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CONSTITUTION SOUTH AFRICAN BOERBOEL BREEDERS' SOCIETY (SABBS)

*Registered as a breeders society in terms of the provisions of the Animal Improvement Act,
No 62 of 1998, Registration Number 62/98/B-68*

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DEFINITIONS

When used in this Constitution and associated Bylaws unless a contrary meaning is apparent from the context:

Act means the Animal Improvement Act, 1998 (Act No. 62 of 1998) or any subsequent legislation having similar objectives than the said Act, and includes the regulations promulgated in terms thereof.

Animal means a dog of the Boerboel breed registered or eligible for recording or registration in the Boerboel Database, and the words "dogs", "whelp/whelps", "dam/s", "female/s" "bitch/bitches", "male/s", "dog/s" and "sire/s" have the same meaning.

Animal breeders society means a group of persons - registered in terms of Section 8(7)(a)(i) of the Act - promoting the breeding, recording or registration, the genetic improvement and the use of a kind of animal or an animal of a specified breed of such kind of animal; determining and applying breed standards; and recommending - in its sole discretion - the recording or registration of an animal or a specified breed of a kind of animal, bred in or imported into South Africa or another country.

Appraiser means a member of the Society - approved by the Board for training - and having passed prescribed theory and practical examinations to appraise dogs for registration as Boerboels in accordance with the Society's Breed Standard. The appraiser categories are: apprentice appraiser, appraiser and senior appraiser.

Birth means the birth of a whelp.

Birth recording means the procedure whereby the birth of an animal is placed in the records of the Society's Registering Authority.

Board means the Board of the Society, duly elected in terms of the Constitution.

Boerboel means a declared South African landrace dog, meeting all the requirements of the Breed Standard and other conditions determined by the Society for registration as a Boerboel.

Boerboel Database means the database kept by the Registering Authority through and for the Society to record the details of all animals to be accepted in specific registers, and in terms of the requirements of the Constitution of the Society and the Animal Improvement Act.

Breed means a population of animals, producing uniformity in breed standard and performance.

Breeder means a breeder member of SABBS who is the registered owner of a breeding female at the time of natural or artificial conception, or at the birth of the progeny.

Breed Standard means a written set of phenotypic and/or genotypic standards determined and applied in terms of this Constitution to provide for the breeding, identification and promotion of genetically superior animals.

Buyer means the person or persons to whom ownership/joint ownership of an animal is transferred by the owner of such an animal.

Bylaws mean an annexure to the Constitution. It contains a set of operational rules or policies (which should be read with the Constitution) that expand the articles of the Constitution, specifying information which makes provision for managing and regulating the affairs of the Society which can refer to in day-to-day business. The Bylaws are consistent with the Constitution and the Board can propose revision thereof as needed to reflect changing realities for approval at a General Meeting.

Constitution means the Constitution (inclusive of the Bylaws) of the Society.

Database – see Boerboel Database.

Department means the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of South Africa

Dismissal means a member is dismissed from the Society and may not reapply for membership at any given time. A 30 day exit period will be applied once notification of dismissal has been communicated.

Exit strategy is a 30 day period process to allow for the protection and safeguarding of all affected dogs after a member is dismissed.

Head Office is the physical and official address of the head quarters of the Society for the official receipt and despatch of correspondence, formal notices and documents from and to the Society by members, government and financial institutions, service providers, and other relevant parties.

Landrace means a specific breed of a kind of animal indigenous to, or developed in South Africa.

Members means all natural persons or registered entities eligible for membership of the Society, who are in good standing according to the records of the Society.

Member in Good Standing means a member who is paid-up according to Clauses 6.2 and 6.3 for all services rendered by the Society, with no suspension disciplinary actions against such member.

Minister means the Minister responsible for the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in South Africa.

Office bearer means a person elected by the members, or appointed or co-opted to the Board or a standing committee to a specific position within the Society, and who has agreed to accept specific responsibilities during his term of office. **Official** means a person appointed to a specific position by any institution or organisation - including the Society - in (a) a permanent salaried capacity; or (b) a person qualified and appointed as an appraiser of Boerboel dogs; or (c) a person selected to act *ad hoc* as an official at a show, or to assist with the organising of events under the auspices of the Society

Owner means the person who legally owns an animal, and is entitled to have it recorded or registered in his name.

Polling officer means an independent person designated by the Board to manage the voting process for general meetings.

Registering means the procedure of registering an animal in the Boerboel Database by the Society's Registering Authority.

Registering Authority means a body registered in terms of Section 8 (7)(a)(ii) of the Animal Improvement Act, and appointed by the Society to record and register animals on its behalf in the Boerboel Database.

Registers means the registers determined by the Society for the recording and registration of dogs in the Boerboel Database to indicate their registration status.

Registrar means the officer designated as Registrar of Animal Improvement in terms of the Act.

Secretary means a person appointed by the Board to work in a fulltime and salaried capacity in the Head Office of the Society in South Africa to execute administrative financial and management functions in support of the Board and members, as defined in the job description for this position.

Seller means the person or persons being the owner/co-owner(s) of an animal according to the records of the Society or, in the case of an imported animal, the owner in the country of origin who disposes of such an animal;

Semen collector means a person who collects, evaluates, processes, packs or stores semen, or who carries out the artificial insemination of an animal, and who is registered as such in terms of Section 8(6)(a) of the Act in respect of the kind of animal for which he has completed the prescribed course of instruction.

Society means the South African Boerboel Breeders' Society (SABBS).

Suspension is for a certain period whereby no services shall be rendered to the member concerned during the suspension.

Termination means no services shall be rendered to the member. The member has the right to reapply for membership, whereby the Board will decide if application is granted or dismissed.

Other words, abbreviations and phrases in this Constitution, not defined above shall, unless a contrary meaning clearly appears from the context, have the same meaning assigned thereto in the Act.

In this Constitution, unless the contrary intention appears clearly from the context, words referring to persons in the masculine gender shall include females; words in the singular shall include the plural, and words in the plural shall include the singular. Where figures are referred to in numerals and in words - if there is any conflict - the words shall prevail. Where any number of days is referred to, it shall be reckoned exclusively of the first and inclusively of the last day.

LATIN WORDS - MEANINGS

bona fide: in good faith

en route: on, or along the way

ex officio: by virtue of their office

mutatis mutandis: the necessary changes

in absentia: not present

inter alia: among other things

in utero: within the womb

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME OF THE SOCIETY

The name of the Society is the South African Boerboel Breeders' Society (SABBS), subsequently referred to as the Society, which was registered in terms of the Animal Improvement Act, 1998 (Act No. 62 of 1998) on 10 April 2012, Registration No. 62/98/B-68.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1. Subject to the provisions of the South African law, the Animal Improvement Act and this Constitution, the objectives of the Society shall be:

- a) to encourage and promote the breeding and genetic improvement of the Boerboel breed worldwide;
- b) to strive for unimpaired purity of the Boerboel breed and to promote the interests and public image of the breed by all possible and suitable means;
- c) to ensure the accuracy of all records of pedigrees, performance, ownership and other particulars of all dogs registered or eligible for registration as Boerboels with the Society;
- d) to compile and maintain a minimum Breed Standard and other minimum standards as a prerequisite for the registration of Boerboels, appraisal for conformation in respect of functional efficiency and other testing and evaluation standards, as determined from time to time.
- e) to encourage the expansion of the Boerboel breed by means of information and educational and promotional programmes, and training courses;
- f) to safeguard and advance the interests of the Boerboel breed and members of the Society, and generally to give effect to the objectives contemplated by the Act.

3. BOERBOEL BREED STANDARD

3.1. BREED STANDARD CRITERIA

The Breed Standard is a **guideline** which describes the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of the breed and ensures that the breed is fit for function. The aim of this Breed Standard is to provide guidelines to breeders, appraisers and judges, who should at all times be vigilant to avoid obvious conditions or excessiveness, that would be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare or absolute soundness of the Boerboel.

Type, conformation, functional efficiency, mentality and composure are equally important in the evaluation of the Boerboel as a whole. The protective character of the breed is evident, as well as its impressive demeanour, good temperament, controllability and mobility.

Although the Boerboel has become a popular breed internationally, the centre for breed specific knowledge remains in South Africa, as this is where its character is embedded.

The Breed Standard shall not be subject to amendment more than once in a five (5) year period, except under exceptional circumstances.

Exceptional circumstances shall be defined as:

- Legal or regulatory requirements mandating an adjustment.
- Scientific or genetic research findings necessitating immediate modification.
- An unforeseen, critical issue affecting the welfare of the breed.

In such exceptional cases, amendments shall require:

- A written proposal submitted to the Breed Standard and Appraisal Committee.
- Approval by at least a two-thirds majority vote of the SABBS Board.

- Ratification by the general membership at the next Annual General Meeting (AGM) through a two-thirds majority vote.

Any approved amendment to the Breed Standard shall take effect immediately upon ratification unless a specific implementation date is specified.

Faults: Any departure from the Breed Standard shall be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault shall be regarded, shall be in exact proportion to the degree and its effect on the health and welfare of the dog.

Disqualification: Any serious deviations and/or combinations of deviations from the Breed Standard that may affect the dog's health and/or performance negatively shall lead to disqualification at the discretion of the senior appraiser. (*Refer to 3.3: Disqualification*).

3.1.1 TEMPERAMENT AND CHARACTER

The Boerboel is:

- a) manageable, reliable, obedient, trainable and intelligent;
- b) self-confident and fearless;
- c) a dog with a strong protective instinct and loyal to members of the family;
- d) shows courage when threatened;
- e) steadfast and calm, with a balanced and confident nature when approached and
- f) a dog requiring training and firm handling from an early age.

