

Disciplinary Committee

Proposal Overview: That at the beginning of each Board term of office, a standing Disciplinary Committee shall be selected and be empowered to conduct an initial review and if needed, investigation to clarify any charges that might be filed during that term; and that this committee will then advise the Board of its findings and/or opinion prior to the Board's consideration of the charges. In this way, the process will be expedited so that any information gathering will have been done prior to the Board meeting, so that the Board will have a maximum amount of information on which to make its decision on whether to entertain the charges. Moreover, by having a standing Disciplinary Committee already in place, it will be clear that the committee was selected without bias.

This process, in accordance with Article V, Section 1 of the FBDCA Bylaws, may be outlined as follows.

At the beginning of its term, each Board will appoint a Disciplinary Committee comprised of 3 of the Directors plus the fourth Director as an alternate. One Committee member would Chair the Committee. The Committee would be in place for 1 year, at the end of which time, one member would come off and the alternate would go on the Committee. The "off" Director would then serve as the alternate.

Upon receiving charges, the Secretary will forward a copy of the charges to the Disciplinary Committee members. The Committee shall be empowered to contact all parties involved upon receipt of the charges. The Committee shall then meet and send the person charged a certified letter with a copy of the charges. The letter shall request that the person charged write the Committee within 21 days with any comments, statements, or response they would like for the Committee to consider in the course of their investigation.

If the Committee considers that the charges do not allege conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or breed, it shall so advise the Board, which may then vote by majority to refuse to entertain jurisdiction if the Board chooses to accept the recommendation of the Committee. If the Committee decides after investigation that the charges, if sustained, do constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or breed, it shall recommend to the Board to entertain Jurisdiction. Minutes of the Disciplinary Committee shall be made available to the Board. The Board may then vote on whether to entertain the charges, again with the recommendation of the Committee not being binding.

If the Board votes by majority to entertain jurisdiction of the charges, it shall affix a date for a hearing in accordance with the Bylaws, the hearing to be held no less than 3 weeks nor more than 6 weeks after the vote to entertain.

The Board will then hold a hearing in accordance with the By-Laws. Upon completion of the Hearing, the Secretary of the Hearing reports its findings and files it with the Club

Secretary who then notifies each of the parties with the decision, and penalty if any.

version 1: Approved by Board April 11, 2007

1st Revision: Approved by Board 5/18/09