

**THE ITALIAN SPINONE CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN**  
**RULES & REGULATIONS 2023-24**

**1. NAME**

The Club shall be called "The Italian Spinone Club of Great Britain", hereinafter referred to as "the Club".

**2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The Club's aims and objectives shall be:

- a) To promote the health and welfare of the breed by maintaining the Code of Ethics and other health schemes as appropriate.
- b) To unite those interested in the Breed into a friendly group.
- c) To maintain the Breed Standard.
- d) The Club shall not join any federation of Societies or Clubs.

**3. OFFICERS, COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS**

The Club shall consist of:

- a) A Patron who will be made a Life Member.
- b) A President who shall be elected for a period of 2 years by postal ballot of fully paid up members, who will be entitled to attend meetings in a non-voting capacity.
- c) A Chairman who shall be elected for a period of 2 years by postal ballot of fully paid up members.
- d) A Vice Chairman elected by the committee after the AGM who shall oversee the Chairman's role in the event of absence.
- e) An Honorary Secretary who shall be elected for a term of two years by postal ballot of fully paid-up Members.
- f) An Honorary Treasurer who shall be elected for a term of two years by postal ballot of fully paid-up Members.
- g) An Honorary Field Trial Secretary who shall be elected for a term of two years by postal ballot of fully paid-up Members.
- h) A Committee of twelve, excluding officers to be elected for a term of three years by secret written ballot of Members present at the Annual General Meeting. Four Committee Members shall retire annually and shall be eligible for re-election. (Candidates for nomination must be fully paid-up Members for three years).
- i) An unlimited number of Members.
- j) An up to date list of Members' names and their addresses, and those of branch Members where appropriate, will be maintained, and, if so requested, the list of Members' names will be made available for inspection by the Kennel Club and Members of the Club. A declaration of the total number of members will be sent to the Kennel Club with the Annual Returns

**4. MANAGEMENT OF THE CLUB**

- a) The management of the Club shall be in the hands of the Committee.
- b) Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as deemed necessary; however there shall be at least three per annum.
- c) Nine shall form a quorum for the transaction of business, including 2 Officers.
- d) In the event of a Committee Member failing to attend two consecutive meetings, except in extreme circumstances, the other members of the Committee shall have the power to exclude that Committee Member and replace him/her with another co-opted member who shall remain in Office until the next Annual General Meeting.
- e) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members onto the Committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between Annual General Meetings and these co-opted members shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting. If insufficient postal nominations for the committee are received then nominations may be taken from those present at the AGM.

**5. SUB COMMITTEES**

- a) The chair is to be an officer of the main committee.
- b) Minutes of all sub committee meetings must be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary and all financial information is to be forwarded to the Honorary Treasurer before the next main committee meeting.
- c) Reports from the sub committees will be presented to the main committee. Key decisions will be reviewed and ratified or vetoed by the main committee as is deemed fit.
- d) Any main committee member has the right to attend Sub Committee meetings as an observer.

Aims of Sub Committees

- a) To aid the main committee, and to use the members of the club who have significant knowledge, expertise and interest in particular aspects of the club.
- b) All sub committees, excluding the Judges Working Party, must meet at least once a year.
- c) A sub committee must have not more than 6 members (excluding the chair), and a quorum will consist of 4.

- d) The main committee must ratify nominations for sub committee members, and they shall stand for a period of 2 years before seeking resubmission. (They must have been a member of the club for 3 years before seeking a place on a sub committee).
  - e) In the event of a sub committee member failing to attend 2 consecutive sub committee meetings, except in extreme circumstances, the main committee shall have the power to exclude that person and nominate a replacement.
- NB** The judges working party is governed by separate Kennel Club rules and regulations, however the number of members is to equal not more than 12 including the Chairman and Honorary Secretary of the Club.

## **6. ELECTION OF MEMBERS**

Candidates for Membership of the Club shall be proposed by one fully paid-up Member and shall be elected by a consensus of the Committee.

### Honorary Life Membership

A person may be elected an honorary life member of the Club at an Annual General Meeting. Notice of a proposal to elect an honorary life member must appear on the Agenda for the AGM. Nominations must be submitted to the Hon. Sec not less than 6 weeks prior to the AGM.

## **7. VOTING RIGHTS**

- a) Each Single Subscription Member shall be entitled to one vote immediately upon acceptance of membership, unless joining during the period of a postal ballot when clause 7f shall apply.
- b) In the case of Joint Subscription Members, each party shall be entitled to an individual vote immediately upon acceptance of membership, unless joining during the period of a postal ballot when clause 7f shall apply.
- c) In the case of Junior Membership (6-16 years inclusive), they will not be entitled to vote.
- d) Family Membership to include two Adult Members and Juniors resident at the same address; maximum of two votes eligible per family membership with no voting rights for the Junior Members. Adult Members shall be entitled to one vote immediately upon acceptance of membership, unless joining during the period of a postal ballot when clause 7f shall apply.
- e) All postal ballot papers to be numbered and returned to an independent scrutineer for counting.
- f) Members who are accepted or renew during the period of a postal ballot are not eligible to participate in that ballot.

## **8. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS**

Any Member who shall be disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(5) and/or Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the Club.

If the conduct of any Member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Club, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interest 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 of the Club shall be called for a 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 the place, date 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, and he/she shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a Member 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 such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose. If a society expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, dog shows, trials or competitions, the society must report the matter in writing to the Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.

