

# **Large Munsterlander Association of Canada**

(Incorporated under the Animal Pedigree Act as LMCNA in 1999, and as LMAC in 2015)

## **Bylaws**

**Revised 07 March 2018, 15 May 2020**

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### **A. Breed Standard**

#### **1. Name of the Association**

The name of this association is Large Munsterlander Association of Canada (LMAC), referred to in these Bylaws as LMAC or the “Association.”

#### **2. Guiding Principles and Goals**

The common goal for LMAC is to promote, and maintain in a scientific and state-of-the-art manner, the Large Munsterlander as a versatile hunting dog that will hunt, point, track and retrieve enthusiastically and cooperatively for its handler, on land and in water. Because function implies form, the goal of producing a versatile hunting dog also requires attention to conformation, health, and temperament.

The LM as a breed, and LMAC as its guiding organization in Canada, are consistent with

national and international conventions, as follows:

- Hunters are required by law to “make every reasonable attempt to retrieve” an animal that is dead or injured.<sup>1</sup> Often this retrieval is only possible with a capable hunting dog.
- While the LMAC breeding strategy includes the dual purposes of hunting and family companionship, responsible care and management of an LM is best achieved through training and use for hunting. Experience suggests that the dogs should therefore be placed in ‘hunting homes.’
- The German Verband Große Münsterländer e.V. (VGM) of 1919<sup>2</sup> owns the working and conformation standard of the LM. LMAC respects this intellectual property and aims to maintain the essential characteristics of this breed within the similar, but not identical, laws and hunting practices employed in North America.
- Furthermore, LMAC agrees with the aims in the Bylaws of the world association; Grosser Muensterlaender International e. V. (GMI) to “promote the breeding, management and distribution of the hunting dog breed Großer Münsterländer of Germany in all countries, in accordance with the breed’s intended purpose and with the intention of maintaining the high standard (FCI No. 118 /05.03.2014 DE) of this breed.”
- Given the overlapping goals of the VGM and LMAC, LMAC should form partnerships with the world association GMI and the international kennel club FCI to continue the importing of quality breeding stock. Such international exchanges can go in both directions. For LMAC such exchanges will remain important for at least the medium term, given that hunters comprise a small part of the North American population.

### **3. Purposes**

The purposes of the Association are to:

- Promote and maintain the Large Munsterlander, as a distinct breed of dog, in Canada and North America more generally;
- Guide the development and adaptation of the Large Munsterlander as a hunting and family dog;
- Adopt and maintain a breed standard for the Large Munsterlander based on demonstrated performance as a versatile hunting dog, sound temperament and health, and be true to the breed’s standard;
- Guide breeding practices with balance, emphasizing heritable traits in field tests, temperament and health;

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<sup>1</sup> Government of Saskatchewan (2019). "Saskatchewan Hunters' and Trappers' Guide." [saskatchewan.ca/hunting](https://www.saskatchewan.ca/hunting).

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.grossermuensterlaender.com/verband/>

- Assess registries and testing organizations for their consistency with the above goals and approaches, and accept imported Large Munsterlanders from such registries or tested by such testing organizations;
- Design and deliver hunting and conformation tests for the Large Munsterlander, and certify appropriate judges;
- Compile and maintain a database (to be known as the LMAC “registry”) of all Large Munsterlanders bred in Canada, or bred by non-Canadian “Associate Members” (see s. 5.3 below), including performance scores and conformation evaluations;
- Foster a responsible community of breeders and owners, and facilitate communication among them.

