

STATUTES (CONSTITUTION) WORLD UNION OF ST. BERNARD-CLUBS (WUSB)



CHAPTERS I: NAME, RESIDENCE, RESPONSIBILITY

Article 1

An international organization under the name "**World Union of St. Bernard Clubs**" was formed on September, 23 1967 in Luzern (Switzerland) by independent St. Bernard Clubs for an indefinite time. The WUSB can operate in international contact under the following names:

**WELT-UNION der St. Bernhards-Clubs (WUSB)
WORLD-UNION of St. Bernard-Clubs (WUSB)**

The FCI and the WUSB support each other in all areas of cynology and have signed a cooperation agreement in 2023.

Article 2

The domicile of the WUSB is with the President.

Article 3 - Liability

Under WUSB obligations only WUSB assets are laible. A seperate responsibility from connected juristic or natural persons is out of question and in turn the WUSB is not responsible for the delegates' obligations.

CHAPTERS II: AIM

Article 4

The aim of the WUSB is to unite all St Bernard friends under a universal recognized interpretation of the standard (FCI N° 61), to strive together for the purity, the health and the character of the breed and to nurse and improve the friendship of the St. Bernhards-Fanciers.

Article 5

An obtain financial profit is not intended. WUSB-assets shall be deposit in a Bank or Savings Bank.

Article 6

The WUSB can be asked to mediate dissension between member-clubs. It will however recognize the autonomy of the members and cannot interfere from itself in their internal affairs.

Article 7

The aim will be accomplished by:

- a) Cooperation at every level to promote (advance) our breed and its health.
- b) Universal recognition of the Swiss Standard and the correct interpretation of it.
- c) Exchange of judges between the member-clubs.
- d) If possible, a annual international judges meeting with educational lectures from experts, films, photographs, etc...
- e) Drafting of guidelines and recommendations to improve uniformity of the type and the health.
- f) Organization of WUSB-Shows, training courses over breeding and health, exchange of the club-magazines and stud-books, publication of a newsletter and others.
- g) At WUSB-Shows only dogs with pedigrees recognized by the FCI can be shown.

CHAPTER III: MEMBERSHIP

Article 8

Member of the WUSB can be any St. Bernard Club recognized by their national canine organisation. That organization must have been recognized by the FCI.

Clubs, that would not like become a full-member because of the distance or for other reasons, can get an "associated member's" status. They pay the half membership fee.

Membership applications must be done in writing to the secretary and must include:

- a) Club-statutes in the original and in German or English
- b) Name and address of the President and Secretary as well as their telephone numbers and e-mail-addresses
- c) Name, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail-addresses of their delegates.
- d) Number of members of the club.

Alterations must be communicated to the first Secretary at least 2 weeks before the next delegates-meeting.

Admission as a new member will be decided by the delegates-meeting of the WUSB with majority.

Article 9

The member-clubs commit themselves to inform alterations of the statutes, from executive, delegates and similar immediately to the first secretary and to print communications of the WUSB in its club-magazines.

Article 10

The membership begins with the first payment of dues.

The membership will lapse automatically, when the club resolves, no longer belongs to the national canine organization of its country, or when the club is two years behind in paying the WUSB-dues. During the period in which no membership fees have been paid, participation is only possible without voting rights. The Club has to be notified by mail of this approaching termination of membership.

Article 11

Resignation from the WUSB can be done at the end of every calendar year with a consideration of three month notice of termination. The termination has to be sent in written form to the President.

Article 12

Clubs, who violate in a serious way the interest of the WUSB, can be suspended for the time being by 2/3 majority of the Board. If the complaint is not removed, the next delegates-meeting decides in secret vote with 2/3 majority on the final exclusion. Members of the WUSB-board as well as delegates of the concerned club have no right to vote.

Article 13

Clubs, who's membership has lapsed (expired), are not entitled to a refund of dues, donations or any other assets of the WUSB.

CHAPTER IV: DELEGATES MEETING

Article 16

Each member-club has the right to give his view, support and advise to the WUSB on questions regarding the breed and make proposals and motions for the betterment of it. Propositions to the delegates-meeting which require qualified majority have to be put at least 4 months before a meeting so that they can be sent with the invitation (agenda).

Article 14

The delegate-meeting convers the WUSB-shows and makes all decisions in accordance with article 7. It is chaired by the president, when he is hindered by members of the board in the sequence of article 17.

