

K9 PRO SPORTS BY-LAWS

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K9 PRO SPORTS BY-LAWS

EFFECTIVE 12/1/2005

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section 1. The name of the organization is K9 PRO SPORTS. It will be referred to herein as the Organization.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

Section 1. To grant trainers of all levels a competitive league to provide the ability of both themselves and their canine partners. To offer circuit type competitions allowing participants the opportunity to compete for prize money.

Section 2. To educate the general public about personal protection dogs, by providing educational materials, seminars and training.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership is open to anyone wanting to participate in the sport of personal protection with a canine partner.

Section 2. Initial membership dues are \$75.00 for an Individual or \$125.00 per Family, for up to three family members. Initial membership dues will be prorated as follows: For those joining on or after June 1st, Individual \$60.00, Family \$100.00; For those joining on or after September 1st, Individual \$40.00, Family \$70.00.

Section 3. Renewals are due and payable on or before March 1st of each year. Renewal dues will be \$50.00 for Individual or \$100.00 per Family. Memberships not received by March 1st of each year will be renewed at the initial rate.

Section 4. Termination of Membership

Membership will expire upon failure to renew dues for calendar year starting March 1st of each competition year. Membership will be terminated for any signs of animal abuse at a trial or for anyone that is found guilty, in a court of law, of animal cruelty charges. Any actions indicating disrespect of the Organization, in the opinion of the Executive Director, will cause termination of Membership.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Section 1. All Members will be issued a Membership Card, allowing entry at all Organization activities.

Section 2. All Members will receive advertising space on the Organization's web site.

Section 3. Members who are trainers or breeders will be listed on the Organization's referral list. Referrals will be given based on geographic location.

Section 4. Members will receive the quarterly newsletter.

ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Directors are fiduciaries who must perform their duties in good faith, in the best interest of K9 PRO SPORTS and with due care. Directors will be appointed and serve at the discretion of the Executive Director. Tenure is unlimited.

Section 2. Directors will be assigned a regional area to oversee. Directors will take all questions from members in their region regarding the Organization or any trials that have been or will be held in their region.

Section 3. Board Members shall establish a club in their area and assist in starting up clubs throughout their region. Directors will produce at least one trial per year in their region.

ARTICLE VI – CLUBS

Section 1. Clubs will hold at least one sanctioned trial per year. The club will receive a business plan from the Organization and a contract to be signed and returned. All money made from the trial will be the property of the club and will be spent at the discretion of the club as decided by a majority vote.

Section 2. Clubs will assist the Regional Director in producing the regional trials.

ARTICLE VII – TRIALS

Section 1. Trials will be held at Club, Regional and World Levels.

Section 2. Trials will be hosted by local clubs wishing to provide venues for their members to meet requirements to qualify them for the World Championship competition.

Section 3. Trials will consist of two, three or four divisions: Youth (Optional), Training (Optional), Personal Protection Dog (PPD) and Patrol Dog (PD).

Section 4. Each Trial will use the Official K9 PS Rule Book. Optional Youth division will consist of all On Lead OB, Civil Agitation with no distraction and an Attack On Handler. Training division will use the same exercises, with all distractions, at the discretion of the host Club.

Section 5. There must be two Judges for each Trial. The scores from the two Judges will be averaged for the contestants' final score.

Section 6. Local Judges and Decoys may be used at a Club Trial as long as a Regional Director or Certified Judge is present. A Regional Trial requires two Certified Judges and one Certified Decoy.

Section 7. Clubs will pay travel and associated expenses for the Regional or Executive Director, Certified Judges and Certified Decoys as required.

Section 8. A club's first trial must have the Executive Director present.

Section 9. A minimum of two Decoys are needed for each Trial. If possible, Decoys will rotate every three dogs. This is to assure each dog gets a chance at a different Decoy, that each Decoy gains experience from working a variety of dogs and that each Decoy has time to rest.

Section 10. Non-members are welcome to participate in the Youth and Training Divisions but the PPD and PD Divisions are open to Members only.

Section 11. ALL original Score Sheets must be turned in to the Executive Director. They may be hand delivered or mailed with a postmark no later than the next business day following the completion of the Trial. However, if the Score Reporting Sheet is used and If BOTH Judges verify their scores and sign this form, certifying their scores as correct, the Judges' Score Sheets may be given to the contestants for their records and the Score Reporting Sheets turned in to the Executive Director in the manner stated above.

Section 12. A Regional Trial may be held by any Club in the Organization. A business plan will be provided by the Organization. Other local clubs may provide assistance to the sponsoring club. Money will be divided between the Organization, host Club and any assisting Clubs.

Section 13. CLUB TRIALS ONLY - For training purposes, Personal Protection Division only.

Competitors may use a slip collar during the Obedience exercises and receive half points for that exercise. Competitors may choose to have their dog caught on a sleeve during the Bite exercises for half points in each exercise the sleeve is used.

ARTICLE VIII - SEASON END STANDINGS

Section 1. Scores from each Trial will be recorded for each dog and handler team.

