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**CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS OF  
THE BOSTON TERRIER CLUB OF LOUISIANA, INC.**

**CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE I  
Name and Objects**

**SECTION 1.** The name of this Club shall be **THE BOSTON TERRIER CLUB OF LOUISIANA, INC.**

**SECTION 2.** The objects of this Club shall be:

(a) to promote the advancement of the Boston Terrier, encourage and promote quality in the breeding of purebred Boston Terriers and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection;

(b) to urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by The American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which Boston Terriers shall be judged and bred;

(c) to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at

[ dog shows

[ obedience trials

[ agility trials

[ and any other event for which the breed is eligible under the rules and regulations of The American Kennel Club

(d) to conduct

[ sanctioned matches,

[ dog shows

[ obedience trials

[ agility trials

[ and any other event for which the Club is eligible under the Rules and Regulations of The American Kennel Club.

**SECTION 3.** The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or remainder or residue from dues or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

**SECTION 4.** The members of the Club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such Bylaws as may be required to carry out these objects.

**BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I  
Membership and Dues**

**SECTION 1. Eligibility.** The Club shall be composed of six types of membership open to all persons 18 years of age and older (with the exception of Junior membership) who are in good standing with The American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club. While membership is to be unrestricted as to residence, the Club's primary purpose is to be

48representative of the breeders and exhibitors residing in the Club's area (the Greater Baton  
49Rouge, Louisiana area).

50 (a) *Regular (Individual)* — Enjoys all Club privileges including the right to vote and  
51hold office.

52 (b) *Household* — Two (2) adult members residing in the same household, each eligible  
53to vote and hold office.

54 (c) *Associate* — Entitled to all Club privileges except voting and office holding. This is  
55offered for members residing outside of the Club's area and to individuals residing in the Club's  
56area but inactive in Club activities.

57 (d) *Junior* — Open to children 9-17 years of age; a non-voting/non-office holding/non-  
58dues paying membership which may automatically convert to regular membership at age 18.

59 (e) *Honorary* — An individual who has made significant contributions to the sport,  
60Breed or Club; honorary members pay no dues and are not eligible to vote, but can maintain  
61regular (or household) membership if they pay dues.

62 (f) *Life* — For those individuals who have been members for long periods of time (20  
63years or more); Life members pay no dues but are eligible to vote and hold office.

64 **SECTION 2. Dues.** Regular membership dues shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per  
65individual member per year (and \$20.00 per household membership per year). Associate  
66membership dues shall be ten dollars (\$10.00) per year. Junior members shall not be assessed  
67membership dues. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, the dues amounts may be set from  
68year to year without further amendment, up to but not to exceed a maximum of thirty (\$30.00)  
69dollars per individual member per year. Dues are payable on or before January 1 of each year  
70(the first day of the fiscal year). During the month of November the Treasurer shall send to each  
71member, by First Class mail or e-mail, a statement of dues for the ensuing year.

72 **SECTION 3. Election to Membership.** Applications for membership shall apply on form  
73stating the applicant agrees to abide by the constitution and By-laws of the Club and the rules of  
74the American Kennel Club and The Boston Terrier Club of Louisiana. The application shall state  
75the name, address, and occupation of the applicant and shall have the endorsement of two  
76members in good standing. Accompanying the application the prospective member shall submit  
77dues for the current year. Applications are to be filed with the secretary and each application is  
78to be read at the first Board of Directors meeting following its receipt. All applicants will be  
79considered by the Board of Directors and presented to the membership for a vote to be taken at  
80the next General Club meeting. Affirmative votes of 2/3 of the members present and voting by  
81secret ballot at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant to membership. Upon  
82election to membership, the newly elected member shall be notified by the secretary of his/her  
83election not later than five (5) days after the election and said member shall be entitled to all  
84rights of privileges of the Club. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club  
85may not reapply within six (6) months after such rejection.

86 **SECTION 4. Termination of Membership.** Memberships may be terminated:

87 (a) *by resignation.* Any member in good standing may resign from the club upon written  
88notice to the Secretary, but no member may resign when in debt to the Club. Obligations other  
89than dues are considered a debt to the Club and must be paid in full prior to resignation.

