



## Chisholm Trail Epagneul Breton Gun Dog Club

### Constitution and Bylaws

Adopted November 1, 2015

#### ARTICLE I

This non-profit corporation shall be known as the Chisholm Trail Epagneul Breton Gun Dog Club (CTEBGDC). Its membership shall be made up of dedicated hunters and Epagneul Breton hunting dog enthusiasts of Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, Arkansas and Missouri, or any person duly elected by the club's officers. The state of domicile for incorporation will be Oklahoma with the city on record with the UKC as Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

#### ARTICLE II

The purpose of this club shall be to promote and protect the Epagneul Breton gun dog breed, maintaining its unique qualities and hunting style; to promote the sport of hunting with the Epagneul Breton breed, to promote competition and to condemn the willful and unlawful slaughter of game and the destruction of its habitat. In addition, the purpose of this club shall also be to promote wildlife conservation and responsible hunting. To fulfill this Article, we shall attempt:

1. To aid and assist our members, other organizations and agencies, with the relocating (when lawful), protection, conservation, and propagation of upland game.
2. To promote fair chase and support the right to free cast hunting dogs on public and private lands.
3. To cooperate with all federal, state, and local agencies, as well as upland conservation organizations, and landowners for the betterment of all types of outdoor activities.

4. To dismiss from our membership without hesitation those who violate these by-laws and the principles of good sportsmanship and fair and honest conduct, both in hunting and competition involving the Epagneul Breton.
5. To increase opportunities to hunt by developing relationships with landowners and other strategic partners.
6. To educate the general public about the unique qualities of the Epagneul Breton gun dog breed.

## ARTICLE III

We reserve the right to refuse entry in our competition events, as well as membership in this club to ANYONE deemed to be in violation of club bylaws at the discretion of the club's officers. However, no person shall be refused membership on a basis of race, color, creed, religion, gender, age, or national origin.

The method of obtaining membership in this club shall be as follows:

1. Own a UKC registered Epagneul Breton gun dog unless being granted membership by a club officer with approval by the club officers by simple majority as a strategic friend of the CTEBGDC.
2. Submit application in writing to a club officer and/or submit the application electronically on our club website at [www.chisholmtraileclub.com](http://www.chisholmtraileclub.com).
3. Submit annual entry fee whether regular membership fee or premier membership fee if applicable in a calendar year. All membership dues are non-refundable.

\*No applicant will be accepted to membership if he or she has been convicted of a felony, unless specifically approved by a majority vote of the Officers/Board.

## ARTICLE IV

The following shall be the conditions of continuing membership:

1. The attendance of as many meetings and events as possible.
2. The attendance and participation in club activities to the satisfaction of the officers. However, the attendance clauses of Article IV, sections 1 and 2 shall be waived due to illness, disability, employment conflict, excessive distance, or previous commitments.

3. Any member convicted in court of law for violating any state or federal game law shall be dismissed from the Club, if the officers so vote by majority ballot.

## ARTICLE V

This article shall be used to govern the officers of the club.

The officers shall be elected at the first (1st) meeting of every three-year term except for the initial six years of the club's existence in effort to ensure continuity of the club during its initial growth phase commencing November 1, 2015. The first election cycle for officers of the club shall be November 1, 2021.

Any officer may succeed himself/herself or run for another position in the club.

All elections shall be by secret ballot and decided by a simple majority at a club event approved by the club's officers. The offices of secretary, treasurer, and publicist may be combined in any combination as deemed necessary by majority vote of the club's officers. If any officer of the club resigns his/her position prior to the end of their term, the President of the club retains full authority to fill the vacated position by appointment of his/her choosing until the end of the term, including the initial six-years of club existence. Club officers and their respective duties shall be as follows:

