

CONSTITUTION OF THE
SOUTH ISLAND GERMAN SHEPHERD LEAGUE (INCORPORATED)

1 NAME

- a) The Club shall be called the South Island German Shepherd League (Inc.), (hereinafter referred to as SIGSL). It shall be associated to the NZKC (Inc).
- b) The headquarters shall at all times be the address of the current Secretary.
- c) The zone of influence, subject to NZKC rules, shall be the South Island, less Otago and Southland.

2. OBJECTS

The SIGSL exists mainly for the purpose of:

- a) To encourage exhibiting and breeding of German Shepherd Dogs conforming to NZKC standards.
- b) To encourage the training of German Shepherd Dogs.
- c) To hold shows and ribbon parades, including obedience and agility fixtures.
- d) To hold meetings of an educational nature for German Shepherd Dog enthusiasts.
- e) To hold meetings of a social nature.
- f) To provide facilities for shows, meetings, training and agility events.
- g) To promote good fellowship and mutual support among German Shepherd Dog owners and fanciers.
- h) To support other clubs recognized by NZKC.
- i) To promote in general the German Shepherd Dog and to make known to the public the outstanding qualities of the breed and to do all things that may be deemed advisable and necessary to further the objects of and to promote the interests of the members of the SIGSL.
- j) To provide and contribute prizes, awards and distinctions of merit in connection with the breeding, rearing, training and exhibiting of the German Shepherd Dog.
- k) To hold, purchase, acquire by gift, devise, bequeath or otherwise take on lease, any property real or personal in the name of the SIGSL which shall be deemed expedient for the purposes of the club and to sell, exchange, exchange, mortgage, pledge, lease, hire out and grant any option over any such property to erect any buildings on any land included in such property with power to alter or pull down buildings and to rebuild the same.

3 MEMBERSHIP

There shall be three (4) classes of paid membership and two (2) honorary memberships to the SIGSL:

- (a) Ordinary Members
- (b) Ordinary Joint members
- (c) Ordinary Junior members
- (d) Honorary Members
- (e) Honorary Life members
- (f) Family Membership

4. ELECTION OF MEMBERS

- (a) New members, subject to the provisions of Rule 4(b)(1), shall be proposed and seconded on the club's official application form by any member of the SIGSL. They shall be admitted upon election of a simple majority of the Main Committee. The first year's subscription, plus admission fee (if any), shall accompany the application. Each new member will be supplied with a copy of the Constitution and an official receipt.

Ordinary Members

- (1) Any person over the age of eighteen years shall be eligible for membership of the SIGSL and shall be entitled to vote and hold office.
- (2) Joint Membership Subject to the provision of Rule 4 (a) (3), a husband and wife, de facto, civil union couples or any two members of one household, shall be eligible for Joint Membership of the SIGSL and each Joint member shall be deemed an Ordinary member.
- (3) Junior Membership Any person under the age of eighteen years shall be eligible for nomination for membership of the SIGSL as a Junior member. Junior members shall not have voting rights, nor hold office, but shall otherwise enjoy the privileges of the SIGSL.
- (4) Family membership, two adults and children under the age of eighteen

(b) Honorary Membership

- (1) The SIGSL at its Annual or Special General Meeting may admit to Honorary membership of the SIGSL for the current year any person/s who in its opinion have rendered or shall be capable of rendering special services to the SIGSL. Honorary members shall be permitted to enjoy the same rights and privileges as an Ordinary member save that they shall not be permitted to vote. Honorary members are not liable for subscription.

(2) Honorary Life Membership

The SIGSL, with the recommendation of the Main Committee, at its Annual General Meeting may wish to recognize the outstanding service of a member to the SIGSL by appointing such member a Life Member. Nominations for Life membership may be made by any financial member in writing to the Secretary at least 28 days before the Annual General Meeting. The nominee must have had 20 years concurrent membership, including 15 years active participation. Life members shall enjoy the same privileges as an Ordinary member excepting liability for a subscription.

5. FINANCIAL YEAR

The financial year of the SIGSL shall be from 1 April to 31 March.

6. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- (a) Subscriptions are payable by the following class of memberships:
 - (1) Ordinary Members.
 - (2) Family Member
 - (3) Joint Members.
 - (4) Junior Members.
- (b) Subscriptions for each year shall be fixed at the Annual General Meeting. Any change in the amount of subscription shall apply for the ensuing financial year.
- (c) Any member who has not paid his subscription and/or arrears before or on the day of the Annual General Meeting in the year for which such subscription and/or arrears are payable shall be deemed unfinancial and shall not without the consent of the Main Committee be entitled to vote at any meeting or participate in any of the activities of the SIGSL until such subscription and/or arrears are paid. No resignation will be accepted or transfer granted to any unfinancial member.

7. MANAGEMENT

- (a) Any ordinary financial member of the SIGSL shall be eligible for election to the Main Committee of the SIGSL provided he resides in the approved zone of influence of the SIGSL as defined in these rules.
- (1) The officers of the SIGSL shall consist of the following:
 - (i) President
 - (ii) Two Vice-Presidents
 - (iii) Secretary
 - (iv) Treasurer
 - (v) Show Secretary
 - (vi) Eight ordinary Committee members
 - (vii) Head Trainer - as appointed (not elected)
 - (viii) Club Captain
- (2) Honorary Officers of the SIGSL shall be:
 - (i) Patron
 - (ii) Up to four Vice-Patrons
 - (iii) Honorary_Auditor
 - (iv) Honorary Solicitor
 - (v) Honorary Veterinary Surgeon

8. ELECTION OF MAIN COMMITTEE

- (a) The Main Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. They shall be nominated and seconded by financial Ordinary members. If there is more than one nomination for each position an election by secret ballot shall be held PROVIDED ALWAYS that no person shall be elected under this paragraph unless they are present at the Annual General Meeting at which they are to be elected, or have previously signified in writing their willingness to accept nomination. For the purpose of election of officers under this paragraph and Rule 9 the provisions of Rule 8(a) shall apply.
- (b) All elections of officers shall be made during the Annual General Meeting, or a Special General Meeting called for that purpose as a result of resignations or the lack of a quorum for which the remaining Committee is unable to co-opt.
- (c) Subject to the provisions of Rule 13 (f) (1), (2) & (3), all committee members, whether duly elected or co-opted, shall remain in office until the following Annual General Meeting when they shall retire but shall be eligible for re-election.

9. ELECTION OF HONORARY OFFICERS

The Annual General Meeting shall also elect

- (a) Patron
 - (b) Vice-Patrons
 - (c) An Honorary Auditor who shall be a member of the NZ Society of Accountants
 - (d) An Honorary Solicitor who shall be a member of the NZ Law Society
 - (e) An Honorary Veterinary Surgeon
- PROVIDED ALWAYS** that if in any case more than one nomination be received an election by secret ballot shall be held.

10. ELECTION OF DELEGATE TO GSDAC (INC)

- (a) At the AGM meeting held each year a delegate will be elected to represent the SIGSL on the German Shepherd Advisory Council (inc).
- (b) Delegates will be nominated in accordance with the criteria as laid down from time to time by the German Shepherd Dog Advisory Council. The Delegate's term of office shall coincide with the committee year of the GSDAC.
- (c) The Delegate shall convey and promote the interests of and carry out such duties as directed by the SIGSL to the GSDAC and vote in accordance with the wishes of the SIGSL at meetings of the GSDAC and will report back to the SIGSL after all such meetings.

11. DUTIES OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE

(a) Management

In general, the Main Committee is charged with the control of SIGSL assets and administration of the affairs and business of the SIGSL in an efficient manner.

- (1) To make, alter or rescind standing orders, by-laws and regulations not consistent with, or repugnant to, these rules or the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 for the management and promotion of the objects of the SIGSL and such standing orders, by-laws and regulations while in force shall take effect as if the same were part of these rules and any breach thereof shall be dealt with accordingly PROVIDED THAT the Committee shall notify the SIGSL members of any standing orders, by-laws or regulations so made and that these standing orders, by-laws or regulations do not take effect until members of the SIGSL have been notified in writing.
- (2) To appoint any person or persons or any sub-committee for any special objects or purpose and to define the powers and duties of such person, persons, sub-committee or sub-committees and to vary or add to the personnel thereof and to fill any vacancy thereof.
- (3) To appoint a member to fill any casual vacancy on the Main Committee caused by passing on, retirement, absence or removal from office of a Committee person. Such appointee to continue in office until the next Annual General Meeting and shall then retire but shall be eligible for reelection.
- (4) To ensure that all duties as directed by General meetings and the Constitution are carried out.
- (5) To perform such duties as directed by the Main Committee.
- (6) To ensure that the interests of the SIGSL and its members are upheld at all times.
- (7) To meet regularly and manage the affairs of the SIGSL.
- (8) All Main Committee members shall have the right to speak and vote at all meetings.
- (9) To manage the affairs of the SIGSL as it relates to all training, including show training, obedience training and agility training.
- (10) To arrange and conduct club training nights.
- (11) To organize obedience and agility events other than Trials and Tests
- [12] To co-operate with other clubs as approved by NZKC in the conducting of obedience tests [13]
To promote the virtues of and to encourage the training of all German Shepherd Dogs

