



# Constitution of The Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain

Last updates as agreed at AGM:

Constitution: AGM 2022

Code of Ethics: AGM 2018

**Working Rally Rules: AGM 2023**

## **1.0 Name and objectives of the Club**

1.1 The Club shall be called THE SIBERIAN HUSKY CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN.

1.2 The objectives of the Club shall be:

To promote the National Interests of the Siberian Husky as a pedigree breed and to develop constructive breed programmes according to the Club Breed Standard.

To promote regular breed activities and encourage working ability.

To promote an available source of advice on the Breed of a general nature for the assistance of members and for the promotion of good public relations.

To promote a Code of Ethics for the protection of the Siberian Husky.

To promote a set of Working Rally Rules for the protection of the breed and the sport.

## **2.0 Officers and Committee**

2.1 The Club shall consist of a President and Vice Presidents (each without Committee Voting Rights) an Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer (each with Committee Voting Rights) together with a Committee of not more than eight Members (who shall elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from within their number each year) and an unlimited number of Members each with full voting rights and an unlimited number of Junior Members, without voting rights.

2.2 The Committee shall appoint the following positions each year:

2.2.1 A Member(s) of the Club shall act as the Membership Secretary(ies) who shall maintain a register of all names and addresses of the Membership with telephone numbers where available. This list shall be issued to the Membership annually to provide a means of National communication.

2.2.2 A Member(s) of the Club shall act as Cup Steward(s), responsible for keeping a check on the whereabouts of each Club Trophy and ensuring the availability of such trophies at functions where required.

2.2.3 A Member(s) of the Club shall act as Merchandise Officer(s), responsible for the stock and sale of Club Merchandise and ensuring availability at functions as and when required.

2.2.4 A Member(s) of the Club will act as Editor(s) of the Club's Magazine 'The Siberian Husky' to be responsible to the Committee in all matters.

2.2.5 A Member(s) of the Club will act as Breed Historian(s) and maintain accurate records of breed activities, pedigree files and medical information of a veterinary nature. Such information may

be made available to any Member upon request and shall remain the property of the Club. The Committee shall periodically review the role of the Breed Historian (s).

2.2.6 A Member of the Club shall act as Welfare Secretary who will administer the Club's Welfare Scheme.

2.2.7 No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee or hold any other office or appointment within the Club.

### **3.0 Committee Procedures**

3.1 The management of the Club shall be in the hands of the Officers of the Club and the elected Committee.

3.2 Committee Meetings shall be held as often as is deemed necessary and not less than four times per year. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, the Members present shall elect a person to chair the Meeting.

3.3 50% of the elected Committee, with full voting rights, shall form a quorum. Committee Members must attend 50% of the scheduled Meetings each year, unless they have a valid reason for absence, otherwise their position will be considered void, but they may re-stand for election.

3.4 It is not the practice that the Chairman of the Committee shall have a casting vote, although the person chairing General Meetings shall have a deliberate and casting vote, if necessary.

3.5 The Committee shall have the power to co-opt no more than two additional Members in any one year. Co-opted Members shall retire at the next election, but shall be eligible to stand for election as Committee Members in the agreed manner.

3.6 The Committee shall have the power to form Sub-Committees to deal with special projects.

3.7 The Secretary shall keep Minutes of all business transacted at official Committee Meetings.

3.8 Items for Committee Meeting Agenda must be received by the Secretary not later than twenty one days prior to the Meeting. Notices convening such Meetings with an Agenda shall be issued by the Secretary to Committee Members at least fourteen days prior to each Meeting.

3.9 Any Officer or Committee Member who has resigned shall immediately return all papers required by the Committee to the Secretary.

## **4.0 Membership**

### 4.1 Membership shall be defined as:

Full Membership with voting rights -for those over the age of 18 or 16 when wishing to compete in Working Rally Adult Classes.

Junior Membership without voting rights – for those up to the age of 18.

Candidates for Membership shall be proposed by one existing fully paid up Member and accepted on payment of subscription and approval of the Committee.

### 4.2 All applicants for Membership shall be in writing on the form prescribed by the Committee.

### 4.3 The Committee shall have the power to confer Honorary Membership at their discretion and nominate candidates for the posts of President and Vice Presidents, providing there is a clear two thirds majority of the Committee present and voting in favour. Such positions shall only be granted to persons who have made an outstanding contribution to the Breed. Suggestions of suitable candidates may be made at an Annual General Meeting.

### 4.4 The Society must maintain an up to date list of Members and their addresses, and this must be made available for inspection if so requested by the Members of the Society or by The Kennel Club

## **5.0 Voting Rights and Election Procedures**

### 5.1 Following their election, the Secretary and Treasurer shall retire annually. The President, Vice President and Committee members shall serve for a period of three years following election. All shall be eligible for re-election provided they are nominated in the normal manner.

### 5.2 Full Members of the Club shall receive a ballot paper for Committee Members, Hon. Treasurer and Secretary, President and Vice Presidents as appropriate issued with the Winter's edition of the Club Magazine or during January of each year, indicating how many votes are required with details of each nominee. The ballot form shall be marked up and returned to the address stipulated by the sixteenth of February. Joint Memberships shall receive two ballot papers, Single Members one and in the case of Junior Membership there shall be no vote. Results of such ballots shall be announced by the Secretary at the Annual General Meeting. A brief synopsis detailing the background of all nominated persons shall be provided at the same time for circulation to the Membership.

### 5.3 Committee nominations must be received by the Secretary not later than the end of each October prior to the date for the next Annual General Meeting.

- 5.4 Each Officer and Member of the Committee shall be elected by the Membership by a majority vote by a postal ballot after nomination in writing, signed by two separate paid up Members of the Club, this to be supported in writing by the consent of the Nominee. If the number of candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies, a ballot will not be held.
- 5.5 Any fully subscribed Member of the Club who has been a Member for more than two years shall be eligible for election as an Officer or member of the Committee.