3.1.2 GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Boerboel is:

- a) a large dog with a strong-boned structure;
- b) perfectly balanced within the desired proportions for the breed. The main structural components of the dog should show acceptable proportions to each other. The body is approximately 10 - 15% longer than the height (at the withers) and is measured horizontally, from the prosternum (breastbone) to a vertical line at the rear of the rump;
- c) a dog with prominent and well-developed musculature;
- d) impressive and imposing in appearance, created by a combination of conformation, carriage, confidence and powerful, buoyant and unencumbered movement - notwithstanding its size.
- e) Males are distinctly masculine, larger and more heavily built with stronger bone, while females are distinctly feminine, but without weakness of substance or structure. Sexual dimorphism must be clearly evident.
- f) The ideal height of a male is 66 cm with the minimum height of 60 cm.
- g) The ideal height of a female is 61 cm with the minimum height of 55 cm.
- h) Height must always be in relation to mass (the ideal ratio for a full-grown dog is approximately 1:1 – 1:1.2 cm per kg), overall balance and conformation of major body components.

3.1.3 HEAD

The shape and size of the head is a typical feature of the breed. The head is

- a) large and typically Boerboel;
- b) with no signs of another breed;
- c) short, broad, deep, cube shaped - seen from all angles;
- d) muscular and has well-filled cheeks;
- e) in proportion with the rest of the body components and
- f) the circumference equals the height to the withers (upper point of scapula).

Head characteristics are defined in terms of:

3.1.3.1 Skull

- a) The skull is like a cube seen from all angles, large, and well muscled.
- b) The width of the skull is equal to the length and depth thereof.
- c) The length of the cranial roof (measured from the middle of the eye to the end of the occiput)

must be relative to the length of the nasal bone in a ratio 2:1. The nasal bone should be a third of the total length of head. (See 3.1.3.6).

- d) The plateau is wide and flat with prominent musculature.
- e) When the dog is alert, the upper level between the ears appears flat.

3.1.3.2 **Face**

- a) The face gradually blends with the skull.
- b) The face may be with or without a black mask.

3.1.3.3 **Ears**

The ears are defined by:

- a) *Setting*:
 - i. The earflaps are set high and wide.
 - ii. The earflaps are carried close to the head.
 - iii. When attentive, the top of the earflaps must form a straight line with the plateau.
- b) *Shape*:
 - i. Obviously V-shaped;
 - ii. no creases and
 - iii. a broad base.
- c) *Size*:
 - i. The earflaps are medium sized and in proportion to the head.
 - ii. The bottom edge of the earflap is in line with the dentition.

3.1.3.4 **Eyes**

The eyes are defined by:

- a) *Size and setting*:
 - i. Medium sized, rounded, forward facing, and widely spaced;
 - ii. set on the same horizontal level and
 - iii. not protruding or deep set.
- b) *Eyelids*:
 - i. Firm, well pigmented;
 - ii. no structural deviations such as entropion, ectropion, distichiasis or signs of surgical intervention and
 - iii. not slanted.
 - iv. The third eyelid (haw) should not be visible.
- c) *Colour*:

The colour of the eye is any shade of yellow or brown.

3.1.3.5 **Stop**

- a) The stop is visible, but not prominent/pronounced or absent.
- b) The section between the eyes is well filled.

3.1.3.6 **Nasal bone (Muzzle)**

The nasal bone is defined by:

- a) *Shape*:
 - i. Deep, broad, cube shaped, and tapers slightly towards the front, but not snipey.
 - ii. Straight and parallel to the line of the cranial roof.
 - iii. Well attached and filled below the eyes.
 - iv. The nostrils are large and widely spaced.
- b) *Width and depth*:
 - i. The width is almost equal to, but less than the length.
 - ii. The depth should equal the length.
- c) *Length*:

The nasal bone is in proportion to the head, and measures approximately a third of the total length of the head, i.e. approximately 10 cm for a male of 66 cm and 8 cm for a female of 61 cm.

d) *Pigmentation:*

The nose leather is black.

3.1.3.7 **Lips**

- a) The upper lip (under the nose) just covers the top of the lower lip and teeth.
- b) The upper lip does not extend below the lower jawline.
- c) The lower lip is moderately tight (not too loose and fleshy), without open or excessive lip.

3.1.3.8 **Teeth**

- a) Dentition is complete.
- b) Teeth are correctly spaced.
- c) Teeth are ideally in a scissor bite.

3.1.3.9 **Jaws**

The jaws are strong, deep and broad and taper slightly towards the front.

3.1.4 **NECK**

The neck is defined by:

- a) *Shape*
 - i. Forms a unit with the head and the shoulders; and with
 - ii. a discernible muscular crest.
- b) *Length*

The neck is of medium length and in proportion to the rest of the dog. The length equals about 1/3 of the height at the withers.
- c) *Scruff and dewlap*
 - i. The scruff is loose.
 - ii. The dewlap is noticeable and loose from under the chin.
 - iii. The dewlap becomes taut between the front legs.

3.1.5 **FOREQUARTER**

The forequarter is well muscled and correctly angulated from the well-sloped shoulder blade down to the elbow at an angle of approximately 90° - 100°.

The forequarter characteristics are defined in terms of:

3.1.5.1 **Chest**

The chest is:

- a) strong, muscular and broad;
- b) well pronounced and placed deep between the front legs with good volume;
- c) the point of the prosternum is level with the point of the shoulder.

3.1.5.2 **Shoulders**

The shoulder blades are well attached with an approximate 70 mm space in between.

3.1.5.3 **Elbows**

- a) The elbows are stable, parallel to and carried close to the body when in a stationary position and during movement, not limiting the optimal volume of the centre piece/torso.
- b) The height of the elbows is equal to ½ of the height at the withers.

3.1.5.4 **Front legs**

The front legs:

- a) have a substantive bone structure;
- b) are thick, strong and sturdy;

- c) have a well-defined musculature on the in- and outside of the upper legs and
- d) are vertical, as seen from the front and the side.

3.1.5.5 Pasterns

The front pasterns are:

- a) short, strong and of adequate girth as seen from the front and the side and
- b) are a vertical extension of the front legs as seen from both the front and the side, but slanting forward at a slight angle.

3.1.5.6 Front paws

The front paws are defined by:

- a) *Size:*
The front paws are large in circumference.
- b) *Shape:*
 - i. Well padded, ball shaped and tight;
 - ii. strong, curved, with dark pigmented toenails.
- c) *Tread:*
The front paws point and tread straight forward.

3.1.6 CENTRE PIECE

The centre piece (torso) must be of adequate width and depth with a level, straight top line and a slight abdominal tuck-up. The length of the ribcage, loin and croup (rump) is approximately proportioned (2:1:1).

The centre piece characteristics are defined in terms of:

3.1.6.1 Ribcage

The ribcage (the area from the first chest vertebrae to the last rib bone)

- a) is well sprung with a deep, rounded brisket;
- b) must ideally have a length proportion of 2:1 to the loin;
- c) the depth is equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ the total height of the dog at the withers, descending slightly below the elbow;
- d) is filled behind the shoulder blades and elbows.

3.1.6.2 Back

The back (from a point behind the withers/top of the scapula to the last rib bone) is:

- a) broad;
- b) flat;
- c) straight and
- d) well muscled.

3.1.6.3 Loin

The loin (from the last rib bone to the front of the primary thigh) is:

- a) of adequate depth (slightly less than the length of the loin);
- b) short (ideally $\frac{1}{3}$ of total torso length);
- c) wide as seen from the top;
- d) flat when seen from the side;
- e) strong and muscular and
- f) moderately tucked up.

3.1.6.4 Top line

- a) The top line (from a point behind the withers to the beginning of the croup) is straight without any deviations.

- b) A very slight, non-flexible dip just behind the shoulders is normal.

3.1.7 **HINDQUARTER**

The hindquarter is broad, of substantial depth, well muscled, in proportion to the rest of the dog and correctly angulated.

The hindquarter characteristics are defined in terms of:

3.1.7.1 **Croup**

The croup is:

- a) of adequate length, broad, strong/muscular;
- b) correctly angulated and slopes slightly towards the haunch;
- c) the height should not exceed the height at the withers.

3.1.7.2 **Tail**

- a) The tail is a natural extension of the spinal cord. It should therefore be set fairly high, and of adequate girth.
- b) Subject to the legislation applicable to the breeder of a dog, both docked and long tails are acceptable.
- c) Long tails should be sabre shaped and should reach approximately to the hocks when the dog is standing.
- d) Docked tails should ideally be docked at the third caudal vertebrae, leading to an ideal adult tail length of about 8 cm and straight.

3.1.7.3 **Primary/Upper thighs**

The upper thighs are broad, deep and with well-developed muscular definition when viewed from the side and the rear.

3.1.7.4 **Secondary/Lower thighs**

The lower thighs are well developed and display adequate, visible musculature down to the hock.

3.1.7.5 **Stifles (Knees)**

- a) The stifle joint is strong and firm.
- b) The angulation between the femur, tibia and fibula must be approximately 90°-100° as seen from the side.

3.1.7.6 **Hocks**

- a) The hock joints are strong and stable;
- b) correctly angulated as seen from the side without lateral deviation when standing or moving; and
- c) parallel with each other when viewed from the rear.

3.1.7.7 **Pasterns**

- a) The hind pasterns are relatively short, strong and of adequate girth.
- b) When viewed from behind, they are parallel with one another.
- c) When viewed from the side, they are vertical.
- d) The front of the hind pastern is in line with the back of the haunch.
- e) Dewclaws may be removed.

3.1.7.8 **Hind paws**

- a) The hind paws are as the front paws but should be slightly smaller than the front paws.
- b) The hind paws point and tread straight to the front.

3.1.8 SKIN

The skin:

- a) is moderately thick and loose; and
- b) should show black eumelanin pigmentation.
- c) There are moderate wrinkles on the brow when the dog is attentive.