(b) Specific Duties

(1) President

- (i) To carry out such duties as directed by General meetings and the Constitution.
- (ii) To chair all committee and General meetings of the SIGSL.
- (iii) To ensure all lawful decisions of General meetings are carried out.
- (iv) To ensure the decisions of the Main Committee are given effect to.
- (v) To call General meetings of members in the absence of the Secretary.
- (vi) To perform all duties usual and appropriate to his office.
- (vii) To interpret all points not covered within the Constitution or Standing Orders.
- (viii) To speak and to call for votes at all meetings on issues relating to the welfare of the SIGSL and its members. In the event of an equal number of votes he shall have the right to a casting vote as well as his deliberative vote.

(2) Vice Presidents

- (i) To render all assistance to the President.
- (ii) To assume the full power of the President in his absence provided that in the absence of the President and the Vice Presidents that the Committee members shall nominate one of their members to the Chair.

- (iii) To carry out such duties as directed by the President.

(3) Secretary

- (i) To attend all meetings including the Annual or any Special General meeting of the SIGSL and to record the minutes of such meetings. (In his absence a substitute secretary may be appointed from the financial members present to record the minutes). He shall have the right to speak and vote on any question.
- (ii) To conduct the general correspondence of the SIGSL and keep a copy of all official letters sent and received and submit same to the Main Committee or General meeting of the SIGSL as required.
- (iii) To receive all subscriptions and other monies, issue receipts and pay all amounts to the Treasurer within seven (7) days of their receipt.
- (iv) To keep a register of names and address of all members with the date of their joining the SIGSL and of their death or withdrawal (as the case may be). This register shall be open for inspection (at the residence of the Secretary) at all reasonable times. The register of members shall be present at all meetings of the SIGSL.
- (v) To maintain all records of the SIGSL.
- (vi) To bring to the notice of the Main Committee, via the President, any matters which appear to be contrary to the constitution of the SIGSL and the Rules and Regulations of the NZKC.
- (vii) To arrange for and inform members of General meetings in reasonable time.
- (viii) To lay before the members the annual balance sheet, financial report, President's report and notice of meeting, together with notices of motion etc. in due time.
- (ix) To give to each member of the Main Committee not less than 3 clear days' notice of any Main Committee meeting.
- (x) To deliver to the Registrar of Companies copies of each repeal, alteration or addition to the Rules in accordance with the requirements of the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 and the NZKC.
- (xi) To provide each new member of the SIGSL with a copy of the Rules and an official receipt upon receipt of subscription.

(4) Treasurer

- (i) To take charge of and keep all books and documents relating to finance and to supply the same on demand by the Main Committee or an independent and suitably qualified person appointed as reviewer of the accounts
- (ii) To arrange for the collection of all monies due to the SIGSL and to issue an official receipt for same if required. All money collected shall be accounted for and shall be banked in the SIGSL bank account at regular intervals.
- (iii) To arrange for the payment of all monies owed by the SIGSL and approved by Committee. All payments shall be by cheque. There will be two signature's on each cheque and the signatories for the various banking accounts (as approved by the Main Committee) shall be detailed by resolution of the Main Committee and recorded in the minutes. All cheques or withdrawal authorities shall be signed by the Treasurer and any one of the following: President, Vice-President and/or Secretary.
- (iv) To have the bank passbooks, chequebooks and all account books available at each committee meeting or at any time for an independent and suitably qualified person appointed as reviewer of the accounts

- (v) To furnish a report on the financial position of the SIGSL at each Main Committee meeting or as directed by the Main Committee.
- [vi] To invest with the approved Trustee Investment Fund such SIGSL monies which shall not be required for the immediate purpose of the SIGSL.
- (vii) To submit to an independent and suitably qualified person appointed as reviewer of the accounts the financial records of the SIGSL in reasonable time (at least 2 weeks) and co-operate on all matters relating to the review of the annual accounts.
- (viii) To prepare a balance sheet and statement of receipt and expenditure within 28 days of retiring (whether by resignation or term of office). To present a duly audited balance sheet, statement of income and expenditure and liabilities and assets to the Annual General Meeting.

