

Constitutions



Approved at the General Meeting of Members on 1st May 2011

Amended at the AGM on 20th August 2022

Constitutions of the British Mini Rex Club

1. Name:

The Club shall be called the British Mini Rex Club.

2. Objects:

The objects of the Club shall be:

- 2.1 to promote as paramount the welfare of the Mini Rex rabbit and sound husbandry practice.
- 2.2 to promote and encourage the breeding, improvement and exhibition of Mini Rex rabbits.
- 2.3 to assist all persons interested in keeping, breeding and exhibiting rabbits.
- 2.4 to promote such shows or exhibitions as the Committee shall decide.
- 2.5 to promote, protect and advance the interest of all its Members.

3. Affiliation to the British Rabbit Council:

The Club will be affiliated to the British Rabbit Council and all shows will be held under BRC Rules.

4. Membership and Subscriptions:

Membership of the Club shall be open to all persons, no matter where resident, though the Committee may in its absolute discretion refuse any application for membership without assigning a reason therefore. The Club shall consist of Members paying an annual subscription which may only be varied by an Annual (or Extraordinary) General Meeting. Subscriptions are due on 31st January in each year. Any Member resigning from the Club or being suspended from membership or expelled shall forfeit all claims to the property and funds of the Club.

5. The President & Vice-President:

The President & Vice-President are honorary titles. Their main role is to be ambassadors for the Club. The Vice-President is elected for a two-year period followed automatically by a further two-year period as President. The Vice-President is elected by Members at the Annual General Meeting from nominations, which must be received by the Club Administrator at least 21 days prior to the AGM. To be eligible for nomination, all nominees must be paid up members of the Club for at least five consecutive years prior to nomination and be proposed and seconded by two paid up members. Former Presidents are eligible to be re-elected as Vice-Presidents.

6. Management:

The Management of the Club shall be in the hands of the Committee, which including the Officers must not exceed eleven members in total. Five persons

that include three Officers shall form a quorum. The Committee shall have powers to co-op and to fill any vacancy occurring during the year, but should a vacancy occur during the years for which a ballot had been held, the next person on the voting shall be declared elected. All Members of the Committee shall be elected annually by Members at the Annual General Meeting based on nominations which must be received by the Club Administrator at least 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. The newly elected committee appoints from its number those willing and able to take on official roles.

The Officers of the Club shall consist of:

The Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Show Secretary, Clerk, all of which shall be ex-officio members of the Committee. An Officer cannot hold more than one office at any one time, so as to preserve the unique but complimentary character of each role. All Officers and Committee Members shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election. In the event of any Officer or Committee Member being absent from two consecutive meetings, without the consent of the Committee, shall stand down from office. The Committee shall make a recommendation to the AGM for the appointment of an Auditor, who shall be responsible to the AGM for auditing the Accounts annually.

7. The Chair:

The Chair shall lead all meetings apart from the Annual General Meeting, at which they will act as Chairperson in the absence of the President or if the President so requests. The Chair shall have a second or casting vote as well as a deliberative vote. In the absence of the Chair, a Chair shall be elected for that meeting from members present.

8. The Clerk:

The Clerk shall attend and keep correct Minutes of all meetings.

9. The Club Administrator:

The Club Administrator is responsible to the Committee for the administration of the activities of the Club. In the absence of any instruction from the Committee, the Club Administrator shall act in accordance with instructions from the Chair. The Club Administrator shall keep an updated register of Members' names and addresses, a copy of which is to be sent regularly to the Chair.

10. Treasurer:

The Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies of the Club and shall maintain a bank account, for withdrawals from which two signatures, one being that of the Treasurer, will be necessary. A statement of the financial situation of the Club shall be presented to the Committee each quarter. The Treasurer shall prepare (with the co-operation of an Auditor) the balance sheet and an Income

and Expenditure Account, showing the financial status of the Club on the last day of December, by which time the accounts shall have been audited by the appointed Auditor.

11. The Show Committee:

The Club may appoint a Show Committee with responsibility for the running of all shows. The representative of the Show Committee will be the Show Secretary.

