

By-Laws of the
Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Clubs Association, Inc.

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Article 1: Name.

This Association shall be known as the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Clubs Association, Inc. (the "Association").

Article 2: Purpose.

The purposes of the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Clubs Association. Inc. shall include:

2.1 To coordinate, administer and promote the running and performance of pointing dog field trials, hunting tests and similar competitions and tests by its member clubs and associations under the auspices and in accordance with the rules and regulations of such organizations as the American Kennel Club, The American Field, The Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America, the American Bird Hunters Association, the National Bird Hunters Association, the United States Complete Shooting Dog Association, the National Shoot to Retrieve Association and the North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association, among others, and in compliance with the laws and regulations of the State of Connecticut pertaining thereto; and

2.2 In cooperation with the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, to formulate and enforce rules and regulations pertaining to The management, improvement and use of Flaherty Field for the purposes of the training Of hunting dogs and the running and performance of hunting dog field trials and hunting tests or similar competitions and evaluations involving hunting dogs; and

2.3 In cooperation with the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, to engage in any and all activities necessary and appropriate to the management, improvement and use of Flaherty Field for the purposes of the training of hunting dogs and the running and performance of hunting dog field trials and hunting tests or similar competitions and evaluations involving hunting dogs; and

2.4 In cooperation with the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, to engage in any and all activities necessary and appropriate to The enhancement, protection and promotion of Flaherty field as the State of Connecticut's Premier field trial site; and

2.5 In cooperation with the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and

Environmental Protection, to enhance opportunities for public use of Flaherty Field in a manner that is compatible with field trial and hunt test activities and consistent with sound natural resource management; and

2.6 To foster, protect and promote the sound breeding, health and development of The various breeds of pointing dogs in America;

2.7 To engage in any and all lawful acts or activities for which corporations may be formed Under Connecticut General Statutes Sections 33-1000 to 33-1290, inclusive, the provisions of General Statutes Section 33-1036 being incorporated herein as if fully set forth.

Article 3: Membership and Delegations.

3.1 Membership of the Association shall be comprised of formally organized, pointing breed dog clubs that are registered with, or members of, and in either case good standing with, the American Kennel Club (the "AKC"), or the Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America, Incorporated and the American Field Sporting Dog Association, each being organizations serving pointing dogs registered with the Field dog Stud Book (the "FDSB"), or with or in such other registered pointing breed dog club organizations that may be recognized by the Board of Directors of the Association from time to time, (a "Parent Club").

3.2 Each Member Club shall be entitled to one vote in the affairs of the Association as to which members are entitled to vote under these By-Laws. 3.3 Each Member Club shall designate a single Delegate, who shall represent, act and vote on behalf of the Member Club at the annual, semi-annual and special meetings of the Association, and with regard to all affairs of the Association as to which members are entitled to vote under these By-Laws.

3.4 In addition to the Delegates representing the Member Clubs, the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (the "DEEP") shall be entitled to designate a Non-voting Delegate to represent the interests of the DEEP in assuring the fulfillment of the Purposes of the Association and the Association's compliance with the *Memorandum of Agreement Between the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Clubs Association, Inc. as amended from time to time.*

Article 4: Application for Membership

4.1 Application for membership in the Association must be submitted in writing to the Association Secretary for consideration at the semi-annual or annual meeting. Applications for membership must Include (i) an application fee paid to the Association in an amount as may be established by the Board of Directors from time to time; (ii) the identification of the Parent Club to which the applicant belongs or of which it is a registered member; (iii) a list of the applicant's officers and members; (iv) the designation of the applicant's Delegate; (v) a pledge to actively support the By-Laws and goals of the Association.(vi) A pledge to actively support the By-Laws and goals of the Association, and regularly contribute to the Associations purposes and activities.

4.2 To become a Member Club, an applicant must receive a majority vote of the Delegates in good standing at the previous annual meeting.