## **9. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- a) The Annual Subscriptions shall be in such an amount as deemed necessary by the Committee and agreed by members in a General Meeting and notified to the Kennel Club.
- b) The Annual Subscriptions shall be payable to the Honorary Treasurer on the 1st January each year.
- c) If any Member shall fail to pay his/her subscriptions by 31st January they will forfeit their voting rights for the current years AGM. The Committee shall have the power to erase his/her name from the list of Members. However, if the Committee shall subsequently receive satisfactory explanation the Member may, at the discretion of the Committee and on payment of the arrears, be re-admitted to Membership.
- d) Long Term Membership: if any members wish to pay 5 years subscription in advance then they will be entitled to a 10% discount.
- e) Members who are accepted or renew during the period of a postal ballot are not eligible to participate in that ballot.

## **10. COMMUNICATION**

Members can choose to receive correspondence and other documents electronically by opting in to this method of delivery. Members can revert back to receiving printed documents at any time. The only exception

to this is with regard to the AGM and SGM communications which are dealt with separately under section 14 and 15.

#### **11. CLUB PROPERTY**

The property of the Club shall be vested in the Committee and in the event of the Club ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the assets, and the outcome notified to the Kennel Club. In the event of this not being possible, the Committee shall be empowered to deal with the matter at their discretion and the outcome shall be notified to the Kennel Club. In either case, any assets realised will be used in the interest of the Breed, at the Committee's discretion.

#### **12. FINANCIAL YEAR**

The financial year of the Club shall be 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December each year.

#### **13. CLUB ACCOUNTS**

- a) A Banking Account shall be held in the name of the Club into which all revenue of the Club shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall only be made on the signatures of two from the Offices of Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Field Trial Secretary and Honorary Treasurer. The Club may use a Paypal Account, held in its name, for the purpose of receiving payments.
- b) The accounts shall be kept by the Honorary Treasurer and Auditors shall be appointed at each Annual General Meeting who shall audit the Club's accounts for the ensuing year before the Annual General Meeting. The Honorary Treasurer will in turn produce a working Profit & Loss statement for each committee meeting. Those certifying the accounts must be independent of the committee.

#### **14. THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- a) No business shall be transacted at the Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof appears on the Agenda with the exception of routine matters or those, which in the opinion of the Chairman of the Meeting are urgent.
- b) Not less than fourteen days notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given in writing by post to Members.
- c) All other AGM information and documentation will be made available to Members by email and/or download. If a Member wishes to receive these by post they can opt in to that method by notifying the Secretary in writing by post.
- d) A copy of the annual statement of accounts for the last financial year which must be certified in accordance with the rules of the society will be made available on request to members 14 days prior to the AGM.
- e) The annual statement of accounts will be available for inspection by members at the Annual General Meeting.
- f) The Health Co-ordinator's report to the AGM shall include a full list of reported dogs that have fitted, for whatever reason with the reason listed if known, in the previous 12 months. The five generation pedigree and the names of the siblings are available on the ISCGB website.
- g) The Annual General Meeting shall be held before 31<sup>st</sup> May for the following purposes:
- h) To receive the report of the Committee, and the Balance Sheet.
- i) To elect Officers and Committee; nominations for whom shall be in writing by post and received by the Hon Secretary not less than six weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting; all nominations shall be proposed by one fully paid-up Member and seconded by another fully paid-up Member. Nominations must be fully paid-up Members of at least three years standing.
- j) To discuss any resolutions duly placed on the Agenda of which prior notice has been given to the Honorary Secretary in writing by post not less than six weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting. All resolutions shall be proposed by one fully paid-up Member and seconded by another fully paid-up Member.

#### **15. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING**

- a) A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Honorary Secretary if twenty Members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so.
- b) Not less than fourteen days notice of a Special General Meeting shall be given in writing by post to Members.
- c) All other SGM information and documentation will be made available to Members by email and/or download. If a Member wishes to receive these by post they can opt in to that method by notifying the Secretary in writing by post.

#### **16. ANNUAL RETURNS**

The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, the Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Treasurer, for the continuance of registration and that by 31<sup>st</sup> July each year, other returns as stipulated in the Kennel Club regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities, shall be

forwarded to the Kennel Club. The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary of the Club which may occur during the course of the year.

#### **17. FINAL COURT OF APPEAL**

The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the Rules and Regulations of the Society in all cases relative to Canine or Society matters.

#### **18. AMENDMENT TO RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The Rules and Regulations of the Club shall not be altered except at an Annual General Meeting, the Agenda for which contains specific proposals to amend the rules. Amendments shall not be brought into force until the Kennel Club has been advised and given approval.

#### **19. CODE OF ETHICS**

Membership is conditional upon compliance with The Club's Code of Ethics. Any member disregarding this Club's Code of Ethics without good reason risks withdrawal of all member benefits including renewal.

#### **20. BREED SOCIETIES JUDGES LIST**

The Club will produce a list of judges each year, which must be submitted to The Kennel Club as part of the Club's Annual Returns. The purpose of the Club's Judges' List is to indicate to interested parties those persons the Club would support at differing levels of judging. Societies must clearly indicate the method by which persons may be nominated for inclusion on the list and indicate the judging experience required for inclusion of a person's name on each of the five lists. Judges List will be divided into five parts, namely A1, A2, A3, B and C and must be compiled annually stating the date on which they expire.

A1 List. Judges who have previously been approved to award CCs in the breed and have carried out the appointment.

A2 List. Judges who, if invited to judge by a Society, would in principle be approved by The Kennel Club to award CCs in a given breed for that occasion.

A3 List. Judges who are recommended by a Breed Club as being suitable to award CCs in the breed, but not yet approved by The Kennel Club for inclusion on the A2 list.

B List. Judges who have been approved by the Club to judge at shows without CCs or Open Shows.

C List. Any C List drawn up by the Club should comprise aspirant judges who do not fall into any of the above categories.

#### **21. No person whilst undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold office or appointment within a Kennel Club Society.**