



**CONSTITUTION**

**AND**

**BY – LAWS**

**2013**

# CONSTITUTION

## ARTICLE I - NAME

This Club shall be known as the MODERN GAME BANTAM CLUB OF AMERICA.

## ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVE

The primary purpose of this club is to be the official guardian and promoter of the Modern Game Bantam and collectively as a group officially represent and speak for all club member breeders in all matters pertaining to exhibiting, maintaining and improving the breed and all varieties to a set standard.

To sponsor annually a National Meet, District and State Meets and promote as many Special Meets as possible to encourage and build greater interest in the Modern Game Bantam.

To be devoted to the preservation of the large fowl Modern.

To assemble and distribute quarterly an informative and educational bulletin in order to keep all members officially informed and abreast of all club matters.

It shall be the goal of the club as a whole to expect a high degree of clout in its dealings with all other poultry clubs and organizations by maintaining a high degree of professionalism in all organizational and policy matters.

## ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Anyone desiring to join the club may do so by sending dues to the Secretary-Treasurer or via any club member soliciting memberships.

Dues shall be payable on or before January 1 of each year in the amount set by the Board of Directors.

Upon being named a Master Breeder of the Modern Game Bantam Club of America, the member will not be required to pay yearly membership dues, but may do so as well as become a Life Member if they wish.

## ARTICLE IV – ORGANIZATION

Officers of the club shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Six (6) District Directors, One (1) Director-at-Large, Director of Publicity, Art Director, and Election Commissioner.

All officers except the Honorary appointed Director and the appointed Election Commissioner shall be elected for a term of two years, beginning January 1.

The President and Vice President shall not succeed themselves in office more than once, however, they may run for any prior office held after a one term (2 years) out of that office.

Any vacated office shall be immediately filled by appointment of the President after consulting and considering the recommendations of the Board of Directors. Should the office of President be vacated the Vice President shall automatically fill out the office and the Board of Directors shall appoint an interim Vice President.

The Director of each District shall appoint a State Representative for each state in his District other than his own, where there is sufficient interest in the Modern Game Bantam. State Representatives are responsible to the District Director only, in assisting him in promoting the club and the Modern Game Bantam, keeping the director abreast of the desires and proposals of each club member in each respective state.

CLUB DISTRICTS are as follows:

DIST.. 1 – Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia.

DIST.. 2 – North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee.

DIST.. 3 – Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, and Michigan.

DIST.. 4 – Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Colorado.

DIST.. 5 – California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Hawaii, Alaska and Arizona.

DIST.. 6 – Canada (all Provinces)

## **ARTICLE V – ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS**

The annual meeting shall be held in conjunction with the National Meet. Arrangements for this meeting are to be made by the District Director and Secretary- Treasurer.

Special meetings may be called for by the President upon written request of the majority of the Board of Directors. No official business except that called for in the special meeting will be entertained or transacted at a Special Meeting.

Results of all meetings shall be made public via the next regularly scheduled bulletin following the meeting.

No proposals effecting change or additions to the constitution or By-Laws shall be voted on at any meeting without a quorum present. A quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the Board of Directors.

Proposals made at any meeting without a quorum present shall be put in writing and submitted to the Secretary who in turn will send out ballots on the proposal to the entire body of the Board of Directors or membership, whichever the case may be. All ballots sent to the Board of Directors and not returned to the Secretary after (15) working days after the postmark shall be considered a YES vote.

## **ARTICLE VI – ELECTIONS**

The election of Officers and Directors shall be held every two (2) years, on odd numbered years.

In the election year all offices are open for nominations except for the Honorary appointed Director-At-Large and the appointed Election Commissioner. Any club member may nominate any other paid-up member for any of the various offices and Director in their district.

No candidate's name shall appear on the ballot more than once.

Acceptance of all nominations must be verified before the names are placed on the ballot.

