



MISSION STATEMENT FOR THE NORTH AMERICAN TECKEL CLUB (NATC)

The mission of the NATC is to preserve the dachshunds' hunting heritage, to promote their usefulness in the field and to support the breeding of dachshunds with sound bodies and stable temperaments.

The dachshund should combine functional soundness and an aesthetically pleasing appearance that avoids extremes. The NATC will take rigorous and aggressive steps to control genetic diseases through the use of screening tests and selective breeding practices. We will promote the sound, friendly temperaments and the responsiveness so desirable in dogs that are both hunters and family members. The hunting qualities of the dachshund are an integral part of the complete dachshund. However, in addition to having hunting desire and a good nose, the dachshund must be intelligent, physically fit, agile, and obedient. These last four qualities, so useful in hunting, also make the dachshund highly desirable as a human companion.

The NATC endorses events designed to develop and showcase the dachshund's many talents and encourages sportsmanlike behavior in all activities involving dachshunds. NATC sponsored conformation shows follow exacting standards. Specifically each dog is evaluated against an objective standard (Federation Cynologique Internationale Standard 148). The primary purpose of these shows is education of the breeders, exhibitors and spectators through the judges' detailed evaluations and identification of dachshunds that are suitable for breeding. Competition is a secondary consideration.

The NATC encourages the breeding and training of dachshunds that are recognized, respected and used for their specific hunting capabilities in North America. We believe that in many North American situations, especially blood tracking and falconry, a good hunting dachshund is more useful than any other breed. The Germans employ the term "*Gebrauchshund*", for the useful hunting dog and they place great emphasis upon testing to determine whether and to what degree a dog is indeed "useful." Dogs are tested and judged against an objective standard of what is useful rather than simply comparing one dog's performance against another's.

The NATC intends to use the European dachshund "usefulness" tests as a basis for developing similar tests adapted to North American game and hunting methods. We believe that these tests will aid in the selection and training of useful hunting dachshunds. The tests will be designed to assess the capability of dachshunds to usefully perform various hunting functions. These hunting functions include (1) tracking wounded big game, (2) locating and then trailing small game while giving voice so that the hunter knows where the game and the dog are passing, (3) locating, baying and or bolting underground quarry and (4) flushing rabbits from dens and brush piles.

NORTH AMERICAN TECKEL CLUB CODE OF ETHICS

RESPONSIBILITIES AS A MEMBER OF NATC:

- I subscribe to the purpose of the NATC as set forth in the Mission Statement and will abide by the Bylaws of the NATC and DTK.
- I will exhibit sportsman like behavior at all dog events and will encourage others to do so. I will conduct myself in a manner that is courteous and respectful to fellow members
- I will strive to approach the club's problems and issues in a constructive manner that is respectful to all involved and not destructive to the club.
- I will devote myself to the betterment of the breed and promote the breed through my deeds and conduct.
- I will help educate the public in the FCI Dachshund Standard, the breed's hunting heritage and versatility, care of the breed and all other areas of animal welfare that I am qualified to discuss.

RESPONSIBILITIES AS A DOG OWNER:

- I shall ensure humane treatment and training, proper feeding, maintenance and health care protection for all my dogs
- I will ensure that my dogs shall be contained within safe restrictions whenever their safety cannot be personally supervised.
- I will ensure that my dogs are not a nuisance to my neighbors or my community.
- I shall provide my dogs with ample opportunity for exercise and social interaction.