12. The Judging Panel:

The 'Judging Panel' is divided into three parts: (1) 'Breeders Panel' and (2) 'Non-Breeders Panel' (each consisting of 15 judges). The Breeders Panel is open to all those who have been accredited by the British Mini Rex Club training scheme. In the event of more than one person being elected 15th on the 'Breeders Panel' or 15th on the 'Non-Breeders Panel', all such judges will be co-opted onto the panel. (3) The 'Senior Breeders Panel' consists of 5 judges who received the highest number of votes on the Breeders Panel and who are also on the 3* BRC Rex Panel. In the event of more than one person being elected 5th on the 'Senior Breeders Panel', all such judges will be co-opted onto the panel. To be eligible for nomination, all nominees must be paid up members of the Club for at least two consecutive years prior to nomination and be proposed and seconded by two paid up members. Ballot nominations are to be sent to an independent adjudicator chosen by the Committee, who is not a member of the Club. Elected Stock Show judges will not be eligible to judge a Stock Show two years in succession. Judges will be elected for twelve months commencing 31st January for the year determined on the ballot.

13. The Ballot:

To ensure that stock shows are evenly distributed, the UK has been divided into FOUR DISTRICTS. In addition to choosing Judges by ballot, members are also to choose venues for stock shows by ballot, according to the relevant regions for that year and from Clubs who have given a written invitation by the time the ballot has been compiled, the date of which is to be made public in the Fur & Feather. In the event that a club cancels hosting a stock show, the committee is able to arrange an alternative venue. From the Judges and stock shows, chosen by the members at ballot, the committee assigns Judges to stock shows, guided by the ballot results and taking into account eligibility, distance and availability. Just remuneration for time and travel expenses will be offered to each Judge that accepts a judging appointment. Any additional Club Events or Seminars may be organised by the committee.

14. Annual General Meeting:

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Summer Seminar so as to facilitate Members' attendance. Whilst the venue and time is to be determined by the Committee, the AGM must take place before the 1st day of September each year. The AGM shall be held in order that Members may:

- 14.1 receive the reports of the Officers and the accounts for the year.
- 14.2 elect Officers for the following year.
- 14.3 add to or alter the Constitutions of the Club.

Any proposals for inclusion on the agenda of the Annual General Meeting must be sent in written form, proposed and seconded by two paid up members and in the hands of the Club Administrator 21 days prior to the AGM. Any nominations for Officers or the Committee must be sent in written form clearly indicating the consent of the nominee and the names of the proposer and seconder, all of whom must be fully paid up members of the club, and in the hands of the Club Administrator 21 days prior to the AGM. An agenda will be distributed in written form at the AGM. The quorum at all General Meetings of Members shall be 15 members. The Constitutions may only be amended at an AGM or EGM with the consent of a majority vote.

15. Extraordinary General Meetings:

An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called by the Club Administrator at the request of the Committee or on the written consent of twenty Members or twenty-five per cent of the membership of the Club, whichever number being the lowest. A minimum of twenty-one days notice shall be given to all Members of the Club with full details of the matters to be discussed and only such matters as are so notified shall be discussed and voted upon.

16. Disciplinary Powers:

The Committee shall have power to deal with minor disciplinary matters, provided always that the defendant is given the fullest opportunity of defending themselves in front of the Committee. All charges of a serious nature will be reported to the BRC Investigation Committee.

17. Dissolution:

The Club may only be dissolved on the agreement of two-thirds of its Members present and voting at an Extraordinary General Meeting especially convened for the purpose. Any existing funds and assets of the Club on the decision of the Extraordinary General Meeting will be either:

- 17.1 sent to the BRC to be held in trust to be delivered to a future rabbit club.
- 17.2 given to a similar club having similar objectives.
- 17.3 divided in equal share amongst the Members.

18. Matters not provided for in the Constitutions:

Any matters not provided for in the Constitutions shall be dealt with by the Committee whose decision shall be final but subject to an appeal to a General Meeting.