Nominating ballots will be mailed out via the club bulletin no later than October 15 and must be returned to the Secretary within fifteen (15) working days to be official. The election ballots will be mailed November 1 and must be returned to the Election Commissioner within fifteen (15) working days to become official.

The Election Commissioner shall notify the Secretary of the election results on or before December 15.

The Secretary will notify all elected Officers and Directors promptly and the membership to be notified via the next regularly scheduled bulletin following election.

Terms of newly elected Officers and Directors shall become effective on January 1.

The Election Commissioner or the Secretary shall not divulge a breakdown of the actual vote count to anyone, unless there is a protest lodged in writing to the Secretary within fifteen (15) working days of the postmarked date on the bulletin in which newly elected Officers and Directors were announced.

In the event of a lodged protest the Board of Directors shall determine if the protest merits a recount of votes for the office being protested only. Should the Board of Directors by majority agreement deem a recount proper and necessary the Secretary will send only the ballots protested to the Club President for recount. The president will notify the protestee and the Board of Directors of the result of his recount.

No protest will be accepted by the Secretary unless accompanied by a sum of \$25 which will be refunded should the protest be sustained.

## **ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS**

Any proposal to amend the Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer, who will determine the pleasure of the Board of Directors by a majority vote on whether or not to place the matter before the membership.

A majority vote of the membership voting is required to amend the Constitution.

A majority vote of the Board of Directors is required to amend the By-Laws.

It shall be the prerogative of the Board of Directors to amend the By-Laws and they are charged with keeping them current and up-to-date at all times.

All amendments to either the Constitution or By-Laws shall become effective fifteen (15) days after the postmarked date of the bulletin in which they are announced.

# **BY-LAWS**

## **ARTICLE I – DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT**

The President shall preside at all meetings possible of the Club and perform the duties of the Chief Executive Officer of the Club.

He shall perform such other duties as specifically called for in the Constitution and By-Laws.

He will act as Chairman of the Board of Directors, and will refer all matters for their consideration when requested by the Secretary and will promptly report their decisions to the Secretary. He will poll the directors by mail and when no reply is received within fifteen (15) working days, he will consider the Director is voting in favor of the matter at hand.

In the case of a tie vote by the Board of Directors he will cast the deciding vote.

All newly elected Club Presidents shall within 30 days in office review and familiarize himself with the Club's current Constitution and By-Laws.

He shall see that the Constitution and By-Laws are kept up-to-date, rigidly executed, enforced and that all Officers of the Club properly fulfill their duties.

He will issue an annual report via the April issue of the Club's bulletin to the membership, covering the Club's activities for the previous year. This report will be filed by the Secretary together with the minutes of the annual meeting in order that a permanent record be maintained.

## **ARTICLE II – DUTIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT**

The Vice president shall act as presiding officer at all meetings in the President's absence, assuming all duties of the President in his absence or during the time the President's position is vacated.

In the absence of both the President and Vice President, the Director of the District in which a meeting is held will preside. In the case of his absence, the State Representative will preside.

## **ARTICLE III – DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER**

The Secretary-Treasurer shall conduct the correspondence of the Club and act as the Club's General Manager.

He will issue notices of meetings and conduct elections of the Club by means of mailed ballots to the Board of Directors and/or the membership.

He will perform the duties as specifically called for in the Constitution and By-Laws.

He will keep a record of all minutes taken at all meetings.

He will be charged with the responsibility of approving before printing all releases made by the Publicity Director that possibly could be construed as demeaning or slanderous in any way to any individual or organization. No club policy or rule shall be printed in the bulletin out of context or in part. In cases of questions regarding Club policy, the release will be submitted to the Board of Directors before being made public.

He shall collect and receive all monies due the Club and shall deposit same in the name of the Club. He shall have the incumbent Club President's name on the Club's account, stating that he may withdraw all Club funds in the account in case the Secretary-Treasurer's office is vacated for any reason.