#### **4. Definitions**

- 4.1 “Animal Pedigree Act”** means the Animal Pedigree Act of Canada, 35-36-37 Elizabeth II.
- 4.2 “Association”** means the Large Munsterlander Association of Canada.
- 4.3 “LMAC”** means the Large Munsterlander Association of Canada.
- 4.4 “Directors”** means the members of the Association who have been elected to the Board of Directors:
- 4.5 “Breed Standard”** means the description of the Large Munsterlander described in s. 9 below, presented in Appendix A and available on the LMAC website <http://www.lmcanada.net/standard.html> .
- 4.6 “FCI”** means Fédération Cynologique Internationale <http://www.fci.be/en/> .
- 4.7 “Gender”** unless the context clearly implies otherwise, “dog” includes bitch.
- 4.8 “Lease”** or “leased” means to use for any purpose, including breeding, a dog owned by another, regardless of whether there is any cash or non-cash compensation paid to the owner for such use.
- 4.9 “JGHV”** means Jagdgebrauchshundverband e.V. <https://www.jghv.de/>
- 4.10 “NAVHDA”** means North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association <https://www.navhda.org/>
- 4.11 “Performance”** refers to evidence-based measures and includes field, conformation, health, temperament and parent-offspring evaluations.
- 4.12 “VHDF”** means Versatile Hunting Dog Federation <http://www.vhdf.org/> , and VHDF-Canada means Versatile Hunting Dog Federation of Canada <http://www.vhdf-canada.ca/>
- 4.13 “LMCNA”** means the Large Munsterlander Club of North America, which existed from 1977 to December 31, 2011 <http://www.lmcna.net/>

**4.14 “Record” / “Recorded”** refer to the official keeping of records on imported Large Munsterlanders eligible to breed (s. 10), and brown and white dogs born to Large Munsterlanders registered by LMAC (s. 10.3).

## **5. Membership**

All persons who become Members thereby agree to be bound by the Association’s Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws and the Animal Pedigree Act of Canada. As Canadian residents, Members consent to the jurisdiction and regulation of the Minister of Agriculture for Canada for the purpose of enforcing the Animal Pedigree Act (see Policy and Procedures Manual).

**5.1 A Regular Member** is a Canadian resident, over 16 years of age, who has, has had, or intends to have a Large Munsterlander in their household and paid the dues established for the calendar year pursuant to s. 12 below.

**5.2 An Associate Member** is a person who lives outside of Canada and who has paid the dues established for the calendar year pursuant to s. 12 below. Associate Members have no vote on Amendment of Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of the Association (see s. 14), except in the case of the single associate member who may be elected as a director (see s. 6.2). Associate members may vote on other relevant matters, participate in discussion at meetings and on the internet, and attend and participate in events.

**5.3 Family Participation.** Normally a Regular Member’s non-member spouse, or non-member children over 16, are eligible to participate in discussions, meetings, and events and serve in an appointed office.

**5.4 Complimentary Membership** will be given to a person or entity that the Board has determined should be granted such membership without the payment of any dues, for a period to be specified by the LMAC Board. Complimentary Members may vote neither for Directors nor on amendments to Articles of Incorporation or By-Laws (see s. 14), and are not entitled to serve as Directors, but may participate in discussion at meetings and on the internet, and attend and participate in events. Complimentary members can become Regular or Associate members by paying dues as set out in s. 12 below.

**5.5 Required Membership.** Regular or Associate Membership is required of any owner who seeks to have a dog or litter included in the LMAC registry or listed for sale on the LMAC website. Owners of LMAC-listed sires are encouraged to be Regular or Associate members.

**5.6 Member’s Duties.** Regular and Associate members shall

- care for their Large Munsterlander and other dogs in keeping with the recommended codes of practice in their country of residence;
- utilize for all breedings a kennel name recorded by the Registrar that is not confusingly similar to another kennel name in use for the breeding of Large Munsterlanders;
- maintain accurate, contemporaneous records of all matings of Large Munsterlanders and the number, gender and identification of all offspring of such matings, and make such private breeding records available for inspection by the Registrar or by any person authorized by the Animal Pedigree Act;