## **6.0 Club Property**

- 6.1 The Property of the Club shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Club ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the Club's Assets and the outcome of the meeting notified to the Kennel Club.
- 6.2 Trophies shall be offered for competition not less than once a year. The winner of any trophy shall give security for its safety. Should any trophy be returned in a damaged condition, the expense of the repair shall be the liability of the member concerned - this does not, however, include fair wear and tear.
- 6.3 Trophies owned by the Club shall at all items be kept fully insured.

## **7.0 Finance and Subscriptions**

- 7.1 The Subscriptions to the Club shall be due on the 1st of January of each year and be such sum as the Members in a General Meeting may determine from time to time and notified to the Kennel Club. New members paying for the first time after 1st October shall have their membership extended to cover the following year. Rates: £30.00 Joint, £20:00 Single; £2.50 Junior plus £5.00 initial Joining Fee.
- 7.2 No Member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any of the privileges of Membership and if the Member shall fail to pay outstanding subscriptions by 1st April their name shall be automatically erased from the register. Acceptance back on the register will be dependent upon a new application and payment of back arrears.
- 7.3 Members over 16 but under the age of 18 will be required to pay full Membership fees if intending to compete in the main classes of Club Working Rallies. Otherwise Junior Membership will apply.
- 7.4 Banking accounts shall be held in the name of the Society into which all revenue of the Society shall be paid and from which withdrawal shall only be made on the signature of two of the following Officers: The Treasurer, The Secretary or The Chairman of the Committee.
- 7.5 Money may be transferred to an account to accrue interest in the name of the Club at the discretion of the Treasurer and Committee.
- 7.6 The Financial Year of the Club shall commence on 1st of January and end of 31st December in each year.

- 7.7 No Officer or Member of the Club shall incur any liability, financial or otherwise, on behalf of the Club without the written authority of the Committee.
- 7.8 The Committee shall conduct the affairs of the Club, but may not incur financial liability beyond the funds of the Club.
- 7.9 The Treasurer shall keep and maintain an accurate system of accounts showing a complete record of all income and expenditure, the assets and liabilities of the Club. They shall, at the end of each Financial Year provide a Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account for that year, detailing each separate event and function to show those providing a profit or loss.
- 7.10 The Treasurer shall also provide a Quarterly Report of the Club's Financial Position to the Committee as a fixed item on the Agenda for each Committee Meeting.
- 7.11 Anyone organising an event on behalf of the SHC must be accountable to the Treasurer for producing Income and Expenditure Sheets, complete with all necessary receipts, within 4 (four) weeks, unless otherwise agreed with the Treasurer.
- 7.12 Anyone holding cheques/postal orders on behalf of the SHC of GB which are allowed to pass out of date (ie. over six months old) will be liable to the Club for the lost monies.
- 7.13 The Accounts and Balance Sheets of the Club shall be certified annually by one Qualified Accountant or two unqualified individuals with accounting experience and presented to the Members at the Annual General Meeting. Copies shall be circulated with the AGM Minutes.

## **8.0 Expulsion of Members**

- 8.1 Any Member who shall be disqualified under 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.
- 8.2 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 of the Society shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her.
- 8.3 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 condition as the Kennel Club may impose.
- 8.4 If any Member is expelled by the Club for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, Dog Shows, Trials or Competitions, the Club will report the matter in writing to The Kennel Club within seven days, supplying any particulars required.

## **9.0 General Meetings**

9.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held within the Month of April of each year and each Member shall receive in writing either through e-mail, or by post (where this has been indicated as a preference when applying for or renewing membership), Notice at least 42 days prior as to the time and place of the Meeting. An Agenda will be issued to each Member at least 14 days prior to the scheduled date of the Meeting.

9.2 Items for inclusion on the AGM Agenda must be submitted to the Secretary 28 days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.

9.3 At the Annual General Meeting the following business only may be transacted:-

Chairman of the Committee's Report

Treasurer's Report, with duly certified Balance Sheet of the previous Year's Accounts. (This must be made available to Members at least 14 days prior to the AGM.)

To elect the Club's Auditors (Those undertaking the certification must be independent from those who prepared the accounts.)

To receive the results of the Elections held for the positions of Officers and Committee Members.

To discuss any item (which must be notified to the Secretary at least 28 days prior to the Meeting)

The Welfare Secretary's Report

The Breed Historian's Report

Reports of the Working Rally Organisers

Any Other Business - which in the opinion of the Chairman of the Meeting is urgent and can be dealt with immediately.

9.4 A Special Meeting shall be convened by the Honorary Secretary if 10% of the Members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so. The Committee of the Society is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting.

9.5 Notice convening the Meeting shall be issued by the Secretary within 21 days of receipt of such a request, giving Members at least 14 days notice of the time and place of the Meeting and the subject to be discussed, by post.

9.6 No business other than that detailed on the Agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting.

## **10.0 Amendments to Rules**

10.1 The Rules of the Club may not be altered except at a General Meeting, the Agenda for which contains specific proposals to amend the Rules.

10.2 Any proposed alteration to the Rules may not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has been advised and approved the alteration.

## **11.0 Annual Returns**

- 11.1 The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary (or by direct debit) for continuance of Registration and that by 31st July each year other Returns, as stipulated in the Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural and Municipal Authorities be forwarded to the kennel Club.
- 11.2 The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary of the Society which may occur during the course of the year.

## **12.0 Kennel Club Final Court of Appeal**

- 12.1 The Kennel Club shall be the final Court of Appeal in all matters of interpreting the Rules and Regulations of the Society in all cases relative to Canine or Society matters..
- 12.2 The Society shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs.

