

# Midlands and Northern Rhodesian Ridgeback Club



## Application for Membership

Please read our Constitution and Code of Ethics (attached)  
I/We hereby apply for Membership of the Midlands & Northern Rhodesian Ridgeback Club and agree to abide by the Constitution, Rules and Code of Ethics of the Club if accepted.

Please note the club reserves the right to refuse applications for membership

**SUBSCRIPTION: £10–Single £12- Joint per annum £15–Family (1 January to 31 December.)**

Please attach cheque payable to the “Midlands and Northern Rhodesian Ridgeback Club” Or if you wish to make a bank transfer the club details are **HSBC Bank plc, Sort Code 40-15-24, Account Code 01065181**  
**Please quote your surname and the word “membership” as a reference**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Tel no \_\_\_\_\_

The Membership List of the Club is held on computer and under Kennel Club Rules must be made available for inspection by the Kennel Club. Signing this form authorises the club to record your name and address in this way and to make it available for inspection by the Kennel Club.

Signature (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\*Proposed by, Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*Seconded by, Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: Miss Gill Lawless, 1 Moss Side Cottage, Smeaton, Bickerstaffe, Loughborough, Leics, LE12 390-R  
Tel: 01695 727295 - Email [secretary@ridgebacks.org.uk](mailto:secretary@ridgebacks.org.uk)

Committee members are always willing to help with any help or questions regarding your Ridgeback.

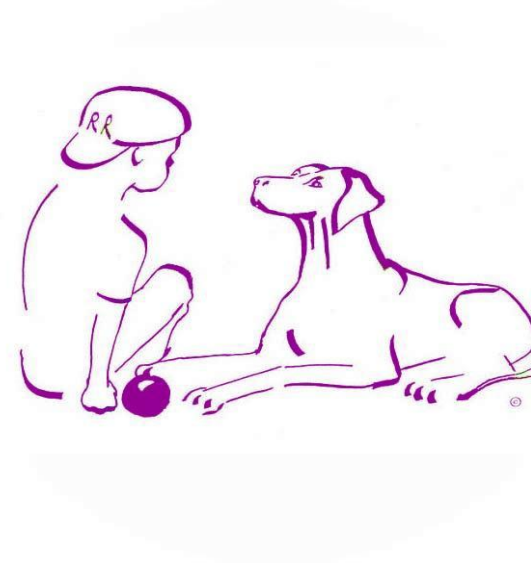
If we can't help we know a person who **can**

Club Newsletters and News sent to all members,

Contact with other Ridgeback Owners through our FB group

Club Seminars on a range of topics,

Annual Club Shows:  
Open Show (Spring),  
**Championship Show (Summer)**  
and a second Charity  
Open Show  
(Autumn/Winter)



Club website

[www.ridgebacks.org.uk](http://www.ridgebacks.org.uk)

## CODE OF ETHICS



All members of the Midlands and Northern Rhodesian Ridgeback Club undertake to abide by its Code of Ethics. **Club members:**

- 1) Will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
- 2) Will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, or who carries out a caesarean section on a bitch, may report such operations to the Kennel Club.
- 3) Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
- 4) Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
- 5) Will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
- 6) Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.
- 7) Will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
- 8) Will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
- 9) Will clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
- 10) Will only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and will help with the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change.
- 11) Will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
- 12) Will ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents at the earliest opportunity, if not immediately available.
- 13) Will not sell any dog to commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. Will not sell by sale or auction Kennel Club registration certificates as standalone items (not accompanying a dog).
- 14) Will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise dogs nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog.
- 15) All Breeding Stock to be X-rayed under the BVA/KC Hip and Elbow Dysplasia Schemes
- 16) A breeder/stud dog owner shall only breed from Kennel Club registered Rhodesian Ridgebacks which conform to the Breed Standard, and are believed to be clear from hereditary defects and any other underlying health conditions, are mentally and physically sound and not suffering from acute nervousness or aggressive tendencies. No dog / bitch should be bred from or used at stud before the Owner has the BVA/KC Certificate or Overseas equivalent from their country of Origin showing the Dog's Hip and Elbow scores. This applies to all Breeding Stock born after 1/01/2017.
- 17) Bitches shall not be mated or have any other form of insemination prior to 2 years of age or produce a litter after her eighth birthday, and shall not be bred from on more than one occasion in any period of twelve calendar months. No bitch shall be expected to produce more than 3 litters or 30 puppies, whichever is produced first, in her lifetime.
- 18) All puppies shall be carefully examined for dermoid sinus by at least two experienced people a few days from birth and at least twice thereafter before leaving for new homes, any puppy discovered to have a sinus before leaving the nest can be operated on and then re-homed with

