

Constitution of the South African GSD Liaison Council of KUSA

(as accepted at a General Meeting of the Specialist German Shepherd Dog KUSA affiliated GSD Clubs, held on *14/11/2015*, and approved by the Kennel Union of Southern Africa.

1 Name

The name of the Council shall be the South African GSD Liaison Council of KUSA hereinafter referred to as "GSD Liaison Council" or "GSDLC".

2 Area of Operation and Jurisdiction

GSD Liaison Council, established in terms of Article 20.3 of the Constitution of KUSA as a Liaison Council, shall operate in and with jurisdiction over the KUSA area as defined in the said Constitution, under the provisions of this Constitution and under such additional powers as may be delegated to it from time to time by the Federal Council in relation to every GSD Breed Club affiliated to KUSA.

GSD Liaison Council, in the implementation of its delegated powers, will not encroach upon policy matters specially reserved for the Federal Council and/or specially delegated to its Provincial Councils; nor will membership of GSD Liaison Council detract in any way from the inalienable rights of Member Clubs or their obligations in terms of their affiliation to KUSA and the dictates of their respective Club Constitutions, but will devote itself entirely to the betterment of the GSD breed.

In terms of Article 20.3 of the Constitution of KUSA, the Federal Council may revoke at any time any or all of the powers granted to GSD Liaison Council.

3 Interpretation of Terms

Throughout this Constitution and in any Regulations framed thereunder, words importing the singular shall include the plural; words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine and neuter genders and vice versa, unless such interpretation is inconsistent with the context hereof. Unless in conflict with the context of the clause, the terms, conditions and interpretation of the KUSA Constitution shall prevail.

"GSD Club" shall mean any German Shepherd Dog Specialist Club, the objects of which include the welfare of, interest in, breeding, showing and importation of purebred GSDs, as distinct from a Training Club, whose main object is the training of dogs of any ancestry, not eligible for entry into the Breed Registers. Such Club shall be affiliated to KUSA and carry on its activities within the area of jurisdiction of GSD Liaison Council and should be active and acknowledged as such in the breed concerned.

"Dog" shall mean a GSD.

"Breed Value Assessment/breed survey" shall mean the required assessment as outlined in the Schedule 5F 9.1.2 and 5F 9.1.1.

"Breeding Requirements" shall mean the terms and conditions for breeding GSDs within the GSD Liaison Council as outlined in Schedule 02 "Regulation for the Classification, Registration and Transfer of the Registered Ownership of Dogs" Appendix C .3.

"Dog Show" shall mean any exhibition or show of dogs defined in and recognised by the Constitution of KUSA.

"Specialist Show" shall mean a dog show at which KUSA permits certificates, which may apply to the GSD breed, to be awarded.

"Federal Council" shall mean the Federal Council of KUSA.

"KUSA" shall mean the Kennel Union of Southern Africa.

"Member" shall mean a Representative of a Member Club of GSD Liaison Council.

"Member Club" shall mean a Club, which has been admitted to membership of GSD Liaison Council.

"Representative" shall mean a nominee appointed by a Member Club, in terms of Clause 15.1 and 15.3.3 of this Constitution.

"Secretary" shall mean the Secretary of GSD Liaison Council.

4 Objects

The objects of GSD Liaison Council shall be as follows:

