

International Shiloh Shepherd Dog Club

We all want to thank you for attending the membership meeting on Grand Island. It is our hope that through your input and advice we can form a club that is truly a culmination of our efforts to bring together the best ideas to reach our goal to protect and promote our dogs. We have tried to assemble the structure of the club based on only that, the protection and promotion of the breed.

In setting aside all personal agendas, we will be impartial and deal only with the rules and regulations which are necessary to accomplish that stated goal. We have included a copy of the addendum for the booklet you received on Grand Island, outlining the items discussed. If you have more items you wish considered, please let us know. The addendum will be presented at the next meeting in St. Louis so the members attending there can also be aware of these items.

After the club is operating, the membership will elect the leadership, and be free to introduce any item they choose. Changes may be made in the Constitution by the members, casting their vote for or against any such item. The process to introduce such items will be decided by the members who will have full input and be consulted upon the overall operating rules of the club.

If you agree that this is the proper approach to forming this club, we invite you to fill out the enclosed membership application for the International Shiloh Shepherd Dog Club. Your current membership in the SSDCA will be transferred with no membership fees due. All dues will become payable in January 1998, the same as in the past. The membership fee has been left at \$35.00. Once the members have "taken their positions" so to speak, the budget will determine if a change is necessary. There will be no multiple year or lifetime memberships offered in the start up of the new club. New members will be enrolled on the day of application, keeping that as their anniversary date, and their dues would be paid on that date in future years.

Only those members who return the completed application for the New Club will be transferred. Any vote on any issue will only be accepted from members who have returned their application.

Even though it is a very personal issue, we feel that we must address the statement made by Tina at this meeting. "If the fish is out, so am I". We have asked Tina to allow the use of the origins book by the club. Through this book the history of the Shiloh Shepherd is given, and Tina's story is told. The further use of any religious ideas, icons, or interpretation will not be decided in the formation of the club, but will be left to the membership to decide. We hope that Tina will accept the majority vote and be a member regardless of the outcome, as the rest of us will. If it is to be a members club, that is their decision to make. If the best interests of the dogs always takes precedence, she should join us and help to keep it so.

After the last meeting, we will send you a final draft for your inspection, including any changes which may be suggested in those meetings, for your approval. We will be talking to all who have volunteered their help and begin to staff out committees. Once this has been accomplished, we will send a list for your approval of the positions and the names of those who have offered to fill them.

Again, our thanks for making the meeting a productive one, and we hope only the first of many to benefit our breed.

Gary, Dan, Wendy, Michele, Andrea, and Brigitte

Grand Island Addendum to Package

During the meeting on Grand Island, the following three issues were addressed:

1. Some members were opposed to a dress code in the constitution, relating to attire at dog shows. The suggested solution was to remove this clause for the constitution and have the show committee draft appropriate instructions in our dog show guidelines.
2. There needs to be a determination made on the definition of the "majority vote", both for the constitution wording and for use within the club structure to offer ideas from members for a membership vote on these ideas.

Suggestions were made that a constitutional change should require 0 to 60 of the membership to submit ballots to form a quorum., The majority of the vote would then determine pass or no pass if that percentage is met.

Another suggestion was that club matters be settled by a majority of the votes returned, without a minimum being set. The feeling was voiced that some matters may not be of interest to some members, and if they don't vote, they don't care either way how the decision is made. If the appropriate committee has received the matter and decided it is best for the breed, a simple majority vote should be used.

3. Lifetime membership - the transfer of lifetime memberships in the existing old club needs to be resolved. The point was made that when the SSDCA closes, there is no longer validity to a lifetime membership. However, there is no intent to harm any member in the transfer to the new club. The suggestion was made that a pro-ration be made, using the \$35.00 membership fee. Each SSDCA lifetime membership have a total of seven years of membership, and based on that formula, the years would be a total of seven, if four years have passed, three would remain for credit to the new club.

Another suggestion was made to waive the first year fee only, charge for membership in the second year with the remaining of the new members.

These items are unresolved at this point and will wait for a decision until all meetings have been held. We will add any other issues which arise in the next two meetings for our final draft of all pertinent items, once the majority of opinions are in.

Everyone who doesn't have the opportunity to attend a meeting will be furnished with this information prior to the final draft being enacted. Those who have, will receive updated information after each meeting, to be included in the booklet that was provided at the meeting.