(5) Show Secretary

- (i) To communicate with NZKC regarding all details of shows.
- (ii) To prepare show schedules and all matters relating thereto.
- (iii) To collect and receipt all show entry monies.
- (iv) To calculate all show levies and ensure that these levies are paid by the Treasurer.
- (v) To communicate with and to finalise all contractual arrangements with judges
- (vi) To perform all show secretarial functions on the day of the show.

(6) Club Captain

- (i) Introduce new members by explaining club information and policy.
- (ii) Completing membership and handler information forms ensuring that membership is paid and passed onto Secretary.
- (iii) To organize evaluations of dogs (first timers only) with Head Instructor.
- (iv) Introduce new members to their instructor.
- (v) Handle club inquiries, refer to appropriate people where necessary.
- (vi) To organize match nights against other clubs.
- (vii) Ensure that all new members are allocated into a class and that they are satisfied with their training.
- (viii) To furnish a report as directed by the Committee

13 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- (a) Main Committee meetings should be held regularly, in any case not less than every two months.
- (b) The Main Committee shall meet at such times and places as shall from time to time be determined by the President, or failing that, by the Vice Presidents, and at all such meetings the Committee (subject to these rules) shall determine its own procedure.
- (c) The Main Committee shall receive notice at least three clear days prior to any meeting.
- (d) At such Main Committee meetings the President shall take the Chair and if he is absent either of the Vice Presidents shall take the Chair and if they are absent then the meeting shall elect a Chairman.
- (e) A special Main Committee meeting may be determined by a quorum at any time.
- (f) Subject to the provisions of Rule 13(f)(1), (2) & (3) the office of a member of the Main Committee may be declared vacant and such member shall therefore cease to be a member of the Main Committee if:

- (1) he forwards to the committee his written resignation of office.
- (2) he is absent from three consecutive meetings of the committee without apology.
- (3) he is removed from office by a resolution of a General meeting of the SIGSL.

14. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- (a) The Annual General Meeting of SIGSL shall be held no later than the first day of August in any year, in Christchurch. Members shall be advised of the date set for the AGM at least four weeks in advance.
- (b) At all Annual General meetings the President shall take the Chair and if the President is absent and the Vice Presidents are absent, then meeting shall elect another office bearer.
- (c) Notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given to members in writing at least 14 clear days before such meeting.
- (d) The business of the Annual General meeting shall be:
 - (1) Apologies
 - (2) To confirm minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
 - (3) Correspondence.
 - (4) To receive the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
 - (5) To consider any Notices of Motion before the meeting.
 - (6) To elect a President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Show Secretary, Club Captain and a Committee of eight members.
 - (7) To elect a Patron and any Vice Patrons.
 - (8) To appoint an independent and suitably qualified person to review the accounts.
 - (9) To elect an Honorary Solicitor.
 - (10) To elect honorary members and/or honorary life members.
 - (11) General Business.

15. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

- (a) A Special General meeting is any General meeting of the SIGSL other than the Annual General meeting.
- (b) The Committee shall immediately instruct the Secretary to call such Special General meeting upon the receipt by the Secretary of a written notice as provided for in the rules.
- (c) At all Special General meetings the President shall take the Chair and if the President is absent the meeting shall elect another office bearer.
- (d) Except as otherwise provided in Rule 19(c) and 19(d), notices of all Special General meetings shall be given to members in writing at least 14 clear days before such meeting.
- (e) A Special General meeting may be called in the following circumstances:
 - (1) The President or the Main Committee may at any time instruct the Secretary to call such Special General meeting for any purpose which the Main Committee deems fit.
 - (2) Upon receipt by the Secretary of a requisition in writing, signed by at least 15 members requesting the calling of such Special General meeting and stating the purpose for which the meeting is required. If the meeting is not called within one month of the delivery of

the said requisition as aforesaid then the persons signing such requisition shall be entitled to call and hold such meeting as if the calling of the said meeting had been directed by the Main Committee as provided by this rule.

