

Club Constitution

1. Name & Objectives

Name

The Society shall be called 'The Worcestershire Gun Dog Society', hereafter called the 'Society' or 'WGDS'

Objectives

To promote, encourage and protect the practice of owning, training and working gun dogs.
To provide regular training sessions where members may receive instruction in the welfare and training of working gun dogs.
To report on recent events and circulate the current programme in the form of a Society Journal or Newsletter.
To organise or promote such lectures, demonstrations, film shows, exhibitions, visits and competitions as may be deemed necessary for members to enhance their knowledge, skills and enjoyment of gun dogs.
To co-operate with and/or subscribe to other clubs and societies whose aims and objectives are deemed to be sympathetic with or complementary to those of the WGDS.
To encourage the exchange of news and views within the membership.
The Committee reserves the right to hold for each 'discipline' a yearly Working Test for Charity.

2. Officers & Committee

The Society shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon Treasurer, Hon Membership Secretary with a Committee of 10 (ten) and an unlimited number of Members.

3. Committee

The management of the Society shall be vested in the Committee, which shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, Hon Membership Secretary and 10 (ten) Members, all of whom serve a two year term, with retirement by rotation at the AGM.

Officers and Committee shall be elected by rotation at the AGM.

Members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election.

All elected Committee members shall have full voting rights

Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as deemed necessary but at least 6 times per annum.

A quorum for Committee meetings shall be not less than 2 officers and 2 other Committee members.

The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members on to the Committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between Annual General Meetings.

The Committee will also have the power to co-opt up to 6 (six) members and to appoint subcommittees for specific purposes, notifying members of their action in the next newsletter.

Those co-opted shall only hold office until the next Annual General Meeting of the Society at which an election of Officers and Committee takes place. Co-opted committee members shall have voting rights at committee meetings.

4. Election of Members

Candidates for Membership shall be by approval of the Committee and on payment of subscription.

Reasons for refusal of Membership will not be given.

5. Membership

New members will pay a joining fee plus annual subscription at time of joining.

All members will pay an annual subscription agreed at the AGM and due by the end of the calendar month following the AGM.

A member's rights and privileges with the Society will be deemed to have lapsed if subscriptions are not paid by the due dates.

The names of any member whose subscription dues are more than 3 calendar months in arrears will be removed from the Society Register and deemed a non-member- if they wish to be a member they will be charged the joining fee in addition to the annual subscription.

A member whose dog(s) is/are taking part in WGDS activities should take all reasonable steps to ensure the needs of their dog(s) are met, and should not knowingly put their dog's health and welfare at risk in any action, default, omission or otherwise.

All members with ideas regarding venues, future events or the running of the Society are welcomed and encouraged to discuss the matter with any Committee member as and when they arise.

Any member with a grievance shall submit the matter in writing to the Society Secretary.

The complaint will be reviewed at the next committee meeting and a written reply forwarded to the originator

The Society must maintain an up to date list of members' names and their addresses and those of branch Members where appropriate, and, if so requested, make the list of names available for inspection by the Members of the Society or by the Kennel Club. A declaration of the number of members of the club must be made with the Annual Returns.

6. Voting Rights

Each member shall be entitled to one vote immediately upon acceptance of membership.

Postal votes/proxy votes are not allowed.

Voting shall be by show of hands by majority at the Annual General Meeting or any Extraordinary/Special Meetings held.

Joint Memberships are accepted and each member of the partnership is entitled to one vote.

Junior Memberships are accepted for applicants under 18 years of age but shall have no voting rights.