90 (b) *by lapsing.* A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically  
91terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid sixty (60) days after the first day of the fiscal  
92year; however, the Board may grant additional thirty (30) days of grace to such members in  
93meritorious cases. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting if the dues  
94are unpaid as of the date of that meeting.

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95 (c) *by expulsion*. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in  
96 Article VI of these Bylaws.

97 **SECTION 5. *Electronic Notification***. The Club may send members notification of Club  
98 meetings, dues notices, minutes, and newsletters and send board members notification of board  
99 meetings via e-mail provided that the member or board members has signed an authorization  
100 agreeing to this method of communication. Such authorization, which is revocable, will also  
101 release the Club from any liability should the notification be received late or not received by the  
102 member or board member due to circumstances beyond the Club's control.

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## ARTICLE II Meetings and Voting

108 **SECTION 1. *Club Meetings***. The meetings of the Club shall be held a minimum of six (6)  
109 times per year within the Greater Baton Rouge, LA Area at such date, hour and place as may be  
110 designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice shall be mailed or e-mailed by the secretary  
111 to each member 10 days prior to the date of Meeting. The quorum for such meeting shall be 20  
112 percent of the members in good standing.

113 **SECTION 2. *Special Meetings***. Special meetings of the Club may be called by the President  
114 or by a majority vote of the members of the Board of Directors who are present and voting at any  
115 regular or special meeting of the Board; and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a  
116 petition signed by five (5) members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special  
117 meetings of the Club shall be held within the Greater Baton Rouge, LA Area at such place, date  
118 and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings.  
119 Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed or e-mailed by the secretary at least five (5) and  
120 not more than 15 days prior to the date of the meeting, and said notice shall state the purpose of  
121 the meeting, and no other Club business may be transacted thereat. A quorum for such a meeting  
122 shall be 20 percent of members in good standing.

123 **SECTION 3. *Board Meetings***. Meetings of the Board of directors shall be held a minimum  
124 of six (6) times per year within the Greater Baton Rouge, LA Area or via teleconference and/or  
125 video conference at such date, hour and place as may be designated by the Board. Written notice  
126 of each such meeting shall be mailed or e-mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days prior to  
127 the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

128 **SECTION 4. *Special Board Meetings***. Special Board meetings may be called by the  
129 President; and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least  
130 three (3) members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held within the Greater Baton  
131 Rouge, LA area or via teleconference and/or video conference at such hour, date and place as  
132 may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such a meeting. The Secretary via  
133 mail or e-mail shall make written notice at least five (5) days and not more than 10 days prior to  
134 the date of meeting. Any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business  
135 shall be transacted thereat. The quorum for such meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

136 **SECTION 5. *Conduction of Business***. The Board of Directors may conduct its business by  
137 mail, e-mail or fax through the Secretary. Business may also be conducted by telephone  
138 conference call provided all members of the Board are notified by mail at least 10 days in  
139 advance.

140 **SECTION 6. *Voting***. Each member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current  
141 year shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the Club at which he is present. Proxy voting  
142 will not be permitted at any Club meeting or election.

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**ARTICLE III**

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**Officers and Board of Directors**

146 **SECTION 1.** The Board shall be comprised of the officers and two other persons, all of  
147whom shall be members in good standing and who shall serve in their respective capacities both  
148with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meetings. All officers and  
149members of the Board of directors shall be elected for no more than two (2) successive one (1)  
150year terms in the same office unless there is no other candidate for the office and shall serve until  
151their successors are elected. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the  
152Board of Directors.

153 **SECTION 2. Officers.** The Club's officers, consisting of the President, Vice-President,  
154Secretary and Treasurer shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and  
155its meetings and the Board and its meetings.

156 **SECTION 3.** The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board. The  
157President shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office in addition to those  
158particularly specified in this document.

159 **SECTION 4.** The Vice-President shall have the power and exercise the duties of the  
160President in case of the President's death, absence or incapacity.

