

# CONSTITUTION FOR NATIONAL AGILITY LINK ASSOCIATION

As at June 2007

1. NAME. The society will be called National Agility Link Association.

2. OBJECTIVES.

(a) To ensure that a regular periodical is published which will promote Agility, and related activities, throughout New Zealand and provide a communication link between all members.

(b) To provide competition which permits members, wherever they are, to compete against each other.

(c) To promote and improve the judging and management standards of Agility and its related activities.

(d) To foster International contacts and competition in Agility, and related activities, in any practical ways.

(e) To co-operate where possible with the New Zealand Kennel Club in the promotion of Agility, and related activities.

3. AREA OF INFLUENCE. Throughout New Zealand.

## MEMBERSHIP

4. MEMBERS.

There shall be an unlimited number of members and a record of the names and addresses of members shall be kept up to date by the Treasurer.

(a) Types of membership shall be:

(i) Full members - full rights including subscription to the Agility Link magazine.

(ii) Family members - Family membership may be granted to second or subsequent members of the same household. They are entitled to full rights excluding subscription to the Agility Link magazine.

(iii) Junior Members – Junior membership may be granted to any person under 18 years of age. They are entitled to full rights excluding subscription to the Agility Link magazine, unless the full rate is paid.

(iv) Life members. Honorary Life members may be elected from time to time as a mark of recognition of active service to NALA. Honorary Life membership entitles the bearer to full membership rights for life with exemption from all subscriptions. The Annual general meeting may by Special resolution elect Honorary Life members provided that

(a) any honorary life member must currently be a financial member of NALA, and

(b) must be proposed and seconded by two other financial members.

The letter of proposal must be in the hands of the Secretary at least one month prior to the AGM, and the nomination must be included in the notice of the AGM. The nomination must be approved by the Central Council before it can be voted on at the AGM. Postal voting will be allowed in the election of Honorary Life membership.)

5. ADMISSION.

Payment of the appropriate subscription then in force shall entitle a person to membership. The Central Council may refuse membership to any person in which case the unused portion of the subscription will be refunded.

6. RESIGNATION.

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Any member may resign in writing prior to the Annual General Meeting in the year he or she wishes membership to cease. Refusal or neglect to pay the annual subscription within one (1) calendar month from the Annual General Meeting shall be accepted as resignation, provided that the Central Council shall have power to reinstate any such member on good cause being shown and all arrears of subscription being paid.

## 7. EXPULSION.

The Central Council shall have power to cancel the membership of any member who either :

(a) is in arrears of subscription for longer than two months

(b) has been found by the Central Council to have acted in an unbecoming or dishonourable manner concerning matters affecting the Association, or acting in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the Association. The member concerned shall be given seven (7) clear days written notice containing particulars of the alleged matter and requesting his presence at such meeting. The member shall be allowed an advocate to speak upon the matter affecting the proposed expulsion.

The Council may, after hearing the member concerned, or his advocate, or should he fail to attend, after considering the matter, resolve to discipline or expel such member.

A member expelled under this Rule shall have the right to appeal at a Special General Meeting of members called for this purpose. Such member shall have further right of appeal to the New Zealand Kennel Club who may confirm or rescind or vary the resolution of the Central Council.

Any member expelled shall, within seven (7) days return all Association property in his care or possession.

## 8. SUBSCRIPTION.

(a) The financial year shall be April 1 to March 31.

(b) The amount of the annual subscription shall be set by the Central Council and confirmed at the AGM. Any rebate of subscriptions during a financial year shall be the prerogative of the Central Council. The subscription rate for Junior membership is nil if a member of the family is already a full member. Otherwise it is half the family rate.

(c) Competition results will be regarded as valid, and therefore recorded, only if the subscription for the competition month has been paid. Previous competition results cannot be made valid by late payment of a subscription.

## MANAGEMENT.

### 9. OFFICERS.

The officers of the Association, who together will form the Central Council, shall consist of between four and six NALA representatives, (a minimum of two and a maximum of three representatives from each Island) and a Secretary and Treasurer. The Central Council will select a Chairperson from amongst these people.

Election of Central council: The term of the members of the Central council will expire on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Every year in February nominations will be sought for each position on the Central council. Where there are more people nominated than positions there will be a ballot.

NALA Representatives will appoint the Editor who may be selected from outside NALA Representatives ranks but must be a member of the Association.

All currently serving officers will be eligible for re-election prior to the next AGM.

The AGM will appoint an Honorary Auditor who need not be a member of the Association.

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The NALA Representatives will have their subscriptions paid by the Association and all expenses for postage, toll-calls and stationery associated with their duties will be refunded by the Association.

Honorariums: An Honorarium will be paid to the Editor/Secretary/Treasurer, Agility Results recorder, Flygility results recorder and Magazine Distributor and in addition their subscriptions will be paid by the Association and all expenses for postage, toll-calls and stationery associated with their duties will be refunded by the Association. The amount of the Honorarium will be set at the AGM.

## 10. CASUAL VACANCY.

If any casual vacancy shall occur in the officers of the Association, the Central Council may appoint another member to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

## 11. RESPONSIBILITIES.

The Central Council shall be responsible for the policies, decisions and administration of the Association. It shall make regulations governing Association matters and shall be responsible for actively implementing the Objectives of the Association as stated in Para 2 above. It shall be responsible for liaison between the Association and the New Zealand Kennel Club.

11.1 The NALA Representative's responsibilities will be to

(a) represent the interests, within the Association's policies and programme, of all the members in that area.