- promptly report to the Registrar all litters born to a bitch owned or leased by the Member, and apply for LMAC registration of those litters on official forms provided by the Registrar, paying all litter registration fees required pursuant to s. 12.2 below;
- name all puppies with names in the LMAC tradition (which currently requires use of the kennel name followed by a name beginning with the letter of the alphabet indicating the order of litters produced by that kennel);
- tattoo, in the right ear, before eight (8) weeks of age, all surviving puppies born to a bitch owned or leased by the Member, with the registration number provided by the Registrar, preceded by the letter C for Canada;
- upon request of the Registrar, obtain and provide blood or DNA samples of any dog owned or leased by the Member, or any puppy produced by any breeding;
- report to the Registrar all non LMAC-registered Large Munsterlanders imported by the Member before such dogs are bred (see ss. 10.1, 10.3, and 10.4 below), and apply to have such dogs approved for breeding on official forms provided by the Registrar, paying any fees required pursuant to s. 12.2 below;
- abide by these Bylaws and the Animal Pedigree Act.

**5.7 Suspension or Revocation of Membership.** Membership of any Member may be revoked or suspended by majority vote of the LMAC Board upon proof satisfactory to them that the Member has:

- contravened duties and requirements set out in s. 5.6 or elsewhere in these Bylaws; or
- contravened any provision of the Animal Pedigree Act.

Such revocation or suspension may be made only after notice to the Member of the specific charges and sufficient opportunity for such Member to provide such explanation and evidence to the Directors as the Member deems appropriate. Such revocation may be temporary, for a set term, or permanent. Except for reconsideration by the Directors, any such decision shall be final and not subject to appeal or review by any other court or tribunal of any kind. A suspended Member may apply for reinstatement at any time, which may be granted at the discretion of the majority of the Directors.

**5.8 An Annual General Meeting (AGM)** of the Members may be called by the President upon 30 days written notice to all Members via email or the website. The AGM may be called for any physical location in Canada, or may be conducted by teleconference or other electronic means. Items on the agenda of the AGM that require a vote shall be decided by a majority of votes cast. (Note: voting on amendments to the articles of incorporation or to the by-laws is governed by the separate and more stringent requirements of s. 14 below.)

**5.9 A Special General Meeting** may be called by the President or convened based on a petition by 10 regular members of the association to the Secretary. Notice for such a Special General Meeting, including notice of a specific agenda, must be made by written notice via email to all members 30 days in advance. Such a meeting will be conducted by teleconference or other

electronic means to allow full participation of the membership. Items on the agenda of a special general meeting that require a vote shall be decided by a majority of votes cast. (Note: voting on amendments to the articles of incorporation or to the by-laws is governed by the separate and more stringent requirements of s. 14 below.)

## **6. Board and Board Meetings**

**6.1 Directors.** The business and affairs of the Association shall be directed and managed by a Board of six (6) elected directors. The Directors may make rules and regulations and may formulate policies and guidelines consistent with the Act and these Bylaws with respect to any matter or thing concerning or touching upon the business and affairs of the Association.

**6.2 Eligibility of Directors.** At least five (5) of the six (6) Directors must be regular members who are residents of Canada during their term of office. One director may be an associate member resident in another jurisdiction.

**6.3.** The **Term of Office** of a director is two years, except that at the first election of directors, three of the directors shall be elected for a term of one year.

**6.4 Election of Directors.** The Directors shall be elected to vacant positions by a vote of Regular and Associate Members, to be conducted annually. All the directors whose term of office has expired are eligible for re-election. The election of directors will occur at the Annual General Meeting of the Association or by mail or electronic ballot, as decided by the Board. A decision by the Board to hold a mail or electronic ballot must be communicated to the membership no later than when the AGM is called, or 30 days in advance of the close of the election.

**6.5 Nomination for Election.** The candidates for directors to be elected shall be the persons nominated. The elected directors shall be those nominated persons who receive the largest number of votes.

**6.6 Voting.** -Any ballot that selects more names than the number of vacancies is considered void. In case of an equality of votes which would result in more candidates being elected than there are vacancies, a second election is to be called amongst those candidates having equal numbers of votes.