Article 5: Termination of Membership

5.1 Memberships may be terminated or suspended by a 2/3- majority vote of the Delegates present at an annual meeting for any of the following reasons.

- a.) Failure to pay fees owed to the Association within 30 days of a Member Club Event.
- b.) Failure to serve on a committee.
- c.) Failure to attend both a summer and an annual meeting in any one year.
- d.) Repeated failure, as cited by the Association President, of the Member Club to actively contribute to the purposes of the Association and to regularly participate in the Association's operational activities, including grounds maintenance and business management.

5.2 Membership may be terminated by a 2/3 majority vote of the Delegates present at the annual meeting for any of the following reasons.

- a.) Failure to restrict the discharge of live ammunitions to the ***Designated Shooting Areas***.
- b.) For conduct prejudicial to the Association.
- c.) Failure to run a recognized trial within the previous two (2) years.
- d.) Terminated Member Clubs may reapply for membership the following calendar year. However, past positions on the Seniority list *Will Not Be Restored*.

Article 6: Officers

- 6.1 The Officers of the Association shall be:
- a.) President
 - b.) Vice President
 - c.) Secretary
 - d.) Treasurer

6.2 The Officers of the Association, together with the Past Presidents of the Association who are active members of a member club and otherwise in good standing with the Association, shall comprise the Executive Board of the Association. The members of the Executive Board designated by the President shall assume the duties of any vacant office until such time as the vacant position has been filled. It shall be the authority and responsibility of the Executive Board acting by majority vote to authorize unexpected capital expenditures as required to transact Association business between regular meetings. It shall also be the responsibility of the Executive Board acting by majority vote to determine the recipient of the annual Association booklet dedication and to authorize donations to awards outside the Association. Total authorizations are limited to one thousand dollars annually (\$1,000.00).

Article 7: Election of Officers

7.1 Each year at the Association's semi-annual meeting, the President will appoint a nominating committee consisting of two delegates from FDSB affiliated Member Clubs and two delegates from AKC affiliated Member Clubs. The nominating committee will nominate one candidate for each office. The committee's nominations will be submitted to the Secretary by November 1 of each year. Delegates at the Annual meeting may make nominations from the floor.

7.2 Officers will be elected at the annual meeting upon a majority vote of the Delegates in attendance personally or by proxy and shall serve for a period of one year. The Officers shall assume the duties of office immediately upon election.

7.3 Any officer may be removed from office for conduct prejudicial to the Association by majority vote of the Delegates at a special meeting duly called and noticed by the Executive Board for such purpose.

Article 8: Duties of Officers

8.1: It shall be the duties of the President to:

- a.) Preside over all Association meetings and be responsible for the other officers and designated appointments.
- b.) Represent the Association at official meetings with the State and local officials. All official communication, written or oral, for the Association with the DEEP, City Police and fire Departments must have prior approval of the President and written communication prepared by the Secretary.
- c.) Be responsible for the overall coordination of the Association's committees and to satisfy the needs of all the delegates and the organizations represented
- d.) Suspend action of any committee if he feels this action does not represent the best interests of all the delegates. The President must call a general meeting to justify this action and allow the committee to present their proposal.
- e.) The President will be eligible to cast one vote as a tiebreaker only.

f.) The President shall be a member of all standing committees.

8.2: It shall be the duty of the Vice President to assume the duties of the President in the President's absence.

8.3: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to attend all Association meetings, to keep written records of the minutes of each meeting and to maintain records of the Association. The Secretary will be responsible for forwarding the minutes of each meeting to all club delegates, for sending written notice of all meetings to the club delegates and for handling correspondence at the option of the officers.

8.4: The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due and belonging to the Association and to disburse funds in payment of any approved amounts contracted for in the Association's name. The Treasurer's books will be at all times open to inspection by the Association. A financial report will be given at every meeting and a written financial statement shall be sent to all delegates two weeks prior to the Annual meeting. All funds shall be deposited in a bank approved by the Association. The Treasurer shall be bonded at such an amount as the Association deems necessary.