- 4.1 To assist and promote the breeding, training, (~~(IPO)~~ IGP/Breed Survey and Breed Assessment as well as Ring-craft) and showing of GSDs and to advise on the well-being of and the interest in the breed and to encourage participation in sporting activities for the breed.
- 4.2 To provide a single body representative of the participating GSD Clubs carrying on their activities within the area under its jurisdiction, where such channel of communication is necessary and convenient in terms of this Constitution.
- 4.3 To provide the means of closer co-operation and liaison between all member Clubs and all GSD breeders and GSD owners and to promote a better understanding and knowledge of dogs and dog affairs among Club members and people interested in dogs.
- 4.4 To organise competitions and encourage a spirit of companionship amongst all participants.
- 4.5 To observe and adhere to the Breed Standard defined by the FCI and adopted by KUSA for the GSD breed and to promote KUSA's Breeding Requirements applicable to GSD's.
- 4.6 To promote the participation and qualification of GSDs in Breed assessments/breed survey's and (~~(IPO)~~ IGP) trials recognised by KUSA and to thereby preserve, consolidate and strengthen the inherent working qualities of the breed. 4.7
- 4.7 To promote the training of Breed and (~~(IPO)~~ IGP) Judges, as well as Helpers for (~~(IPO)~~ IGP) trials and breed surveys.
- 4.8 To promote the training of describers (people responsible for the description) of the mental attributes and anatomical value for Breed Survey and Breed Value Assessments.(Schedule 5F 9.1.2 and 5F 9.1.1.)
- 4.9 To promote advanced breeding regulations in the Breeding Requirements for the KUSA Advanced Registration Certificate (ARC) for GSDs and to promote the acceptance of the same.
- 4.10 1 To make recommendations on any matters concerning breeding, Breed Survey/Assessments, show organisation and working trials of GSD's.
- 4.11 To strive towards obtaining proof of GSDs whose hips and elbows have been examined and rated by the Department of Radiology, Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria, and to compile and publish the health results on the website.
- 4.13 To establish an informative website to publish informative articles, including promotional material, information on scientific research and advice relative to disease, breeding, rearing and keeping of GSDs and information regarding procedures and policies on these matters.
- 4.14 To promote the correct public image of the GSD, with particular emphasis upon the younger generation, who will be the breeders, trainers and dog owners of the future.
- 4.15 To provide a channel of communication to the Federal Council for member clubs and between the respective Member Clubs and KUSA. Without limiting the generality thereof, this object shall be attained by GSD Liaison Council, assisting and representing Member Clubs in their collective dealings and communications with KUSA, when such a single channel of communication is deemed necessary or convenient.

- 4.16 To assist and represent the Federal Council in its dealings and communications with Member Clubs and to perform such other functions as may be delegated to it from time to time by the Federal Council.
- 4.17 To provide a channel of communication to the KUSA between the respective Member Clubs and the KUSA. Without limiting the generality thereof, this object shall be attained by GSD Liaison Council, assisting and representing Member Clubs in their collective dealings and communications with the KUSA, when such a single channel of communication is deemed necessary or convenient.
- 4.18 To assist and represent the Federal Council in its dealings and communications with Member Clubs and to perform such other functions as may be delegated to it from time to time by the Federal Council.
- 4.19 To act as an intermediary between Member Clubs and any private body, whether the same shall be corporate or unincorporated, a charitable organisation, an association of persons or an individual and in connection therewith to fulfil the function of the authorised representative and official spokesman for Member Clubs, in all their collective dealings and communications, with such body.
- 4.20 To observe, promote, support and uphold, in all its activities, the principles of KUSA and to suppress and abolish any forms of dishonesty in canine affairs.
- 4.21 To endorse the applicability, observance, force and effect of the Constitution of KUSA and any schedule thereto.
- 4.22 To consider any proposed alterations and amendments to this Constitution and any schedule thereto.
- 4.21 To provide KUSA with Audited Financial figures for all annual transactions by 15th October of each year.

5 Powers

GSD Liaison Council shall be empowered to:

- 5.1 Adopt all such consultative and executive powers granted to it and without derogating from the generality thereof, shall:
 - 5.1.1 Make reports and recommendations to the Federal Council, wherever a Member Club has allowed or permitted disregard of KUSA's Constitution or any Schedule thereto or failed to observe the provisions thereof.
 - 5.1.2 At the request of Federal Council, nominate from its Members, such persons as to constitute special committees, whenever any such committee is established by the Federal Council in terms of Article 19 of the KUSA Constitution.
 - 5.1.3 Appoint Sub-Committees, when such appointment is considered necessary and desirable to deal specifically with:
 - a) Breed matters as outlined in the relevant annexes to this Constitution.
 - b) Training of Specialist Breed Survey Judges and describers of breed assessment value and breed survey. In cooperation with KUSA Breed Judges Sub Committee.
 - c) Publications and public relations
 - e) Scientific research
 - f) Financial
 - g) and other such matters, which may be considered necessary and conveniently allocated to a sub-committee, which may assume more than one function if required.
 Sub-committees shall report to GSD Liaison Council with copies of all Minutes of meetings held.
 - 5.1.4 Exercise all executive powers granted to it by the Federal Council of the KUSA in relation to all Member Clubs.
- 5.2 Institute enquiry into and investigation and demonstration of any matters, relating to any of its objects.
- 5.3 Supervise the investment of surplus funds, not immediately required for administrative expenses, in any registered financial institution, as agreed by GSD Liaison Council and in