1. PRESIDENT: shall preside at all meetings and conduct good order and discipline and delegate specific duties to other officers as deemed necessary.
2. VICE-PRESIDENT(s): shall assist the president in the discharge of those duties, and will preside in the president's absence. A total of two Vice-Presidents will serve in the following capacities:
  1. Vice-President of Administration and Membership
  2. Vice-President of Activities and Field Trials
3. SECRETARY: shall keep an accurate record of all meetings and events. The secretary shall preside in the absence of the other elected officers.
4. TREASURER: shall keep an accurate account of funds received and be responsible for the proper collection and distribution of all funds and accounts. The financial account of the club shall be maintained at Quail Creek Bank in Oklahoma City, OK using a business account in the name of the Chishom Trail Epagneul Breton Gun Dog Club. Club officers may vote by majority to change financial institutions if necessary. The President, one Vice President, and the Treasurer can be signers on the account. Transaction amounts using the club's financial account exceeding \$250 must be approved by a majority of the officers of the club. The treasurer shall preside in the absence of the other elected officers.

5. PUBLICIST: shall maintain the club website and club Facebook page, acting as the club agent for promotion of all club events and the Epagneul Breton gun dog.

## ARTICLE VI

The officers of this club shall be no more than six in number, and no less than four in number elected at large by the membership commencing November 1, 2021 following the initial six year existence of the club.

## ARTICLE VII

Any membership dues of this club enacted by the club officers by majority vote shall be in the amount decided upon by the club officers and shall be due and payable on January 1 of each year. Any member who has not paid their dues by July 31 of the same calendar year shall be dropped from the rolls. However, if any member is in financial distress, his or her dues may be waived by a majority vote of the Officers/Board, on a per case basis.

## ARTICLE VIII

Any meetings of this club shall be held on a date mutually agreed upon and at a location decided upon by the Officers/Board. Meetings will be called by the club President if deemed necessary for club operation. No general schedule is required for meetings.

## ARTICLE IX

These By-Laws may be amended as deemed necessary by the officers and must be approved by a simple majority of the officers on record.

# ARTICLE X

## General Regulations

1. Members shall conduct themselves respectfully and courteously at all club functions and in an honest and sportsman like manner at all meetings and events.
2. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages, firearms (unless firearms are deemed necessary by officers for club event), or illegal drugs will be allowed on the grounds or in buildings while participating in any UKC sanctioned events.
3. These By-Laws shall be made available for members consumption on the club website at [www.chisholmtrailebclub.com](http://www.chisholmtrailebclub.com).
4. These By-Laws shall become effective November 1, 2015.
5. To become effective, these By-Laws must be approved by a majority vote of all club officers present when the vote is taken.
6. All United Kennel Club policies will be strictly adhered to during all UKC events.
7. This club shall engage in active cooperation with the **Club de l'Epagneul Breton of the United States, Inc.** for as long as the association remains in effect, and is the voice of Epagneul Breton enthusiasts and hunters in the region of Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, Arkansas, and Missouri.
8. The President has full authority to fill vacant officer positions or to consolidate the officer positions of Secretary, Publicist, and Treasurer if deemed necessary prior to the end of an officer term if a resignation occurs.
9. The officers of the **Chisholm Trail Epagneul Breton Gun Dog Club** shall have the inherent rights and powers to dismiss ANY member who is continually disruptive to the detriment of the orderly conduct of club meetings and/or events.
10. The club shall maintain a website and Facebook page to disseminate information to membership and to promote the Epagneul Breton with a digital footprint.
11. The club shall apply with the IRS for an EIN number and operate as a legitimate social club organization with financial accounts kept separate from any officers personal financial accounts in full compliance with known federal and state laws.
12. The club shall incorporate as a tax-exempt organization with the Secretary of State in the state of Oklahoma and will apply for and report to the IRS as a 501(c)(7) tax-exempt organization.
13. The club shall file appropriate annual tax returns with the IRS and the State of Oklahoma, the club state of incorporation, in accordance with federal and state laws applicable to 501(c)(7) tax exempt corporations.
14. The club shall maintain appropriate annual liability insurance approved by and reported to the Club de l'Epagneul Breton of the United States and the United Kennel Club for all club activities including UKC sanctioned field trial events.