registration documents at rearing costs only, with a contract that it will be spayed/castrated within a stipulated time period. When a sinus is detected after the puppy has been sold the breeder shall, in consultation with the new owner: a) agree a financial contribution towards the operation to remove the sinus and neuter the puppy OR b) take the puppy back and either reimburse the owner OR undertake, in writing to supply another puppy. In this event, the puppy may be operated upon for the removal of the sinus and neutered. Thereafter it may be retained or re-homed. All new owners shall be made aware of the facts about sinus, its implications for the Breed and how to detect its presence.

- 19) Any puppy sold over the age of 12 weeks shall be inoculated and no puppy shall leave the breeder under the age of 8 weeks old. They shall be accompanied by a certificate of pedigree, diet sheet and details of worming and must be identified by Microchip.
- 20) Any mis-marked puppy shall be described as such and sold as 'not to be shown or bred from'. This shall be reflected in the price. Ridgeless puppies should be re-homed with registration documents, at rearing costs only, with a contract that it will be spayed /castrated within a stipulated time period.
- 21) Puppies shall not be sold through dealers, pet shops, 'trading posts', 'puppy ranches' etc. Ideally, they shall be sold direct to their new homes, every effort having been made to ascertain that the new owners have the facilities, time and commitment to correctly raise, train, exercise and appreciate a large, active but sensitive hound.
- 22) Stud dog owners shall satisfy themselves as to the suitability, breeding and condition of any bitch presented to them and also as to the conditions under which any resultant litter would be reared. If the owner of the bitch is not a member of the Midlands & Northern Rhodesian Ridgeback Club they shall be required to indicate that they will adhere to this Code of Ethics by signing, prior to mating, a copy to be retained by the owner of the stud dog.
- 23) No member shall engage in false or misleading advertising or other falsification of their Rhodesian Ridgebacks, nor shall they malign judges, fellow competitors, breeders or owners by making false or misleading statements about other dogs, member's practices or character.

**RECOMMENDATIONS.** It is recommended that:

- All puppies be sold with Insurance cover.
- Check for Dermoid Sinus are undertaken by at least 2 competent persons i.e. experienced breeders, Veterinary Surgeons with some knowledge of Dermoid Sinus and its detection.
- Bitches should not be bred from for the first time over the age of 4 years.
- No Member shall breed more than 3 litters in any 12 month period.
- All puppies should be endorsed by using the Kennel Club Endorsement system at the time of Registration.
- All breeding stock be health tested for J.M.E., D.M., E.O.A.D. and any other relevant health tests
- Please consider donating to a Breed Club Rescue for each puppy you sell or if your dog is used at stud.

**Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.**

March 2019

## Constitution and Rules



- 1 Name and Objectives.** The Club shall be called “The Midlands and Northern Rhodesian Ridgeback Club” (and hereto referred to as the “Society”) and its objectives shall be to help novice exhibitors and those who show an interest in the breed. To appoint a panel of Judges and guarantee classes at shows, as considered desirable by the Committee. Further to these objectives the Society is for the benefit of its members and will not be classed as a trading business, so that all investment income and profits from any source, from functions and from activities of the Society shall be maintained for the benefit of and further education of its members in the management, training, showing and breeding and in every aspect pertaining to Canines. The Society will abide by the Kennel Club Regulations.
- 2 The Committee** shall consist of the following 7 elected Officers of the Society, Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, President, Vice Presidents, Vice Chair and a Committee consisting of up to **8** members. The Committee should not consist of more than 15 members in total. All Committee posts will be elected on a three yearly, basis and the current holder of the post will be eligible to stand for re-election. This will be done at the Annual General Meeting of the Society (AGM), by balloting the members present by secret ballot. Hon. Life Presidents will be entitled to attend and vote at committee meetings. Nominations for election to the Committee must reach the Secretary at least 21 clear days before the AGM and they should be signed by the proposed person to signify willingness to serve if elected, together with the signatures of the Proposer and Seconder who should be members of at least three years standing. Only in the event of there being insufficient nominees to fill the vacancies may propositions be taken from the floor of the meeting. Postal votes or proxy votes will not be accepted
- 3 Management.** The Management of the Society shall be in the hands of a Committee. The elected Committee members must be fully paid up members of the Society by the date of the AGM, for at least three consecutive years before becoming eligible for election. All Committee vacancies will be filled at the Annual General Meeting excepting that the Committee shall have power to fill any vacancies by co-opting up to 3 Members to serve for the unexpired part of the year. In the event of an elected member of the committee being absent from three consecutive meetings without apology the committee shall have the power to declare the seat vacant. To avoid any conflict of interest, serving committee members of this Society’s Committee may not serve on any other Rhodesian Ridgeback Club Committee, nor may they stand for election for another RR Club Committee within a period of 12 clear months. Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as is deemed necessary and five Members shall form a quorum for the transaction of business
- 4 Presidents and Vice Presidents.** The Presidency and Vice-Presidencies shall be conferred as Honours on persons who in the opinion of the Committee have rendered outstanding service to the Society. Vice-Presidents will not normally attend Committee Meetings and will not have voting powers unless they are elected Members thereof.
- 5 Membership** Candidates for Membership of the Society shall be proposed by one Member, seconded by another and elected by a Committee majority, (two negatives shall exclude).
- Membership elections shall be by ballot if so requested by any Committee Member. Each member shall be entitled to one vote after one full years, membership from 1 Jan to 31 December Joint membership, one vote each member of the partnership. Upon application to the Society the applicant shall be notified accordingly by the Secretary in writing and will be supplied with a copy of the Constitution and Rules and Code of Ethics. New members names to be published in following Newsletter. The minimum single age for membership shall be 18 years. Family membership is available to families consisting of no more than four members from the same household of which one must be an adult The minimum age carrying voting rights is 18 years.. An up to date list of members and their addresses, and those of branch members where appropriate, must be maintained and, if so requested, made available for inspection by the Kennel Club and members of the society. Life Membership can be conferred on a fully paid up Member at the discretion of the Committee and ratified at the A.G.M. A declaration of the numbers of members of the Society must be made with Annual returns. The records of member’s details will be kept in one safe location. These records will only be available to those who have a justified Society reason for their use. No one else will have access to the records (in accordance with the Data Protection Act).
- 6. Society Property.** The Property of the Society shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Society ceasing to exist, a Special General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the Society’s assets and the outcome of the meeting be notified to the Kennel Club. Trophies presented become the property of the Society for maintenance and safekeeping. Only fully paid up Members of a minimum of six months will be presented a trophy to keep for the year. Any person who receives a Society Trophy shall be responsible for its safety and will return it when requested, clean and in the same condition as when presented. Some of the trophies have significant value, if a trophy is lost or damaged the Society has the right to claim a replacement charge from the Member who had the loss or damage. Trophies not returned at the requested time will preclude the Member from receiving future M and NRR Club Trophies. Any Member of this Society who is proved to be in breach of the Society’s Code of Ethics shall not be eligible to receive Society trophies, including “The Cecily Hick Memorial Trophy” aka, “The Owlsmoor Trophy” and the Rosie Bates Memorial Trophy aka “The Gunthwaite Trophy” jointly presented by the “Midlands and Northern Rhodesian Ridgeback Club” and “The Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of Great Britain”
- 7. Club Accounts.** The main Club Banking Account shall be held in the name of the “Midlands and Northern Rhodesian Ridgeback Club” at such bank as the Committee may by resolution from time to time direct and into which all revenue of the Society shall be paid. Withdrawals shall only be made on the signatures of any two of the following Officers being the Treasurer, the Secretary and Vice Chair. The Merchandising Bank account shall be held in the name of the “Midlands and Northern Rhodesian Ridgeback Club” at such bank as the Committee may by resolution from time to time direct and into which all the merchandising revenue of the Society shall be paid. Withdrawals from this account shall only be made on the signatures of any two Officers being the Treasurer and the Chairman and Vice Presidents. The accounts shall be kept by the Treasurer, certified annually and presented to the members at the AGM. Certification of accounts will be carried out by one qualified accountant or two unqualified individuals with accountancy experience. Those undertaking the certification must be independent from those who prepared the accounts.
- 8. Subscriptions.** The Annual Subscription for Membership shall be determined by the membership at the AGM and payable to the Treasurer on 1 January each year. No Member will be entitled to vote at the AGM if their subscription is not paid by 1 February (Postmark). No Member whose

subscription is unpaid shall be entitled to any of the privileges of Membership and if any Member fails to pay the Annual Subscription by 1 February the Committee shall have the power to erase his/her name from the list of Members. If the Committee shall subsequently receive a satisfactory explanation, the Member may, at the discretion of the Committee and on payment of arrears, be re-admitted to Membership.