RESPONSIBILITIES AS A BREEDER:

- I will only use dogs for breeding that are registered with a nationally recognized kennel club such as the Deutscher Teckelklub (DTK), the American Kennel Club (AKC), The Canadian Kennel Club (CKC), or an FCI recognized kennel club. I will not use my studs on unregistered bitches.
- I shall strive to breed and/or provide stud service to conform to FCI Breed Standard, and only from quality, healthy stock.
- I will cover all stud service terms by written agreement and keep accurate records of matings, births, registrations, etc.
- I will screen for inherited diseases that are known to be prevalent in the breed or that are known to have occurred in dogs that are related to mine and will not breed dogs that are known to have these diseases.
- All puppies leaving my possession shall be a minimum of eight (8) weeks of age and will have had at least one puppy inoculation. Only in exceptional situations puppies will be sold at the age younger than 8 weeks.
- I will not sell or supply any puppies to puppy brokers, pet shops, "puppy mills," laboratories, raffles or similar projects.
- I will screen prospective buyers as thoroughly as possible to determine their desire and ultimate intent for each puppy or dog acquired from me.
- I will not sell dogs or puppies without true representation to the purchaser nor use misleading or untruthful statements in selling or advertising. I will supply each purchaser with: a) registration papers or a registration application, b) at least a three-generation pedigree, c) a complete medical record, and d) details on proper feeding and care.
- I will strongly encourage buyers to spay or neuter puppies that are not of breeding quality.
- I understand and acknowledge that I may need to take back, or assist in finding a new home for, any dog I produce at any time in its life, if requested to do so.
- Under no circumstances, shall I surrender a dog or a puppy to a humane society or shelter. If the animal is unplaceable because it has a destructive temperament, is seriously injured, terminally ill or it would be inhumane to prolong life, I will take responsibility for euthanizing the dog.

I understand and accept that signing this Code of Ethics is a necessary requirement for membership in NATC.

I further acknowledge that major or repeated violations of the NATC Code of Ethics will result in disciplinary actions.

Print name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

NORTH AMERICAN TECKEL CLUB BYLAWS

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Article 1 - Name, Place of Business and Organization

Section 1: Name

The name of the Club shall be “North American Teckel Club”, hereinafter referred to as “NATC”.

Section 2: Place of Business

The club has its place of business in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, United States.

Section 3: Organization

The club is a member of the DTK (Deutscher Teckelklub) with its place of business in Duisburg, Germany. Every member of the NATC is at the same time a member of the DTK. The NATC accepts the DTK Bylaws and the standing orders for DTK groups as binding.

Article 2 - Purpose, Objectives and Non-Profit Status

Section 1: Purpose

The purpose of this club is to preserve the dachshunds’ hunting heritage, to promote their usefulness in the field and to support the breeding of dachshunds with sound bodies and stable temperaments.

Section 2: Long-term Objective

The long-term objective of NATC is to become an independent breed club within the FCI framework.

Section 3: Objectives

The club strives to accomplish its mission by:

- a) Developing and conducting field tests designed to evaluate hunting qualities of dachshunds
- b) Offering club members opportunities to train their dogs by organizing workshops
- c) Sponsoring conformation shows to educate breeders and owners about proper conformation through the judges' detailed evaluations
- d) Applying a rigorous screening process to identify dachshunds that are suitable for breeding as outlined in the FCI standard #148
- e) Bringing together those that believe in the NATC mission so that ideas can be shared and advice can be offered
- f) Encouraging sportsmanlike behavior in all activities involving dachshunds

Section 4: Non-Profit Status

The club pursues exclusively and directly non-profit goals. Assets of the club may only be used in compliance with the bylaws. The members of the club do not receive any allowances out of the assets of the club. No person may be favored with expenses, which are foreign to the purpose of the club, or through disproportionately high reimbursements. No assets or funds shall be used to the benefit of any member. This does not preclude a member from purchasing equipment at a fair price as determined by the Board.

Article 3 - Membership

Section 1: Eligibility for Membership

- a) Membership is open to any person eighteen years of age or older, who subscribes to the purposes of the NATC.
- b) Minors may become members with the approval of their parent/legal guardian. Minors are not eligible to vote and they cannot be nominated for an office.
- c) All members are required to sign the Code of Ethics as a condition of membership.
- d) A member cannot be a member of another Teckel club in Germany at the same time.
- e) Commercial dog dealers and breeders who knowingly supply them with dogs are not eligible for membership in the NATC.

