

CKC Position Statement - Proposed Amendment to Breed Standards Process

An [amendment](#) to the CKC by-laws has been proposed that will be offered to members in this November's [referendums](#). This [by-law amendment](#) proposal seeks to transfer the responsibility for revisions to CKC breed standards from CKC to the members of national breed clubs.

CKC breed standards exemplify the most desirable set of characteristics for a breed and reflect the collective expertise of CKC recognized breed clubs, breeders, CKC members and the CKC Breed Standards Committee. Your Board of Directors has grave concerns regarding the proposed [by-law amendment](#) that would abandon this respected process. They encourage members to review the information and vote against the proposed [by-law amendment](#).

[CKC Policy and Procedures, Section RG002](#), provides a comprehensive process that currently allows CKC recognized breed clubs to initiate proposals for revisions to breed standards; provides provisions for breed standard revisions when a national club does not exist; and incorporates a two-step review process—"Publish for Comment" and the Breed Standards Committee review—with a final review and approval by the CKC Board of Directors. The process includes input from CKC recognized breed clubs, CKC members and a Breed Standards Committee and results in a balanced outcome.

If the proposed [by-law amendment](#) were to pass, revisions to breed standards would **NOT** be Published for Comment and the Board would be bound to accept a national club's new breed standards and revisions as presented. This change would create uncertainty through a loss of transparency and thus a loss of control of the content, loss of integrity in the breed standard, and loss of voice as a CKC member. Also, the proposed [by-law amendment](#) does not provide for revisions to breed standards when a national club does not exist. It is unusual and unwise for an organization such as the CKC to abandon its review and decision-making responsibility, on behalf of all its members, to another body such as national breed clubs.

Ultimately, the current, long-standing process of revising breed standards has affected change for the betterment of purebred dogs that can only be achieved through the collective input and expertise of CKC recognized breed clubs, breeders, CKC members and the CKC Breed Standards Committee—a process that transcends the trends and dynamics of breed clubs.

As a CKC member, we ask that you exercise your right to maintain this fundamental member benefit and duty. VOTE AGAINST the proposed [by-law amendment](#) in the referendum.