30 contiguous years of membership and contributions to the ABC
Membership Application is available on the ABC web site – requires two sponsors – published for a 30-day member review follow by a Board vote.
2. **Dues - \$45 - USA, \$55 - International, \$20 – Junior (under the age of 18)**
Renewal due no later than June 1st. Delinquent if not paid by September 1st
3. **Meetings** - Annual in conjunction with National. Three other meetings Annually designated by President/Approved by Board
4. **Club Year** - Fiscal year begins **June 1st** and ends **May 31st** - Official year begins **August 1st** and ends **July 31st**.
5. **NOMINATIONS** – Candidates must be nominated – Nominating Committee shall be chosen by the Board of Directors before **January 1st**. Shall consist of five members and two alternatives. No more than one may be a current member of the board of Directors names of the Nominating Committee shall be included in Newsletter prior to **February 1st**. Geographical region considered. Candidates submitted to Recording Secretary by **March 1st**. The name of each candidate and their respective state shall be included in any one of the Club’s publications on or before **April 1st**. Written petitions with additional nominations must be sent to Recording Secretary no later than **May 1st**. If no valid nominations are received by **May 1st** the slate shall be declared elected on **July 15th**.
6. **VOLUNTEER REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION (VRC)** – Will be posted in the Club Newsletter and on the ABC website for all Club positions. All interested candidates are urged to complete a VRC to declare interest.
5. **SPECIAL CLUB MEETINGS** - may be called by the President, majority vote of members of the board or by petition signed by fifteen members of the club in good standing. Written Notice-at least 14 days and not more than 30 days prior to the special meeting. Quorum 10% of members in good standing. Purpose of meeting shall be stated, no other business conducted
6. **BOARD MEETINGS** – held at times and places as designated by the President or by a majority vote of the entire Board. Written Notice mailed or emailed at least seven days prior to the meeting. Quorum shall be a majority of the Board, voting in person, by mail, or email.
7. **COMMITTEES** – The Board may appoint each year – subject to the final authority of the Board.
8. **DISCIPLINE** – Charges for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interest of the breed or the Club may be written and filed in twelve (12) copies to the Recording Secretary with a deposit of \$250 which will be forfeited if charges are not sustained.
9. **AMENDMENTS** – to the Constitution and bylaws, and Breed Standard may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition address to the Recording Secretary signed by 20% of the membership in good standing. Amendments to the Bloodhound Breed Standard are limited to every five (5) years. The Constitution and bylaws can be amended as business needs dictate.
10. **DISSOLUTION OF CLUB** - written consent not less than two thirds of members in good standing