**6.7 Filling mid-term vacancies.** The Board of Directors, by majority vote, may, by appointment, fill any mid-term vacancy that occurs on the board with a member of the Association, subject to the distribution requirements in s. 6.2. Such appointments end at the time of next annual election, when the position is filled by election for the remainder of the term of the originally vacated position.

**6.8 Board Meetings.** The Board shall meet as often as the President determines is appropriate, but no less than once annually. Any such meeting may occur in person or via conference call or other electronic means. The President shall call any such meeting by providing all other Directors at least thirty (30) days' notice of an in-person meeting, or 7 days' notice of an electronic meeting. In case of emergency, a meeting may be called on three (3) days' notice. The call for each meeting shall include an agenda, and the Board may not make a final, formal decision on any issue not identified in such agenda. The Board may take official action at any such meeting at which a quorum – i.e., at least four (4) Directors – is present (either in person

or electronically), and all decisions of the Board shall be by majority vote of those present. In addition to actions taken at any such meeting, the Directors may act at any time by unanimous consent. Electronic polling may be conducted by the Secretary on items that arise between meetings that require “immediate” action, such as changes in banking account terms, etc., allowing at least 7 days for voting.

## **7. Officers**

**7.1** The officers of the Association shall be a president, vice-president, registrar, treasurer, secretary and any such other officers as the board of directors may determine. Officers must be Regular or Associate members of the association but, with the exception of the president and vice president, need not be directors. No member may hold more than one office.

**7.2** The Board shall elect officers at its first meeting immediately following each annual election of directors (see s. 6.2 & 6.3). The president and vice-president must be resident-in-Canada directors. The Treasurer must also reside in Canada

**7.3** Officers are subject to removal by resolution of the board of directors at any time.

## **8. Officers Duties**

**8.1 President’s Duties.** The President shall:

- conduct the day-to-day business of the Association and sign all of the Association’s official documents except for breeding records, which are the responsibility of the Registrar. The Treasurer may sign checks in lieu of the President, and minutes and certificates may be signed by the Secretary in lieu of the President;
- call for the vote of the general Membership on all items requiring such vote (e.g., s. 6.4), and for the vote of Regular Members on proposed modifications of these Bylaws (see s. 14);
- preside over all meetings of the Board;
- report to the general membership, at least once a year – via email, the LMAC newsletter, or the LMAC website – on the affairs of the Association and its Board.
- carry out such other functions and duties as may be imposed by the Board.

**8.2 Registrar’s Duties.** The Registrar shall:

- provide members with the criteria required for a dog to become eligible to breed upon request;
- publish an easily accessible list of all dogs eligible to breed at any given time. The Registrar normally achieves such publication by providing the relevant material to the Webmaster;
- Compile the ‘Total-dog Profiles’ indicating the major attributes of such approved dogs;’ (see Policies and Procedures Manual) and make these candid descriptions available to owners of eligible dams and sires.

- provide evidence- and practice-based advice for breeders;
- register all Large Munsterlanders who are eligible for registration that are born in Canada or to approved dogs owned by associate-member breeders outside Canada (see s. 10.3 below); and issue pedigrees and certificates for these;
- provide replacement certificates as requested and paid for pursuant to s. 12.3 below;
- communicate to members the procedures, requirements, qualifications and records necessary for the collection, preservation, transportation, sale and use of semen, and for the registration of dogs resulting therefrom;
- submit an annual report to be published in the newsletter;
- comply, and ensure the Association's compliance, with the Animal Pedigree Act in all respects.

**8.3 Secretary's Duties.** The Secretary shall:

- keep the official originals of the Association's articles of incorporation, bylaws and any amendments thereto;
- prepare and maintain accurate minutes of all meetings of the general Membership and of the Board;
- prepare, distribute, receive and count all nominations and ballots for all matters requiring the vote of the Membership and certify the results of all such votes;
- maintain a LMAC website that contains information submitted by other Directors such as a list of males and females eligible for breeding and update it regularly to indicate planned, expected, and whelped litters, unless the Board appoints a Webmaster.

