

CONSTITUTION

and

BY-LAWS

of

The Briard Club
of America

1944



THE BRIARD DOG IN AMERICA

Discovered in France during World War I, the Briard stands supreme as a guardian and watchdog. Bred for centuries as a guardian and herd dog by the French peasants, the Briard was adopted by the French Army as the official war dog. His great strength, endurance, disregard for weather conditions, intelligence, acute hearing and loyalty were points that had been inbred for centuries.

Americans in France observed the dogs carrying ammunition and messages to the front lines, standing guard with patrols and accompanying stretcher bearers in their search for wounded men. It was said that the Briard had an uncanny ability to differentiate between a desperately wounded man and one who was beyond hope.

Among the first Americans to bring Briards to this country were Miss Frances Hoppin who founded Travailleur Kennels; Mr. Harold Ober, Mrs. George W. Jacobs, Jr., who breeds as Sydney Farm Kennels and Mrs. Schofield Outhwaite who operates as Irhamont Kennels. From stock imported by these lovers of the breed the American Briard as we know it today has developed.

There are now in America examples of every leading bloodline of Europe. It has never been necessary to drastically inbreed as there are sufficient bloodlines to produce an almost unlimited series of combinations. One of the duties of the Club has been bringing together the owners of the various lines so that no breeder lacks for new bloodlines.

The result of this careful breeding program has made the American Briard far more suitable for our climate and our standards of living. He can withstand every extreme of weather for his dense undercoat acts as an insulator and the outer coat sheds water and dirt. Properly cared for the American Briard never needs bathing nor is it necessary to trim, pluck nor strip the coat. No dog of any breed requires less coddling nor does any dog of comparable size need as little to eat.

Strong, intelligent, dignified, passionately devoted to his master, children and the aged, the Briard developed by this Club will probably never lead the popular breeds in quantity but he will retain not only the quality bred into him through centuries but also the fine points that have been sponsored without exception by this Club.

CONSTITUTION, BRIARD CLUB OF AMERICA Adopted September 15th, 1944

ARTICLE I

The name of the club shall be the Briard Club of America.

ARTICLE II

The Club is established to promote the breeding and showing of pure-bred Briards and to define and publish a Standard of the Breed. The Club shall hold and support shows, offer prizes, urge the improvement of the breed as outlined in the Standard and, in every appropriate way, advance the interests of the breed.

ARTICLE III

The Standard of the Breed has been translated from that of the French Club, Les Amis du Briard, and shall be as published in this booklet.

ARTICLE IV

The officers of this Club shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may both be held by one person concurrently. The officers shall be elected annually by mail vote of the membership in good standing. The election shall take place in January of each year, or as near to that date as is practical. Officers shall hold office for one year or until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE V

The President shall appoint an Executive Committee consisting of the officers and a sufficient number from the membership so the Committee shall be composed of five persons. The President shall also appoint a Delegate to the American Kennel Club. These appointments shall be for one year or until their successors are appointed.

ARTICLE VI

This Constitution may be amended providing such amendment, or amendments, are approved by mail balloting of the membership in good standing. Approval shall be signified by a two-thirds majority of those returning ballots.

the Vandals

Vanished Halls and Cathedrals of France," by George Wharton Edwards. Illustrated by the Author. Decorative Binding. Boxed. The Penn Publishing Company, Philadelphia. \$6 net.

"THESE fair towns of Picardy and Champagne are sacked, pillaged and burned even as were the beautiful Flemish towns of Ypres, Malines, Termonde, Dixmude and Dinant on the Meuse. * * * Never again shall we enjoy them; the chalices are broken and the perfume forever vanished. * * * The catastrophe is so unbelievable that one cannot realize it. The seven churches of Soissons, Senlis, Noyon, Laon, Meaux, Rheims, St. Remi; these, such as man probably never again can match, are either razed to the foundations or so shattered that it will be impossible to restore them. * * * Rheims can never be restored to what it was before the bombardment. * * * A sacred ruin—the scarred, pierced heart of France."

So George Wharton Edwards, who knew and loved each of the described and depicted "Vanished Halls and Cathedrals of France," and who illustrates his text with lovely color and monotone drawings made just before the war. Arras, Lille, Amiens, Cambrai, Verdun, Domremy, Valenciennes, St. Quentin, Mr. Edwards, who writes as delightfully as he draws, renders them all tenderly, heartbreakingly real to the reader, alternating, balancing historic fact and piquant legend by description and comment little less graphic than his pictures. In finishing his splendid tribute to the lost glories of bereft and bleeding France, Mr. Edwards thus again pays homage to the beauty and wonder so ruthlessly destroyed:

Arras, Soissons, Laon must be left mainly as they now lie, prostrate, lasting memorials for future ages. Leave to Dame Nature the task of draping them with green clinging vines, and embossings of velvet moss. So let them remain in solemn majesty, monuments to the failure of an imperial order unhampered by the love of mankind or the fear of God.

The book, a fitting companion to Mr. Edwards' earlier "Vanished Towers and Chimes of Flanders," makes one homesick and heartsick for those departed splendors, but whether as a record of architectural beauty of humanity it is charming, admirable, hard to lay down.