Section 2. At all Club Trials, Members will receive points for the Season Championship Buckle in the following manner:
All Members will receive points for the Season Championship Buckle equal to the average of the two Judges scores.

Section 3. At all Regional Trials, Members will receive points for the Season Championship Buckle in the following manner:

A Member who places in any of the top five positions, with a proficiency rating of 60% or higher, will receive points for the Season Championship Buckle equal to the total of the two Judges scores.

A Member who places below the top five positions or who does not meet the 60% proficiency standard, regardless of their finishing position, will receive points for the Season Championship Buckle equal to the average of the two Judges scores.

Section 4. At the World Championship Trial, Members will receive points for the Season Championship Buckle in the following manner:

A Member who places in any of the top ten positions, with a proficiency rating of 60% or higher, will receive points for the Season Championship Buckle equal to double the total of the two Judges scores.

A Member who places below the top ten positions or who does not meet the 60% proficiency standard, regardless of their finishing position, will receive points for the Season Championship Buckle equal to the total of the two Judges scores.

Section 5. The Season Championship Buckle in each Division, Personal Protection Dog and Patrol Dog, will be awarded to the Member who has the

highest total of points accrued from their Club, Regional and World Championship Trials in their respective Division.

ARTICLE IX - CLUB AND REGIONAL TRIALS AWARDS & PRIZES

Section 1. Every Club or Regional Trial host will award trophies, medallions, or plaques of appropriate value to a minimum of the top three finishers in each contested Division.

Section 2. Cash payouts at Club Trials will be based on the total of entry fees collected, however additional monies may be added to the payout by the host at their discretion.

Section 3. Recommended Entry Fees for a Club Trial are: Youth and Training Divisions - \$45.00, PPD Division - \$45.00 and PD Division - \$65.00.

Section 4. The total monies collected from Entry Fees at a Club Trial will be distributed as follows, from each Youth and Training Division entry, \$25.00 to the Organization, \$20.00 to the Host; from each PPD and PD entry, \$10.00 to the Organization, \$15.00 to the Host. The remainder of the monies from the PPD and PD entries will go into their respective divisions payout pot.

Section 5. Cash payouts at Regional Trials will be based on the total of entry fees collected, however, additional monies may be added to the payout by the host at their discretion.

Section 6. Recommended Entry Fees for a Regional Trial are: Youth and Training Division - \$45.00, PPD Division - \$65.00 and PD Division - \$85.00.

Section 7. The total monies collected from Entry Fees at a Regional Trial will be distributed as follows, from each Youth and Training Division entry, \$25.00 to the Organization, \$20.00 to the Host; from each PPD and PD entry, \$12.50 to the Organization, \$17.50 to the Host. The remainder of the monies from the PPD and PD entries will go into their respective divisions payout pot.

Section 8. Payout will be paid as follows:

Division payout Pot equal to \$300 or less:

1st Place	50%
2nd Place	30%
3rd Place	20%

Division payout Pot equal to \$301 to \$500:

1st Place	40%
2nd Place	30%
3rd Place	20%
4th Place	10%

Division payout Pot equal to \$501 or more:

1st Place	35%
2nd Place	25%
3rd Place	20%
4th Place	15%
5th Place	5%

ARTICLE X - THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Section 1. The World Championships will be held in October of each year.

Section 2. The World Championships will be an invitation only competition. The top twenty competitors, ranked by Season Averages during the year, from each Division will be invited. If any decline their invitations, invitations will be issued to the next highest ranked ten competitors in that Division. Any positions available after that will be made available to Members, invited guests from other organizations and then other non-members.

Section 3. There will be a minimum of three placements for each Division at the World Championship. Trophies and/or medallions will be awarded to each of the three places.

Section 4. Cash payouts will be made to a minimum of the top three finishers in each Division.

Section 5. The scores earned at the World Championships will be used in determining the Year End Final Standings. After all scores are tallied from the World Championships, the Year End Final Standings will be determined. This record will stay on permanent file and will list all competitors in each Division and their scores during the competition year.

Section 6. The title of "Grand Champion" and "Reserve Champion" will be awarded to the top two finishers in both the Patrol Dog Divisions.

Section 7. There will be no late entries allowed for the World Championships. Deadline for entries will be ten days prior to the event. This will allow us to have everything in order prior to the event. So that everyone can enjoy themselves at the final event of the year, we want the World Championships to run as smoothly and professionally as possible.

ARTICLE XI - EXOTIC BREED AWARD

K9 PRO SPORTS will award a trophy buckle to the highest scoring handler and dog of an exotic breed that will be chosen at the beginning of each season.

This award goes to the team with the highest Season average during that competition year. Teams must compete in at least two trials to qualify for the award. For this award only, the Season average will be derived from the team's two highest scores during the season.

If teams utilizing dogs of the chosen breed are competing in both the Professional and the Personal Protection Divisions, the award will go to the team that has achieved the highest percentage of proficiency, based on their Season Average, in its respective Division.