## **13.0 Dissolution**

- 13.1 The dissolution of the Club may be determined in the following manner, viz: On the unanimous recommendation of the Committee, or on the requisition of not less than one third of the members of the Club. A Special General Meeting shall be called by the Secretary in writing giving not less than 21 days notice of the date and purpose of the Meeting and such dissolution shall be effective only when decided upon a resolution carried by a majority of not less than two thirds of the Members present and voting at the Meeting.
- 13.2 On dissolution, the assets shall be realised and the funds of the Club remaining after the liquidation of all its just liabilities shall be divided between the paid-up Members of the Club at the date of dissolution.
- 13.3 Following the dissolution, a final audited statement of Accounts with a record of the disposal of the Club's Assets shall be forwarded within six months to the Kennel Club. The persons named as Officers and Committee of the Club on the last return forwarded to the Kennel Club will be held responsible by The Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the Club.



## **14.0 Judges List**

- 14.1 The Committee shall produce and maintain a list of judges it deems competent and willing to officiate at any shows requiring a Judge for the Breed. It will continue to do this through the transition to the Judges Education Programme. These lists will expire and then be reviewed annually by the Committee and form part of the Annual Returns to the Kennel Club. The criteria for inclusion in such a list and its method of compilation shall be determined by the Committee. Judges on these lists must abide by the SHCGB Code of Ethics in all activities involving the breed. Factors such as judging etiquette, write-ups, ethical standing, exhibitors' comments, etc., will also be taken into account when the Committee reviews judging lists.

Failure to produce a written critique for the first two placings in each class and dispatch these to the weekly United Kingdom canine journal, for Championship Shows and Open Breed Club Shows, will be reported to the Kennel Club.

- 14.2 Judges Lists will be divided into parts namely: A1, A2, A3, B and C.
- 14.3 In addition to these lists, the Club will hold a record of persons willing to take on new appointments who do not as yet fulfil the B List requirements to judge the Breed, but have attended Club educational programmes(s) within the preceding three years.
- 14.4 Any Member of the Club may nominate a persons for inclusion on any of these lists provided they meet the defined criteria. Such nomination must be by letter to the Secretary, supported by a Seconder and the consent of the nominee, both to be in writing. The Secretary shall, as soon as practicable, refer the nomination to the Committee for action at their next review. The Committee shall either approve or reject the nomination. The nominee and nominator will be advised accordingly.
- 14.5 Judges requiring upgrading to a higher limit must complete a form detailing their current experience for review. Those Breed Specialists requesting upgrading must have acted as Ring Steward at at least one Club Show.
- 14.6 It is important that Judges nominated have sustained credibility in the Breed. Therefore, the following criteria shall apply:

**A.1 List** - for persons who have previously been approved by The Kennel Club to award Challenge Certificates in the breed and have completed their first appointment. To have the support of The Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain.

**A.2 List** - for persons who fulfil all the requirements for the A.3 List and who have been assessed in accordance with The Kennel Club's requirements and are accepted by the Kennel Club for inclusion on an A.2 List and have the support of The Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain.

**A.3 List - BREED SPECIALISTS:**

- 1) To have a minimum of seven years' judging experience in the breed and have the support of The Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain.
- 2) To have judged at one Club Show or one General Championship Show where Challenge Certificates were not on offer for the Breed.
- 3) To have judged the breed at a minimum of five Open Shows with an adequate geographical spread.
- 4) To have judged the breed at a minimum of thirty classes in this breed.
- 5) To have judged a minimum of 70 dogs.
- 6) To have owned the breed for a minimum of seven years and bred and/or owned a minimum of three dogs when they obtained their first entry in The Kennel Club Stud Book (save in exceptional circumstances).
- 7) To have attended at least one breed specific seminar run in accordance with the relevant KC Code of Best Practice and passed an examination and/or assessment where applicable.
- 8) To have attended a seminar given by a KC accredited trainer and passed the relevant examination on KC Regulations and Judging Procedures (Requirements of A Dog Show Judge).
- 9) To have attended a seminar given by a KC accredited trainer on conformation and movement.
- 10) To have attended and passed a Hands-on Assessment (Points of A Dog Assessment) delivered by a Kennel Club Accredited Trainer and passed the Assessment.
- 11) To have stewarded at twelve shows.

**A3 List - NON-SPECIALISTS:**

- 1) Minimum of seven years' judging experience in any one breed (to include five years in this breed) and have the support of The Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain.
- 2) To have judged the Breed at a minimum of five Open or Championship Shows without Challenge Certificates with an adequate geographical spread.
- 3) To have judged the breed at a minimum of thirty classes in this breed.
- 4) To have judged a minimum of 70 dogs in this breed.
- 5) To have awarded Challenge Certificates in at least one other breed.
- 6) To have attended at least one breed specific seminar run in accordance with the relevant KC Code of Best Practice and passed an examination and/or assessment where applicable.
- 7) To have stewarded for a minimum period of three years and at twelve shows.
- 8) To have bred and/or owned a minimum of three dogs of any breed when they obtained their first entry in The Kennel Club Stud Book (save in exceptional circumstances).

#### **14.6 B List - BREED SPECIALISTS:**

- 1) To have a minimum of three years experience owning and exhibiting in this breed and have the support of The Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain.
- 2) To have judged a minimum of 14 dogs of this breed. Experience and achievement in the breed will be taken into consideration.
- 3) To have acted as Ring Steward at, at least one Club Show.
- 4) To have attended a Breed Judging Seminar within the last three years at which their knowledge of basic anatomy and the Breed Standard was appraised.

#### **B List - NON-SPECIALISTS:**

- 1) To have judged a minimum of 14 dogs at at least five separate shows.
- 2) To have attended a Breed Club Seminar within the last three years at which their knowledge of basic anatomy and the Breed Standard was appraised.