Section 2: Classes of Membership. There will be two classes of membership:

- a) Individual Member.
Any person 18 years of age or older is eligible for this membership. The Individual Member pays dues, has a vote, can hold an elected office, and has all the normal duties, obligations and responsibilities of a member of a club. This membership is entitled to receive a single copy of all club materials and mailings.
- b) Family Membership.
The Family Member refers to each additional member who resides at the same address as an Individual Member. The Family Member pays dues equal to half of the Individual Membership dues, can hold an elected office, and has all the normal duties, obligations and responsibilities of a member of a club. This membership does not receive a separate set of club materials and mailings, except for election ballots.

Section 3: Application for Membership.

- a) A prospective member must apply on the DTK and NATC official membership application forms provided by the NATC. The prospective member must fill out the forms in total, sign (in ink) the application forms and the Club Code of Ethics, and submit the entire application together with a check in the full amount for yearly dues. In submitting an application the applicant agrees to abide by the Purpose and Bylaws of the NATC and DTK.
- b) The applications shall be sent to the President. The President shall sign the original applications, and make 3 copies thereof. One copy shall be sent to the Newsletter editor who shall print the name of the new prospect in the next issue of the Newsletter. One copy shall be sent to the Treasurer along with the check for the new prospect's dues. The third copy shall be sent to the Chairman of the PR Committee, who will send the welcoming package to the new member upon the member's admission. The original NATC application form shall be kept on file by the Secretary. The original DTK application will be sent to the DTK.
- c) A new member's application may not be considered approved until the new member's name has been published in the NATC and DTK Newsletters and until a period of fourteen (14) days passes after publication of the issues in which the new member's name is printed. If any current member protests the application in writing and if a just cause is found, the new member's application for membership will automatically be canceled and his/her dues check will be returned to him/her. If no objections are received, the new member will automatically be approved.

Section 4: Privileges and Rights of Membership

A member in good standing has the following basic rights and privileges:

- a) To be sent notices
- b) To attend meetings
- c) To present motions
- d) To speak on debatable questions
- e) To vote
- f) To nominate
- g) To be a candidate for office
- h) To inspect official records of the organization
- i) To insist on the enforcement of the rules of the NATC and DTK and of parliamentary law
- j) To resign from an office or from the organization itself
- k) To be treated with fairness and equality by other members of the NATC
- l) To have a fair hearing before expulsion or other penalties are applied
- m) To receive or have the right to inspect an up-to-date copy of the bylaws, regulations and minutes of the organization
- n) To participate in NATC functions, especially tests, shows and workshops put on by the NATC
- o) To register eligible dogs and litters with the DTK's official registry
- p) To receive the club newsletter and to have the right to submit articles, letters to the editor and other personal opinions without prejudice or censorship, so long as any comments so made are not intentionally defamatory.

Section 5: Termination of Membership.

Membership may be terminated in the following ways:

- a) Resignation. Membership in NATC and DTK may be canceled voluntarily by submitting a letter of resignation to the Secretary on or before October 1. If resignation is submitted after October 1, then a member is obligated to pay the fees due for the year. Minors need the signature of their legal guardian on their declaration of resignation.
- b) In Arrears. A member, who has failed to pay his dues, in spite of reminders, by 15th of January of the current year, shall be considered lapsed and his/her membership will be terminated. Such a member is not considered to be in good standing with the NATC and DTK.
- c) Death.
- d) Suspension or Expulsion. In case of suspension or expulsion the relevant regulation of the Standing Order for the groups and bylaws within the DTK prevail.

Article 4 - Club Dues

Section 1: Amount

The NATC members pay the membership dues, which include the membership dues paid to the DTK, Duisburg, Germany. Amount and date of payment shall be recommended by the Board of Directors and adopted by the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Section 2: Notification

The Treasurer shall notify the members of the current amounts due and the deadline for payment. The membership should be notified about dues at least a month prior the deadline.