ARTICLE XII- YOUTH DIVISION

Section 1. This Division is open to youths twelve years of age and under.

Section 2. Youths wishing to compete in this Division must certify under the Executive Director or a Regional Director.

Section 3. Certification for this Division will require that the youth prove the ability to maintain control over the dog with which they wish to compete. Certification will include a sample obedience course, an out and a recall.

Section 4. Youth competing in this Division must submit a waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian.

Section 5. A parent or legal guardian must be on the field during the youth's competition. The parent or legal guardian must either have prior competition experience with K9 PRO SPORTS or pass a certification test to be given by the Executive Director or a Regional Director.

Section 6. Required exercises, judging criteria and scoring system are described in the K9 Pro Sports Official Rule Book.

ARTICLE XIII - PERSONAL PROTECTION DOG DIVISION

Section 1. This Division is open to Members thirteen years of age and older.

Section 2. The Personal Protection Dog is defined as one with the abilities to Detect a possible threat, and, at the Handler's discretion, to Deter, and if necessary Defend and protect, its Handler from the threat.

Section 3. There is no limit to the number of years that a dog may compete in the Personal Protection Dog Division. The dog may receive the PPD and/or the PPDX Certification only one time.

Section 4. Required exercises, judging criteria and scoring system are described in the K9 PRO SPORTS Official Rule Book.

Section 5. CLUB TRIALS ONLY - For training purposes, Personal Protection Division only. Competitors may use a slip collar during the Obedience exercises and receive half points for that exercise. Competitors may choose to have their dog caught on a sleeve during the Bite exercises for half points in each exercise the sleeve is used.

ARTICLE XIV - PATROL DOG DIVISION

Section 1. This Division is open to Members thirteen years of age and older.

Section 2. The Patrol Dog is defined as one with the abilities, and at the discretion of the Handler, to apprehend and control a potential threat.

Section 3. Required exercises, judging criteria and scoring system are described in the K9 PRO SPORTS Official Rule Book.

ARTICLE XV - CANINE CERTIFICATION

Section 1. The "Personal Protection Dog" (PPD) title will be awarded to dogs competing in the Personal Protection Dog Division. To qualify, dogs must receive a minimum proficiency rating of 65% at three Trials, under at least three different Judges. Two Judges must be K9 PS certified.

Section 2. The "Personal Protection Dog Excellent" (PPDX) title will require a minimum proficiency rating of 85% at three Trials, under at least three different Judges. Two Judges must be K9 PS certified.

Section 3. The "Patrol Dog" (PD) title will be awarded to dogs competing in the Patrol Dog Division. To qualify, dogs must receive a minimum proficiency rating of 65% at three Trials, under at least three different Judges. Two Judges must be K-9 PS certified.

Section 4. The "Patrol Dog Excellent" (PDX) title will require a minimum proficiency rating of 85% at three Trials, under at least three different Judges. Two Judges must be K9 PS certified.

Section 5. All Certificates of Titles will be awarded at the Awards Banquet following the World Championship Trial of year in which the Titles were earned. Certificates earned by teams who, for any reason, are unable to attend the Awards Banquet will be delivered by U.S. mail.

ARTICLE XVI – DECOYS

Section 1. Decoys must be certified by K9 PRO SPORTS or approved by the Executive Director.

Section 2. Decoys must have a completed Decoy Certification Package on file with the Organization.

Section 3. Decoy Certification Packages WILL include the following:

- A. Signed "K9 PRO SPORTS Decoy/Agitator Hold Harmless Agreement".
- B. Health Certificate/Release, signed by the Decoy's private physician. This form is certification by the Decoys' physician that the Decoy is in good health and not currently taking any medication which might inhibit their abilities during a Trial.
- C. Copies of certifications from K9 PRO SPORTS and other authorizing organizations as to the experience and abilities of the Decoy.
- D. Completed "Application to Decoy" form.

Section 4. Required exercises, judging criteria and scoring system are defined in the Official Judge and Decoy Rule Book.

ARTICLE XVII – JUDGES

Section 1. Judges must be certified by K9 PRO SPORTS or approved by the Executive Director.

Section 2. Certified Judges must have a completed Judge Certification Package on file with the Organization.

Section 3. Judge Certification packages WILL include the following:

- A. Signed "K9 PRO SPORTS Judge Hold Harmless Agreement".
- B. Health Certificate/Release, signed by the Judge's private physician. This form is certification by the Judge's physician that the Judge is in good health and not currently taking any medication which might inhibit their abilities during a Trial.
- C. Copies of certifications from K9 PRO SPORTS and other authorizing organizations as to the experience and abilities of the Judge.

Section 4. Required exercises, judging criteria and scoring system are defined in the Official Judge and Decoy Rule Book.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the By-laws of the K9 PRO SPORTS organization, named in the title thereto and those By-Laws were duly adopted by said organization on the date set forth below.

EFFECTIVE 12/01/2005

Butch Cappel

Butch Cappel, Founder
Executive Director