#### **C List -**

- 1) For aspirant judges who have shown an interest in the breed and have the support of The SHCGB.
- 2) Includes persons who have judged the breed at Limited AND Open Shows but do not yet qualify for the B Lists.
- 3) Applicants should have attended a Club Educational event within the preceding three years.
- 4) Breed Specialists should have owned the Breed for a minimum of three years

#### **14.7 Judges Education Programme**

For judges wishing to use the Judges Education Programme (JEP) route, please check the current KC requirements to judge for the various levels on the Kennel Club website (the kennelclub.org.uk).

The following criteria will apply for the old style judges list during the old system/JEP 5 year transition period:

- (i) Anyone who has attended an old style breed seminar or breed appreciation day and has sat and passed the breed standard multiple choice exam (MCE), unless exempt, and fulfils the KC criteria for Level 2 shall be added to the B list if supported by the SHCGB
- (ii) The minimum number of dogs required for Level 3 for those following the new JEP shall be as indicated in the current Kennel Club criteria.

## **15.0 Welfare Scheme**

- 15.1 The Club shall be responsible for a Welfare Scheme in accordance with its published Terms of Reference.
- 15.2 Siberian Huskies will be housed at the expense of the Club and re-homed at the discretion of the Welfare Secretary and the Committee of the Club.
- 15.3 Financial records will be held in the name of the Welfare Fund and an account of income and expenditure reported with the Annual Club Reports.
- 15.4. Dogs will be held in foster care and approved kennels countrywide.
- 15.5 Dogs will be re-homed without registration papers, but identified Kennel Club registered stock will be issued a Club Welfare Number for use at Club sponsored events.
- 15.6 Welfare dogs may be spayed/castrated at the discretion of the Welfare Secretary and Committee. The Welfare Secretary and Committee may also implement death by euthanasia on agreed dogs, if considered appropriate.
- 15.7 The Welfare Scheme will be funded by donations and voluntary contribution from members and participants. A contribution of £1 from each subscription will be transferred to welfare funds.
- 15.8. All Club Members acting on behalf of the Welfare Scheme do so without any personal powers or rights over the dogs whilst in their care, either as foster homes or whilst transporting dogs at Welfare's request.

## **16.0 Agreement**

- 16.1 The payment of Membership Subscription shall be an implied agreement on the part of a Club Member to abide by the Constitution and Code of Ethics of the Club.

**Constitution Amendment Details**

AGM Date	Change
03/04/21 (2020 AGM)	Update to section 7.1 to include update to membership fees. Joint from £35 to £30 and Single from £30 to £20
03/04/21 (2021 AGM)	Update to section 7.11 to include requirement for all required items to be with the Treasurer within 4 weeks, unless by prior agreement.
03/04/21 (2021 AGM)	Contribution from subscriptions to welfare reduced from £2 to £1. Detail added to Section 15.7
03/04/21 (2021 AGM)	Section 14.6 updated as follows: A3 breed specialist – number of dogs required increased from 110 dogs to 120 dogs A3 non breed-specialist – number of dogs required increased from 110 dogs to 120 dogs B list breed specialist – number of dogs required decreased 30 dogs 24 dogs B list non breed specialist – number of dogs required decreased from 40 to 24 dogs KC Seminar in A list part 8 updated to Requirements of A Dog Show Judge in line with current KC nomenclature. KC Seminar in A list part 10 updated to Points of A Dog Assessment in line with current KC nomenclature.
03/04/21 (2021 AGM)	Section 14.7 added to cover Judges Education Programme.
09/04/22 (2022 AGM)	A3 breed specialist – number of dogs required decreased from 120 dogs to 70 dogs A3 non breed-specialist – number of dogs required decreased from 120 dogs to 70 dogs B list breed specialist – number of dogs required decreased 24 dogs 14 dogs B list non breed specialist – number of dogs required decreased from 24 to 14 dogs



# Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain

## Code of Ethics

(Last Revised 2018)

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All members of the Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain undertake to abide by its General 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 operation 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 stand alone 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) Will follow the Rules of Good Sportsmanship in all Siberian Husky Competition and activities.
- 16) Will fully explain to all prospective Siberian Husky purchasers the disadvantages as well as the advantages of owning this breed.
- 17) Will attempt to help and befriend novice exhibitors and breeders.
- 18) Will endeavour to keep informed in the field of genetics and will work persistently to eliminate any hereditary defects from this breed.
- 19) Will before entering into any Breeding Agreement carefully analyse the conformation and pedigrees of the prospective sire and dam, take into consideration any known hereditary or genetic defects and, keeping the Breed Standard in mind, refuse the mating if, in their opinion, it will not be in the best interests of the Breed. If they deny a Stud Service they will fully explain their reasons to the owner of the bitch.
- 20) Will undertake to screen dogs prior to mating as follows:
  - a. Eye tested for hereditary cataracts (HC), primary glaucoma (PG), PPM and any other eye defects that should become included within Schedule A or B of the BVA/KC/ISDS eye scheme. A current annual eye certificate must be held prior to mating (i.e.: the test must have been conducted no more than 12 months prior to the date of mating.)
  - b. Examined for the control of Hip Dysplasia under the BVA/KC scheme for UK KC registered dogs. Non UK bred dogs must be examined under the approved relevant scheme in the country of residence or, if imported to the UK, should be tested under the BVA/KC scheme if not already tested in the country of origin.
  - c. Copies of the results should be made available to the Breed Health Secretary and these may be made publicly available.
- 21) Will not breed from dogs affected by Hereditary Cataracts, or with a Primary Glaucoma gonioscopy (PLA) grading of Grade 3 (severely affected), or, where identified PRA and will endeavour to ensure that all puppies produced through their breeding will be tested as identified in Item 20 before they are bred from. If another hereditary problem occurs in their bloodlines, they will be honest and open about it to ensure that it is not knowingly perpetuated in the Breed.
- 22) Member Breeders will accept full responsibility for all puppies they have bred. They will always take back, or provide for, any dog of their breeding which needs a new home until they find an alternative suitable home. In the event a breeder is unable to fulfil their duties then the stud dog owner should assist before an outside agency is approached.