Section 3: Deadline

Dues are payable on or before December 1. If a member's dues are not paid by January 1 of the new year, the member shall no longer be in good standing. If the dues remain unpaid by January 15, the membership shall be terminated.

Section 4: Receiving dues

All Club dues are to be sent directly to the NATC Treasurer. It shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer to send a complete membership list to the President, Secretary and the Newsletter Editor on January 15 of the new year.

Section 5: New members dues

- a) A person who has applied for membership in the club during the months of October, November or December shall be considered automatically paid up for the next year.
- b) The persons who have joined the NATC and DTK during the second half of the year will be credited with partial reimbursement.

Section 6: Application fee

The club can levy an application fee.

Article 5 - Structure of the NATC

Section 1: The club consists of the Board of Directors and the General Membership.

Section 2: Board of Directors

- a) The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers who also have duties apart from the Board. The Board of Directors shall have general charge of the affairs, funds and property of the NATC, and it shall carry out the objectives and purposes thereof in accordance with the policies and directions of the membership.
- b) Officers are elected for a three-year term. Re-election is possible.

Section 3: Officers

The Officers consist of the club President, the Vice President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the Translator/DTK Liaison.

- a) **President** - It shall be the duty of the President to:
 1. Preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board

2. Call special meetings as needed
 3. Prepare agenda for the membership and Board meetings
 4. Have general and active management of the business of the Club and to see that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect
 5. Present an annual report of the work of the Club at the annual meeting
 6. Sign membership applications
 7. Be a member ex officio of all committees (except the nominating committee)
- b) **Vice-President**- It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to:
1. Assume all duties and exercise all powers of the President in his/her absence or incapacity.
 2. Perform other duties as the Board may prescribe or the President may delegate to him/her. The Vice-President may have further authority as granted by these Bylaws and by the Board.
 3. Prepare the budget for the club (with assistance from the Treasurer).
- c) **Secretary**– It shall be the duty of the Secretary to:
1. Keep the minutes and records of all meetings of the organization in appropriate books.
 2. Keep on file all committee reports
 3. Keep the organization's official membership roll
 4. Prepare the minutes of all meetings and provide copies at meetings and upon request.
 5. Send out to the membership a notice of each meeting
 6. Conduct the general correspondence of the club - that is, correspondence which is not a function proper to other offices, or to committees
 7. Present to the membership all communications received as Secretary of the organization.
 8. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, to call a meeting to order and preside until the immediate election of a chairman.
 9. Process membership applications.
- d) **Treasurer** - It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to
1. Collect and receive all of the organization's funds and keep them in a bank approved by the Board.
 2. Pay all bills approved by the membership.
 3. Bill members for their dues and receive payment from them
 4. Keep an accurate account of all transactions and give a financial report with related vouchers at each meeting.
 5. Provide a financial statement summarizing the year's fiscal activities at the annual meeting.
 6. Provide a current membership list by January 15
 7. Prior to the annual meeting the Treasurer will surrender all financial records to Auditors for an audit/review.
- e) **Translator/DTK Liaison**

The Translator/DTK Liaison shall assist in the communication between the NATC and the DTK by translating correspondence between the clubs, regulations and forms pertinent to the NATC business. He/she also coordinates and supervises translation of articles from *Der Dachshund* to be included in the NATC newsletter. He/she shall be versed and fluent in both German and English.

Section 4: NATC Chief Breed Warden shall be nominated by the NATC Board and appointed by the DTK. His/her duties are described in BRR. Additional Breed Wardens may be nominated as needed.

Section 5: Newsletter Editor

The Newsletter Editor is responsible for publishing at least 4 newsletters per year, which shall contain information about upcoming events and reports from the past events. The newsletter shall include announcements about new membership applications and minutes of the General membership meetings. In addition, the newsletter should provide informative articles on the breed and its use in the field.

Section 6: Auditors

The auditors shall be elected from the general membership at the annual meeting and shall audit all accounts, books and any documents related to the finances of the club in the next year. They shall complete their audit no earlier than 2 weeks prior to the annual general membership meeting and present their findings at that meeting.