the name of GSD Liaison Council and to operate such accounts as may be deemed necessary and permit withdrawals on the signatures of any two of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, or nominated members of the GSD Liaison Council.

5.4 Keep such books and records as may be necessary or convenient, subject to all such books and records being made available to its members at all reasonable times and to the KUSA.

5.5 Do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of GSD Liaison COUNCIL objects or any of them.

6 Official Address

6.1 GSD Liaison Council's domicile shall normally coincide with the domicile of its administrative headquarters, as advised to KUSA, and to Member Clubs and to which all official notices and communications of every sort shall be addressed and delivered.

6.2 All communications sent by the Secretary to Member Clubs, Representatives, office bearers, members of affiliated clubs and the public shall be deemed to have been received within 10 days when proof of dispatch by e-mail and/or any method of delivery where the consignee has to sign acknowledging receipt of the document, letter, package or parcel and shall include Recorded Delivery, Speed Services, Priority Mail, Certified Mail is presented by GSD Liaison Council.

7 Membership and Activities of Members

Subject to the method of representation set out in Articles 7 & 14 hereof, membership of GSD Liaison Council shall be open to:

7.1 Every GSD Club, carrying on its activities in the KUSA area of jurisdiction, provided it is affiliated to the KUSA and for as long as it remains affiliated.

7.2 Whenever a new GSD Club is affiliated to KUSA, its membership of GSD Liaison Council shall commence from the date that its affiliation has been accepted by the Federal Council of KUSA, in terms of Article 8 of the KUSA Constitution and no other formality shall be required to obtain and retain membership other than that its committee at all times shall comprise of members 80% of which are past or present GSD owners. (14.3.3)

To meet the objects of and hold membership of GSD Liaison Council, Member Clubs shall:

7.3 Accept the Constitution of GSD Liaison Council.

7.4 Promote Breed Surveys/Breed Value Assessments for GSDs and/or Working Trials recognised by KUSA as well as to promote GSD Breed Shows in terms of the KUSA Constitution.

7.5 Provide information on the breeding, rearing and training of GSDs.

7.6 Encourage the exchange of mutual experiences amongst members, the fostering of friendly relations between members and the building a good Club spirit.

7.7 Promote the GSD as a working breed.

8 Voting Powers

Each Member Club shall have a maximum of two votes at any meeting of GSD Liaison Council. These two votes are consisting of one Breed Representative and one Working Representative with full voting powers. The Breed Representative shall be the Club's appointed Breed Representative a qualified breed judge or, if not available, a breeder who has bred at least two GSD litter registered with KUSA. For a Representative to have a vote on Working matters he must have qualified at least one GSD in (IPØ) IGP1. A Member Club may however exercise its voting power through as few as a single Representative, provided the above stipulation regarding a working qualification is complied with if the Working Representative is to exercise the club's vote. No Representative shall vote on behalf of more than one Member Club.

9 Trustee and Property of GSD Liaison Council

9.1 GSD Liaison Council is a sub-committee of KUSA and subject to being

authorised thereto by the KUSA Federal Council, shall have full power to institute and defend all legal proceedings instituted by or against GSD Liaison Council.

- 9.2 All movable and immovable property belonging to GSD Liaison Council shall not form part of the personal estates of the office bearers or members of GSD Liaison Council or any of its Member Clubs and shall be registered in the name of GSD Liaison Council. All such movable and immovable property shall be applied and disposed of for the benefit of GSD Liaison Council and its objects in such manner as the Federal Council shall direct.

10 Liability

GSD Liaison Council is not formed for the purpose of carrying on any business or enterprise that has as its object the acquisition of individual gain by its Member Clubs and/or their Representatives.