3.1.9 COAT

- a) The coat should be sleek with dense hair coverage.
- b) The recognised colours are:
 - i) All shades of fawn, brown, tan and red
 - ii) Black
 - iii) Brindle (brindle being a colour pattern with irregular apparent vertical lines of only black hair on a fawn, brown, tan or red base colour)
- c) All the colours and associated patterns should be accompanied by good pigmentation.
- d) No other colours or colour patterns or markings are acceptable.
- e) Undesirable colours are:
 - i) More than a third white of the total body surface is unacceptable as it may influence pigmentation. (See 3.3.6 g) i)
 - ii) Excessive/large white areas in all colours are undesirable, and must be eliminated.

(Definitions: "Unacceptable" means: Disqualification)

3.1.10 PIGMENTATION

The Boerboel is well pigmented, especially on the lips; nose; palate; the skin and hair around the eyes; footpads; toenails; the anus, the nipples and the skin and hair around the genitals.

3.1.11 GENERAL HEALTH

The general health of the Boerboel is of a high standard. Animals presented for appraisal must be in a good general condition and weight must be in relation to the size of the dog. Physical handicaps and former surgery must be supported by acceptable certification.

3.1.11.1 Reproductive organs

Both females and males should have at least eight nipples.

a) Males

- i. Male dogs must have two well-developed testicles, both in the scrotum.
- ii. The penile sheath is short and firm and holds the penis close to the body.
- iii. Castrated males, monorchids or cryptorchids, may be taken up in the Pet Register.
- iv. Castrated males, monorchids or cryptorchids are not allowed in the show ring.

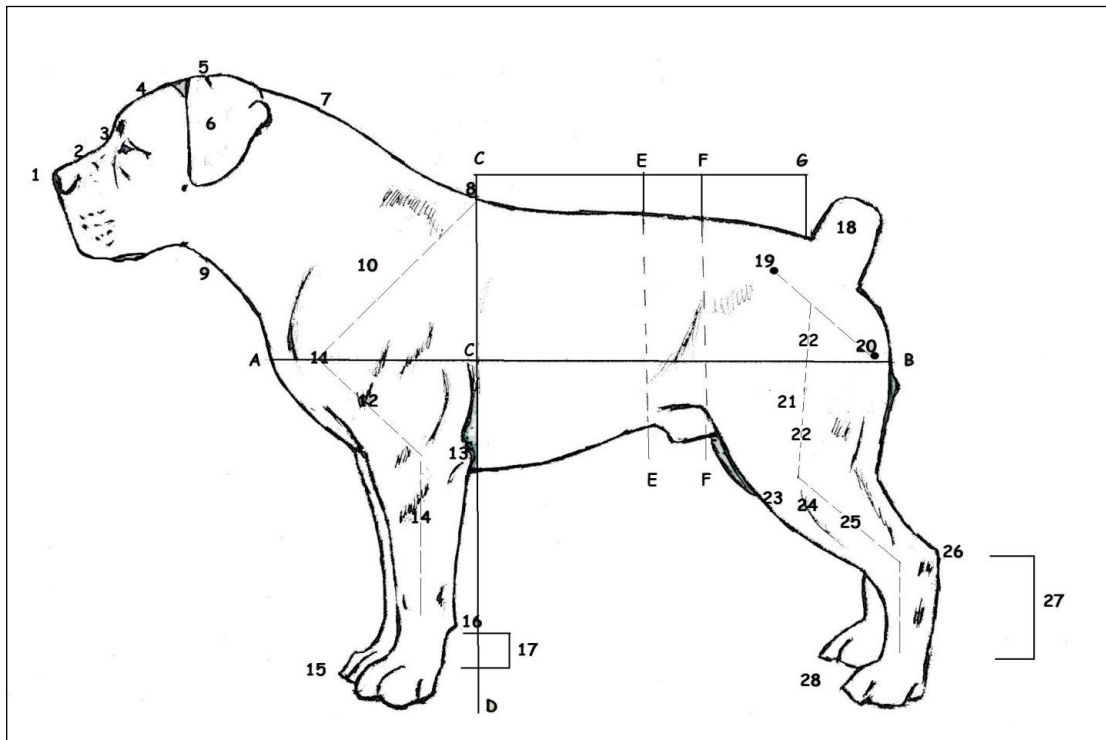
b) Females

- i. The vulva must be firm.
- ii. Sterilised females may be taken up in the Pet Register.
- iii. Sterilised females are not allowed in the show ring.

3.1.12 MOVEMENT

- a) The movement is balanced, effortless, though powerful, purposeful, buoyant and fluent with comfortable reach in the front and powerful drive from the rear.
- b) The stride is sufficient, long, free and unrestricted.
- c) The legs move on parallel planes at all times. Whilst converging to the centre line of travel, the legs should never cross.
- d) At all gaits the top line is stable (fixed), without any swaying, dipping or excessive body roll.
- e) Limited, weak or unsound movement shall be severely penalised.

3.2 ILLUSTRATED BREED STANDARD TERMINOLOGY



Body length measured from A (prosternum) - B (rear of the rump/croup)
Body height measured from C (withers) to the ground (D)
Forequarter: A - C
Back: C - E
Loin: E - F
Centre piece C – F
Croup/Rump: F - G
Tail setting: G

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Nose leather | 2. Nasal bone (muzzle) |
| 3. Stop | 4. Cranial roof |
| 5. Plateau | 6. Ear |
| 7. Muscular arch on neck | 8. Withers (top of scapula) |
| 9. Dewlap | 10. Shoulder blade (scapula) |
| 11. Shoulder joint (point of shoulder) | 12. Upper front leg (humerus) |
| 13. Elbow | 14. Lower front leg (radius and ulna) |
| 15. Front paws | 16. Pastern joint |
| 17. Front pastern | 18. Tail |
| 19. Ilium (point of hip) | 20. Ischium (point of buttock) |
| 21. Primary thigh | 22. Femur |
| 23. Knee (stifle) | 24. Secondary thigh |
| 25. Tibula and fibula | 26. Hock |
| 27. Hind pastern | 28. Hind paws |

3.3 DISQUALIFICATION

- 3.3.1 To gain comprehensive statistical and genetic data on all Boerboels, SABBS urges members to present all dogs for appraisal. Dogs that do not meet the minimum score at an appraisal and dogs that have been disqualified (for whatever reason) shall not be registered, but shall be recorded in the PET Register. *(Refer to 3.3.3).*
- 3.3.2 The senior appraiser has the discretion to disqualify a dog on a certain trait prior to the appraisal beginning based on a trait he/she has seen without the appraisal process having been followed through. However, the appraisal chart must be filled in completely for data purposes. He shall also notify the Office providing reasons for the disqualification. Only in this type of case will the appraisal fee be reimbursed. There will be no documentation provided to the owner in such a case.
- 3.3.3 A dog that is disqualified because of aggression, timidity or was not fully developed at the time of appraisal, may again be brought forward for appraisal, provided that it has improved and/or matured.
- 3.3.4 The Society retains the right to disqualify and/or remove a specific dog from the database of which documentation presented proves to be fraudulent and/or incorrect.
- 3.3.5 Any serious deviations and/or combinations of deviations from the Breed Standard that affect the dog's health/performance/functionality and/or mobility negatively are considered unacceptable and is a disqualification at the discretion of a senior appraiser in order to retain breed integrity. The dog will be Pet registered without any breeding rights
- 3.3.6 Traits that shall lead to disqualification are:
- a) **Any indication of another dog breed**
 - b) **Temperament**
Any behavioural abnormalities, i.e.
 - i. An overly aggressive and/or uncontrollable dog.
 - ii. A timid or insecure dog.
 - iii. A dog that bites its owner.
 - c) **Size**
 - i. A dog not meeting the prescribed height.
 - ii. A dog with insufficient bone structure.
 - iii. A petite dog.
 - iv. A clumsy/unbalanced dog.
 - v. Unacceptable proportions of body components.
 - d) **Head**
A head that is not typically Boerboel.
 - i. A too small or nondescriptive head.
 - ii. Erect or semi-erect ears. Serious erect ears
 - iii. Serious structural deviations of the eyelids.
 - iv. Any other colour than yellow or brown eyes.
 - v. A nose leather that is not *black*
 - vi. Excessive deviations of dentition
 - vii. A narrow, too long or sharply pointed muzzle.
 - viii. A dog with cropped ears
 - e) **Body**
 - i. A chest that is too narrow.
 - ii. Bandy or crooked legs.
 - iii. A top line that is too hollow.
 - iv. A top line that is roached.
 - v. A top line that is S-curved.
 - vi. Serious cow hocks.
 - vii. Serious sickle hocks.
 - viii. Slipping (unstable) joints.

- ix. Straight hind legs.
- x. Deformed spines.
- xi. Kinked, corkscrew, deformed or tightly curling tails.

f) **Skin and pelt**

- i. Long and/or curly hair.
- ii. Excessive skin.
- iii. Insufficient pigmentation of skin around key areas (lips; nose; palate; the skin and hair around the eyes; footpads; toenails; the anus; the nipples; and the skin and hair around the genitals).

g) **Colour**

- i. Unacceptable colours and patterns in respect of the breed standard:
 - Liver colour on any basic breed standard colour.
 - Excessive ticking on any basic breed standard coat colour.
 - Split face on any basic breed standard colour.
 - Dilute powder and solid blue colour dogs.
 - Black-and-tan dogs.
 - More than a third white of the total body surface.
 - The black colour needs to be a strong black colouring with no shades of brown (referred to as seal colouring).
 - Tri-colour
 - Any colours not part of the Breed Standard.
- ii. Insufficient pigmentation

Any artificial alteration of coat colour, including but not limited to dyeing, bleaching, staining, or tattooing for the purpose of altering the colour is strictly prohibited. Any dog found to have an artificially altered coat colour shall be disqualified from registration, appraisal, and competitions.

h) **Reproductive organs**

- i. Males without two natural and well-developed testicles.
- ii. Females with grade 2 vaginal hyperplasia or a prolapse.

i) **Mobility**

- i. Clumsy or unbalanced movement.
- ii. Any visible impairment that seriously affects mobility.
- iii. Physical handicaps which are not the result of an earlier injury.