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.

# Working Rally Rules



## **1.0 Pre Rally Procedure**

### **1.1 The Course**

1.1.1 The course shall be clearly marked out with sufficient highly visible markers.

1.1.2 Minimum dimension for markers is 25 cm. (10") across, which must display only ONE colour and function with optional white borders.

1.1.3 Class number or letter may be indicated on the markers:

1.1.4 Right Turn: Red marker on right, preferably 7.5 – 15.0 m. (25 – 50 ft.) before turn.

Left Turn: Red marker on left, preferably 7.5 – 15.0 m. (25 – 50 ft.) before turn.

Straight on: Blue marker.

Caution: Yellow marker. Where trail conditions require special attention by the Driver, such conditions may be marked with a Yellow marker.

Night Rally Markers: Will be reflective.

1.1.5 The end of the Starting Chute Area will be clearly marked, approximately 45 m. (50 yds.) from the Start Line.

1.1.6 The 'No Right of Way' Zone will be clearly marked on the run in to the Finish and within 800 m. (0.5 ml.) of the Finish Line.

1.1.7 The course should be of suitable surface, avoiding, where possible, such surfaces as concrete, tarmac, sharp gravel or other material likely to damage the feet of the dogs, except at necessary road crossings.

## **1.2 Eligibility of Dogs, Drivers and Passengers**

1.2.1 Driver and Owner(s) of a team must be fully paid up Members of the Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain (SHC) at the time of the Event.

1.2.2 The Rally Organiser may reject any entries submitted, but must give a valid reason for this action.



- 1.2.3 No dog, equipment or clothing shall be brought from a kennel where any contagious disease exists or has existed within the previous three weeks. Any breach of this Rule will result in disqualification and immediate removal from the Event Site.
- 1.2.4 No dog may be replaced during the period of a rally. In a rally of more than one heat, dogs may be marked by the Rally Organiser for the purposes of identification.
- 1.2.5 Any team, dog or driver coming to the Event being, in the opinion of the Rally Organiser, unfit or incapable of completing the course will be disqualified or transferred to a lower class at the discretion of that Rally Organiser.
- 1.2.6 All Drivers must be 16 years of age, or over, on the first day of the Event – except for Junior/Novelty Classes. Drivers between 16 and 18 years of age will be required to be full Members of the SHC before competing in events other than Junior/Novelty Classes.
- 1.2.7 The Driver starting with a team in the first heat of an Event must drive that team throughout the entire Event, unless incapacitated by illness or injury, in which case a substitute Driver may be used (subject to these Rules and the approval of the Rally Organiser).
- 1.2.8 Only Kennel Club registered, pure bred sled dogs, i.e. Siberian Huskies, Alaskan Malamutes, Canadian Eskimo Dogs, Greenland Dogs and Samoyeds and dogs of these breeds holding an appropriate KC affiliated breed club Welfare number ( and thereby confirming prior KC registration) are eligible to compete.
- 1.2.9 No dog under twelve months old on the first day of the Event will be accepted for entry, save Novelty Event Classes.
- 1.2.10 Kennel Club registered names and Date of Birth, or Welfare Details, of dogs competing must be given on the entry form. Any alteration to team details from those provided on the entry form must be advised to the Rally Organiser.
- 1.2.11 Passengers:
  - 1.2.11.1 Will only be allowed at the individual Rally Organiser's discretion, though should be encouraged.
  - 1.2.11.2 Must be fully paid up Members of the SHC and over the age of 18.
  - 1.2.11.3 No Passengers may be carried in a team of less than three dogs. Any team with a passenger falling below this required number shall retire and not complete the course.

### **1.3 Medications**

- 1.3.1 Prohibited medications are all those deemed harmful to the dogs or to the sport, including stimulants, depressants, anaesthetics and analgesics.
- 1.3.2 If a dog is suspected of being under the influence of any prohibited medication, the Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain reserves the right to have the dog examined and tested by qualified veterinary personnel and, if positive, the Driver, Owner and Team will suffer automatic

disqualification for the whole of that Season, plus any further penalty at the discretion of the Committee of the SHC.

- 1.3.3 Veterinary inspection of any dog entered may be required at the discretion the Rally Organiser.

## **1.4 Equipment**

- 1.4.1 The responsibility for the safety of all equipment rests with the Driver and/or Owner. The Scrutineer is looking for obvious breach of Rules only.

- 1.4.2 All equipment shall be available for inspection by the appointed Scrutineer at the time set by the Rally Organiser. Drivers and equipment may be required for further inspection after each run or heat, at the request of the Rally Organiser. No competitor may leave the start line without having had their equipment previously checked and cleared by the Scrutineer at that rally.

- 1.4.3 Lines and Connections:

- 1.4.3.1 All connections from lines to harness, collar and rig/sled must be capable of quick and easy detachment. Correct functioning of these attachments may be checked.

- 1.4.3.2 All teams must have a snub line attached to the gang line between the rear of the team and the point where it is attached to the rig/sled. This snub line must be of sufficient length to enable release from a static object (e.g. gate post or tree) by the Driver whilst on, and in control of the rig/sled.

- 1.4.3.3 All lines must be free of frays and excess wear.

- 1.4.3.4 Shock absorbers, when utilised, must have a safety line.

- 1.4.3.5 Bike-joring/Scooter classes: The dog shall be attached to the bicycle/scooter by a snub line (not exceeding 3 metres in length) with a shock absorber at all times.

- 1.4.3.6 Cani-cross class: The dog shall be attached to the competitor by a snub line (not exceeding 2.5 metres in length) with a shock absorber at all times. The snub line shall be attached to the competitor by a hip belt, at least 7 cm wide over the spine.

- 1.4.4 Rigs:

- 1.4.4.1 Must not be fitted with any device to assist propulsion.

- 1.4.4.2 Must have three or four wheels and be free-standing.