Section 7: Additional responsibilities of the Board of Directors

In addition to responsibilities assigned to specific Officers, the Board shall be responsible for:

- a) Preparation of an annual report.

- b) Resolutions concerning the acceptance of new members.
- c) Resolutions concerning the nominations of breed wardens.
- d) Sending representatives to meetings.
- e) Resolving disputes.

Section 8: Decisions derived by the NATC Board of Directors shall be documented in writing and records of such decisions shall be available upon request by any member. Any decision made by elected officials for which there is no public record shall be invalid.

Article 6 - Committees

Section 1: The Board of Directors may appoint standing or ad hoc committees as necessary in order to facilitate business or advance the work of the NATC. All committees are responsible to the Board of Directors. Chairpersons shall be nominated by membership and appointed by the Board.

Section 2: A committee has the option of appointing a subcommittee of its members to which it may delegate powers or special duties. Such subcommittees are under the control and direction of the committee that created them. They report only to the appointing committee and may be dissolved by that body at any time.

Section 3: **The Field Testing Committee.** This Committee shall:

- a) Be responsible for development of field tests
- b) Supervise the organization and conducting of all field tests
- c) Be responsible for development of field judges
- d) Submit in a timely manner results of all tests records to the DTK through DTK Liaison
- e) Promote continuing education of the field judges
- f) Perform other tasks as assigned from time to time by the Board

Section 4: **The Committee for Public Relations and Education.**

The purpose of this Committee is to promote the Club's Mission. The committee provides liaison with people inquiring about the NATC, its goals and objectives, its shows and hunt tests and provides education in the form of electronic and hard-copy informational materials, seminars, workshops and clinics. The Committee for Public Relations and Education shall be responsible for:

- a) Recruiting new members
- b) Answering inquiries about the club
- c) Providing new members with the welcoming package
- d) Upon request, supplying breeders with information packages about the club, which are to be handed out to new puppy owners
- e) Developing visual identity and appropriate promotional products for the club
- f) Preparing a brochure about the club -- both hard-copy and electronic
- g) Organizing educational workshops on various subjects assigned by the board
- h) Maintaining the NATC web site
- i) Promoting the NATC in appropriate magazines/journals
- j) Other tasks as assigned from time to time by the Board

Section 5: **Nominating Committee**

The Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of a Chair and two additional members. Not more than one member of the Nominating Committee may be a member of the Board. These appointments must be made 4 months prior to election.

Article 7: General Membership and General Membership Meetings

Section 1: Responsibilities of the General Membership

The general membership has the following special responsibilities:

- a) Acceptance of the Board's annual report and any resolutions regarding sanctioning of Board members for their actions.
- b) Election and recall of officers as well as election of the auditors.
- c) Determination of the amount and date of payment of the group membership dues, the application fees and possible expenses.
- d) Determination of place and date/time of the next annual meeting.

- e) Resolution of motions for the general meeting of the DTK.
- f) Resolution of the expulsion of members.
- g) Resolution of changes in the bylaws and dissolution of the club.

Section 2: Annual General Membership Meeting

- a) The members shall be invited in writing at least three weeks prior with announcement of the agenda. Issues for the agenda may be handed to the Board up to 6 weeks prior to the written notice.
- b) The Board may call an extraordinary general membership meeting, with two weeks notice, provided the club interests warrant this. The Board must convene such a meeting if at least 10% of the members call for it in writing for a specific reason.

Section 3: Adoption of Resolutions by the General Membership

- a) The Board will determine which issues are decided by the general membership.
- b) The President or, in the event of his/her absence, an officer of the Board shall preside over the general membership meeting. If no officer of the board is present, the general membership shall nominate a meeting chairman.
- c) The type of voting is decided by the general membership.
- d) Every member has a single vote.
- e) During voting, the majority of the votes decide the outcome. Ties are counted as defeat. A resolution to change the bylaws requires a two-thirds majority of the membership.
- f) The Secretary, or a keeper of the minutes nominated by the membership, shall record the minutes of the meeting. The meeting chairman shall sign the minutes.