He shall furnish at each annual meeting a written report of the money affairs of the Club and make an interim financial accounting when requested by the Board of Directors

He shall issue within sixty (60) days after the annual meeting, a list of Officers and members present and the minutes of the meeting, including a financial statement. The issuance to be sent to all members via the Club bulletin.

He shall send a copy of the Club's Constitution and By-Laws to all new members.

## **ARTICLE IV – DUTIES OF DISTRICT DIRECTOR**

Each District Director shall be responsible for the promotion of the Club and its objectives in his District.

He shall be responsible for the annual meeting when held in his District.

He shall appoint a State Representative in each state in his district other than his own where there is sufficient interest in the Modern Game Bantam.

He shall be responsible for placing all meets in his district, with the aid and recommendation of the State Representative.

He shall notify the Secretary as to the date and place of all meets placed in his district as far in advance as possible, so as to enable meets to be advertised in the bulletin.

In his own way, he should encourage and promote as many Special Meets in his District as possible.

The Director shall furnish a standard form (supplied by the Secretary) to show secretaries of all shows hosting or sponsoring Modern Game Bantam Club Meets to be printed verbatim in their own catalogs.

He shall personally oversee as many meets in his district as possible and have an input into assigning from the judges available, the one considered best qualified or most popular as a judge of the Modern Game Bantam. When the National Meet is held in his District, he shall submit a list of preferred judges to the hosting show officials and make an exerted attempt to have one of the recommended judges hired to judge the Modern Games.

Each Director shall keep the Secretary posted on the desires and complaints voiced by a majority of the members in his district and submit any proposal made by members in his district he deems worthy or just of consideration.

#### **ARTICLE V – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, District Directors, Director-At-Large and Publicity Director.

It shall be mandatory that each member of the Board of Directors cast his vote on all proposals and policy matters.

Subject only to such action may be taken from time to time by the Club itself at the annual meeting, the Board of Directors shall have entire control and management of the affairs, property and policies of the club.

The Board of Directors may disbar or reject membership of any person or Club member who makes public a grievance or proposal effecting any aspect of Club policy or change made against any Club member without first attempting to have the grievance or proposal resolved, sustained or rejected by submitting the charge or proposal in writing to the Board of Directors or orally at the Annual Meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VI – DUTIES OF THE PUBLICITY DIRECTOR**

The Publicity Director shall promote the objectives of the Club through articles and publicity in newspapers, magazines and such other media.

He will assemble and issue an informative and educational bulletin. The bulletin shall be published quarterly and shall be mailed between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of January, April, July and October.

Special bulletins and/or newsletters may be issued when necessary, within the approval of the Secretary-Treasurer.

No commercial ads shall be printed in the bulletin. Club members only may place individual ads, at a rate of \$0.10 per word per issue, subject to the approval of the Publicity Director and/or Secretary-treasurer.

The club shall not be responsible in any way for any ad placed in the bulletin.

The January bulletin shall be the last non paid-up members are to receive. It shall be marked-Last Issue - Dues Due.

#### **ARTICLE VII – MEDIA AND ART DIRECTOR**

The Media and Art Director shall prepare with the approval of the Publicity Director sketches, drawings and Web Page Media as required to promote the objective of the club.

#### **ARTICLE VIII – DUTIES OF THE ELECTION COMMISSIONER**

The Election Commissioner shall be appointed by the President just prior to the general election. The appointee may be a non-member or a club member, that is not an office holder or a candidate for any Club office.

The Election Commissioner will receive election ballots from the membership, tally them and forward the results together with the ballots and envelopes to the Secretary.

#### **ARTICLE IX – NATIONAL MEET**

The Club shall hold annually a National Meet, between January 1 and December 31, to be held in rotation among the Club's Districts. Should a District be unable to hold the National Meet in its allotted turn, the Meet will pass on to the next District in rotation and so continue in future years.

The District Director shall be responsible for selecting the best time and location for the National Meet in his District, soliciting and compiling the premium list, assisted by a State Representative in his District and approved by the Secretary-Treasurer.