Notwithstanding GSD Liaison Council's establishment relative to the Articles of the Constitution of KUSA and notwithstanding those duties, functions and activities carried out by GSD Liaison Council, pursuant to powers delegated by the Federal Council, the KUSA shall not be liable for any debts of whatsoever nature incurred by GSD Liaison Council, unless GSD Liaison Council acted in accordance with prior written directions given or decisions made by the Federal Council.. In no circumstances and on no occasions whatsoever, will the Federal Council and/or KUSA be liable for any act or omission of GSD Liaison Council and GSD Liaison Council shall not have the power to bind the Federal Council or KUSA, for any financial consequences of GSD Liaison Council's decisions, duties, functions and activities, nothing whatsoever excepted.

11 Indemnity

All office bearers and members of GSD Liaison Council shall be indemnified by KUSA, in respect of any personal liability incurred while acting on behalf of KUSA or GSD Liaison Council, provided they acted in accordance with the directions given or decisions made from time to time by resolution of the Federal Council.

12 Financial Year and Funding

- 12.1 GSD Liaison Council financial year shall commence on the 1st of September and expire on the 31st of August each year.

- 12.2 The Federal Council may undertake to finance specific actions or activities of GSD Liaison Council, but shall be under no obligation to do so.

13 Audited Financial Statement

GSD Liaison Council shall submit its books of account and financial records for annual audit to the auditor appointed in terms of Article 14.3.4 not later than the 30th of September of each year and shall forward to KUSA one copy of its audited accounts of income and expenditure and GSD Liaison Council's balance sheet, before the 31st of October of each year.

14 Organisation

14.1 Membership:

The membership of GSD Liaison Council shall comprise of Member Clubs and such membership shall ipso facto constitute acceptance of this Constitution of GSD Liaison Council and any Rules and/or By Laws/Annexes framed thereunder. The members of Member Clubs shall be represented on GSD Liaison Council via their nominated Representatives and as such shall have a say in the running of the affairs of GSD Liaison Council.

14.2 Termination:

If a Club fails to operate in the best interests of the GSD breed or GSD Liaison COUNCIL, GSD Liaison Council is empowered to recommend to the Federal Council that its membership be terminated.

14.3 South African GSD Liaison Council:

- 14.3.1 GSD Liaison Council shall consist of one Breed Representatives and one Working

Representative nominated by each Member Club. Each Member Club may also nominate one alternate to each Representative. A Member Club may exercise its voting power through as few as a single Representative.

- 14.3.2 Representatives shall be fully paid-up members of KUSA and the Member Club and accreditation in writing shall be given by the Club so represented. A person may not represent more than one Club on GSD Liaison Council.
- 14.3.3 At the first meeting held by GSD Liaison Council in each financial year, all Representatives shall present their credentials and satisfy the meeting of their appointment thereto and thereafter the Member Club or Member Clubs concerned shall authenticate any change of Representative. Every Representative shall notify the Secretary of an address, to which all notices intended for the Club represented by him, shall be sent. All Representatives shall have competence and be entitled to participate in all the business of GSD Liaison Council in every way.
- 14.3.4 At the first meeting held by GSD Liaison Council in each financial year an Auditor/s shall be appointed who may not be a member or close relative of any member of GSD Liaison COUNCIL, but shall hold adequate experience to discharge his duties.
- 14.3.5 All the business and affairs of GSD Liaison Council shall be managed and controlled by the Representatives of its Member Clubs, who shall have full power and authority to carry on all or any of the objects and to exercise all or any of the powers set forth in these Articles.
- 14.3.6 At the first meeting held by GSD Liaison Council in each alternate financial year, the members of GSD Liaison Council shall from their number elect a Chairman and a Vice Chairman who shall hold office for two years, always provided that in the event of either office bearer being unable to continue to act in such capacity during the course of his term of office, members of GSD Liaison Council may elect from their number a replacement. No office bearer may be elected in more than two consecutive terms.
- 14.3.7 GSD Liaison Council shall appoint a Secretary of GSD Liaison Council who need not be a Representative and the Secretary shall hold appointment for such period of time as GSD Liaison Council may decide. In addition to a Secretary, GSD Liaison Council shall appoint a Treasurer who need not be a Representative and the Treasurer shall hold appointment for such a period of time as GSD Liaison Council may decide.
- 14.3.8 In addition to but without derogating from its general authority, GSD Liaison Council may:
- a) Frame regulations or by-laws for the better conduct of its functions, subject to approval by the Federal Council.
 - b) Determine what proportion of its funds shall be invested and shall nominate signatories, who shall not be related to or domiciled with each other, to operate upon all accounts owned by GSD Liaison Council.
 - c) Recommend to the Federal Council that a Member Club be disaffiliated in terms of Article 9 1.5 of the Constitution of KUSA, whenever it appears that such club has carried on its activities, or one or some of them, contrary to the terms or spirit of the KUSA Constitution or any Schedule made thereunder, or has manifested contempt for or indifference to the said Constitution or Schedule, or has behaved or supported any behaviour which undermines or tends to undermine the objects of GSD Liaison Council and KUSA and the authority thereof.
 - e) Perform all acts and deeds and do all things, which are consistent with this Constitution.
- 14.4 Persons ineligible for serving on GSD Liaison Council:
No person shall be eligible for election or appointment to GSD Liaison Council or any of its Committees if he:
- 14.4.1 sustains a suspension or disqualification imposed under Schedule 1 (Disciplinary Rules) or any judgement given against him under Schedule 9 (Code of Ethics) of the KUSA Constitution.
- 14.4.2 is convicted of any criminal offence and sentenced to imprisonment without the option of a fine or convicted of any offence relating to cruelty towards or neglect of an animal.