Article 8: Nominations

Section 1: Eligibility

- a) Members of the Nominating Committee are not barred from becoming nominees for office themselves.
- b) Nominations for the Board of Directors shall have been members in good standing for at least 1 year prior to their nomination.

Section 2: Procedures

- a) It is mandatory that the Nominating Committee contacts each person whom it wishes to nominate in order to obtain his/her acceptance of nomination.
- b) The Nominating Committee shall nominate one or more candidates for each vacant office. The committee shall then submit its slate of candidates to the Secretary who shall mail the list to each member to be received three months before election.
- c) No person may be a candidate for more than one office.

Section 3: Additional candidates

Additional candidates may be nominated by written petition signed by three (3) voting members and addressed to the Chairperson of the nominating committee and received at his/her address by 2 months before election.

Article 9: Elections

Section 1: Ballots

All valid nominations shall appear on the ballots, which in turn shall be mailed to all voting members by 1 month before election. Each voting member shall receive a ballot together with a blank envelope marked "ballot" and a return envelope addressed to the Chairperson of the nominating committee and bearing the name and return address of the voting member to whom it was sent.

Section 2: Voting

The Nominating Committee must receive the completed ballots one week before the annual meeting. So that the ballots may remain secret, all outer envelopes will be opened and discarded by the committee. The envelopes marked "ballot" will be opened and tallied by the nominating committee at the annual general membership meeting.

Section 3: Declaration of Results

- a) The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected.
- b) In the case of entirely uncontested elections, the Secretary may, when authorized by a majority vote of members present at the general membership meeting, cast one ballot for the entire membership.

- c) In the event of a tie, the winner will be determined by lot, drawn by the President or whoever is presiding over the meeting.

Section 4: Vacancy

Should a vacancy occur, the Board shall appoint an eligible member to complete the term of office.

Article 10 - Amendments to the Bylaws

Section 1: Submission

- a) Amendment proposals should be presented to the Board at least 6 weeks prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting. Proposals should include the actual text of the change and the reason(s) for the change.
- b) These proposals will be circulated to all members 4 weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting. Opponents to the change will be given an opportunity to present alternative viewpoints prior to the proposed amendment being voted on.
- c) The Secretary may edit the amendment text for clarity, grammar or consistency provided that the intention and meaning of the original text is not changed.

Section 2: Voting

- a) At the Annual general meeting those attending shall vote on these amendments. Their votes shall be augmented by absentee ballots that are received by the Secretary in advance of the meeting.
- b) Two-thirds of the membership must vote affirmatively for the Amendment to be approved.

Article 11 - Dissolution of the Club

Section 1: Proposal to Dissolve

Dissolution may be proposed by a 2/3-majority vote of the Board or by a letter to the Board signed by at least 10% of the members in good standing. The proposal shall state the effective date of dissolution and recommendations for the disposition of assets. Notice of the proposal to dissolve along with a proxy statement shall be mailed in a separate envelop to all members at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which the vote to dissolve will be taken.

Section 2: Vote

Dissolution of the club shall only occur after an affirmative vote at an extraordinary general membership meeting. A proposal to dissolve shall require an affirmative vote of 3/4 of the members in good standing. Signed proxies received prior to the vote shall be counted. This extraordinary general membership meeting, which decides for dissolution, must also decide on the disposition of club assets. These assets must go to a non-profit organization such as the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America (WLFA).

Section 3: Implementation of Dissolution.

- a) If the extraordinary general membership meeting does not decide otherwise, the President and the Vice President jointly will be the authorized liquidators.
- b) When the dissolution becomes effective the Treasurer shall pay all outstanding debts and attempt to collect any moneys due the club. The Secretary shall file any notices required by law with the appropriate agencies. Any funds remaining shall be disbursed to a non-profit organization for such as the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America (WLFA).