

# GREAT DANE LOVERS ASSOCIATION OF WA INCORPORATED



## CLUB BY-LAWS

- 1) The Great Dane Lovers Association of WA Inc (GDLAWA Inc.) is a not-for-profit club for lovers of the Great Dane breed of dog.
- 2) The Association aims to promote awareness of the Great Dane dog breed through information, activities and advice on sporting, obedience, agility, showing, breed contacts, rescue & re-homing and health issues within a social environment. The property and income of the Association shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects or purposes of the Association and no part of that property or income may be paid or otherwise distributed directly or indirectly, to members of the Association, except in good faith in the promotion of these objects or purposes.
- 3) Membership is open to any person who owns, has an interest in owning or just enjoys being involved with the Great Dane breed of dog. Membership is not precluded by owning another breed, a cross-breed or not owning a dog at all. Membership is via completion & submission of the application form, including having read & agreed to comply with the Association Rules and payment of the current annual fee. The GDLAWA Inc. Membership year is from January – December each year and renewals are due by the end of February in each subsequent year. Membership is considered terminated when renewal fees are not paid within this time frame. Membership terminations for non-renewal fee payment do not preclude that member from re-joining the club at a later stage.
- 4) A Register of Members shall always be maintained as required under the Incorporations Act and shall be held by the serving Secretary. It is a legal requirement that the name and address of all members of an Association be available, on request, to any current member. In such instances, the Secretary will make these details only available, to the requesting member. The club also operates an “opt-in” Members Table which is circulated electronically only to those members who have ‘opted-in’ which includes the name, sex, age & colour of the dog/s and the name, suburb and email contact of the owner. The Members Table is run to allow members to make contact with other member’s local to them in between club arranged events.
- 5) Membership to the GDLAWA Inc. is via payment of a current level of subscription fee, as has been determined by the membership at a general meeting.

- 6) GDLAWA Inc. Members agree to be bound by the Club By-Laws as described:
- a) All GDLAWA Inc. walks and events are conducted with ALL dogs being on-lead only.
  - b) Handlers of dogs attending a GDLAWA Inc. organised event must be at least 13 years of age or older and/or capable of physically maintaining control of the dog. Parents of child handlers (aged 13-18 for these purposes) take ultimate responsibility for deciding that their child is able to control the dog
  - c) Whilst the GDLAWA Inc. maintains a Public Liability insurance cover, this provides protection for the general public and all owners of dogs, and visitors assume total responsibility for their own actions and consequences of having control of a dog including but not limited to dog bites to another human, dog or self and exposure to contagious diseases such as Kennel Cough. Unsterilised bitches in heat pose a danger to dogs in a group and should not be brought to club events.
  - d) Photographs and videos may be taken whilst attending a GDLAWA Inc. arranged event and members are assumed as having given their permission to have these images posted in club social media forums, or used for purposes including but not limited to the annual calendar.
  - e) Playdates, babysitting member dogs, foster care for rehoming or rescue dogs and all other non-GDLAWA Inc. arranged events are the total responsibility of the members themselves and these agreements do not fall under the auspices of the GDLAWA Inc.
  - f) The GDLAWA Inc. is not a forum for the sale of animals in any form and all forums, newsletters and events have a natural preclusion to the transaction level of the sale of any animals at the point of 'cost, buy or sell'. As per the GDLAWA Inc. Rescue & Re-homing Policy, people adopting a dog via the GDLAWA Inc. service, where club monies have been spent in the care of the dog, may be required to reimburse the club up to a predetermined limit, as is set and changed by agreement at a general meeting.
  - g) GDLAWA Inc. memberships paid each year or in the initial joining of the club are non-refundable when a member opts to resign as a member of the club. The only instance where a membership fee is refundable is where the committee, acting as representatives of the club, terminate a membership having followed the dispute process thoroughly.
  - h) Should Rules of the Association or Club By-Laws be broken by any member and a complaint made to the committee, the procedure for disciplinary action shall follow a set path. The Secretary shall receive the complaint from either the complaining member, or the committee member who has received the complaint, in writing only. The Secretary shall record in writing all elements of the complaint and continue to monitor the recordings. The complaint will first be addressed by Key Officers of the committee which will include the President, Vice President, Treasurer & Secretary in discussion with the complainant. If resolution is not reached at this point a 'special committee meeting' will be conducted with the complainant and any other parties invited to participate. The committee will adjudicate the outcome and advise all parties in writing, at all times respecting the privacy and confidentiality of the parties. The Secretary will maintain recording of all commentary through to final resolution including their outcomes in mediation or outside arenas including but not limited to court proceedings.
  - i) All members of the GDLAWA Inc. are at all times bound in their actions & deeds by the prevailing Laws of The Land including but not limited to Sex Discrimination Act 1984, Privacy Act 1988, Dog Act 1976, Animal Welfare Act 2002, Associations Incorporation Act 1987.