**8.4 Treasurer's Duties.** The Treasurer shall:

- maintain the bank account(s) for all of the Association's funds;
- sign all checks and/or conduct electronic transfers for all Association expenditures;
- maintain accurate records of all of the Association's financial transactions;
- provide to the general Membership no less often than annually a Treasurer's Report summarizing the Association's receipts, expenditures and cash on hand;
- obtain by April 1 of each year an audited financial statement by another Regular Member satisfying the requirements of the Animal Pedigree Act;

**8.5 Office.** The office and address of the Association shall be the residence address of the President.

## **9. Distinguishing Breed Characteristics**

In keeping with the breed's original design, a Large Munsterlander has both a working (hunting) and conformation standard to be upheld. In its working standard, the Large Munsterlander distinguishes itself subtly from other breeds by displaying a special strength for work 'after the shot' and a cooperative hunting instinct that is spaniel-like in origin and easily amenable to



training. A complete list of traits measured in hunting tests is shown in the Policy and Procedures Manual. A complete VGM/FCI conformation standard is shown in Appendix A and on the LMAC website). Listed below are key behavioral and morphological features visible at a glance:

- a black-and-white, long-tailed and long-haired dog;
- a versatile hunting dog that will search, point, track and retrieve, enthusiastically and cooperatively for its handler, on land and in water;
- a medium-sized dog weighing approximately 30 kg. Females stand 58-63 cm at the withers and males 60-67 cm, with a frame slightly longer than high.

### **10. Registration and Recording Requirements**

**10.1** The LMAC registry is the sole and exclusive registry of Large Munsterlanders in Canada. A dog born in Canada can be registered as a Large Munsterlander in this country only in the LMAC registry, whether the breeder or owner of that dog is a LMAC member or not. The LMAC registry will also register the offspring of qualified dogs that Associate members breed, so long as they are not registered in another country. LMAC may record, but not register, Large Munsterlanders imported to North America by members. LMAC will register the offspring of imported dogs that meet the eligibility requirements of s. 10.3

LMAC will not register dogs bred, imported, or owned by non-members outside Canada.

**10.2** Applications for registration, amendments to registration, or cancellation of registration shall be made to the Registrar in writing. Amendments may include change of ownership, for example. Cancellation may be requested at the death of the dog, for example.

**10.3 Rules of Eligibility.** To be registered as a Large Munsterlander by the Association, a dog born in Canada or to approved dogs owned by associate-member breeders outside Canada must be black and white (brown and white are recorded), and must be born to parents who:

- are Large Munsterlanders registered by the Association or, if imported to North America, registered by a breed association that, in the judgment of the Board, employs registration requirements similar to the Association's, including performance requirements intended to maintain the breed's versatile hunting traits (see Policy and Procedures Manual);
- have participated in a recognized test (e.g. JGHV, NAVHDA, VHDF) of a young dog's ( $\leq$  1.5 years) natural aptitude to search, point, and track upland birds and to swim (e.g. Verbandsjugendprüfung -VJP of JGHV, Natural Ability Test - NAT of NAVHDA or Hunting Aptitude Evaluation - HAE of VHDF) (see Policy and Procedures Manual for details).
- have qualified in addition to the natural aptitude test in a test of advanced subjects including work before (e.g. search, point) and after the shot (e.g. track, retrieve) on land and water (e.g. Herbstzuchtprüfung - HZP of JGHV, Utility Preparatory Test - UPT or Utility Test - UT of NAVHDA, or Advanced Hunting Aptitude Evaluation - AHAE of VHDF) or equivalents approved by the Board.