- 1.4.4.3 Must have an adequate braking system, when brakes are applied by the Driver, standing in the normal driving position and with motive power provided by either pushing or pulling of the rig by the Scrutineer and/or Assistant(s).

- 1.4.4.4 Must be equipped with a manual steering mechanism, capable of operation by the Driver from the normal driving position.

1.4.4.5 Must not exceed 150 cm. (60") in overall width.

1.4.4.6 All three wheeled rigs must be designed and manufactured without sharp edges or points. A brushbow is not compulsory but where it is absent the rig should have been originally designed and constructed without a brushbow. If a three wheeled rig is fitted with a brushbow, then it shall comply to the following:

No part of the rig shall protrude in front of the brushbow, including gangline attachments. The overall width of the brushbow shall be no less than the measurement between the centres of the two rear wheels. If this does not cover the entire width of the rig, additional deflectors must be fitted around any protruding part, fabricated in such a way as to avoid the creation of any sharp projection. Brushbows must be not less than 20 cm. (8") or more than 45 cm. (18") from the ground. All brushbows/deflectors must be manufactured from inflexible materials.

1.4.4.7 All four wheeled rigs must be designed and manufactured without sharp edges or points. A bumper is not compulsory for a four wheeled rig, but where absent the rig should have been originally designed and constructed without a bumper. If a four wheeled rig is fitted with a tubular front bumper, it shall be a substantive part of its design and manufacture, and comply to the following:

The length of which shall equal at least the full width of the rig. The ends of the bumper must be rounded so as not to present a hazard. No part of the rig shall protrude in front of the bumper, including gangline attachments. The front wheels must also be protected by additional deflectors which must be secured either side of each wheel. Further additional deflectors must be fitted around any protruding part, fabricated in such a way as to avoid the creation of any sharp projection. Bumpers must be not less than 20 cm. (8") or more than 45 cm. (18") from the ground. All bumpers/deflectors must be manufactured from inflexible materials.

1.4.4.8 All rigs may carry a dog bag, for use at discretion of the driver.

1.4.4.9 A and Unlimited Class rigs may be subject to further regulations and requirements.

1.4.5 Sleds:

1.4.5.1 Must be fitted with a brushbow.

1.4.5.2 Must have an adequate claw braking system and strongly recommend that a drag mat is fitted.

1.4.5.3 May carry a dog bag for use at discretion of the driver

1.4.6 Bicycles:

1.4.6.1 Bicycles shall be equipped with an efficient brake at each wheel.

1.4.7 Scooters:

1.4.7.1 Scooters shall be equipped with an efficient brake at both wheels or rear wheel only.

1.4.8 Lighting Equipment:

1.4.8.1 No wet acid batteries may be carried.

- 1.4.8.2 Plastic lens are recommended, but any glass must be taped or preferably bagged.
- 1.4.8.3 Back-up lights must be carried during night rallies.
- 1.4.9 Muzzles, full choke collars, whips or other similar devices are strictly prohibited.
- 1.4.10 Bibs will only be provided for each Driver by the Rally Organiser when a sponsored or supporting organisation has donated sufficient numbered special bibs. Otherwise, competitors should wear their number allocated to them under the Club's Registration Scheme. Members not registered with this Scheme will be provided with a numbered bib at the Event.
- 1.4.11 Clothing for Competitors:
  - 1.4.11.1 Spiked or metal footwear is prohibited.
  - 1.4.11.2 In severe weather conditions, adequate protective clothing will be worn or carried – at the discretion of the Rally Organiser.
  - 1.4.11.3 With the exception of Cani-cross, the wearing of protective helmets is compulsory for all mushers. All helmets must be in good condition with a serviceable chin strap

## **2.0 Starting Procedures**

### **2.1 Drawing for Position**

2.1.1 Starting position and time for each team will be determined by drawing, or other method as determined by the Rally Organiser. Such drawing is to be held prior to the Rally by the Rally Organiser in the presence of at least two other persons.

2.1.2 Starting times for Events of more than one heat:

2.1.2.1 The starting times for the first heat will be determined as specified in Rule 2.1.1 above.

2.1.2.2 The starting times for the second heat will be determined from the finishing point of the team in the first heat with the fastest team going first, the second fastest team going second and so on.

The starting times for the second heat may, alternatively, be determined from the finishing position of the team in the first heat with the slowest team going first, the second slowest team going second and so on.

2.1.3 Chosen/selected Starting Procedures must be noted in the Club's Rally Information publication.

### **2.2 The Start**

2.2.1 The Driver is responsible for ensuring that his team is securely snubbed, or otherwise held, at the Start Line.

- 2.2.2 A team crossing the Start Line five seconds or less in advance of the official Starting Time will receive a fifteen second penalty. In cases of greater violation, a 60 second penalty will result. In the event of a premature start, enabling the team to be returned to the Start Line to comply with the Official Start Time, then that team may re-start without penalty. See Rule 3.7.1.
- 2.2.3 The Starting Point of the team shall be the front of the brushbow.
- 2.2.4 The Starting Time of the team shall begin when such team is scheduled to leave the Start Line.
- 2.2.5 Teams failing to be at the Start Line on time for any heat will not be allowed to start until the last scheduled team of the heat has left and at the prescribed interval. If more than one team should start late, each shall start in the order scheduled. Trail Time for late starters will begin at the official time of departure. See Rule 2.1.2.
- 2.3 Temperature
- 2.3.1 When the temperature rises to 15 degrees C at any time during the course of the Event (when taken in the shade at or near the Start Line) the Event shall be reviewed by the Rally Organiser and may be stopped. The Rally Organiser may, however, if he or she feels that the temperature/humidity combination is too high, review the Event before this level is reached. Temperatures will be monitored during the course of the Event.