Article 15

The delegates meeting consists of two delegates per member club. Every delegate has one vote. If 2 clubs of a country are member of the WUSB, so the first-club (after the date of entry) has 2 delegates, the second-club 1 delegate. More than 2 clubs from a country cannot be incorporated.

Only delegates who have been notified in writing in advance by the member clubs to the 1st Secretary have the right to vote. If the membership fees for the previous year have not been paid, the delegates do not have the right to vote.

Associate members do not have the right to vote, but have full speaking and motion rights.

Every delegate has the full voting right for the country he represents. The delegate has to be active in the club who he is representing and speaks the language fluently. He is allowed to vote in any case without asking the representing country. All elections and resolutions will be made by a single majority vote except for resolutions which by constitution require a qualified majority vote. In case of a tie the chairman of the meeting will cast a second and deciding vote. A quorum for the meeting will be reached by the attendance of at least half of the **member** clubs.

Article 16

Every member club has the right to submit motions and proposals and to make use of the WUSB for advice and support in matters relating to the promotion of the St. Bernard breed. Motions for the Assembly of Delegates, which require qualified majorities, must be submitted at least 4 months before an Assembly of Delegates so that they can be sent out with the invitation (agenda).

Article 17

Normally the delegates meeting will take place once a year. Special meetings can be called by the board or must be summoned after proposition of 3 member-clubs.

The invitation-period with announcement of the agenda amounts to at least 2 months. In urgent cases the board can ask the **delegates meeting** in written way for decision.

Article 18

A delegate can **be** replaced with another representative of its club, but each country may be represented by no more than the number of voting delegates provided for in Article 15(1). **The representative must be notified to the first Secretary not later than 2 weeks before the Delegates' Meeting.**

Article 19

The delegates meeting can confer by motion the Honorary Membership to a deserving board member, delegate or judge. Voting will be done by a secret ballot and requires a 2/3 majority vote.

The delegates meeting can appoint by motion former WUSB-Presidents to Honorary Presidents. Voting will be done by a secret ballot and requires a 2/3 majority vote. Honorary-Members and Honorary-Presidents can attend the delegates meetings with advisory voice.

CHAPTER V: BOARD

Article 20

Every third year the Delegate Meeting elect the WUSB board. It consists:

- a) President
- b) Vice-President
- c) 1. Secretary (Same language as the president and German)
- d) Treasurer
- e) 2. or 3. Secretary (depends of the language)

Board members cannot be replaced by their clubs during their term of office.

Exception: they are no longer member of their club.

The delegates meeting can also intend spokesmen (Deans) for certain work-areas (for example: breeding, judging).

Article 21

The delegates meeting elects 2 auditors out of their own rows not belonging to the board. They can be supported by a Trust Company. The treasurer audit will be done every three years before the election of the new board. A treasurer's report will be given yearly at the delegates meeting.

Article 22

The Board has the mandate to govern the WUSB as long as the delegates meeting does not adopt and issues other directives. It prepares the delegates meetings and makes its decisions under chairmanship of the president in **personal** meetings or electronically (**by phone, Online**).

It can put in commissions over certain problems, who give their reports to the delegates meeting.

The **1.** secretary keeps the files of the WUSB and writes the minutes.

CHAPTER VI - Final provisions

Article **23 - Club year and annual report**

The club-year is in concurrence with the calendar year. A President's report will be given annual at the delegates meeting.

Article **24 - Contributions**

Over the height of the contributions the delegates meeting decides with 2/3 majority vote. The contributions have to be paid on basis of the membership of the December 31st of the previous year at the latest up to the next delegates meeting.

Article 25 - Constitutional changes and dissolution

Resolutions for constitutional changes must be decided with 2/3, the dissolution of the WUSB must be decided with 3/4 majority vote of the delegates meeting.

After dissolution of the WUSB available assets will be given to a European canine foundation for St Bernard dogs.

Article 26 - WUSB Languages

By the interpretation of the constitution or regulations of the WUSB the German text (or language) is relevant.

Translations into English language must be made, into other languages can be made.

Last change at the delegates' meeting in Němčice (Czech Republic) on 16.05.2025

All former settings of the WUSB-statutes become invalid with it.

For the correctness

Didier Basset

WUSB-President