- are free of genetic defects that are highly heritable and/or carry with them a significant burden to the dog or its owner, and have been certified free of hip dysplasia and elbow dysplasia by radiographic assessment (see Policy and Procedures Manual);
- are of normal temperament and not gun shy, as assessed in the young dog's test;
- have passed a conformation test carried out by LMAC-trained and -approved judges that ensure that the dogs conform to the breed standard and possess a body form (e.g. smooth gait) and coat (e.g. protective) that enables optimal hunting function in fall and winter on land and in water, or passed a conformation test deemed equivalent by the Board;

**10.3.1 Alternative performance measures.** Versatile dog tests are not widely available in Canada geographically or seasonally. To accommodate circumstances where a promising dog (e.g. highly qualified, unrelated bloodlines) may have missed or failed a young dog's aptitude test ( $\leq 1.5$  years), the Board may consider alternative evidence (testimonials, portions of other related tests or discretion) especially if the Board could be satisfied that the dog was not gun shy.

**10.4 Artificial Insemination.** The Association permits breeding by artificial insemination as an appropriate practice to enhance genetic diversity and reduce long-distance transport. When artificial insemination is used with both sire and dam present on the same premises, the veterinarian must verify the identity of the dogs by their tattoo and confirm in writing that the insemination took place, and when and where. When dam and sire are not on the same premises, the different veterinarians involved each must report in writing that they collected or used the semen. The Board may, in its discretion, require that the owners of the sire and dam collect satisfactory blood or DNA samples of the relevant dogs and puppies for submission to a parentage-testing laboratory. The Board may set a fee for the registration of offspring of artificial insemination, to defray the cost of verifying parentage by molecular genetic means.

## 11. Certificates

**11.1 Certificates of Registration.** The Registrar shall issue certificates of registration, including a four-generation pedigree, for each dog registered or recorded by the Association. Each certificate shall contain:

- the name of the Association;
- the dog's name and registration number/tattoo;
- the dog's date of birth, gender and general coloration;
- the names, registration numbers and total performance scores of four generations of the dog's ancestors;
- the name of the dog's owner when the certificate was issued;
- the breeder's and the Registrar's signatures.

**11.2 Significance of Certificates.** Certificates do not constitute evidence of ownership, and

other than maintaining records for its own purposes the Association shall have no role in certifying, determining or providing evidence of ownership.

**11.3 Replacements.** The Registrar may replace lost certificates or issue new certificates to new owners upon submission of whatever form or evidence he or she may require and payment of any fees established by the Board (s. 12.3), and may cancel or correct certificates determined to have been issued in error or in respect of dogs that did not qualify for registration.

**11.4 Transfer of Ownership.** Before a certificate can be issued to a new owner, the Registrar must be satisfied by notification from the former owner that the dog was duly obtained; this is to forestall dog theft. Whenever possible the original certificate should be returned to the Registrar. The new owner must apply in writing for a new certificate and pay the established fee.

## **12. Dues and Other Fees.**

**12.1 Dues.** The amount of Membership dues for each year shall be established, from time to time, by the Board. New rates, which shall apply to the fiscal year following the Board's decision, shall be communicated to the membership via the LMAC newsletter and website.

**12.2 Registration Fees.** The Board may establish fees for the registration of LMAC-approved litters.

**12.3 Other Fees.** The Board may establish fees for other Association services or functions, such as for use of artificial insemination (see s. 10.8 above), issuance of original, duplicate or replacement certificates of registration, for participation in an Association sponsored test or hunt, etc.

**12.4 Payment.** All dues and other fees shall be paid to the Treasurer.

## **13. Finances.**

**13.1 Fiscal Year.** The Association's fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

**13.2 Financial Records.** The Treasurer shall maintain accurate books reflecting all of the Association's receipts and expenditures, and shall at least annually prepare a balance sheet reflecting the Association's assets and liabilities on a cash basis.

**13.3 Financial Statements.** By April 1 of each year, the Treasurer shall have arranged for an audit by a regular member of the Association's financial affairs and shall have obtained an audited financial report and statement of assets and liabilities as required by the Animal Pedigree Act. This should normally be published in the summer issue of the newsletter.