4. POWERS OF THE SOCIETY

4.1 Subject to the terms of the Constitution, the Society shall have the power to:

- a) carry out such functions and perform such duties as are or may be imposed upon it by virtue of its incorporation in terms of the Act; and to
- b) generally do all such acts as a body corporate may by law perform, and which the Society may deem necessary for the attainment of its objectives.

4.2 The Society has the right to:

- a) carry on business;
- b) participate in any profit-making activities.

4.3 However, the Society shall not:

- a) participate in any profession or occupation carried on by any of its members, or provide any financial assistance, premises, continuous services, or facilities to members for the purpose

of carrying on any business or occupation by them; and

- b) have the power to carry on ordinary commercial trading operations, speculative transactions, dividend stripping activities as well as the letting of property on a systematic or regular basis.

5. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Society shall consist of the following categories of members:

5.1 ORDINARY MEMBERS

Persons, who are engaged, directly or indirectly, in the breeding of animals shall be eligible for membership of the Society as Ordinary Members who shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of membership, including the right to vote at any general meeting of the Society, and the right to be elected to the Board.

5.2 JUNIOR MEMBERS

Any person under the age of 18 years may become a Junior Member and participate in the activities of the Society on approval by the Board and payment of the prescribed fees, provided that his parents or guardians countersign the application and accept full responsibility for financial and other commitments on his behalf. A Junior Member may not vote at meetings, and is not eligible for election to the Board.

5.3 COMPANY, CLOSE CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP OR BODY CORPORATE

- 5.3.1 A company, close corporation, partnership or body corporate applying for Ordinary Membership shall disclose to the Society such facts as may be necessary to determine the nature of the controlling interest therein. In addition to the requirements imposed in respect of all applications, the Secretary shall be provided with the name and address of the person who will act as representative at meetings of the Society. Such person shall have the right to nominate an alternate in writing. Such nomination must reach the Secretary not later than 20 (twenty) days prior to a general meeting at which such alternate will vote.
- 5.3.2 All communications addressed to such authorised representative referred to in Subclause 5.3.1 shall be deemed to be duly served upon the company, close corporation, partnership or body corporate. At all meetings at which such authorised representative is in attendance, such company, close corporation, partnership or body corporate shall be deemed to be duly represented.
- 5.3.3 The principal person so appointed to represent such company, close corporation, partnership or body corporate shall be eligible for election to the Board.
- 5.3.4 Should such company, close corporation, partnership or body corporate cease to comply with the requirements of Ordinary Membership as laid down in Subclause 5.1, its rights shall automatically be terminated, and the provisions of Subclause 5.3.5 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply in respect of such company, close corporation, partnership or body corporate.
- 5.3.5 The liquidation of a company or close corporation and the dissolution of a partnership or body corporate shall automatically result in the termination of its membership of the Society, provided that:
 - a) all amounts owing to the Society as on the date of liquidation or dissolution shall be recoverable by the Society from the liquidator of such company or closed corporation, or from the members (either jointly or severally) of such partnership or body corporate;
 - b) the liquidator of such company or close corporation and the members of such partnership or body corporate shall be obliged to discharge all the obligations of such company, close corporation, partnership or body corporate in respect of registration, transfers and whatever obligations the company, close corporation, partnership or body corporate would have had to discharge as a member of the Society; and

- c) whatever fees may be due and payable after such automatic termination of membership, shall be raised on the scale payable by Ordinary Members.

5.4 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

- 5.4.1 Application for membership of the Society shall be made to the Secretary in writing in such form as may be prescribed by the Board, and shall be accompanied by the relevant fees as may be determined by the Board.
- 5.4.2 All new members shall sign an undertaking to abide by the Constitution and Bylaws, and to procedures and regulations pertaining to participation in any event organised under the auspices of the Society.
- 5.4.3 The Board may admit any applicant to membership of the Society, either unconditionally or on such conditions as it may determine, or it may refuse admission to membership, disclosing the reason for such refusal. At each Board meeting the Secretary shall submit the names of new applicants whose memberships must be confirmed or refused by the Board.
- 5.4.4 An applicant to whom admission to membership has been refused shall be entitled to a refund of any fees forwarded with his application for membership.

5.5 RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

- 5.5.1. Save for executors of deceased estates, trustees of insolvent estates and liquidators of companies or close corporations, the rights and privileges of every member of the Society shall be to him personally, and shall not be transferable or transmissible - either by his own act or by operation of law. These shall include the following rights:
 - a) to receive all official communications published by the Society for members;
 - b) to apply for the birth recording of puppies and registration of Boerboels under the Society's rules;
 - c) to attend all general meetings of the Society, and - subject to Subclause 10.6. - have the right to vote at such meetings;
 - d) to receive technical advice on Boerboel matters from the Society, and if applicable, at a fee to be determined by the Board; and
 - e) to consult and use the Society's official reports at the discretion of the Board, and if applicable, the costs to be defrayed by the applicant.

5.6 DELEGATION OF POWERS

- 5.6.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Constitution, any member may under power of attorney, duly executed and filed with the Secretary, authorise another person to sign on his behalf any application for registration, application for transfer, certificate of transfer, certificate of service, returns or reports or any other document in connection with the administration of a kennel (stud). Any such signature given by such member, shall be accepted by the Society as valid and binding, provided that nothing herein contained shall entitle such authorised person to participate in the nomination of, or voting for any member of the Board, or voting on any matter where his principal has a vote, or to attend any meeting on his principal's behalf.

5.7 OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS

- 5.7.1 The Society's preferred and accepted communication medium shall be via electronic mail to members. Official notifications shall be sent to members via electronic mail, and also be published on the Society's website. Notifications and correspondence sent to members via electronic mail shall be deemed duly delivered and received, as provided for in Subclause 10.7.

5.8 REGISTER OF MEMBERS

- 5.8.1 The Society shall keep a register of all members reflecting their date of admission, membership

status, phone numbers, electronic, physical and postal addresses, and the amounts received from them with the dates of payment, and arrears, if any which may be due.

- 5.8.2 Every member shall communicate in writing within 30 (thirty) days to the Secretary any change of his phone numbers, electronic, physical and postal address. All notices or publications sent to any such address shall be considered as duly delivered to him.
- 5.8.3 Communications sent by the Secretary to a member to any of the addresses provided by him shall be binding.
- 5.8.4 The Secretary shall submit to the Registering Authority of the Society such information as it may require concerning admissions to membership, terminations of membership (for whatever reason), and the contact details and addresses of members.
- 5.8.5 The Society shall be the sole owner of the records of members, and of the Boerboel Database which shall remain in South Africa, and may be maintained on its behalf in South Africa by a designated Registering Authority.
- 5.8.6 All personal information and contact details of members shall be confidential and for the sole use of the Society, and shall not be made available to third parties without the permission of the member concerned, unless demanded by a court of law.
- 5.8.7 Residency requirement for Breeders. Only members who are ordinarily resident within the Republic of South Africa shall be eligible to register as breeders for the purpose of recording Boerboel litters born within South Africa. Non-resident members may retain membership and may register or own Boerboels abroad, subject to applicable export, import, and registration regulations, but may not be listed as the breeder of record for litters in South Africa.

6. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND FEES

- 6.1 The amounts payable to the Society in respect of all subscriptions, fees or any other dues and commissions shall from time to time be determined by the Board and shall be reported to members at the ensuing Annual General Meeting of the Society.
- 6.2
 - a) The annual subscription fees shall become due and payable on 1 January of each and every year in advance without it being necessary for the Society or the Secretary to send any invoice or notice to the member concerned and shall be deemed to be in arrears, if unpaid at the end of January of the same year.
 - b) Every member shall submit a per capita list and simultaneously effect payment in terms thereof to the Society by the end of January every year without it being necessary for the Society or the Secretary to send any invoice or notice to the member concerned and shall be deemed to be in arrears if unpaid by the end of January of the same year
 - (c) Every member who has entered a dog or dogs for appraisal shall pay the required fee in respect of the appraisal simultaneously with entering the dog or dogs for appraisal without it being necessary for the Society or the Secretary to send any invoice or notice to the member concerned failing which the amount payable shall be deemed to be in arrears.
 - (d) Every member who birth notifies litters shall pay the required fee in respect of birth notifications simultaneously with birth notifying litters without it being necessary for the Society or the Secretary to send any invoice or notice to the member concerned failing which the amount payable shall be deemed to be in arrears
 - (e) Every member who applies for export application shall pay the required fee in respect of export application simultaneously with the application of export without it being necessary for the Society or the Secretary to send any invoice or notice to the member concerned failing which the amount payable shall be deemed to be in arrears.

- 6.3. Any member who has failed to return his per capita list and/or who is indebted to the Society in respect of any fees or dues for a period longer than 30 (thirty) calendar days after a formal written demand for delivery of the per capita list or payment of the fees or dues, as the case may be, was addressed to him by the Secretary shall automatically forfeit his membership of the Society.

In this regard

- a) Any member who has forfeited his membership shall be notified in writing within a period of 21 (twenty-one) calendar days from the date on which his membership was forfeited.
 - b) From the date on which his membership was terminated no services shall be rendered to the member concerned and no processing of birth notifications or registrations, and he shall be notified accordingly.
 - c) The Board may in exceptional circumstances - upon receipt of a written application by the member concerned within 30 (thirty) calendar days after the Secretary sent him a demand for payment - allow extension of payment.
- 6.4 The Board may cause an interest charge to be levied and collected on arrear accounts at the prime interest rate.
- 6.5 Any member who, for any reason whatsoever, has ceased to be a member of the Society shall remain liable for all amounts due to the Society, as on the date on which his membership ceased.
- 6.6 Should the Board determine that an account is in arrears and should such an account be handed over to a firm of attorneys for collection, the member shall be liable to the Society for payment of all legal fees, collection, and attorney and client costs, in addition to the principal amount, interest, fines and penalties.

