

Guppy Club of Great Britain.

Constitutional Rules

Introduction

The main word in the name of the group is “Club”. It is intended that the club will be a membership of like-minded specialist guppy keepers. All social negatives - such as arguing, prejudice and bullying - will not be tolerated. Anyone who cannot conform will not be welcomed into the club or remain as a member.

The following is a list of rules and intent.

In this case, rules and regulations will be used to settle disputes, and used as an indication of how members are expected to behave.

By paying a membership fee, each member accepts these rules and the culture of the society without exception.

The Constitution

A General

- 1 This organisation is known as “Guppy Club of Great Britain”, abbreviated to GCOGB.
- 2 The aims of the society are to:
 - I Promote greater friendship and understanding between guppy keepers.
 - II Promote the IKGH Guppy hobby.
 - III Give greater strength to the advancement of the hobby.
 - IV Help other clubs and guppy keepers with guppy breeding.
 - V Help members with guppy breeding.
 - VI Standardise to IKGH (Internationales Kuratorium Guppy Hochzucht, translated to International Board of Trustees Guppy High Breeding) standard.
 - VII Co-ordinate and organise member participation in the European Championship organised by the IKGH.

- 3 The GCOGB will endeavor to arrange a Zoom member meeting approximately every four months (March, July, and November) and include educational activities. Competitions may be included. Meetings are also open to prospective members.
- 4 The affairs of the GCOGB are governed by the chairman and a committee of members.
- 5 GCOGB members are represented within the IKGH by the chairman.
- 6 Rules of showing must be in line with those set out by the IKGH.
- 7 The GCOGB chairman and committee members are not allowed to serve on other UK guppy club committees.
- 8 A GCOGB member registered as an IKGH judge through the GCOGB cannot be registered as a judge to any other club for that show season.
- 9 Anyone involved in shows/competitions, such as helping to set up, must be members of the GCOGB.
- 10 The GCOGB is responsible for establishing a register of members. The fee for registration is recorded.

B Membership

- 11 A person applying for membership must be proposed and seconded by existing GCOGB members. Any unknown prospective member is accepted as a provisional member for 12 months, after which they shall be regarded as a permanent member. If the provisional member proves unworthy, membership can be terminated by the chairman without explanation or refund. Provisional status has no effect on voting rights etc.
- 12 The chairman and committee have the right to refuse any new application for membership.
- 13 Membership must be terminated with a written letter of resignation by the member, or by a vote at a GCOGB Zoom meeting with a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

- 14 Membership fees are paid to the GCOGB from January 1st each year.
- 15 Memberships not renewed by March 1st will be liable to a £5.00 levy. This does not apply to new members joining during their first year.
- 16 Memberships will not be accepted between 31st October and the November AGM Zoom Meeting to allow for the balancing and auditing of society finances.
- 17 All fees are reviewed annually.
- 18 Single membership is £25 per annum. Family membership is £25 per annum (one named member plus one partner and their children up to and including 18 years of age).
- 19 Each paid-up member of the GCOGB has one vote at Zoom meetings. In the case of family membership, only one vote will be accepted.
- 20 Any member of the GCOGB may be a member of another guppy club without prejudice.
- 21 Anyone who takes part in a IKGH show as a GCOGB member cannot show for any other club for that season.

C Disciplinary Procedure

- 22 Allegations must be presented to the chairman in writing by email with all available supporting evidence. The chairman will investigate the matter and invite the accused party to a Zoom meeting held within four weeks of receipt of the allegations. A formal response will be provided within seven days, stating the decision of the meeting.
- 23 A member is given the right to appeal a suspension or ban. The appeal must be received in writing by the chairman within seven days of the suspension or ban occurring. Mitigating circumstances

will be considered by the original panel and a response made within seven days.

D Management

- 24 The GCOGB is managed by the chairman and the committee.
- 25 The term of office for chairman is 4 years.
- 26 Candidate proposals must be received in writing and with a seconder. The proposer and seconder must be paid-up members of the GCOGB. Proposals must be recorded in the minutes.
- 27 Proposals must be received by the chairman two weeks before voting and sent to all members one week before voting.
- 28 The GCOGB committee is elected by members.
- 29 The chairman and committee will be elected at the AGM.
- 30 Voting is won with a simple majority of the responding membership.
- 31 Transferring of votes is not accepted.
- 32 Amendments to the constitution can be proposed. Proposals must be received in writing two weeks prior to the AGM and debated and voted on at the AGM.
- 33 An Extraordinary General Meeting can be called on the signed request of two-thirds of registered members stating the reason for the meeting, but at no less than one months' notice. All signees must attend the meeting, otherwise the meeting will be declared invalid.

E Responsibility of the Chairman

- 34 The chairman receives all information from the IKGH and must distribute it to members.
- 35 The chairman arranges meetings.

- 36 The chairman and committee administer financial resources available for the benefit of the GCOGB Club.
- 37 The chairman presents a summary of receipts and expenditures of the preceding year at the November AGM.
- 38 At the AGM, the chairman will:
 - I Confirm any changes to the IKGH rules.
 - II Confirm GCOGB activities and developments that have occurred since the last meeting.
 - III Give advice for future activities and the development of the GCOGB Club.
- 39 Agenda items for any meeting must be conveyed in writing to the chairman no less than 28 days before the meeting.
- 40 The committee position of treasurer can be used to complete the preparation and administration of accountancy work required. This person must be approved by the membership.

F Financial Warranty of the Guppy Club of Great Britain' Activities

- 41 The GCOGB is a non-profit making organisation. Funds and assets must only be accumulated to enable the continuation of GCOGB and its activities.
- 42 All assets and funds are recorded and reported at the AGM.
- 43 Members pay an annual fee towards GCOGB activities and expenses, which can also be used to accumulate funds to enable future activities and events.

G Excluding Responsibility

- 44 The GCOGB is not responsible for the actions of its members.
- 45 No member of the committee is liable for prosecution for administering the rules of the GCOGB.
- 46 The GCOGB denies any liability for any loss or damage incurred, including injury received, at its events.

H Discontinuation of the Guppy Club of Great Britain.

- 47 If there are less than two paid-up members, the GCOGB will be terminated.
- 48 If the society is terminated, the residual assets will be donated to another aquatic club or a charity.