### **3.0 Trail Procedure**

- 3.1 The Driver
- 3.1.1 A driver may ride, scoot or run as and when they wish but see Rules 3.4 and 3.5.3.
- 3.1.2 Physical and verbal abuse of dogs is strictly prohibited at the Event Site.
- 3.1.3 Wilful interference by a Driver with other competing teams in any way is prohibited. Teams experiencing difficulty must make every effort not to impede other Competitors.
- 3.1.4 Drivers must have run one rally season or a minimum of 8 rallies, with the maximum of 3 dogs, before they are eligible to enter the A, B, B2, C, and C2 classes at SHCGB rallies.
- 3.1.5 Drivers must have run one rally season or a minimum of 8 rallies, with the maximum of 3 dogs, before they are eligible to enter the A, B, B2, C, and C2 classes at SHCGB rallies.
- 3.2 Classifications
- A Class No more than 8 dogs, no less than 5
- B Class No more than 6 dogs, no less than 4
- C Class No more than 4 dogs, no less than 3
- D Class Two dogs only
- E Class No more than 3 dogs, no less than 2

Unlimited No less than 5 dogs

.2 Class Mixed Sled Dog Breeds, when Siberian Only

Classes are scheduled

J Class (1) Age of Driver 8-11 + 1 dog (over 12 months)

(2) Age of Driver 12-15 + 1-2 dogs (over 12 months)

Canicross Class 1 dog and a Competitor racing on foot.

Bike-Joring Class 1 dog and a Driver pedalling a bicycle.

Scooter Class 1 dog and a Driver riding a two wheeled scooter

Veteran (V) 2-4 dogs of any eligible breed, the average age of all dogs in the team to be over 7 years on the day of the first stage.

### 3.3 Dogs

3.3.1 All dogs must be properly harnessed in the team and all dogs must be fastened by a neck line. Exception: Lead dogs must be properly harnessed in the team, but may run with or without a neckline. In canicross, bike-joring & scooter classes the dog harness shall not allow the dog to escape.

3.3.2 Any dog suffering injury or becoming unfit to run during the competition must be taken out of the team and may be carried in the dog bag at the discretion of the driver. No dog will be allowed to run free alongside, in front or, or behind the rig/sled at any time. If the dog bag is not used the driver and team must retire from the race, and await assistance.

3.3.3 Any team falling behind the required minimum of fit dogs for the Class entered must retire. If this reduction in number of fit dogs occurs on the trail because of injury or sickness, then no attempt should be made to complete the course. In the event of an emergency, Drivers must use their discretion as to whether to proceed with the depleted team to the Finish (subject to Rule 3.1.3) or whether to alert a passing Driver or contact a Marshal or spectator to seek assistance.

3.3.4 All dogs starting any heat must complete that heat whether running or being carried in the bag (if available) other than Rules 3.3.2 and 3.3.3 above.

3.3.5 After the first heat, a Driver may drop any dog they wish from subsequent heat(s), subject always to the minimum specified. See Rules 3.2 and 3.3.3.

3.3.6 A dog may not take part in more than one Class or Team during any one day other than scheduled Junior/Novelty Events.

### 3.4 Passengers

One person must be sitting on a secured seat when travelling.

### 3.5 Following the Course

- 3.5.1 A Team and Driver must follow the full course as laid out by the Rally Organiser and as described at the Musers' Meeting.
- 3.5.2 If a Team does leave the designated trail, the Driver must return the Team to the point at which they left the Trail. A Team and Driver meeting this condition may then continue the course without penalty.
- 3.5.3 The Driver must not be forward of his Team unless physically in contact and in control of the lead dog(s).
- 3.5.4 Both Team and Driver must cover the entire course without unauthorised assistance.

### 3.6 Outside Assistance

- 3.6.1 All Teams may receive similar assistance of any kind from Officials stationed at designated points along the trail if so authorised by the Rally Organiser. All competitors will be notified of permissible assistance at the Musers' Meeting.
- 3.6.2 An individual Team may receive assistance from anyone only if that Team becomes unmanageable.
- 3.6.3 No person is allowed to assist a Team by wilfully pacing it.

### 3.7 Loose Teams

- 3.7.1 All rally participants are encouraged to stop and hold any loose team where it is safe to do so.
- 3.7.2 A loose team interfering with other Teams will be disqualified.

### 3.8 Right of Way

- 3.8.1 A Team not leaving the Start Line within 30 seconds of the designated Start Time must retire from the Start Area and await instruction from the Rally Organiser or his appointed Start Marshal. See Rule 2.2.5.
- 3.8.2 A Team not clearing the Starting Chute Marker prior to the scheduled Start Time of the following Team will be disqualified.
- 3.8.3 When passing in opposite directions on a single trail:
  - 3.8.3.1 On a hill, the Team travelling downhill has Right of Way.
  - 3.8.3.2 On level ground, the Rally Organiser shall determine the Outgoing or Incoming Team shall have Right of Way and this will be specified at the Musers' Meeting.
  - 3.8.3.3 The Rally Organiser will suggest the side on which to pass and this will be specified at the Musers' Meeting.

- 3.8.4 No Incoming Team shall have Right of Way over another Incoming Team from a point to be established by the Rally Organiser, but within 800 m. (0.5 ml) of the Finish Line. See Rule 1.6.
- 3.9 Passing
- 3.9.1 An Overtaking Team has Right of Way over the preceding Team when the Overtaking Team comes within 15 m. (50 ft.) of the Team ahead.
- 3.9.2 Under these conditions, the Overtaking Team Driver should call TRAIL. Upon hearing this call, the Preceding Driver must make way for the Over- taking Team bringing their Team to a full stop, if requested. See Rule 3.1.3.
- 3.9.3 The Overtaken Team may request and receive the Right of Way to re-pass:
- 3.9.3.1 In Unlimited Class after 4 mins. or 1,600 m. (1 ml.)
- 3.9.3.2 In Limited Classes after 2 mins. or 800 m. (0.5 ml.)
- 3.9.3.3 If the Drivers concerned are in agreement, at a lesser time or distance interval.
- 3.9.4 Passing Teams becoming tangled as a result of the pass may request the Overtaken Team to wait for a period not exceeding 60 seconds in an Unlimited Class, or a period not exceeding 30 seconds in a Limited Class. If the Overtaking Team should stop for any other reason, then the Over- taken Team may ask for TRAIL and be given Right of Way in accordance with Rule 3.9.2.
- 3.9.5 Following Team shall maintain an interval of not less than one team length behind the preceding rig/sled.