Preference and requirements in placing National Meets - Best time of the year – November and December being preferred throughout the U.S. considering maturity and conditioning of birds and weather in most areas – January, February and March in areas where weather isn't normally a factor.

District Directors shall obtain up-to-date State and Federal health requirements before placing National Meets.

Showroom accommodations – The District Director shall request and in as much as possible be assured prior to placing the National that the Modern class will be afforded a well lighted section of the showroom with no double stacking of coops.

When the ABA and APA National or Semi-Annual Meets are placed in the District due the Modern National, consideration should be given to holding the Modern National in conjunction with them.

## **ARTICLE X – DISTRICT MEETS**

In years when the National Meet is not being held in a District, a District meet shall be held.

## **ARTICLE XI – STATE MEETS**

State Meets shall be held on an annual basis. State Representatives should place State Meets or make recommendations to the District Director as to their placement.

## **ARTICLE XII – SPECIAL MEETS**

Special Meets are to be sponsored and paid for by the requesting show and/or Club members in that particular area. No State Representative or District Director is required to sponsor Special meets but it is commendable of those who do so from time to time.

## **ARTICLE XIII – MEET REQUIREMENTS**

Awards are to be paid to paid-up Club members prior to judging only.  
There shall be a minimum of 28 Moderns entered with a minimum of 3 Club members showing.

## **ARTICLE XIV – INTERPRETATIONS**

In all cases of dispute arising out of the interpretations and meaning of the Constitution and By-Laws, and other matters not covered by them, a majority vote of the Board of Directors is final.

## **ARTICLE XV – MASTER BREEDERS**

The Modern Game Bantam Club of America recognizes and honors those deserving this title for their contributions in maintaining, improving and promoting the breed and the Club.

Nomination requirements:

A nominee shall be:

recognized by members as a breeder who displays or has displayed in his/her life a dedication to the breed and club by encouraging new members, voluntarily sharing ideas, promoting and supporting Club activities and meets, and assisting new and current members obtain quality birds.

any current, or deceased, breeder of one or more varieties of bantam and/or standard Modern Games.

publicly known as a breeder and consistent winner with high quality Modern Games for a minimum of ten consecutive years

a paid up member of the club.

Selection Process:

The President shall annually assure that the Master Breeders have selected a Master Breeder as Chairperson. The Chairperson is responsible for contacting the other Master Breeders to conduct their business.

Any paid up MGBCA member may refer a qualified individual to a Master Breeder for consideration as a potential nominee. All nominations are to be made by a paid up Master Breeder.

The chairperson may use electronic and/or written communications to obtain a vote from the Master Breeders.

A nominee must receive a majority of the votes cast to be awarded the designation.

Approved Master Breeders will be presented with an appropriate plaque at an annual meeting. All plaques are to be of the same design and wording for all recipients.

## **ARTICLE XVI – ADVISORY BOARD**

The Board to consist in numbers of a minimum of four recognized Master Breeders of Modern Game Bantams and to include all others in excess of this number, with all members required to be and remain continuous Club members to serve on the Board indefinitely.

Responsibilities – The Board shall make or rule on any proposal that affects any physical part of the Modern Game Bantam; to recognize any new color variety or wording change or addition to the present day American Bantam Association Standard on the Modern Game Bantams.

Chairman of the Advisory Board shall be by appointment of the Club President and shall be the responsibility of the Chairman to conduct correspondence of all matters pertaining to the Advisory board. He shall conduct a poll of all members of the Advisory Board on any subject proposed to or by the Board and to forward recommendations to the Club Secretary-Treasurer, who in turn will present the matter to the Board of Directors for appropriate action.

Should any member of the Advisory Board be elected to any Club office, they are to be omitted as a voting member of the Advisory Board during their term in any office.

The Board shall have the duty and responsibility to remove any member of the Board for misconduct in any form not reflecting the best interest of the Board and the Modern Game Bantam