Article 9: Eligibility of Officers

Any member in good standing of a Member Club, including any person that has previously held an office in the Association shall be eligible to serve as any officer. The President shall not hold the position of Delegate while serving as President. If a Delegate is elected President, that member club shall appoint a new Delegate to the Association.

Article 10: Eligibility of Delegate

Any member in good standing of a Member Club is eligible to serve as a delegate for that club. Each Member Club will be responsible for appointing their own delegate. The Delegate's responsibility is to attend all Association meetings and represent his/ her club's interest in the Association. All Delegates must serve on a standing committee.

Article 11: Eligibility of Delegates At Large

In tribute to services rendered as president of this Association, or in other capacities, any regular meeting of the Delegates may nominate and elect as Delegate-At-Large, any retiring or past president, or such other deserving officer no longer serving as such. Such Delegate-At-Large shall have all the privileges of a regular Delegate including voting privileges. However, no delegate, whether at large or regular, will have more than one vote.

Article 12: Meetings

12.1: All Delegates will meet at least twice annually.

a.) A semi-annual meeting to be held in the summer of each year prior to the annual DEEP budget meetings.

b.) Annual meeting in December of each year for election of officers, approval of the coming year's budget and date selection for the coming year.

c.) At the call of its President or upon written petition signed by at least three (3) Delegates and filed with the Association secretary.

12.2: The Secretary shall send written notice of all meetings to all Delegates at least fourteen (14) days in advance of all regular meetings. Notice of the annual meeting shall include an agenda, the proposed slate of officers by the nominating committee, and the financial statement.

12.3: Motions at Association meetings will be recognized only from voting delegates or the representative from the DEEP.

12.4: The quorum for any Association meeting will be a majority of the Delegates in good standing at the last annual meeting. A Delegate may delegate his power by proxy to another member of the same Member Club. No Delegate shall act as proxy or otherwise represent the interests of more than one club at any official Association meeting. No Delegate or Delegate-At-Large may cast more than one (1) vote.

12.5: The parliamentary authority of the Association shall be Roberts Rules of Order in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws.

Article 13: Standing Committees

All standing committees shall consist of four (4) committee members, including the Committee Chairman. The Chairman of the committee shall be a delegate appointed by the President. The Committee Chairman will select his committee members. A committee member is not required to be a delegate. It is the responsibility of all Committee Chairman to prepare in writing (for the Secretary) and present orally a report of his / hers committee activity at both the semi-annual and the annual meeting.

13.1) Budget Committee

a.) To Prepare and submit a written budget for approval at the annual meeting for the coming year.

b.) To audit the Association's books yearly.

13.1.1: Budget Guidelines

a.) The suggested budget allocations for the Building, Grounds and Maintenance Committee should be limited to the amount of revenue generated by the collection of grounds fees in the previous year.

b.) The suggested budget allocation for the Fundraising Committee should be limited to the amount of revenue generated by that committee. Revenues generated from fundraising activities may be allocated to other committees.

c.) Additional allocations may be made by a majority vote of the Association Delegates at regular or special meetings of the Association or by donations or other gifts directed to a specific committee.

d.) A petty cash fund should be budgeted for payment of miscellaneous and unplanned expenditures.

13.1.2 Grounds Improvement, Maintenance and Building Committee

a.) To coordinate and supervise habitat improvement work on the Dr, John E. Flaherty Filed Trial and Management Area in accordance with the master plan filed with the DEEP and other state agencies involved.

b.) To notify the DEEP two (2) weeks prior to any scheduled habitat improvement work on the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial and Management Area.

c.) To obtain DEEP approval for any private contractor working on the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial and Management Area.

d.) To oversee maintenance and care of the clubhouse, bird room, horse barn, corrals and parking area.

e.) To institute and maintain a preventative maintenance program.

f.) To notify the DEEP two (2) weeks prior to any scheduled capital improvements.

g.) To ensure that an ample supply of firewood is stacked in the wood room to satisfy the Association's needs.