#### **4.0 Finishing Procedure**

- 4.1 The Finishing Point of a Team shall be the brushbow of the rig/sled, or other point as designated by the Rally Organiser.
- 4.2 In the event of a loose team crossing the Finish Line ahead of the Driver, then the Finish Time shall be taken as the time the Driver crosses the line.

#### **5.0 Conduct**

- 5.1 For the purpose of these rules, an Event is a Rally organised on behalf of the Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain, held within the boundaries of the Event Site and for the Duration as follows:
- Event duration is defined from the point when the Organiser or their nominated delegates arrive on site for the start of rally-related activities, until the point when they leave the site at the conclusion of those activities.
  - The Event site is defined as the area of land including the trails, any parking/ camping areas and amenities or facilities located within and available for participants' use.



- Participants include all Club Members attending an Event whether as competitors, handlers or other assisting, volunteer officials, or spectators.
- 5.2 Drivers are responsible for the conduct of their dogs and handlers during the Event. By entering the Event a Driver is implicitly stating that they and their dogs are appropriately prepared, and that they are aware of these rules and the obligations it places upon them.
- 5.3 If the Rally Organiser determines that any participants conduct at any time in the Event is detrimental to the Sport and/or the image of the Club they may be excluded from that event by the Rally Organiser. The Rally Organiser is required to report this to the Committee in writing within one week of the Events conclusion.
- 5.4 The Rally Organisers and their appointed Officials shall have the power to stop a team at any point of the rally if in their opinion the safety of that team, or those of other competitors, or members of the public are in jeopardy.
- 5.5 Mating of bitches during the Event, at the Event site, is forbidden.
- 5.5.1 Puppies will not be allowed at the Event Site during an Event unless they are fully inoculated/immunised. Persons bringing puppies to an Event without the correct papers will be asked to leave.
- 5.5.2 Puppies will not be offered for sale at an Event site during an Event.
- 5.6 Physical or verbal abuse by any person of any person at any part of the Event site during the Event is forbidden.
- 5.7 Participants are to fill holes dug by their dogs, to clear away and dispose of waste properly, especially dog waste, and to generally leave the Event site in a condition equivalent to that which they encountered on arrival for the Event.

## **6.0 Protests and Disciplinary Action**

- 6.1 Protests
  - 6.1.1 Any person(s) wishing to protest a violation of the Rules must do so immediately following the heat or run in which the alleged violation occurred. The protest may be verbal and must be accompanied by a fee of five pounds Sterling, which may be refunded by the Club in the event of the protest being upheld.
  - 6.1.2 Any verbal protest must be confirmed in writing to the Rally Organiser within one hour after the end of the Event or Heat, whichever is first.
  - 6.1.3 In the event of any protest or report of an alleged rule violation, the concerned parties may demand an individual representation. Such Hearings must be granted and organised by the Rally Organiser at the earliest convenient time.

## 6.2 Disciplinary Action

- 6.2.1 For any violation of the foregoing Rules, the Rally Organiser, with or without the recommendation of any Judge or Protest Committee, may impose a warning to, or disqualify any Competitor at his discretion.
- 6.2.2 In the event of a Protest being registered against a competing Rally Organiser, then any decision must be confirmed or reversed by the Committee of the Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain at their next Meeting following the Protest.
- 6.2.3 Any complaint received against a Club Member regarding trail or site behaviour, via a member of the public, marshal or by another SHCGB Club Member can result in a warning letter from the Rally Organiser (Red Card). Two Red Cards automatically lead to referral to the next Committee Meeting for further discussion and, if necessary, action. If further cards are accrued whilst the first and second Red Cards are still valid then this will lead to an automatic suspension from Club Working Events until the Committee has opportunity to consider the matter. Each Red Card shall be valid for a period of eighteen months from the date of issue. The Secretary will inform SHC Rally Organisers of any offenders.
- 6.2.4 In all other respects, the decision of the Rally Organiser is final.

Extract from 'The Joy of Running Sled Dogs' by Noel K. Flanders: Trail Etiquette is essential for the safety of the dogs and drivers. This sport is fun and everyone should have a good time and enjoy a safe run. There are always beginners just starting out and they should be treated as professionally as the veteran drivers. When a Driver gets so serious about winning that he forget his manners ...he no longer belongs on the trail.

Common sense and good sportsmanship should prevail



## Code of Conduct for Members of the Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain when Training Sled Dog Teams

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1. All dogs must be kept under control and/or tethered at all times.
2. Size of teams should be limited to what is considered safe and manageable on the trails being used, bearing in mind terrain, conditions and usage of the area.
3. Teams must always proceed with courtesy, care and consideration for all other users and land managers.
4. When encountering other users, teams must be kept under control and care taken not to cause alarm, particularly to horses and other animals.
5. Teams must remain on the designated trails and adhere to any specific requirements of the Landowner, including permissions and time constraints imposed.
6. Teams should be clearly visible to other users and if training after dark, lights should be used.
7. Training should only be undertaken if temperatures and humidity levels are appropriate.
8. All gates must be left as found.
9. Do not obstruct access points.
10. Take all litter and rubbish away from the site.

### **Aims for Trails**

1. To have good surface, not too stony or abrasive.
2. To have a looped course with start and finish in close proximity, preferably offering variable distances.
3. To have parking facilities, not too close to a busy road.