161 **SECTION 5.** The Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of  
162meetings, notify new members of their acceptance into membership, notify officers and directors  
163of election to office, keep a roll of the members of the Club with addresses, keep a record of all  
164meetings of the Club and the Board. The Secretary shall carry out such other duties as are  
165prescribed in these Constitution and Bylaws.

166 **SECTION 6.** The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging to the  
167Club. He/she shall deposit the same in a bank satisfactory to the Board in the name of the Club.  
168Books shall be open at all times to any members in good standing. A report shall be made to the  
169membership each quarter with condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or  
170payment. He shall turn over to the Financial Review Committee any books and records at the  
171annual meeting.

172 **SECTION 7.** Any vacancies occurring on the Board during the year shall be filled for the  
173unexpired term of office by a majority vote of all the current members of the Board by mail,  
174telephone, e-mail or meeting. In the event that any officer other than President is temporarily  
175unable to perform his/her duties the Board may assign those duties to another officer or Board  
176member. In no case shall this temporary assignment extend beyond 60 days' duration.

177 **SECTION 8.** Any officer or any other member of the Executive Committee being absent for  
178three (3) consecutive meetings shall have his office declared vacant.

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**ARTICLE IV**

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**The Club Year, Annual Meeting, Elections**

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184 **SECTION 1. Club Year.** The club's fiscal year shall begin on the first day of January and  
185end on the last day of December. The club's official year shall begin immediately at the  
186conclusion of the election at the annual meeting and shall continue through the election at the  
187next annual meeting.

188 **SECTION 2. Annual Meeting.** The annual meeting shall be held in the month of  
189December, at which officers and directors for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret ballot  
190from among those nominated in accordance with Section 4 of this Article. They shall take office

191 immediately upon the conclusion of the election and each retiring officer shall turn over to the  
192 successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the  
193 election.

194 **SECTION 3. Elections.** The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for  
195 each office shall be declared elected. The nominated candidates for other positions on the board  
196 who receive the greatest number of votes for such positions shall be declared elected.

197 **SECTION 4. Nominations.** No person may be a candidate in a club election who has not  
198 been nominated. During the month of August, the board shall select a Nominating Committee  
199 consisting of three members and two alternates, not more than one of whom may be a member of  
200 the board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen and alternates of their  
201 selection. The board shall name a chairman for the committee and it shall be such person's duty  
202 to call a committee meeting, which shall be held on or before September 10.

203 (a) The committee shall nominate one candidate for each office (and for Delegate to The  
204 Boston Terrier Club of America, who may but need not be an officer or director of the  
205 club) and positions on the board and, after securing the consent of each person so  
206 nominated, shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing.

207 (b) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Secretary shall, at least two  
208 weeks before the October meeting, notify each member in writing of the candidates so  
209 nominated.

210 (c) Additional nominations may be made at the October and November meetings by any  
211 member in attendance, provided that the person so nominated does not decline when their  
212 name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance  
213 at this meeting, the proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the  
214 proposed candidate signifying willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a  
215 candidate for more than one position (except for the position of Delegate).

216 (d) Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or in any manner other than as  
217 provided in this Section.

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**ARTICLE V  
Committees and Special Awards**

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222 **SECTION 1.** The Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of  
223 the Club in such matters as dog shows, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other fields  
224 which may well be served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to the final  
225 authority of the Board. Special Committees may also be appointed by the Board to aid it on  
226 particular projects.

227 **SECTION 2.** Any committee appointed may be terminated by a majority vote of the full  
228 membership of the Board upon written notice to the appointee and the Board may appoint  
229 successors to those persons whose services have been terminated.

230 **SECTION 3. Special Awards.** Any members in good standing whose Boston Terrier shall  
231 become a Champion of Record and is so officially recorded by the AKC, shall receive a special  
232 award from the Club in recognition thereof. Such award shall be a certificate or a special award  
233 which shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

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**ARTICLE VI  
Discipline**

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238 **SECTION 1. *American Kennel Club Suspension.*** Any member who is suspended from any  
239of the privileges of the American Kennel Club automatically shall be suspended from the  
240privileges of this Club for a like period.