13.1.3 Fund Rising Committee

a.) This committee's responsibilities are to develop, organize and conduct fundraiser projects annually.

Article 14: BY-LAWS Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended or revised at the annual meeting provided written notice of the proposed revisions have been signed by a Delegate or Officer in good standing at the last official meeting. Amendments / revisions must be submitted to the Association secretary no later than November 1 so they may be included with the call to the meeting notice that is sent to each delegate.

Article 15: Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Clubs Association, Inc. any and all funds held by the Treasurer of the Association shall revert to the DEEP to be used for maintenance and improvement of the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Area.

Article 16: Rules Governing the use of the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Area.

- 16.1: All clubs must submit proof of liability insurance to the Association Secretary prior to the call to order of the annual meeting. Said policy shall indicate the insured parties and include the State Of Connecticut and the Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and be executed on such form as are required by the appropriate authority of the State of Connecticut. The limits of said liability insurance will be set by the State of Connecticut.
- 16.2 Dates for use of the grounds will be allocated on a basis of seniority. The seniority standing of Member Clubs with respect to date selection will be established at each annual meeting on the basis of membership seniority at that time.
- 16.3 Each Member Club on the established seniority list will be entitled to select one (1) field trial date per season (spring / fall). Spring dates will be drawn first, followed by the fall dates. A club wishing to select a second event date in either season may do so in order of seniority during a second reading of the seniority list. The second reading will take place after a new club applying for membership has had an opportunity to select a field trial date.
- 16.4 No Member Club will be allowed more than one position on the seniority list.
- 16.5 Each Member Club using the field trial area will be responsible for the proper care of the facilities and liable for any damages done to the property while the trial is being conducted. Any damage must be reported to the President of the Association.
- 16.6: The charges for use of the Flaherty Field Trial Area shall be established at the annual meeting by a majority of the Delegates present. If no such vote is taken, then the fees of the previous year will continue in effect. These fees must be remitted to the Treasurer within 30 days of the conclusion of the trial. Any Member Club failing to remit monies owed the Association within 30 days of the close of their trial will be assessed an additional \$25.00 for each or portion of a month meaning cumulative and automatic from the day after fees are due.

A charge of **\$75.00** per day will be applied to any Member Club, which fails to run a trial on a selected date except that the reason for cancellation of the trial is due to an act of God; or said date is subsequently utilized by another Member Club for an additional event. At the discretion of the Executive Board, fines may be assessed for the following:

- a.) Failure to attend scheduled work parties

- b.) Violations under Article 5.
- c.) Violations under Article 16.7
- d.) Failure to adhere to any of the State of Connecticut regulations pertaining to the use of the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial and Management Area.

16.7 Each Member Club using the facilities shall be responsible for the cleaning of the premises and leaving them on proper condition for use by the incoming club.

16.8: Each Member Club Delegate is entitled to a key to the clubhouse.

Seniority List

- 1.) Associated FTC of Connecticut
- 2.) New Britain Field Trial Club
- 3.) New England Futurity
- 4.) Tartan Gordon Setter Club
- 5.) Southern New England Brittany Club
- 6.) Nutmeg German Shorthaired Pointer Club
- 7.) Connecticut Valley Vizsla Club
- 8.) New England Brittany Championship
- 9.) Central Connecticut Bird dog Club
- 10.) Spruce Brook Field Trial Club
- 11.) Pointer Associates of New England
- 12.) Central New England Brittany Club
- 13.) Hudson Valley German Shorthaired Pointer Club
- 14.) US Complete Shooting Dog
- 15.) Northeast Open Shooting Dog Championship
- 16.) Mayflower German Shorthaired Pointer Club