6.7 ANNUAL RETURNS

- 6.7.1 Every member shall, when paying his annual subscription to the Society, render a return on the prescribed form, giving the names and numbers of animals recorded in the books of the Society, owned by him on the first day of the year for which the annual subscription is paid. Failing the rendering of such return before the end of January of each year, the Board shall have the right to determine the *per capita* subscription (administration fee) payable by such a member. However, the member shall have the right of review within 3 (three) months from the commencement of that year, and failing to exercise this right of review, the amount determined shall be the annual *per capita* subscription payable by such a member.

7. RESIGNATION, MISCONDUCT, SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

7.1 RESIGNATION AS A MEMBER

- 7.1.1 Any member may resign as a member of the Society by submitting a written notice to the Secretary on the understanding that:
- a) such a resignation shall come into immediate effect; and
 - b) no subscription or portion thereof shall be refundable; and
 - c) all moneys due to the Society up to the date of receipt of the resignation notice shall have been paid in full and all obligations in respect of documents, records, registration and transfers or any other obligation – including moneys as defined in Subclause 6.5 - with reference to his membership required by the Society shall be fulfilled.

7.2 MISCONDUCT

- 7.2.1 A member is guilty of misconduct if he:
- a) fails to pay any amount of money due to the Society within 30 (thirty) calendar days after a formal written demand for such payment was addressed to him;
 - b) contravenes this Constitution or any other ethical rule in the Code of Conduct - as announced to members and approved by the Board from time to time - or in the opinion of the Board, acted in a dishonourable or derogatory manner towards an official, or to the detriment of the

- interests of the Society;
- c) by any act or omission, real or potential, disgraced or harmed the Society and the Boerboel breed;
- d) has on purpose or for personal gain and advantage, supplied faulty information to the Society or any of its officials, or who has brought about such changes to the body of an animal so as to mislead any person;
- e) tries to bribe an official of the Society;
- f) has been found guilty of a criminal offence as a result of any form of dishonesty or fraud in his capacity as a Boerboel breeder or as a member of the Society; or
- g) acted untruthfully or dishonourably towards a buyer, made false representations about the quality or origins of a Boerboel to a buyer or to the Society, or acted untruthfully or dishonourably in any other transaction with a buyer and/or the Society.
- h) The South African Boerboel Breeders' Society shall not involve itself in or adjudicate private contractual disputes between buyers and sellers of Boerboels. Any sale, purchase, lease, or transfer of a dog is a private agreement between the parties involved, and the Society shall not act as mediator or arbitrator in such disputes.
- i) This provision shall not prevent the Board from investigating allegations of fraud, dishonesty, falsification of records, or breaches of the Constitution or Code of Conduct where such conduct may bring the Society or the Boerboel breed into disrepute.
- j) Non-resident members may retain membership and may register or own Boerboels abroad subject to applicable export, import, and registration regulations, but may not be listed as the breeder of record for litters born in South Africa.

7.2.2 Should the Board:

- a) of its own accord learn that a member acts, or has acted in a manner that may cause him being found guilty of misconduct; or
- b) receive a complaint from a member of the Society or a member of the public, accusing such member of misconduct, the Board must give such a member at least 15 (fifteen) calendar days written notice that a complaint of misconduct shall be investigated.
- c) The South African Boerboel Breeders' Society shall not investigate or adjudicate disputes arising from private sales agreements or other contractual matters between buyers and sellers of dogs. The Board may, however, investigate complaints where the alleged conduct affects the integrity of the Society's registry, breeding records, inspections, or involves fraud, misrepresentation, falsification of records, or breaches of this Constitution or the Code of Conduct
- d) Complaints submitted by members or non-members of the public against a member of the South African Boerboel Breeders' Society shall only be considered by the Board where the complaint relates directly to the integrity of the Society's registry, breeding records, inspections, or involves allegations of fraud, falsification of records, or breaches of the Constitution or the Code of Conduct.
- e) The Society shall not consider or investigate complaints arising from private sales agreements, guarantees, payment disputes, or other contractual matters between buyers and sellers of dogs, as these are private matters between the parties concerned.

7.2.3 The notice mentioned in Subclause 7.2.2.b) must be accompanied by a brief of the facts on which the complaint was made and must inform the member that he shall be entitled to support by a fully paid-up member of his choice to assist him in submitting facts pertaining to the allegation/s.

7.2.4 The Board shall nominate persons to investigate the facts on which the complaint was based, and may hear verbal evidence and consider documents, and other relevant evidence. During such an investigation the Board may temporarily withhold services while such investigation is still ongoing.

7.2.5 The Board may only find a member guilty of misconduct, if the member had full opportunity to defend the complaint, and may only impose a punishment (sentence) if the member has had the opportunity

to make representations in respect of the possible appropriate punishment (sentence). If the member does not make use of this opportunity it will mean that he has waived his rights to defend himself.

7.2.6 In the case of finding a member guilty of misconduct, the Board may:

- a) expel the person as a member of the Society;
- b) suspend his membership;
- c) suspend his membership for a specified period;
- d) withdraw his right to vote for a specified time;
- e) suspend the member from the Board, or any other committee of the Society;
- f) give the member a warning.

7.2.7 If a member is not satisfied with the outcome of the investigation he may appeal to the Chairman within 30 (thirty) calendar days.

- a) The Chairman may convene an appeal committee of at least two senior Board members to address the complaint. However, the Chairman may also appoint an external chairman to lead the committee.
- b) The outcome of the committee's findings shall be submitted to the Board for final consideration. A Board resolution to find a member guilty of misconduct and the penalty decided on must be agreed upon by a two-third majority of Board members.
- c) If a member does not make himself available telephonically for the appeal investigation and has been notified requesting information, the committee may continue with its investigation after 15 minutes without the member providing the relevant information for an appeal hearing. This shall mean the member waives his rights to defend himself.
- d) An appeal is not an automatic right to an appeal process. The member is to provide reason/s for the appeal. The appeal committee will decide based on reasons provided if the appeal is granted or denied. If granted, the appeal committee may request further information from parties involved pertaining to a specific area brought to light in the appeal request, and then decide if the appeal is granted or denied. If an appeal is granted, required information could be done telephonically or electronically which will only refer to a certain area and only this issue will be heard in the hearing to obtain information from all parties involved.

7.2.8 Any member who is found guilty of misconduct shall be informed in writing by the Secretary within 7 (seven) days of the date on which the decision was made. A member found guilty of misconduct may be held responsible for all expenses incurred in respect of the investigation.

7.2.9 Following on the dismissal of a member, the breeder shall be removed from the membership list, or any other register or Society reports. All recordings or registrations of dogs in the possession of the dismissed shall remain in our registration and data base. The society retains the right to disqualify and /or remove a specific dog from the database of which documentation presented proved to be fraudulent and /or incorrect.

7.2.10 Any member found guilty of misconduct shall remain responsible for, and shall pay in full all moneys due to the Society, and shall honour all the obligations regarding notifications, registrations and transfers or any other obligations concerning his membership at the time of the investigation.

7.2.11 A person, who, for whatever reason has ceased to be a member of the Society, may submit a written application and motivation for readmission. The Board may, in its sole discretion, decide if and on what conditions such readmission shall take place.

7.2.12 The Head Office shall maintain a list of members found guilty of misconduct after a formal investigation.

7.2.13 Exit strategy is a process to be followed when faced with a dismissal to protect and safeguard all affected dogs. To provide the breeder an opportunity to birth notify litter/s born, supply mating

certificates due, to apply for export permit/s where a sale is in progress. A window period of 30 days will be applied for the exit strategy from date of formal dismissal notification, thereafter the society will not accept or process any form of work. For the dismissed breeder. All work during the 30 day exit period will be strictly on a cash basis only.

- 7.2.14 Any complaint must be submitted in writing, signed, and accompanied by supporting evidence. The Board reserves the right to refuse to investigate complaints that are frivolous, vexatious, or unsupported by evidence or a normal contractual dispute between buyer and seller.

8. BOARD

8.1 CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN, TREASURER AND BOARD MEMBERS

- 8.1.1 (a) The affairs of the Society shall be controlled and administered by the Board, consisting of the designated members, including the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Treasurer (who shall be responsible for Finance and Administration). All these members shall reside in South Africa, and shall have full voting rights.
- (b) Criminal Record Verification of Key Office Bearers
- (1) All persons elected or appointed to the positions of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Treasurer of the South African Boerboel Breeders' Society (SABBS) shall be subject to a criminal record check.
 - (2) Any nominee for these positions shall provide written consent and permission for the criminal record check to be conducted as part of the nomination and appointment process.
 - (3) The criminal record verification must be completed prior to confirmation of the appointment or within a reasonable period after the election, as determined by SABBS.
 - (4) The purpose of the criminal record check is to ensure that individuals holding these positions meet the standards of integrity, trustworthiness, and fiduciary responsibility required to manage the affairs and finances of the Society.
 - (5) Should a criminal record check reveal a serious criminal offence that may affect the integrity, reputation, or financial management of SABBS, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to review the eligibility of the individual to hold office, in accordance with the SABBS disciplinary procedures and applicable South African law.
 - (6) SABBS shall ensure that all criminal record information is handled confidentially and in accordance with applicable privacy, data protection, and legal requirements, including the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (POPIA).
- 8.1.2 (a) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be elected by ballot (electronic or printed) by all the members entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting called for this purpose.
- (b) A member shall only be eligible for nomination or election as Chairman of the Society if they have served a minimum of two (2) consecutive years as a member of the Board prior to such nomination.
- 8.1.3 The Treasurer shall be elected by virtue of his expertise by ballot (electronic or printed) by all the members entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting called for this purpose. If no nomination is received, the Board shall appoint a Treasurer. Such nomination will be subject to Clause 8.1.4
- 8.1.4 (a) The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and all elected Board Members shall hold office for 2 (two) years. Membership of at least 1 (one) year is required before a member may stand for election to the Board.

