

## Constitution of The British Chihuahua Club Rescue Association (known as The British Chihuahua Rescue)

### 1. **Name**

The name of the Association shall be The British Chihuahua Club Rescue Association ('the Association').

### 2. **Object**

The object of the Association shall be to relieve the suffering and distress of Chihuahua dogs in need of care, attention or rehoming as a result of ill treatment, hardship, neglect or change of circumstances.

### 3. **Powers**

For the sole purpose (and no other) of furthering the object set out in Clause 2, the Association may exercise the following powers in addition to any other powers it may possess :-

- 3.1. to inspect for suitability and organise homes and make arrangements for the adoption and future responsibility for such Chihuahuas on such conditions as the Association considers advantageous to the interests of such animals.
- 3.2. to provide or pay for essential emergency treatment where considered necessary at or prior to the time of rehoming.
- 3.3. to euthanise Chihuahuas on appropriate veterinary advice.
- 3.4. to work towards organising a Chihuahua rescue network liaising with Chihuahua breed clubs and to co-operate with other registered charitable authorities and organisations having similar objectives within the UK.
- 3.5. to raise funds and to invite and receive contributions provided that the Association shall not undertake any substantial permanent trading activities and shall conform to any relevant requirements of the law.
- 3.6. to invest the funds of the Association in any of the investments for the time being authorised for the investment of charity funds.
- 3.7. to do all such acts, matters or things as the Trustees consider to be proper in the furtherance of objects set out in Clause 2.

### 4. **Trustees**

The control and management of the Association and the exercise of its powers shall be vested in trustees ('the Trustees') in regard to whom the following provisions of this clause shall apply.

- 4.1. The Trustees shall be a minimum of six and a maximum of twelve in number.
- 4.2. Not fewer than three of the trustees shall at all times be current members of the committee of the Club.
- 4.3. All Trustees shall retire annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Association but shall be eligible for re-election.
- 4.4. At each Annual General Meeting of the Association the Trustees for the ensuing year shall be elected by means of a ballot of the members of the Association.
- 4.5. Candidates for the office of Trustee shall be nominated and seconded in writing by members of the Association and nominations must be received by the Secretary of the Association not later than the 15th March.
- 4.6. The Trustees may at their discretion if they think fit appoint a person to fill any casual vacancy arising in their number during the year.
- 4.7. A Trustee shall cease to hold office and shall not be eligible for re-election at the then next following Annual General Meeting if he or she :-
  - 4.7.1. is disqualified from acting as a Trustee by virtue of section 178 of the Charities Act 2011 or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof.
  - 4.7.2. becomes in the opinion of all the other Trustees incapable of properly fulfilling his or her duties by reason of physical or mental illness, disability or injury.

- 4.7.3. fails to attend two-thirds of the meetings of the Trustees held in any period of twelve months and if all the other Trustees so resolve.
- 4.7.4. resigns from office by notice in writing to the Secretary.
- 4.8. Except with the prior written approval of the Charity Commissioners no Trustee may :-
  - 4.8.1. receive any benefit in money or in kind from the Association other than those allowed under s.185 of the Charities Act 2011;
  - 4.8.2. have a financial interest in the supply of goods or services to the Association;
  - 4.8.3. acquire or hold any interest in property of the Association (except in order to hold it as Trustee of the Association.)

## **5. Meetings Of Trustees**

- 5.1. An annual meeting of the Trustees shall be held each year, within one calendar month of the Annual General Meeting of the Club, in order to elect Officers of the Association. Meetings shall also be held and convened by the Secretary at other times if and when requested by at least twenty members of the Association.
- 5.2. The Trustees shall regulate their own meetings which shall be at least two a year in addition to their annual meeting and shall from time to time elect one of their number to be the chairman of the meeting, in the absence of the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson. Such meetings may be entirely virtual meetings or hybrid meetings as the circumstances allow.
- 5.3. The quorum for meetings of Trustees shall be one-third of the number of Trustees in attendance plus one, at least one of whom shall be an Officer.
- 5.4. All questions and matters arising at meetings of Trustees shall be decided by a simple majority of the Trustees present and voting. In the event of an equality of votes the Chairperson or other person chairing the meeting shall have a second or casting vote. No decision or resolution of the Trustees shall be valid unless at least one Officer assents to it.
- 5.5. A decision or resolution of all Trustees recorded in writing and signed by all of them (on one or more documents) without a meeting having been held shall be as valid as if it had been passed at a properly convened meeting.
- 5.6. the Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Trustees and circulate them to the Trustees.