241 **SECTION 2. *Parent Club Suspension.*** Any member who is suspended from any of the  
242privileges of The Boston Terrier Club of America, Inc. automatically shall be suspended from  
243the privileges of this Club for a like period.

244 **SECTION 3. *Charges.*** Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged  
245misconduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club. Written charges with specifications must  
246be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$50.00 which shall be forfeited  
247if such charges are not sustained. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to  
248the accused members by sequestered mail together with a notice of hearing and assurance that  
249the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if he so wishes.

250 **SECTION 4. *Board Hearing.*** The Board shall have complete authority to decide whether  
251counsel may attend the hearing, but both complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in  
252that regard. Should the charges be sustained, after hearing all the evidence and testimony  
253presented by complainant and defendant, the Board may by majority vote of those present,  
254suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six (6) months from the  
255date of the hearing and if it deems that punishment is insufficient, it may also recommend to the  
256membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the  
257defendant's right to appear before his fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which  
258considers the Board's recommendation. Immediately after the Board has reached a decision, its  
259findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary in turn shall  
260notify each of the parties of the Board's decision and penalty, if any.

261 **SECTION 5. *Expulsion.*** Expulsion may be accomplished only at a meeting of the Club  
262following a Committee hearing and upon the Committee's recommendation as provided in  
263Section 3 of this Article. Such proceedings may occur at regular or special meetings of the Club  
264to be held within sixty (60) days but not earlier than thirty (30) days after the date of the  
265Committee's recommendation of expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing  
266in his own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the  
267charges and the Committee's findings and recommendations and shall invite the defendant if  
268present to speak in his own behalf if he wishes. The meeting shall then vote by secret written  
269ballot on the proposed expulsion. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present at the meeting shall be  
270necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not voted the Committee's suspension shall stand.

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## ARTICLE VII Amendments

276 **SECTION 1. *Amendments.*** Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws may be proposed  
277by the Board or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by twenty percent of the  
278membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly  
279considered by the Board and must be submitted to the members with recommendations of the  
280Board by the Secretary for a vote within three (3) months of the date when the petition was  
281received by the Secretary.

282 **SECTION 2.** The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by 2/3 majority vote of the  
283members present at any regular or special meeting called for the purpose, provided the proposed  
284amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed or e-mailed to each  
285member at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

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286 **SECTION 3.** No amendments to these Bylaws shall take effect until they have been duly  
287 approved by The Boston Terrier Club of America, Inc.

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## **ARTICLE VIII**

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### **Dissolution**

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292 **SECTION 1.** The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than  
293 two-thirds (2/3) of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, whether voluntary  
294 or involuntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the Club nor any proceeds thereof  
295 nor any assets of the Club shall be distributed to any members of the Club, but after payments of  
296 all debts of the Club, its property and assets shall be given to a charitable organization selected  
297 by the Board of Directors.

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## **ARTICLE IX**

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### **Order of Business**

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302 **SECTION 1.** At meetings of the Club the order of business, so far as the character and  
303 nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows:

304

Roll call

305

Minutes of last meeting

306

Report of President

307

Report of Secretary

308

Report of Treasurer

309

Report of Committees

310

Election of officers and board (at annual meeting)

311

Election of new members

312

Unfinished business

313

New business

314

Adjournment

315

316 **SECTION 2.** At meetings of the Board the order of business, unless otherwise directed by  
317 majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

318

Reading of minutes of last meeting

319

Report of Secretary

320

Report of Treasurer

321

Reports of committees

322

Unfinished business

323

New business

324

Adjournment

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## **ARTICLE X**

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### **Parliamentary Authority**

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330 **SECTION 1.** The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly  
331 Revised shall govern the conduct of Club meetings in all cases to which they are applicable and  
332 in which they are not inconsistent with the laws of the State of Louisiana, this Constitution and  
333 Bylaws or any special rules of order the Club may adopt.

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