- (b) When a new Chairman, Vice-Chairman, or Treasurer is elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), they shall not assume their official duties immediately upon election. A transition period of **three (3) weeks** shall be observed to ensure an orderly and structured handover.
- (c) A formal handover meeting between the outgoing and incoming Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Treasurer shall be held within **twenty-one (21) days** following the AGM. This meeting shall address all necessary information, including pending matters and ongoing projects to facilitate a smooth transition of responsibilities.
- (d) During this transition period, the outgoing Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Treasurer shall remain in their official roles and responsibilities. They shall be acknowledged for their contributions in organizing the AGM and related events. The newly elected office bearers shall formally assume their duties at the conclusion of the handover meeting.

8.1.5 Members who wish to submit and second nominations for Board members, must have been SABBS members for at least 1 (one) year.

8.1.6 In the interests of continuity, the following succession planning shall apply:

- a) After the first election of Board members after the implementation of the revised Constitution, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and approximately 50% of the other Board members - to be determined by agreement or secret ballot within the Board - shall step down at the second election of a Board and a new Chairman or Vice-Chairman and approximately 50% of new Board members shall be elected. Outgoing members shall be eligible for re-election. If any member(s) of the Board announce/s his/their retirement at such election, the ballot (electronic or printed) shall only be cast in respect of the remaining number of Board members who must step down in terms hereof.
- b) At the end of the next year, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman whichever the case may be, and the remaining 50% Board members shall step down, and an election shall be held for their positions. Outgoing Board members and the Chairman/Vice-Chairman shall be eligible for re-election.
- c) Thereafter all elected Board members shall occupy their positions for two years and an election for the positions of the outgoing members of the Board shall be held annually.

8.1.7 In the event of the death or resignation of the Chairman, the Board shall elect a Chairman from among themselves to officiate until the next Annual General or a Special General Meeting.

8.1.8 At the end of their respective terms of office, all Board Members shall be eligible for re-election, provided that preferably no Board member shall serve for a period of more than 4 (four) years, and provided there is no other nomination for that position.

8.1.9 Candidates for Regional Board members shall reside in their regions of representation, and voting shall be restricted to members residing in those regions.

8.1.10 Voting Eligibility for the avoidance of doubt, a "member in good standing" is defined as a member whose membership fees and all other amounts due to SABBS have been paid in full, resulting in a nil balance on the member's account, and who is not subject to any disciplinary suspension or sanction. Only members in good standing shall be eligible to vote, nominate candidates, or stand for election to any SABBS office or committee.

8.2 BOARD STRUCTURE

8.2.1 In addition to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer, 9 (nine) regional Board Members for each of the 9 (nine) provinces in South Africa shall be elected by ballot (electronic or printed) by members residing in South Africa and entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting called for this purpose. Members shall be eligible to vote for candidates in their regions only.

- 8.2.2 Additional Board Members for neighbouring countries and regions abroad shall be nominated by such regions for appointment to the Board. They shall determine their own election procedures. These positions are for West Africa (including North Africa) and Africa, (Excluding North Africa and West Africa) Central Africa, North America (including Canada) and Europe.

8.3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 8.3.1 The Executive Committee of the Board shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and 2 (two) members of the Board - the latter to be nominated by, and from the Board.
- 8.3.2 The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer shall reside in South Africa.
- 8.3.3 The Executive Committee shall have the following powers and duties:
- a) Day by day administrative, financial and communication management of the affairs of the Society.
 - b) Such powers as delegated by the Board from time to time.
 - c) To implement and execute decisions made by the Board.
 - d) To identify problems and problem areas, and place such on the agenda of the Board together with recommendations.

8.4 ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBERS

- 8.4.1 In addition to the elected members of the Board, the following persons shall serve on the Board in an advisory capacity and be entitled to attend any general meeting.
- 8.4.1.1 **Representative of the Minister**
As required by the Animal Improvement Act, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries may nominate an official of that Department to represent him.
- 8.4.1.2 **Co-opted members**
The Board shall have the right to co-opt persons to serve on the Board - *with or without full powers* - for a specific purpose and for a specific period.
- However, if no candidates are proposed for a specific region for the purposes of Board position election, the Board is under no obligation to appoint or co-op such Regional Board member(s).
- 8.4.3 Should any elected member of the Board die, resign or cease to be a member of the Society, or be called upon to fill the office of Chairman or Vice-Chairman, the Board may appoint another member of the Society as his substitute with full powers, and for the unexpired period of his term of office. The Board shall be deemed to be duly constituted, and shall continue exercising all the powers conferred upon it, notwithstanding any vacancies in its body.

9. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD

- 9.1 The Board shall, subject to the terms of this Constitution and subject further to the directives of the general meetings as given from time to time, have the power to take all such actions it deems necessary or advisable in the interests of the Society and for the advancement and attainment of the Society's objectives. In particular, the Board shall have the power to:
- a) appoint, dismiss or suspend such attorneys, or other legal representatives, auditors, agents, officials or other employees, for or from permanent, temporary or special services as it may deem fit; to determine their powers and duties; to fix their remuneration and conditions of service; and to require such security for the due performance of their functions, as it may deem expedient;
 - b) institute, conduct, defend, compound or abandon any legal proceedings by or against the Society or against any of its office bearers or officials or other employees in connection with the affairs of the Society; and to compound or allow, or ask for time for payment or satisfaction

- of any debts due to or any claim or demand by or against the Society;
- c) open one or more banking accounts in the name of the Society, and to draw, accept, endorse, make or execute any bill of exchange, promissory note, cheque, credit card or electronic funds transfer in connection with the conduct of the affairs of the Society;
 - d) invest, or in any other manner deal with any moneys not immediately required for purposes of the Society, upon such securities and on such terms as it may deem fit and, from time to time, to change or realise any such investments, provided that funds available for investment may only be invested with registered financial institutions as defined in Section 1 of the Financial Institutions (Investment of Funds) Act, 1984, and in securities listed on a licensed stock exchange as defined in the Stock Exchanges Control Act, 1985 (Act No. 1 of 1985);
 - e) lend or borrow money for the purposes of the Society upon security as determined by it; to enter into indemnities, guarantees and sureties and to secure payment there under in any way; to make donations; to undertake and execute any trust; to secure the payment of monies borrowed in any manner, including the mortgaging and pledging of property, and, without detracting from the generality thereof, in particular by the issue of any kind of debenture or debenture stock, with or without security;
 - f) purchase, hire, take on lease or acquire for the purpose of the Society, buildings, land, goods, chattels and effects; to sell, mortgage, pledge, let, alienate or otherwise dispose of any movable or immovable property belonging to the Society, and to apply the consideration arising there from in such a manner as it may consider to be to the best advantage of the Society;
 - g) conclude contracts outside the Republic of South Africa and to obtain contracts, deeds and documents in a country outside South Africa;
 - h) manage, insure, sell, lease, mortgage, dispose of, give in exchange, work, develop, build on, improve, turn to account or in any way otherwise deal with all, or any part, of its property and assets;
 - i) pay all costs and charges in connection with the administration and management of the affairs of the Society;
 - j) from time to time, subject to the provisions of Clause 5, to adjust or revise subscriptions, fees or dues and to prescribe any such additional fees or dues as it may deem necessary; and to grant discounts on subscriptions, fees or dues;
 - k) collect and receive subscriptions, fees, donations, other dues and funds and to devote the same towards the objectives of the Society and towards promoting the Boerboel breed;
 - l) receive and consider applications for membership and to accept or refuse such applications at its discretion;
 - m) cancel membership of any person in accordance with Clause 6;
 - n) refuse appraisals, registration and other services for members whose accounts are overdue in accordance with Subclause 6.3;
 - o) introduce and, in its discretion, allocate such meritorious or other awards as may be deemed fit, and make and formulate such rules and conditions in regard thereto;
 - p) formulate and propose to the General Meeting for approval by the members to frame or amend any Bylaw pertaining to this Constitution as may be deemed necessary from time to time, and investigate disputes arising from the application of the Constitution and give decisions in regard thereto;
 - q) order an investigation in any case where records are not properly kept or where any doubt should arise as to the correctness of the identity of any animal or animals, and to take such action as it may consider advisable in the interests of the Society;

- r) demand - with the following objectives - that any Boerboel or the whole stud of any breeder be subjected to tests for blood typing and/or DNA testing:
 - i. in its discretion in case of allegations, complaints and database discrepancies, to determine the correctness of the parentage of such dogs. The Board shall be responsible for the costs thereof should the tests be positive. If only one animal should prove to be negative, the owner shall be liable to pay for the tests and the costs of such further tests required by the Board; and
 - ii. by annual random selection, nominate studs to be blood typed and/or subjected to DNA tests in order to test the accuracy of parentage and record-keeping systems of the Society.
 - iii. the birth notification and/or registration of a Boerboel be cancelled should the result of the blood typing/DNA tests requested by the Board be negative. The Board shall further, in its discretion, consider what further steps shall be taken against such owner/breeder.
- s) execute control over the local handling, import and export of Boerboels, semen and egg cells (fertilised or unfertilised);
- t) make enquiries and take action – if indicated - in respect of the conduct of any member in so far as it could have a negative bearing on the Society or its affairs.
- u) impose and exact such penalties as may be prescribed from time to time for contravention or infringement of this Constitution, rules and regulations of the Society;
- v) co-opt the services of any member of the Society or other person and appoint persons or Subcommittees upon such terms and with such powers as it may from time-to-time deem expedient, provided that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be *ex officio* members of all Subcommittees with full rights and privileges;
- w) assist all members of the Board, or give instructions to appoint regional representatives and to involve them in activities in their region;
- x) determine when and where appraisals and national, provincial and regional Boerboel shows shall be held;
- y) make and formulate such rules and conditions relating to Boerboel shows and the nomination of show judges;
- z) draw up and propose the minimum Breed Standard, and lay down minimum performance, reproduction and other standards for approval at a General Meeting and see to the maintenance thereof;
- aa) implement and maintain an appraisal system, and formulate rules, conditions and terms for such system;
- bb) present and organise breeder and appraiser courses and examinations, and in its discretion appoint successful candidates as official Society appraisers;
- cc) organise and promote sales, either by public auction or private treaty and for such purposes appoint auctioneers and agents and to charge commission on such sales;
- dd) elect a representative/s to the Annual General Meeting of the Registering Authority, and nominate and mandate a person or persons to represent the Society on any committee, body or organisation as may be deemed necessary;
- ee) lay down requirements for regional provincial, national, and international Boerboel Clubs and their affiliation to the Society, and approve applications for such affiliation;
- ff) generally perform all such acts as may be necessary for the welfare of the Boerboel breed and the Society and the conduct of its affairs, provided always that any action taken, or instructions given, shall not be contrary to the terms of the Constitution; and

gg) take all action necessary for the management of the Society, in order to execute the objectives of the Society.

