



## Southbound Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club

### Standing Rules

1. The treasurer's report and books beginning and ending bank/PayPal statements will be reviewed at the annual Board meeting by all members present and will be signed off by at least two Board members signing Board members may not include any family members, business partners, dog co-owners or others which may not be independent. *April 2016*
2. The Board shall meet annually the weekend of the Cotton Classic in Perry, Georgia.
3. The Board shall conduct business thru email, telephone or other electronic communications.
4. All Board documents (meeting minutes and attachments, contracts, bylaws, membership lists, voting records, etc.) shall be electronically uploaded and maintained on the Board Listserve and available to all Board members (present and future). *April 2016*
5. The most recent version of the club Bylaws, Standing Rules, Guidelines for Seeking Southbound Sanctioning for Events, Guidelines for Selection of Judges, and Southbound Discussion List Infractions and Remedies shall be uploaded to the Southbound website "Members Only" page. *April 2016*
6. All members shall be granted access to the Southbound Listserve, Facebook page, and Members Only page on the club website. *April 2016*
7. Individuals shall be recognized at the annual club meeting for 5, 10, 15, etc. years of continuous membership and presented with a gift (crate/luggage tags for 5 years, leather leash for 10 years, embroidered bag for 15 years). The gifts shall be mailed to those honorees who are unable to attend the club meeting. *April 2016*
8. Tenured regular members (continuous regular membership of 5 years or more) shall be given the option to remain regular members, despite circumstances that cause them to no longer own a Greater Swiss Mountain Dog. *April 2016*
9. All members seeking support for a Sanctioned Southbound Event must comply with the "Guidelines for Seeking Southbound Sanctioning for Events." July 2003
10. Southbound shall donate \$25 to the park hosting the Cotton Classic Pack Dog hike.
11. If a prior year's winner declines the privilege, Southbound shall sponsor the Best of Breed, High Scoring Swissy in Obedience and Best of Sweepstakes trophies at the Cotton Classic. Members will be given first opportunity to sponsor the remaining trophies. The Board shall decide each year whether or not to seek sponsorships outside of the club membership. The price of the trophy shall not exceed 85% of the sponsorship amount. *April 2016*
12. The Board shall approve club coordination/representation at any "Meet the Breed" type event (Eukanuba, Responsible Dog Ownership Day, etc.). The GSMD booth shall be decorated and staffed in a manner designed to entertain and educate the public and to represent the breed, the Southbound Club and the GSMDCA in the most positive way possible. The Swisssys present must be clean and under control at all times. At the first show of human or canine aggression or uncontrolled behavior, the dog will be removed from the booth. Staff sitting/standing in the booth must be knowledgeable about the breed and available to answer questions by the public. Staff breaks should be taken away from the booth. Dogs "on break" shall be crated and covered or removed from the booth. *April 2016*
13. *(January 2025)* Clarification of Bylaws regarding membership and tenure:
  - New members who join during the months of January - March will be considered as having paid dues early for the upcoming membership year. Their tenure begins in the year joined and they will be eligible for all club benefits once their application and dues payment are received and approved. Their renewal will be due the following calendar year as outlined in the bylaws.
  - Tenure begins in the year joined. A new member will be assigned an ID reflecting the actual year joined even if this occurs before or after the typical dues collection period (e.g. Jon Smith joined Feb 2025 - will be given ID "Smith2025"). The year joined is the first year of tenure. In this example, 2029 would be year 5 and the member will be recognized at the 2030 annual member meeting.

- Former members who are reinstated, per Bylaws Section 4, will be reinstated to include the missed years as part of their tenure, provided back-dues are paid for those missing years.

14. (*January 2025*) To ensure consistency and fairness, the Board should consider the following guidelines in response to the death of an active member, death of a former member, or death of an active member's spouse or child:

For active members who expire –

- A \$75 donation to Swissy Rescue, in memory of the deceased member, will be issued.
- Upcoming events, if regularly attended by the expired member, will be dedicated to the individual's memory.
- These memorials will be communicated in the event premiums and via the club newsletter.
- If the spouse/parent is a current or former member, a sympathy card will be mailed to them from the "Southbound Board".
- If the member holds a position in the club (Board or Chair), the President should send an email to the entire membership with condolences, information regarding funeral arrangements, and information as to who will be filling the role (interim or otherwise).

For non-members who expire the response can vary depending on whether he or she was a long-term former member, a recent former member, a short-term member from many years prior, etc. -

- The Board should consider the individual circumstances and decide on an appropriate response.
- If the spouse/parent is a current or former member still active in the Swissy community, a sympathy card should be mailed to them from the "Southbound Board".
- The use of club treasury is discouraged for non-members, so the Board should favor a non-monetary recognition and encourage individuals to donate to Swissy Rescue, if appropriate.