14.4.3 is employed by KUSA.

14.4.4 is declared insolvent or bankrupt.

15 Meetings

GSD Liaison Council shall hold not less than one (1) meeting, which can take the form of Face to Face, Teleconference or Virtual meeting, before the end of October each year and may thereafter meet as often as its members deem necessary or convenient. Meetings shall only be held when the business, elections or constitutional matters to be attended to justify such a meeting. Where possible, all matters shall be dealt with by correspondence. A meeting of GSD Liaison Council must be held when more than half of Member Clubs submit a written request to the Secretary. All meetings shall be held at a suitable venue upon such day and at such hour as the majority may decide. The Chairman of GSD Liaison Council shall be Chairman of all meetings but whenever he is not present, the Vice Chairman shall preside. The Chairman is entitled to attend, ex officio, any meeting of any Committee and Sub-committee and should be informed of all meetings. The Chairman of the Federal Council is entitled to attend, ex officio, any meeting of GSD Liaison Council or any Committee or Sub-Committee, should be informed of all meetings and may participate in the discussions thereat but shall not be entitled to vote.

15.1 Quorum: The quorum at any meeting of GSD Liaison Council shall consist of the Chairman/Vice Chairman and 50% of the number of the Member Clubs plus one.

15.2 Notice of Meetings: Notwithstanding any prior arrangements relating to the date of the next GSD Liaison Council meeting, the Secretary shall send written notice by pre-paid post or e-mail to each Representative at the Member Club's address, notified in terms of Article 15.3.3 hereof, giving all members not less than one Calendar month notice of every meeting, specifying the date, time and venue thereof and with every such notice shall be sent a copy of the Agenda of business to be dealt with. One copy of such notice and agenda shall also be sent to the Chairman of the Federal Council and the Secretary of KUSA. In the case of urgent matters the period of notice for meetings shall not less than twenty one (14) days.

15.3 Voting:

15.3.1 Every representative of a Member Club, as a member of GSD Liaison Council shall be entitled to abstain from voting, or to exercise his right to vote.

15.3.2 In addition to his deliberate vote, the Chairman of every meeting shall be entitled to exercise a single casting vote in the event of the total votes cast being equally divided between those in favour of the motion and those against such motion.

15.3.3 Voting shall be by a show of hands unless the Chairman otherwise directs. Any abstentions and the number of votes cast for and against a motion shall be recorded by the Secretary. If the total votes cast are equally divided the Secretary shall record the determination of the Chairman's casting vote, if so exercised.