**9 Expulsion of Members.** Any Member who shall be disqualified under The Kennel Club Rule A11 . j. (5) and/or Kennel Club Rule A11 . j. (9) shall ipso facto cease to be a Member of the Society. If the conduct of any Member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Society be injurious or likely to be injurious, to the character or interests of the Society, the Committee of the Society may, at a meeting the notice convening which includes as an object the consideration of the conduct of the Member, determine that a Special General Meeting shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her. Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused Member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and hour of the Meeting that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at the Meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by a two thirds majority of the members present and voting, his/her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of Members, and he/she shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a Member of the Society except that he/she may within two calendar months from the date of such meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose. If the Society expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, Dog Shows, Trials or Competitions, the Society must report the matter in writing to the Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.

**10 Financial Year.** The Financial Year of the Society shall be from 1 January to 31 December.

**11 The Annual General Meeting.** Shall be held on the last Sunday in February to conduct the following business.

(a) To receive the report of the Committee and Balance Sheet, a copy of the annual statement of accounts to be made available on request to members 14 days prior to the AGM. Additionally, the annual statement of accounts will be available for inspection by members at the AGM. To elect Committee members and to discuss any resolution duly placed on the Agenda of which prior notice has been given to the Secretary. No business shall be transacted at an AGM unless notice thereof appears on the Agenda, with exception of routine matters or those, which in the opinion of the Chair of the Meeting are urgent.

(b) Members will receive notice of such meetings in writing (by letter or electronically). Members shall receive 42 days, notice in writing (by letter or electronically) of the AGM. No member save with the consent of the Chairman of the meeting, may bring any matter before the meeting unless they have given notice of motion in writing (by letter or electronically) to the Secretary in respect of such matter not less than 35 days prior to the meeting. The agenda of business shall be dispatched to members (by letter or electronically) 14 days prior to the meeting, although points for discussion may be received up to 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Quorum at General Meetings, the meeting may proceed to business if 18 members are present within half an hour after the time fixed for the meeting. If there be no quorum present within one hour of the appointed time the meeting shall be cancelled and reconvened at a time and place to be notified within the next 28 days. Voting at General Meetings. Each member present shall be entitled to one vote on each motion, except the Chair of the meeting who shall have a casting vote

only. Only fully paid up members of the Society can attend the AGM or Special General Meeting unless by invitation of the Committee through the Chair.

**12 Special General Meeting.** Shall be summoned by the Secretary if ten members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special Meeting to do so. No business other than that detailed on the Agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting. The Committee is empowered to call a Special General Meeting at its' direction. Members shall receive twenty-one days, notice of such a meeting in writing (by letter or electronically)

**13 Amendments to rules.** The Rules of the Society may not be altered except at a General Meeting. Notice of which includes details of the proposal to amend the Rules. Any proposed alteration to the rules may not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has been advised and approved the alteration. New rules or amendments introduced to meet Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately

**14 Annual Returns to the Kennel Club.** The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by Direct Debit, for the continuance of registration and that by 31st July each year, other returns, as stipulated in Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities, will be forwarded to the Kennel Club. The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any change of Secretary of the Society which may occur during the course of the year.

**15 Kennel Club.** The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the Rules and Regulations of the Society in all cases relative to Canine or Society matters.

**16 The Midlands and Northern Rhodesian Ridgeback Club** shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.

**17 No person** whilst an un-discharged bankrupt may serve on the Committee of or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society.

**18 A list of Judges** shall be produced each year and submitted to the Kennel Club as part of the Annual Returns. the purpose of which is to indicate to interested parties those persons the Society would support at differing levels of judging. Membership of the Society is not a prerequisite for inclusion in the lists. The Judges List is divided into parts namely, A1, A2, A3, B & C and indicates the expiry date. The Criteria will be in accordance with Kennel Club rules and directives. The list shall be prepared by secret ballot of the Committee.

**March 2019**