**13.4 Use of Funds.** The Association's funds shall be used only for the Association's purposes as set forth in these Bylaws and may not be distributed, directly or indirectly, to the Association's members or Directors except:

- as reimbursement for out of pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the Association and approved by the President.
- to compensate a Member who, at the President's request (based on majority vote

of the Board), performs special services for the Association of the same kind regularly performed by that Member in the course of current or former employment, and at the same rate as in the course of such employment (*e.g.*, a Member who is a certified public accountant may be compensated at that Member's regular hourly rate for auditing the Associations' finances).

No Member shall be compensated for serving as a Director.

**13.5 Inspection.** The Association's articles, bylaws and amendments, minutes of meetings, books and records, bank records and financial statements shall be made available for inspection where they are maintained by the responsible Member or at a location of the Board's choosing, and by any person authorized by the Animal Pedigree Act, upon reasonable notice.

#### **14. Amendment of Articles or Bylaws.**

**14.1 Proposal of Amendments.** An amendment to the Association's articles of incorporation or bylaws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or may be submitted to the Secretary in writing with the signed support of at least five current Members.

**14.2 Membership Vote on Amendments.** Within thirty (30) days after an amendment has been proposed by the Board or submitted by the membership, the Secretary shall distribute the proposed amendment to all current Regular Members along with a mail or electronic ballot for voting on the amendment. The ballots shall specify the deadline by which they must be received in order to be counted, which shall be not less than 30 days from the date of distribution.

**14.3 Adoption of Amendments.** An amendment to the articles of incorporation or the bylaws of the Association shall be adopted only if it is approved by affirmative vote of sixty-seven percent (67%) of the Regular Members voting on such amendment, provided that at least twenty five percent (25%) of the entire Regular Membership shall have so voted.

**14.4 Announcement of Results.** The Secretary shall inform the entire Membership of the results of any such vote within thirty (30) days of the close of balloting via an announcement on the website and/or by email. The Secretary shall maintain official records of all amendments so adopted. The **Secretary** shall promptly make application to the Canadian Minister of Agriculture for the approval of any such amendment, and an affidavit or statutory declaration that it has been adopted with the requisite formality and in accordance with the Animal Pedigree Act and these Bylaws.

#### **15. Membership in Other Organizations**

**15.1 Decision to Become a Member.** The Board may, by majority vote, determine that the Association shall become a member of any other appropriate organization, including but not limited to the FCI, the LM world association (GMI), or the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation, upon determination that its purposes are consistent with the Association's.

**15.2 Voting.** The Association's votes as a member of any other organization shall be cast by the

President or his/her designate, subject to the directions of the Board.

## **16. Powers and Liabilities**

**16.1 Powers of the Association.** The Association may do any act incidental to the carrying out of its business and purposes, including but not limited to (a) anything permitted of an association under the Animal Pedigree Act, (b) acquiring, owning, managing and transferring real and personal property, (c) borrowing money or otherwise incurring debts and liabilities, (d) making, issuing, endorsing and negotiating checks, promissory notes, bills of sale and negotiable instruments, (e) mortgaging, pledging or granting security interests in Association assets, and (f) suing and being sued in its own name.

**16.2 Secretary's Certificate.** Any person may rely upon a certificate of the Secretary certifying that an act of the Association was within the Association's powers and was performed with all requisite formality and authority.

**16.3 Directors' Liabilities.** No Member or Director of the Association shall be personally liable for any act done in good faith in the exercise of that person's powers and duties.

**16.4 Association's Liabilities.** Neither the Association nor any of its Directors shall have any liability to any Member or other person arising from or relating to (a) membership, suspension of membership or expulsion, (b) approval or refusal to approve a proposed breeding, (c) registration of any dog or litter, or refusal to register a dog or litter, or (d) any good faith error or inaccuracy in any certificate, pedigree, performance score or other record or information maintained or communicated by or on behalf of the Association.

## **Appendix A. FCI Breed Standard**

**<http://www.fci.be/Nomenclature/Standards/118g07-en.pdf>**