9.2. If, in any instance that deals with the organisational and practical implementation of this Constitution, and the Constitution is silent or inadequate, the Board shall take a decision in that regard, subject thereto that the members shall be informed of the decision at the ensuing Annual General Meeting.

10. MEETINGS

10.1 BOARD MEETINGS

10.1.1 The Board shall meet at such time and place as it may from time to time determine, or as may be decided by the Chairman. The Board shall hold not less than 1 (one) physical Board meeting in each financial year and must conduct 2 (two) additional meetings by electronic or virtual means where all participants are able to communicate simultaneously.

10.1.2 The Secretary shall give written notice of the time, date and place to each member of the Board not less than 21 (twenty-one) days prior to the holding of a physical Board meeting.

10.1.3 Special or Urgent Board meetings:

- a) may be called by the Chairman (or in his absence by the Vice-Chairman) at such time and place as deemed feasible; or
- b) may be called upon a request, signed and addressed to the Secretary, by two-thirds of the members of the Board, stating the reasons for such meeting.
- c) may be held via conference call or other electronic real-time communication medium.
- d) shall proceed if a quorum of Board members shall be in attendance.

10.1.4 The Chairman or the Secretary shall give at least 8 (eight) hours' notice – verbally or in writing - of an Urgent Board meeting, and at least 7 (seven) days' notice of a Special Board meeting.

10.1.5 No resolution of the Board in respect of any matter shall be varied or rescinded unless the resolution varying or rescinding the same be passed at a meeting of which written notice - specifying the intention to vary or rescind a specific resolution - has been given to all Board members, provided that a resolution shall be varied or rescinded only if two-thirds of the members of the Board so agree.

10.1.6 Voting at physical Board and Executive Committee meetings shall be by ballot paper, or by show of hands, if so agreed by all present. Voting at electronic real-time meetings shall be recorded in the name of each member present, stating whether they voted 'yes,' 'no' or 'abstain'. Members may also agree to vote on important and urgent matters via e-mail outside of meetings.

10.1.7 A two-third majority vote is required for any Board or Executive Committee resolution to be passed.

10.1.8 Members of the Board absenting themselves from two consecutive Board, Executive or meetings of other committees without leave, or an acceptable reason, shall automatically vacate their seats.

10.2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

10.2.1 The Executive Committee shall hold meetings (physically or by electronic real-time communication medium) at such time and place as may be required from time to time by the Chairman, (or in his absence by the Vice-Chairman), or as requested by the other members of the Executive Committee.

10.2.2 All actions and decisions of the Executive Committee shall be approved and confirmed at the ensuing Board Meeting.

10.3 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

The Chairman or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, shall preside at all meetings and if absent, the members present shall elect another member to preside at such meeting. Any person so elected shall in relation to that meeting, have all the powers and fulfil all the duties of the Chairman.

10.4 MEMBER ATTENDANCE OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- 10.4.1 A member may request the Chairman of any committee for permission to personally present any matter to that committee on condition that the nature of the matter shall be fully explained in writing, and if the Chairman decides that it is of sufficient importance or urgency, he may grant permission that such a person may attend a meeting and address the committee.
- 10.4.2 The Chairman may, in his discretion, refuse permission for attendance, and if he deems it necessary put the matter on the agenda for discussion at a meeting of the relevant committee.

10.5 GENERAL MEETINGS (ANNUAL GENERAL AND SPECIAL GENERAL)

- 10.5.1 An Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held once a year at such time and place as may be determined by the Board, but not later than 12 (twelve) months after the end of the financial year. The Board may, with valid motivation and notice to all members defer such meeting.
- 10.5.2 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:
- a) receive and consider the annual report of the Board, together with the duly audited financial statements of the Society as at the end of the previous financial year;
 - b) appoint auditors, to fix their remuneration and to determine their conditions of appointment;
 - c) transact any other business which under this Constitution is required to be transacted at the Annual General meeting;
 - d) consider any other matter for which due notice has been given in terms of 10.5.4, 10.5.7 and 10.5.8 below; and
 - e) elect Board members, as set out in Clause 8.
- 10.5.3 The Preliminary Notice of the date and place of the Annual General Meeting shall be published with 60 (sixty) days' notice by the Secretary on the Society's website, and be sent via electronic mail to all members in accordance with Subclause 5.7.
- 10.5.4 Any member intending to put forward any matter for discussion, shall give written notice thereof to reach the Secretary not less than 40 (forty) days prior to the meeting. No subject put forward for discussion by any member shall be included in the agenda, unless the notice of the motion is accompanied by a motivation, signed and endorsed by 20 (twenty) members entitled to vote. A member may only submit, endorse and second a motion if he has been a member for 1 (one) year and in good standing with the Office.
- 10.5.5 A Special General Meeting of the Society shall be called at any time on 60 (sixty) days' preliminary notice to members:
- a) by the Board; or
 - b) by the Chairman; or in his absence by the Vice-Chairman; or
 - c) upon a written request and motivation, signed and addressed to the Secretary, by not less than 20 (twenty) members entitled to vote.
- 10.5.6 A Final Notice of the time, date and venue, together with the agenda of any general meeting shall be published by the Secretary on the Society's website, and be sent via electronic mail to all members in accordance with Subclause 5.7. not less than 30 (thirty) days prior to the holding of such meeting.
- 10.5.7 No motion shall be presented to a general meeting in respect of any matter, unless notice thereof appeared on the agenda sent to members with the Final Notice of the meeting with the motivation and a Board recommendation on how they should vote.
- 10.5.8 No motion shall be presented to a general meeting on a matter not included in the agenda, unless the motion is accompanied by a motivation, signed and endorsed by 20 (twenty) members entitled to vote, and the members present and entitled to vote decide by a two-third majority to discuss and vote on such matter.

- 10.5.9 No previous resolution of a general meeting shall be reversed, unless members received notice of the intended revision in terms of Subclause 10.5.7, and it is voted on, as stipulated in Subclause 10.6.
- 10.5.10 Any general meeting shall be attended by at least 20 (twenty) members to be declared duly constituted.
- 10.5.11 Any general meeting may be adjourned by a two-third majority of the members present and entitled to vote.

10.6 VOTING RIGHTS AND PROCEDURES

- 10.6.1 All matters submitted to any meeting shall be decided by a two-third majority of members who voted (be it in person or electronically *in absentia*).
- 10.6.2 Voting at all general meetings shall be by ballot paper (electronic or printed).
- 10.6.3 Except as herein elsewhere otherwise provided, members shall have the right to vote at general meetings, provided the voting procedure is executed as may be determined by the Board. The Board shall be responsible for maintaining the integrity of the voting process, subject to the provisions of relevant Clauses and Subclauses in this Constitution.

- 10.6.4 Subject to Clauses 5, 6 and 7, any member anywhere in the world

- a) who has been a member for at least 1 (one) year; and
- b) whose annual subscriptions and other dues have been fully paid up, (in good standing) as prescribed in this Constitution;

shall have the right to vote via:

- i. electronic ballot paper *in absentia*; or
- ii. printed ballot paper in person;

provided that a member who does not fulfil the requirements of Subclause 10.6.4.a), may submit a motivation and application to the Board within 10 (ten) days after publication of the Final Notice and Agenda of the meeting, for the right to vote on any matter that has a direct impact on his breeding practices.

- 10.6.5 **Members shall have the right to vote on matters concerning:**

- a) Motions duly submitted by members and included by the Board in terms of Subclause 10.5.4. and other motions presented by the Board in the Final Notice and Agenda in terms of Subclause 10.5.7. A two-third majority vote shall be required for a motion to be carried.
- b) Amendments to the Constitution. A two-third majority vote shall be required for a motion to amend the Constitution to be carried.
- c) Election of Board representatives (a simple majority vote shall be required for a candidate to be elected to the Board. In the event of a tie of votes, members present at the relevant meeting shall be requested to vote again):
 - i Members who wish to submit and second nominations for Board members, must have been SABBS' members for at least 1 (one) year and in good standing (paid up with zero balance or credit balance on account) with the Office.
 - ii Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer: The election shall be preceded by a call for nominations according to the vacancies in the Preliminary Notice of the Meeting. The names of the nominees with their *curriculum vitae* shall be communicated to members, and be published on the website. These Board members shall be elected in accordance with Subclauses **8.1.2. and 8.1.3**, and voting – electronic or in person - shall be open to all members eligible to vote.