## **6. Officers**

- 6.1. The Officers of the Association shall consist of a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer.
- 6.2. The Officers shall hold office for one year and shall be elected annually by the Trustees out of their own number at their annual meeting immediately following the Annual General Meeting. No person shall be elected as an Officer unless he or she is a Trustee.
- 6.3. a retiring Officer shall be eligible for re-election but an Officer shall automatically cease to hold office upon ceasing to be a Trustee for any reason.

## **7. Members**

- 7.1. The members of the Club for the time being shall automatically be the members of the Association.
- 7.2. A person who ceases to be a member of the Club for any reason shall contemporaneously cease to be a member of the Association.

## **8. Finances**

- 8.1. No subscription shall be payable for membership of the Association.
- 8.2. All monies belonging to the Association including any bank account shall be held in the name of the Association.
- 8.3. All monies received for the benefit of the Association including all donations contributions and bequests shall be paid into an account in the name of the Association at such bank or banks as the Trustees shall from time to time decide.



# British Chihuahua Rescue

Registered Charity 1094417 & SC054978

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- 8.4. All cheques and other orders or instructions for payment of money out of the Association's bank account(s) must be signed by both the Treasurer and either the Secretary or Chairperson. No such cheque, order or instruction shall be issued for individual sums of £500 (five hundred pounds sterling) or more without the prior written consent of at least six Trustees (in addition to both the Treasurer, Secretary or Chairperson.) Only one cheque must be issued in settlement of one transaction or obligation.
- 8.5. the funds of the Association not immediately required for the purposes of the Association may be invested in such investments or securities as are for the time being authorised and for the investment of charity funds as the Trustees shall in their discretion from time to time decide.
- 8.6. all the funds of the Association shall be applied solely towards the promotion and fulfilment of the objects set out in Clause 2.

## 9. Accounts

- 9.1. The financial year of the Association shall run from the 1st April to the 31st March.
- 9.2. The Treasurer shall keep proper accounts of the finances of the Association.
- 9.3. The Trustees shall comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 1993 relevant to the income/expenditure level of the Association with regard to :-
  - 9.3.1. the keeping of accounting records of the Association.
  - 9.3.2. the preparation of annual statements of account.
  - 9.3.3. the auditing or independent examination of the statements of account of the Association.
  - 9.3.4. the preparation of an annual report and the sending of it together with the statements of account to the Charity Commission.
- 9.4. The annual accounts of the Association shall be examined by an independent examiner.

## 10. Dissolution

- 10.1. If the Trustees decide for any reason that it is desirable that the Association be dissolved, they shall convene a meeting of the members of the Association by giving not less than 21 (twenty-one) days' notice in writing to each member and stating the terms of any resolution to be proposed thereat.
- 10.2. If it is resolved at that meeting by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting (provided a quorum is present) that the Association be dissolved the Trustees shall wind up the affairs of the Association.
- 10.3. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any liabilities properly payable thereout shall not be distributed amongst the members but shall be given to such other charitable organisations for the benefit of Chihuahuas generally as the Trustees shall with the approval of the Charity Commission decide.

## 11. Amendments

- 11.1. This Constitution may be amended by a resolution of the members of the Association passed by a majority of not less than 75% of the members present and voting at a meeting of the members convened on not less than 14 (fourteen) days' written notice stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed thereat.
- 11.2. The name of the Association may be changed by a resolution passed in accordance with the provisions of subclause 11.1.
- 11.3. Provided that no amendment pursuant to subclause 11.2 shall be effective unless and until the approval of the Charity Commission is obtained.

Signed

Role

Chair

Date

02/05/2026

Signed

Role

Secretary

Date

02/05/2026

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