

# West of England Cocker Spaniel Club Constitution and Rules



1. The name of the club shall be the West of England Cocker Spaniel Club, and its object shall be to organize exhibitions to develop the breed.
2. The club shall consist of a President, Vice President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Hon secretary, Treasurer and a Committee of not more than 15 members (excluding those officers stated in rule 2 to ex officio members) and an unlimited number of members.
3. The Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy arising amongst the Officers, and shall be empowered to deal with any questions not specifically provided for in the rules.
4. Committee meetings shall be held as often as deemed necessary. Either face to face or by ZOOM. Five to form a quorum for the transaction of business.
5. Should a committee member be absent from three consecutive committee meetings without reasonable excuse, the seat shall be declared vacant and filled at the next committee meeting by co-option.
6. The Annual subscription shall be £3.00 single and £4.00 joint, payable to the Hon Treasurer in January each year.
7. The Annual General Meeting shall be held at such a time and place as the Committee may appoint. At the AGM the Officers and Committee shall retire but shall be eligible for re-election. Further nominations shall be made in writing to the Hon Secretary at least 14 days before the date of the AGM. The AGM can be held by Zoom or Face to Face
8. A copy of the audited statement of accounts for the last financial year January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> should be made available to all members of the club on request at least 14 days before the AGM and in addition will be available for inspection by members at the AGM. No business shall be transacted at the AGM unless notice appears on the Agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those, which in the opinion of the Chairman are urgent.
9. A Special General Meeting may be called at any time by the Committee, or shall be called by the Hon Secretary on his receiving a requisition duly signed by at least 12 members. The notice of calling a special general meeting shall; state the business to be considered and no business other than that named in the notice shall be discussed. Not less than 14 days' notice of a special general meeting shall be given in writing to members, with 15 members to a quorum.
10. Items to be included on the AGM agenda must be received by the Secretary at least 14 days before the AGM having been proposed and seconded by fully paid up members.

11. Club property; All monies belonging to the club shall be banked in the name of the club, and cheques drawn thereon shall be signed by any two of the Chairperson, Secretary or Treasurer. In the event of the club ceasing to exist, a general meeting shall be called by fully paid up members.
12. Any member who shall be suspended by the Kennel Club shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the Club. If conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Club be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character of the Club, The Committee of the Club may, at a meeting the notice convening which includes as an object the consideration of the conduct of the member, determine that a special general meeting shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her. Notice of the special general meeting shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising of the place and hour of the meeting that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at the meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, his/her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of members of the Club except that he/she may, within two calendar months from the date of such meeting. Appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to conditions as the Kennel Club may impose.
13. No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within The West of England Cocker Spaniel Club.
14. The Rules of the Club shall not be altered except at a general meeting, and the alterations to the Rules, passed at a general meeting shall not be brought into force until the Kennel Club have been advised and given approval to the alterations.
15. The Club shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.
16. The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, maintenance of title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary for continuance of registration and by 31<sup>st</sup> July annually, other returns as stipulated in the Kennel Club regulations for registration and maintenance of title of societies and Breed Councils and the affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities will be forwarded to the Kennel Club.
17. The Club recognizes the Kennel Club as the final authority for interpreting the Rules and Regulations of the Club and in all cases relative to Canine matters.