THE BY-LAWS, BRIARD CLUB OF AMERICA

SECTION I

Meetings may be held by order of the President, or of the Executive Committee providing notice of such meetings is mailed to each member not less than ten days before the date of such meeting. The President will call a meeting when requested to do so over the signature of not less than ten members in good standing. At any general meeting, seven members shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION II

The President: The President shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Club. He shall preside at all meetings of the Club, or of the Executive Committee.

SECTION III

The Vice-President: In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice-President shall act as president.

SECTION IV

The Secretary: The Secretary shall keep full minutes of all meetings of the Club and of the Executive Committee. He shall keep a full record of all transactions of the Club. He shall prepare and keep a full record of members and officers. He shall conduct voting by mail, tabulate returns and preserve, for not less than one year, the returned ballots which shall be open for inspection by any member in good standing. He shall arrange the voting so that a period of not less than 15 days, nor more than 30 days, elapses between the mailing of the ballots and the closing of the polls.

SECTION V

The Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have charge of all of the funds of the Club, and may disburse the same. He shall keep accounts of all monies received and disbursed.

SECTION VI

The Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall have the general management and direction of all the affairs, interest, business and property of the Club. The Executive Committee shall appoint a committee on nominations for office. The Executive Committee shall act as a committee for the election of new members.

SECTION VII

Membership: The number of members of this Club shall be unlimited. Every candidate for membership shall be proposed by one member of the Club and the name, profession, and residence of the candidate shall be sent by the proposer to the Secretary. The Executive Committee shall have the power by a majority vote of the entire committee; which may be taken by mail; to forfeit the membership of any member of the Club for conduct on his part likely, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, to endanger the welfare or character of the Club.

SECTION VIII

Vacancies in Office: Whenever a vacancy shall occur in any office the Executive Committee may fill the vacancy, and the appointee shall hold such office until the Club shall elect.

SECTION IX

Amendments of By-Laws: The Executive Committee, or the Club, may amend the By-Laws at any meeting called for that purpose, but only by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at such meeting.

SECTION X

Annual Dues: The annual dues shall be \$5.00 payable to the Treasurer during January of each year. New members joining after June 1st shall pay \$2.50 for the remainder of the year. This shall also apply to members who have been dropped during the previous calendar year and who apply for reinstatement. It will not apply to those delinquent for current dues. No member shall remain in good standing whose dues for the current year remain unpaid on June 1st.

SECTION XI

Breeding and Showing: Members of the Club shall not exhibit dogs having the disqualifying points mentioned in the Standard of the Breed.

B R I A R D

STANDARD OF THE BREED
(Adopted, January 19th, 1932)

GENERAL APPEARANCE: A strong and substantially built dog, fitted for field work, lithe, muscular and well proportioned, alert and active.

SIZE: Height at shoulders: Dogs, 23 to 27 inches. Bitches, 22 to 25½ inches. Young dogs may be below the minimum.

HEAD: Large and rather long. Stop well marked and placed at equal distance from top of head and tip of nose. Forehead very slightly rounded. Line from stop to tip of nose straight.

Teeth: Strong, white and meeting exactly even.

Muzzle: Neither narrow nor pointed

Nose: Rather square than rounded, always black.

Hair: Heavy and long on top of the head, the ears and around the muzzle, forming eyebrows standing out and not veiling the eyes too much.

Eyes: Horizontal, well opened, dark in color and rather large, intelligent and gentle in expression.

Ears: Placed high, not too large and not carried too flat. In France the tips of the ears are generally cropped, causing the ears to be semi-erect.

CONFORMATION: Neck muscular and distinct from the shoulders.

Chest broad and deep.

Back straight.

Rump slightly sloped.

Legs muscular with heavy bones.

Hock not too near the ground, making a well marked angle, the leg below the hock being not quite vertical.

TAIL: Uncut, well feathered, slightly curled at the end, carried low and twisted neither to the right nor to the left, the feather on the lowest point reaching to the point of hock.

FEET: Strong, round, with toes close together and hard pads; nails black.

COAT: Long, slightly wavy, stiff and strong.

COLOR: All solid colors are allowed except white. Dark colors are preferable. Usual colors; Black, and black with some white hairs, dark and light gray, tawny, and combinations of two of these colors provided there are no marked spots and the transition from one to the other takes place gradually and symmetrically.

DEWCLAWS: Two dewclaws on each hind leg are required. A dog with only one cannot be given a prize.

FAULTS: Muzzle pointed.

Eyes small, almond-shaped or light in color.

Rump straight or too sloped.

White spot on the breast (a large white spot is very bad).

Tail too short or carried over the back.

White nails.

DISQUALIFICATIONS: Size below the limit.

Absence of dewclaws.

Short hair on the head, face or feet.

Tail lacking or cut.

Nose light in color or spotted.

Eyes spotted.

Hair curled.

White hair on feet.

Spotted colors of the coat.

PERCENTAGE SYSTEM OF JUDGING

In this system the various virtues are assigned points in proportion to their importance.

Shape of Head	15
Length and Shape of Body	15
Bone	15
Bite	10
Eyes	10
Head Carriage, Neck and Shoulders	10
Coat	10
Gait	10
Tail	5
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100 points

BRIARD PROPORTIONS

Originally issued by the French Club, and made available to us by Mrs. Schofield Outhwaite, the illustration shows the ideal proportions for a male Briard. You will note that his length from fore side of chest to root of tail is the same as the height from ground to withers. Bitches may be considerably longer than they are high.