- (f) Only business of which notice has been given may appear on the agenda and be transacted at any Special General meeting although apologies may be accepted. If a Special General meeting is called as a result of a petition the Chair shall invite one of the requisitioners to be the mover of the motion dealing with the matter to be discussed.

16. QUORUM

- (a) A Quorum at any Main Committee meeting shall be at least five (5) Committee members.
- (b) A quorum at any Annual or Special General meeting shall be fifteen (15) members.
- (c) If there is no quorum within 30 minutes the meeting shall lapse.

17. VOTING

- (a) At all General meetings every financial ordinary member present shall be entitled on every motion to one vote exercised in person and in the case of equality of votes the Chairman shall have a casting vote as well as a deliberative vote.
- (b) The mode of voting on all questions other than elections at all General meetings shall be by the voice, or if the Chairman shall require, by a show of hands, or if the chairman or any other three (3) members shall require by secret ballot.
- (c) The mode of voting on all elections at all General Meetings shall be by secret ballot for which purpose a returning officer and two scrutineers shall be appointed by the meeting.
- (d) Any motion at any Special General meeting shall be carried provided it shall have been passed by a simple majority of the members present and entitled to vote at such meeting PROVIDED THAT no motion shall be carried at any Special General meeting convened for the purpose of dealing with special business as defined in Rule 18(e) hereof unless the same shall have been passed by a majority of three-quarters in number of the members present and entitled to vote at such meeting.
- (e) For the purposes of Rule 17(d) hereof the following matters shall be special business:
 - (1) The expulsion of a member pursuant to Rule 18(d).
 - (2) Alterations, repeals or additions to or of these rules.

18 CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Resignation
 - (1) Resignations of members shall be in writing.
 - (2) Members may not resign until all subscriptions, monies and club property due to the Club are paid or returned in full.
- (b) Lapsed Membership
 - (1) Members whose subscription has not been paid in full for a period of three (3) months following the Annual General meeting shall be deemed to be no longer members of the SIGSL. Lapsed members shall no longer enjoy any privileges of the SIGSL and shall

return all properties or monies of the SIGSL to the SIGSL. On payment of subscription the Main Committee may, at its discretion, readmit the member to full membership.

- (2) Past members whose membership has lapsed for more than two (2) years shall be regarded as new members pursuant to Rule 4(a).

(c) Suspension

- (1) Any member who in the opinion the Main Committee has acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the Club may be suspended from membership for a period not exceeding four (4) months at the discretion of the committee, provided that such member shall have a right to be heard and a right of appeal to a General Meeting, which may confirm, vary or revoke the committee's decision. Voting on this issue shall (both in committee and in General meeting) be by secret ballot. At least 21 days' written notice of any proposed suspension resolution shall be given to all persons entitled to vote and to the member concerned, giving particulars of the acts which are the subject of complaint.

A suspended member shall not be eligible to rejoin the Club:

- (i) for a period not exceeding four (4) months from the date of the suspension and
- (ii) without the express permission of the Main Committee.
- (2) The Main Committee shall have the discretion to impose a fine in lieu of suspension; the fine (subject to the provision of Rule 19(c)(1) shall equal one year's ordinary subscription for every month's suspension imposed.

(d) Expulsion

- (1) Expulsion of a member is to be regarded as a very severe penalty, gravely reflecting on the credit of the individual concerned. Imposition of such a penalty should therefore not be entered upon lightly and any expulsion should take place only in accordance with the rules as provided in the constitution. The move to expel must be taken in good faith and in the genuine interests of the SIGSL as a whole, with the member concerned being given a proper opportunity to be heard and with the circumstances being such that the penalty is not excessive in relation to the offence.
- (2) Any member may only be called upon to terminate his or her membership if required to do so by a resolution passed by a 75 percent majority at a General meeting, provided that at least 21 days' written notice of the proposed resolution is given, and provided also that the member concerned is given an opportunity to be heard before the resolution is voted on.
- (3) Separate motions are to be moved if it is desired to suspend or expel two or more persons.
- (4) Members subject to expulsion motions retain their right to vote on them.

