# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I

## Name and Objects

SECTION 1. The name of the Club shall be Mile High Weimaraner Club.

SECTION 2. The objects of the Club shall be:

(a) to encourage and promote the breeding of pure-bred Weimaraners 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 Weimaraners shall be judged.

(c) To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at American Kennel Club (AKC) events including: dog shows, field trials, hunt tests, and obedience trials, and at Weimaraner Club of America (WCA) events.

(d) To conduct sanctioned and licensed specialty shows, field trials, hunt tests, and obedience trials under the rules 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.

## ARTICLE II

## Membership

SECTION 1. Eligibility. There shall be two types of memberships open to all persons who are in good standing with The American Kennel Club and subscribe to the purposes of this Club. Single membership is for one person and allows for one vote. Family membership is for two people and allows for two votes.

While membership is to be unrestricted as to residence, the Club's primary purpose is to be representative of the breeders and exhibiters in its immediate area.

Membership to the Club will include completing a Membership Application, which is available from the web site, can be e-mailed, or can be physically mailed to new potential club members. The Membership Application will require two signatures from current, active club members as sponsorship into the club. New potential club members will also be required to sign and date a current copy of the Weimaraner Club of America Code of Ethics and state that they agree to uphold the Code of Ethics.

SECTION 2. Dues. Single Membership Dues shall be $15.00 per year; Family Membership Dues shall be $20.00 per year; all dues are payable on or

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before the 1st day of January each year (See Section 3,b). Persons joining the Club after the 1st day of July shall pay half-price for the remainder of the first year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of November, the secretary shall send to each member a statement of his dues for the ensuing year.

SECTION 3. Termination of Membership. Memberships may be terminated:

(a) by resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary; but no member may resign when in debt to the Club. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club and they become incurred on the first day of each fiscal year.

(b) By lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 90 days after the first day of the fiscal year; however, the Board may grant an additional 90 days of grace to such delinquent members in meritorious cases. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting whose dues are unpaid as of the date of the meeting.

(c) By expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VII of these constitution and by-laws.

## ARTICLE III

## Meetings and Voting

SECTION 1. Club Meetings. There shall be a minimum of six business meetings per year. Business meetings will be held in the Colorado Front Range region during the third week of the month six times during the year, at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Additional business meetings may be called by the President. Written notice of each business meeting shall be mailed or emailed (delivery as specified on annual membership form) by the Secretary at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

SECTION 2. Special Club Meetings. Special Club meetings may be called by the President or by a majority of the members of the Board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board, or by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held in the Colorado Front Range region and at such hour and place as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notices of such meeting shall be mailed or emailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting, and said notice shall stat the purpose of the meeting, and no other Club business may be transacted thereat. The quorum for such a meeting shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

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SECTION 3. Board Meetings. Each year there shall be a minimum of two meetings of the Board of Directors (more meetings can be held as needed) held at such hour and place as may be designated by the Board. Additional Board Meetings may be called by the President. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed or emailed (delivery as specified on annual membership form) by the Secretary at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 4. Special Board Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or by the Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held in the Colorado Front Range region and at such hour and place as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such meeting. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting, or e-mail notice shall be filed at least three (3) days and not more than five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. Any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business shall be transacted thereat. A quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 5. Voting. Each member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the Club at which he is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any club meeting or election.

## ARTICLE IV

## Directors and Officers

SECTION 1. Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of five (5) members – President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the Rescue Coordinator, all of whom shall be members in good standing who are residents of the United States. Officers shall be elected for one-year terms at the Club's annual meeting as provided in Article V, and all Board Members shall serve until succeeded. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

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

(a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President in addition to those particularly specified in these constitution and by-laws.

(b) The Vice-President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's death, absence, or incapacity.

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(c) The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. He/She shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify membership applicants on the status of their membership application, notify members of the Club with their addresses, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these constitution and by-laws.

(d) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging to the Club. He/She shall deposit the same in a bank satisfactory to the Board, in the name of the Club. His/Her books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and he shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported; and at the annual meeting he/she shall render an account of all moneys received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.

