



## **RULES**

### **LETCWORTH (FGC) DOG TRAINING CLUB** **2016**

1. The Club shall be called Letchworth (First Garden City) Dog Training Club and its objectives shall be to promote the training of Obedience, Agility, pet training and competition. To educate dog owners in the correct care and control of their dogs.
2. The Club shall consist of Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and a committee of 6 (six) and an unlimited number of members who shall reside or work within a 50 mile radius of Letchworth.
3. The management of the club shall be in the hands of the officers of the club and have a committee of 6 (six) members of which 3 (three) shall retire annually, with no committee member serving more than two 2 (two) years without re-election. In the event of 3 (three) or more members having served equal terms, those recording the highest votes will serve a full 2 (two) year term. The 3 (three) successful candidates will serve for 1 (one) year only.

All shall have full voting rights. The club will encourage that each candidate shall express a primary interest in one of the clubs disciplines. A minimum of five (5) meetings shall be held within each calendar year and a chairman elected for each meeting. A quorum for meetings shall be 4 (four) members and two officers. The committee shall have the power to co-opt onto the committee. No individual who has been a member for less than 1 (one) year may be elected onto the committee, No member who has not attended club meetings on a regular basis throughout the year (*viz.* 30:52) can be proposed as a committee member.

4. Candidates for membership shall be accepted on completion of an application form and subsequent acceptance at the next committee meeting by the committee by a majority vote. The committee reserves the right to decline applications without explanation.
5. Each member shall be entitled to one vote after 8 (eight) weeks regular training. Postal or proxy votes are not allowed. Voting shall be by a show of hands or by ballot. No member under the age of 16 years is entitled to vote.
6. The property of the Club shall be vested in the committee. In the event of the Club ceasing to exist, a general meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the Club's assets and the outcome of the meeting must be notified to the Kennel Club.
7. A banking account shall be held in the name of Letchworth Dog Training Club into

which all revenue shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall be made only on the signatures of any two of the officers.

The Treasurer shall maintain the accounts and an auditor shall be appointed at each Annual General Meeting for the purpose of auditing the Club's accounts for the ensuing year.

8. Annual subscription amounts shall be decided upon by the Committee and are due in January. No member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any privileges of membership and if the member shall fail to pay outstanding subscriptions by 28 days after the fees become due, his or her name shall automatically be erased from the register. Acceptance back on the register will be dependent upon a new application to the committee and a payment of back arrears.
  - 8.1 Junior membership subscription amounts, up to the age of 18 years, shall be decided upon by the Committee.
  - 8.2 New members joining after the 1<sup>st</sup> September shall pay half of the annual subscription fee for the remainder of the calendar year.
9. Proof of initial vaccination must be shown before a new dog is allowed for training and upon renewal of subscription. Members must ensure the dogs receive annual vaccinations when due.
10. Any member who shall be suspended under the Kennel Club rule A42j(4) and/or any member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club rule 42j(8) shall ipso-facto cease to be a member of the Club for the duration of the suspension and or disqualification. If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the Committee or the Club be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or the interests of the Club, the Committee may, at a meeting giving notice convening which includes as an object the considerations of the conduct of the member, determine that a Special General Meeting shall be called for the sole purpose of passing a resolution to expel him or her. Notice of the special meeting shall be sent to the accused member giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and hour of the meeting, that he or she may attend and offer an explanation.

If, at the meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by 2 (two) thirds majority of the members present and voting, his or her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of members and he or she shall thereupon cease, for all purposes, to be a member of the Club, except that he or she may within 2 (two) calendar months from the date of such a meeting appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose.

11. The Committee have the right to suspend any member who, in the opinion of the Committee, give conduct which is in anyway injurious to the aims of Club.
12. The financial year of the Club shall be from 1st January to 31st December Each year. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in February of each year. Not less than 28 day's notice shall be given to members, in writing, of the meeting. Items for inclusion in the Agenda must be given to the Honorary Secretary, in writing, 14 (fourteen) days

before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

13. The Committee have the power to deal with any matters not covered by these rules.
14. A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Honorary Secretary if 1 (one) third of members send a signed requisition stating the business to be discussed. No business, other than that detailed on the original requisition, can be discussed at a Special Meeting. The Committee of the Club is also empowered to call a Special Meeting at its discretion.
15. The rules of the Club may not be altered, except at a General Meeting. Any proposed alterations to the rules approved by members at a general meeting may not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has been advised and given approval of the alterations.
16. The officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year maintenance of title will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary of the continuance of registration and that by 31st July of each year other returns, as stipulated in the Kennel Club regulations for the registration and maintenance of the title of societies and breed councils and the affiliation of agricultural societies and municipal authorities, will be forwarded to the Kennel Club.

The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of change of Secretary of the Club which may occur during the course of the year.

17. No person, whilst undischarged bankrupt, may serve on the Committee of or hold any other office or appointment within the Kennel Club Registered Society.
18. No bitches in season are allowed in the hall for training classes.
19. Club competitions are held at the discretion of the Committee.
20. All dogs to be kept on lead, unless required off lead by the class instructor.
21. Dogs must be exercised well away from the hall before bringing them into the hall for training classes, to avoid fouling the hall and the immediate surrounds.
22. Experienced handlers wishing to join Letchworth (First Garden City) Dog Training Club shall be assessed by 2 (two) instructors and placed in the appropriate class.
23. Members may only train 1 (one) dog in any class, except with the Committee's permission.
24. The Committee reserves the right to amend the training fees, as and when deemed necessary.
25. Any Committee member not attending 3 (three) consecutive committee meetings may be required to relinquish their position to allow a more active member to be co-opted to the Committee. There is to be an attendance list published at the AGM for the members present.

26. The Society will make a list of members and their addresses available for inspection, if so requested by members of the Club or by the Kennel Club.
27. The LDTC website can only be amended on the written approval of the elected committee.
28. All members shall be responsible for themselves and their dog/s; the Club will not accept responsibility for loss, damage or injury however caused, by act or omission of a Member, to dog/s, person/s or property.
29. No dog suffering from an infectious or contagious disease, or having knowingly been exposed to a dog with an infectious or contagious disease, may attend training until a period of 21 days after they cease to be infectious or 21 days after they were exposed to an infectious/contagious dog.