15.3.4 Voting upon all motions shall first require a proposer and a seconder, in the absence of which the motion shall fail. A simple majority of votes cast shall decide any question put to the vote at any meeting of GSD Liaison Council, save and except for constitutional amendments, when a two-thirds majority of votes cast shall be required for a motion to be carried.

15.4 Minutes of Meetings:

15.4.1 Minutes of every GSD Liaison Council meeting shall be recorded by the Secretary or in his absence by some suitable person appointed by GSD Liaison Council to act as Secretary for that meeting.

15.4.2 GSD Liaison Council shall send copies of the minutes of all meetings including minutes of matters dealt with by Sub-Committees to the Secretary of KUSA.

15.4.3 Copies of such Minutes shall be dispatched to Members, to each Member Club and to KUSA, not later than seven (10) days after the meeting, notwithstanding that such Minutes are

unconfirmed and open to correction before adoption at the next GSD Liaison Council meeting.

- 15.4.4 After confirmation and adoption of Minutes, the Secretary shall immediately send to KUSA and to each Member Club copies of any corrections to such Minutes previously dispatched in terms of paragraph 16.4.2 and 16.4.3 hereof. Alternatively, he shall send written confirmation that such minutes were confirmed and adopted without correction. In the event of a resolution of GSD Liaison Council being required as evidence for any purpose whatsoever, a copy thereof, signed by the Chairman and the Secretary, shall be accepted as conclusive proof of the contents thereof.

16 Amendment of the Constitution

Constitution and all the Articles thereof may be repealed, substituted, amended or added to at any meeting of GSD Liaison Council, provided that any member desiring to propose such an amendment shall notify the Chairman or Secretary in writing, giving a draft text of the proposal, which shall be included in the Agenda for the meeting at which such proposal will be proposed. A two-thirds majority of votes cast at such a meeting shall be required to amend the Constitution and any such amendment, if approved by GSD Liaison Council, shall not become of any force or effect until it has received the written approval of the Federal Council.

17 Copy of the Constitution

A copy of the Constitution of GSD Liaison Council, certified correct by the Chairman and the Secretary, may be accepted as evidence for any purpose whatsoever and in all legal proceedings, in or out of court.

18 Autonomy of Member Clubs

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary here-in-before stated, Club membership of GSD Liaison Council shall not derogate from such Member Club's autonomy as a Club affiliated to KUSA, save and except in those cases where GSD Liaison Council acts in terms of a specified power delegated to it by the Federal Council of KUSA.

19 Dissolution of GSD Liaison Council

- 19.1 Any proposal to dissolve GSD Liaison Council shall only be considered at a Special General Meeting of GSD Liaison Council convened for the purpose, and then only in terms of this section.
- 19.2 No proposal to dissolve GSD Liaison Council shall be considered unless at the time of such proposal there are present not less than two-thirds of all the Representatives of GSD Liaison COUNCIL at the time of such proposals, nominated in accordance with Articles 9 and 15.3.1 and accredited in accordance with Article 15.3.3 above and of whom not less than three-quarters vote in favour of such proposal. Should the meeting referred to in this clause have insufficient representatives present to form a quorum then the Federal Council has the power at any time to instruct GSD Liaison Council to suspend its activities and hand over all the assets under its control to KUSA for safekeeping until such time as GSD Liaison Council is able to arrange a meeting with sufficient members to form a quorum. Should such a meeting not be convened by GSD Liaison Council within two years of the meeting at which the quorum was not present, then GSD Liaison Council shall be deemed to be dissolved and its assets shall be forfeited to KUSA.
- 19.3 Immediately a decision to dissolve GSD Liaison Council has been taken in terms of this section, the members shall forthwith liquidate the affairs of GSD Liaison Council and if there is any surplus of assets on realisation, such surplus shall revert to KUSA.

20 Effective Date of Constitution

This document becomes effective/official only after it is signed by representatives of both parties.

For and on behalf of the German Shepherd Liaison Committee

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

CHAIRMAN'S NAME PRINTED

DATE _____

SECRETARIES SIGNATURE

SECRETARIES NAME PRINTED

DATE _____

For and on behalf of THE KENNEL UNION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

PRESIDENT

DATE

SECRETARY

*Please note each page must be initialled by Chairman and Secretary.