(b) provide an appropriate monthly contribution to AGILITY LINK.

(c) do everything possible to promote AGILITY LINK in that area

11.2 Editor. The job of Editor would usually be done by the Secretary, but could be delegated to a suitable person who is also a member of NALA. He/she will have full responsibility for the preparation, printing and dispatch of AGILITY LINK, including the provision of an appropriate competition programme.

11.3 Results recorder. The Results recorder will be a member of NALA. It will be the Results recorder's responsibility to ensure every member's competition scores for Flygility and Agility are accurately recorded and calculated for award purposes.

The Central Council can conduct its business by email and will usually meet at least once a year just prior to the AGM, or more frequently if necessary. The Association will subsidise travel costs for Central Council to the AGM.

## 12. BANK.

All moneys paid to or received by or on behalf of the Association shall be paid to the credit of the Association at such bank or banks as the Central Council shall from time to time appoint. All cheques drawn on such a bank shall be signed by the Treasurer and one other member.

## 13. INVESTMENT.

The Central Council may invest, and reinvest upon such terms as it shall think fit, the whole or any part of the Association's funds which shall not be required for the immediate business of the Association.

## 14. BORROWING.

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The Central Council shall, with the prior sanction of a special resolution duly passed at a general meeting of members, have power to borrow for the purposes of the Association any sum or sums of money on the security of all or any of the Association's property and to secure such borrowing by the giving of mortgages, encumbrances or charges, upon the usual terms and conditions.

## 15. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT.

The accounts shall be made up to the 31st March each year, and a balance sheet containing a summary of all financial transactions undertaken during the previous year, plus notice of all assets and liabilities, together with all receipts etc. shall be handed to the Association's Auditor for examination and certification as to their correctness. Once audited the Balance Sheet shall be presented at the AGM as the treasurer's Financial report.

## MEETINGS

## 16. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The date of the AGM shall be (held) not later than 31 May and not less than fourteen days notice in writing of the AGM shall be given to all members of the Association via the NALA magazine and email list.

REMITTS. Remits for inclusion at the AGM shall be in the hands of the Secretary at least 28 days prior to the AGM (meeting) and be sent to each member not later than fourteen days before the meeting. Postal voting and email voting on remits will be accepted from members but must have been received by the Secretary before the AGM.

The AGM may be conducted by electronic methods. Where there is no physical meeting place the reports and remits will first be published in the April NALA magazine, and will also be available on the NALA Website. Members may vote by post or email.

## 17. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS.

An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called by resolution of the Central Council and seven days' notice of any such meeting shall be given in writing to all members of the Association.

18. QUORUM. At any General meeting fifteen (15) members shall constitute a quorum. At a central council meeting three (3) Officers shall constitute a quorum.

19. CHAIRPERSON. At any meeting if the Chairperson is present he/she will take the position. In any other circumstances the Chairperson shall be such member willing to act as shall be appointed by resolution at the meeting.

## VOTING

## 20. POSTAL VOTING.

Where required, the election of the NALA Representatives shall be by postal ballot not later than one month prior to the AGM. A voting paper will be sent out to each financial member not later than 14 days before the meeting and must be returned to the Secretary NO LATER than 3 days before the meeting.

NALA Representatives may be proposed, seconded and voted for ONLY by members of NALA.

If any office remains vacant at the time of the AGM, nominations shall be accepted by the meeting and voted for by ballot by those financial members present.

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The members at the AGM shall appoint two scrutineers to open and count the ballot papers and the results shall be announced at the meeting. Voting papers will be destroyed after the results of the ballot are known and announced.

## 21. VOTING.

Voting may be by post, email or show of hands. The Chairperson shall have a casting vote as well as a deliberative vote. Only financial members shall be entitled to vote at a meeting.

## 22. RESOLUTIONS.

There shall be two types of resolution, namely a "resolution " and a "special resolution". A resolution proposed at any meeting shall be passed if the majority of persons present and entitled to vote at such meeting vote in favour of the resolution. A special resolution proposed at any meeting shall be passed if not fewer than two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote at such a meeting vote in favour of the resolution.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

23. MINUTE BOOK. Minutes of proceedings of all meetings shall be recorded in books kept for that purpose.

24. NEW RULES. The addition, alteration or repeal of any rules shall take place at any General Meeting by special resolution. Particulars of the addition, alteration or amendment shall be given in the notice calling the meeting. A special resolution proposed at any meeting shall be passed if not fewer than two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote at such meeting vote in favour of the resolution.

25. PROPERTY. Control of the property of the Association shall be vested in the Central Council.

26. PATRON. A patron may be elected at any AGM. The term of any such patron shall expire at the following AGM.

27. DISSOLUTION. The Association may be wound up voluntarily if the members at any General Meeting pass a resolution requiring the Association to be so wound up and this resolution is confirmed at a subsequent General Meeting called for the express purpose. Upon dissolution of the Association any surplus assets after payment of all liabilities shall be donated to the Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind Guide Dog Services.

## 28. GRANTS FOR CLUBS.

SPECIAL GRANTS. A maximum of three Clubs may be awarded a special grant. The Secretary will ask for applications from Clubs for these awards. Clubs applying for these awards shall give a project/reason for the application supported by quotes, plans. The decision will be made by the Central Council. The recipients of these grants will be announced at the AGM. The inaugural year will be 1999 NALA's tenth anniversary year.

NEW CLUB GRANTS. There will be a special one off grant of \$200 to all new Clubs that participate for all 11 rounds of the competition in their first full year.