10.6.6 Regional

- a) South Africa: The election of regional Board representatives for South Africa shall be preceded by a call for nominations according to the vacancies in the Preliminary Notice of the Meeting. The names of the nominees with their *curriculum vitae* shall be communicated to members, and be published on the website. Representatives shall be elected in accordance with Subclause 8.3.1 Voting – electronic or in person – shall be restricted to members residing in South Africa. Members shall be eligible to vote for candidates in their own regions only.
- b) Countries/regions outside South Africa: Representation shall be determined by the Board from time to time. Voting for such representatives shall be restricted to the members in the relevant countries/regions, who shall determine their own election procedures. Representatives shall be elected in accordance with **Subclause 8.2.2**.

10.6.7 Voting for general meetings shall not apply to:

Administrative and financial management matters, as may be reported on and discussed in the course of such meetings, and which shall remain the responsibility of the Board.

10.6.8 Election management

For general meetings (Annual General and Special General Meetings) the Board shall:

- a) Designate two independent Polling Officers, one of whom shall act as Chief Polling Officer. The Polling Officers may be representatives of the Society's Auditors, an election management company, or any other institution or person deemed competent to perform this service.
- b) Announce the names of the Polling Officers to the members in the Preliminary Notice at least 60 (sixty) days prior to the meeting.
- c) Provide the Polling Officers with a list of the members eligible to vote.
- d) Provide for the return of all ballots (cast electronically in absentia and by members present at the meeting) to the Polling Officers in a manner acceptable to them.
- e) The Polling Officers shall exercise strict control to ensure that members who voted electronically do not again receive ballot papers should they be present at the general meeting.
- f) The Polling Officers shall audit the votes to ensure there is no duplication, and count the votes. They shall announce the outcome of the matters voted on at the meeting.

10.6.9 Voting schedule:

- a) Members shall be notified of the matters to be voted on via the Final Notice with the Agenda at least 30 (thirty) days prior to the general meeting.
- b) Electronic voting shall commence 10 (ten) days prior to the general meeting, and be open for 7 (seven days). No electronic vote returned to the Polling Officers less than 3 (three) days prior to the meeting shall be valid.

10.7 NON-RECEIPT OF NOTICES

No business otherwise properly and constitutionally transacted at any meeting shall be invalidated by reason only of the non-receipt by any member of the notice required to be given to such person in terms of this Constitution.

10.8 QUORUMS

- 10.8.1 Twenty (20) members of the Society personally present at the commencement of any general meeting and entitled to vote shall form a quorum for such a general meeting.
- 10.8.2 Four (4) Board members personally present at any Board meeting and entitled to vote shall form a quorum for such meeting.
- 10.8.3 Any 2 (two) members of the Executive Committee personally present at the commencement of any meeting of the Executive Committee shall form a quorum.

- 10.8.4 If at any meeting there is no quorum, the meeting shall stand adjourned to a time (not less than 14 (fourteen) days and not more than 30 (thirty) days thereafter, and place determined by the members present. The members present shall then form a quorum for the disposal of such business (other than any amendment to the Constitution) that the presiding member may declare to be of an urgent nature. Such adjournment shall be without prejudice to the rights of the meeting to adjourn to a time, date and place as herein provided.
- 10.8.5 When a meeting has been thus adjourned, a notice shall be sent to all relevant members within 7 (seven) days after the adjournment, in which shall be stated the time, date and place to which the meeting has been adjourned and the reason for the adjournment.

10.9 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

- 10.9.1 The minutes of all general meetings shall be available to all members of the Society. It shall be sent via electronic mail to members, and shall be published on the website of the Society.
- 10.9.2 Copies of the minutes of the Board and Executive Committee meetings and meetings of other subcommittees shall be supplied to all persons serving on that particular committee. *Ex officio* members of the Board shall receive copies of all minutes.
- 10.9.3 Any member may request a copy of an extract from the minutes on a specific matter discussed at a meeting, and such request may be granted at the discretion of the Board.
- 10.9.4 The minutes of all General, Board and subcommittee meetings - approved at a subsequent meeting and signed by the Chairman or the person who may chair the subsequent meeting - shall be proof thereof that all the proceedings were conducted properly and that all elections, appointments and resolutions adopted at the meeting are valid and binding.
- 10.9.5 A Resolutions Register shall be kept of all Board and general meeting resolutions taken, amended or revoked.

11. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

- 11.1 The Board shall cause one or more banking accounts to be opened in the name of the Society, and any amounts accruing to the Society shall be deposited in such banking account, or accounts as the Board may direct.
- 11.2 All payments from the funds of the Society shall be effected by cheque, credit card or by electronic funds transfer, signed and / or authorised, as the case may be, by the Secretary or a person appointed by the Board and countersigned by the Auditors or such a person or persons as the Board may authorise thereto in terms of Clause 8, provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the Board from maintaining and operating a petty cash fund, or from paying in cash such ordinary and usual monthly accounts as do not in total exceed a sum determined by the Board, and provided that the total sum necessary for the payment of such accounts is drawn by cheque, credit card or electronic funds transfer.
- 11.3 The Board shall cause proper books of account of income and expenditure to be kept in respect of the Society. All accounts shall be audited from time to time but not less than once every year by an auditor or auditors appointed by the Board.
- 11.4 All property of the Society shall be managed by the Board.
- 11.5 The income and assets of the Society, derived from whatever source, including profits and gains, shall be applied solely for the promotion and furtherance of the objectives of the Society, and no part thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly by way of dividend or bonus or otherwise, to any persons who at any time are or were members of the Society, provided that nothing therein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any employee or other person/s for services rendered to the Society.
- 11.6 The Society's financial year shall commence on 1 January of each year and end on 31 December of each calendar year.

12. AFFILIATIONS

12.1 AFFILIATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

- 12.1.1 The Society may:
- a) in accordance with the Act appoint a Registering Authority and be a member on the conditions set out in the constitution of such Registering Authority; and further
 - b) by a two-third majority vote of the members entitled to vote at any general meeting, affiliate with or incorporate any association, society or organisation having aims and objectives kindred to those of the Society.

12.2 BOERBOEL CLUBS

- 12.2.1 Subject to the requirements laid down in terms of Subclause 9.1 (ee) any group of persons actively engaged in breeding, showing, working, or training Boerboels may form a Boerboel Club, and may apply to the Board for affiliation to the Society, provided that the Society approves the Constitution of such Club, and that the Club subscribes to this Constitution - including the Breed Standard - of the Society.
- 12.2.2 All Clubs will be required to sign and submit an affiliation agreement document annually. Refer to Bylaw I.
- 12.2.3 The number of clubs per country will be subject to the Board's discretion.

13. NON-MEMBERS

- 13.1 Such privileges and services as the Board may determine, may be conferred on non-members, provided that there shall be no legal or other obligation on the Society to such non-members, and provided further that all fees payable in respect of any services rendered by the Society to non-members shall be determined by the Board and be payable in advance.

14. EMPLOYEES OF THE SOCIETY

- 14.1 The Board shall appoint a Secretary, and such management and administrative staff as may be deemed necessary.
- 14.2 No employee of the Society shall, except in the performance of his duties as such an employee, render any service or be connected with any business concerned with the purchase or sale of Boerboels.
- 14.3 No employee shall have any voting rights.

15. SEAT OF THE SOCIETY

- 15.1 The seat of the Society shall be in South Africa.
- 15.2 The Executive Committee of the Board shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer which must reside within South Africa and two (2) additional members of the Board – the latter to be nominated by, and from the Board.
- 15.3 The Head Office of the Society shall be at any centre in South Africa, as may be determined by the Board from time to time, subject to confirmation by the ensuing general meeting of members.
- 15.4 The Boerboel Database, and all records of members shall be maintained by the Society' appointed Registering Authority in South Africa.
- 15.5 All general meetings shall be held in South Africa.

16. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 16.1 No amendments shall be made to this Constitution within 2 (two) years after its first ratification at a general meeting of the Society.
- 16.2 This Constitution may be added to or altered by a resolution approved by not less than a two-third majority of the members who voted at a general meeting of the Society (be it in person or electronically *in absentia*), provided members received no less than 30 (thirty) days' notice of the meeting and the proposed amendment(s).
- 16.3 In terms of Section 12 of the Act, any additions or amendments to the Constitution must be submitted to the Registrar within thirty (30) days after such additions or amendments have been approved by the Annual General Meeting or General Meeting called for this purpose.
- 16.4 Should the Registrar deem any additions or amendments to be incompatible with the Act, he must notify the Society in writing thereof within thirty (30) days after receiving it, in
- 16.5 If no objection is received from the Registrar, any additions or amendments to the Constitution will only take effect after the thirty (30) day period mentioned in clause 16.3 has expired.
- 16.6 If the conditions mentioned in Clause 16.5 have been met, any additions or amendments to this Constitution shall be submitted to the Registering Authority and the Commissioner of the South African Revenue Service.

17. DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY

If, upon the winding up or dissolution of the Society there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any assets whatsoever, such assets shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society, but shall be given or transferred to such other institution or institutions having objectives similar to those of the Society as may be determined by a majority decision of a general meeting of the Society.

18. AUTHENTIC VERSION OF CONSTITUTION

This Constitution and associated Bylaws hereto were compiled, submitted and considered in English. Therefore, the English version shall be deemed to be the authentic version.

19. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All persons serving in an official SABBS capacity must declare any personal, financial, or familial interest that may influence their decision-making. Declarations must be lodged in writing with the SABBS office and updated annually or when a new potential conflict arises.

20. BRIBERY AND UNDUE INFLUENCE

No official, member, or representative may accept any gift or reward that may be perceived as an attempt to influence decisions, evaluations, or appraisals.

Example: Offering an appraiser a valuable gift in exchange for a favourable dog appraisal shall be regarded as attempted bribery and may lead to disciplinary action.