(e) Members' Rights

SIGSL members who are also NZKC members facing penalty under Rule [18c) & 18(d) may exercise their right under NZKC Rules Section VII (Rules of the NZKC Section VII Discipline). In all disciplinary cases, members whether NZKC members or not, shall be treated equally. In all matters which have been referred to NZKC for determination, all SIGSL members shall abide by the NZKC determination.

19 ALTERATION TO RULES

- (a) Financial Ordinary members may propose and second alterations to the rules.
- (b) The rules of the SIGSL may from time to time be altered at any Annual or Special General meeting called for the purpose, provided that the notice of such proposed alteration, repeal or addition shall have been given to each member by circular or advertisement at least 14 clear days prior to such meeting.
- (c) Any Notice of Motion to alter, repeal or add to these rules at any General meeting shall be in writing and shall be in the hands of the Secretary at least 28 days prior to the date of such General meeting.
- (d) Notice of Motions to alter, repeal or add to these rules shall be special business to which the provisions of Rules 17(d) and (e) and 18(c) and (d) hereof shall apply.
- (e) Duplicate copies of every such repeal, alteration, or addition shall forthwith be delivered to the Registrar of Companies in accordance with the requirements of the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 and to the NZKC (inc).
- (f) Changes of rules take effect immediately they are approved.
- (g) No addition to or alteration of the personal benefit clause or the winding up clause shall be approved without the approval of the Inland Revenue Department.

20. COMMON SEAL

The SIGSL Common Seal shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary and whenever the Common Seal is required to be affixed to any document or writing the Seal shall be affixed pursuant to a resolution of the Main Committee of the SIGSL. The Secretary, the President and any one of the other Main Committee members shall be authorized to affix the seal. The persons so affixing the Seal shall at the same time sign the document to which the seal is affixed.

21. RESOLUTIONS BINDING

All resolutions of the SIGSL in General meetings in accordance with these Rules shall be binding on all members whether or not they are present at the meeting and a declaration by the Chairman of the meeting that a resolution has been carried or lost, together with an entry in the minute book of the SIGSL shall be conclusive evidence of that fact

22. DISSOLUTION

In the event of the SIGSL being wound up the surplus assets after payment of the SIGSL's liabilities and expenses of the winding up shall not be paid or distributed among the members of the SIGSL but shall be given or transferred to some other charitable organization or body having objects similar to the objects of the first organization, or for some other charitable purpose within New Zealand.

23. HONORARIUM

An Honorarium may be paid to the Auditor or any officer, decided by and referring an Annual General meeting. The amount to be decided by an Annual General meeting.

24. POWER TO BORROW

The SIGSL may borrow or raise money upon mortgage of the real or personal property of the SIGSL or any part or parts thereof or upon debenture or mortgage debentures of the SIGSL and to issue such debentures or mortgage debentures charging the whole or any part of the assets of the SIGSL and to execute mortgages to secure such debentures or to borrow money from bankers or other persons with or without security.

25. APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES

Unless specifically directed by a General meeting the Main Committee shall have the power to appoint judges for the current or ensuing years.

26. CHANGES OF ADDRESS

It shall be the duty of every member to communicate his change or changes of address to the Secretary who shall record the same in the register and all letters addressed to such members posted to or delivered at such address shall be deemed to have been delivered to and to have been received in the ordinary course of post by such member. If a member fails to communicate his address or any changes thereof to the Secretary all letters delivered at or posted to such member's last known address shall be deemed to have been delivered to and received by such member.

27. CLUB PROPERTIES AND TROPHIES

Members holding SIGSL plants, properties and/or trophies shall be responsible for returning same on demand and in good order. Trophies shall be returned to the trophy steward or a Committee member within 28 days before the date of the competition or show.

28. INTERPRETATION

(a) The decision of the Main Committee or the interpretation of these rules or upon any matter pertaining to the SIGSL, its property or interest, shall be conclusive and binding unless revoked by SIGSL in a General meeting.

(b) Where in these rules words of a masculine gender have been used they shall when the context admits or so requires be deemed to include in the alternative the equivalent words of feminine gender and shall be read accordingly.

29. No member or person associated with a member of the SIGSL shall derive income, benefit or advantage from the SIGSL where they can materially influence the payment of the income, benefit or advantage. Any such income paid shall be reasonable and relative to that which would be paid in an arms

length transaction (being the open market value). The provisions and effect of this clause shall not be removed from this document and shall be included and implied into any document replacing this document.