(e) The Rescue Coordinator shall have the duties to perform Weimaraner Rescue functions in the Colorado Front Range region in accordance with the rules and guidelines set for the by the Weimaraner Club of America – Weimaraner Foundation Fund. He/She shall create committees and recruit volunteers to aid in the evaluation, rehoming, and education of Weimaraner adopters in the Colorado Front Range region.

(f) No two members in the same household may serve on the same board of directors for the same calendar year.

SECTION 3. Vacancies. Any vacancies occurring on the Board during the year shall be filled for the unexpired term of office by a majority vote of all the then members of the Board and its first regular meeting following the creation of such vacancy.

## ARTICLE V

## The Club Year, Annual Meeting, Elections

SECTION 1. Club Year. The club's fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of January and end on the 31st day of December. The Club's official year shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the election at the annual meeting and shall continue through the election at the next annual meeting.

SECTION 2. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting shall be held in the month of January at which directors and officers for the ensuing year shall be elected by written ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 4 of this Article. They shall take office immediately upon the conclusion of the election and each retiring officer shall turn over to his successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the election.

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SECTION 3. Elections. The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected.

SECTION 4. Nominations. No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated. During the month of November, the Board shall select a nominating committee consisting of three members and two alternates, not more than one of whom shall be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen and alternates of their selection. The Board shall name a Chairman for the Committee and it shall be his duty to contact committee members on or before December 15th.

(a) The committee shall nominate one candidate for each office and, after securing the consent of each person so nominated, shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing.

(b) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Secretary shall on or before December 31st notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.

(c) Additional nominations may be made by December 31st by any member by notifying the Secretary in writing provided that the person so nominated does not decline when his name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at the annual meeting and election, his proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement for the proposed candidate signifying his willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position, and the additional nominations which are provided for the herein may be made only from those members who have not accepted a nomination of the Nomination Committee.

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

## ARTICLE VI

## Committees

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

SECTION 2. Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board upon written notice to the appointee; and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose service has been terminated.

## ARTICLE VII

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Discipline

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

SECTION 2. Charges. Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of $10 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained. The Secretary shall promptly notify the Board which shall meet and fix a date of a Board hearing not less than three (3) weeks nor more than six (6) weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by registered mail together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if he wishes.

SECTION 3. Board Hearing. The Board shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the hearing, but both complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in that regard. Should the charges be sustained, after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by complainant and defendant, the Board may by a majority vote of those present suspend the defendant, from all privileges of the Club for not more than six months from the date of the hearing. And, if it deems that the punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before his fellow-members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board's recommendation. Immediately after the Board has reached a decision, its findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary, in turn shall notify each of the parties of the Board's decision and penalty, if any.

SECTION 4. Expulsion. Expulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only at a meeting of the Club following a Board hearing and upon the Board's recommendation as provided in Section 3 of this Article. Such proceedings may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within 60 days but not earlier than 30 days after the date of the Board's recommendation of expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the Board's findings and recommendation, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his own behalf if he wishes. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A 2/3 vote of those present and voting at the meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted, the Board's suspension shall stand.

ARTICLE VIII

Amendments

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SECTION 1. Amendments to the constitution and by-laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by 20% of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the members with recommendations of the Board by the Secretary for a vote within three months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

SECTION 2. The constitution and by-laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for the purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each member at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

## ARTICLE IX

## Dissolution

SECTION 1. Dissolution. The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than 2/3 of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the Club nor any proceeds thereof nor any assets of the Club shall be distributed to any members of the Club but after payment of the debts of the Club, its property and assets shall be given to a charitable organization for the benefit of dogs selected by the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE X

## Order of Business

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

Minutes of last meeting
Report of President
Report of Secretary
Report of Treasurer
Report of the Rescue Coordinator
Reports of Committees
Election of Officers and Board (at Annual Meeting)
Unfinished business
New business
Adjournment

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