

Statute for the association Raise the Standards

§ 1. Name and seat of the association

The association's name is Raise the Standards. The association has its seat in Malmköping.

§ 2. Background

There are thousands of dogs kept in appalling conditions in what are called "shelters" all over Europe, and similar circumstances exist in many other nations as well. There isn't much protection from the bitter cold of winter or the scorching heat of summer. Many animals go without the veterinary treatment they require, while other animals live in circumstances that are wholly intolerable in terms of animal welfare.

PURPOSE

§ 3. Purpose

The purpose of the association is to promote a good quality of life for animals and to set higher standards of their living conditions and treatment. The main focus of the association is to raise funds to

- Raise the standards of living for dogs living in shelters in Eastern Europe by using the collected funds to build good dog houses and kennels that provide a better living environment for the dogs.
- Carry out initiatives that help animals to have a better living environment and a life with more quality of life, and thereby also inspire others by showing examples of how to raise the standards of living and treatment of animals.
- Educate and raise awareness about animals and their current situation.
- Educate and raise awareness about animals and their needs and what is required for them to have a good quality of life.
- Influence, through opinion formation and political lobbying, work for improved animal protection laws that lead to a better living environment and situation for animals, as well as for the existing animalwelfare laws to be complied with.

The association's purpose clause is unchangeable.

The association is a non-profit with no personal financial interest that is independent of politics and religion.

THE ASSOCIATION'S BODIES AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ACTIVITY

The association's bodies are:

- * The annual meeting,
- * The Nomination Committee,
- * The board,
- * Executive Committee,
- * The auditor.

The highest decision-making body of the association is the annual meeting. The Board is the highest decision-making body in the absence of an annual meeting. The board's and management's management is under the auditor's authority.

Under the direction of the Board, an operational management that the Board appoints oversees daily operations. Every year, the board creates an operational strategy for both the Operations Management and its own tasks. The nomination committee brings recommendations for candidates for the board and auditors to the Annual Meeting.

THE ASSOCIATION'S BOARD

§ 4. The Board

A board with a minimum of three members oversees the association's operations. At the association's annual meeting, voting members elect the chairman, members, and any deputies. Reelection is an option for members and deputies whose terms are about to end. Board members hold office for two years, while the chairman is chosen to serve a one-year term.

Board members and deputies may be removed from the assignment on their own initiative or at the auditor's request, even if their terms of office have not yet ended. Decisions have to be made by the annual meeting if there are less than three members at that point. The same annual meeting must pick a new board member to serve out the remainder of the outgoing person's time in office.

The vice-chairman, secretary, and treasurer are chosen by the board from inside.

The board may designate outside specialists for specific tasks or for a set amount of time.

If at least half of the members or deputies are present during the meeting, the board is in a decision-making capacity.

Unless the statute specifies otherwise, a simple majority vote is required for all decisions made during meetings. Voting is conducted in public.

The deputy is free to voice thoughts and suggestions. A drawing will be used to select an alternate to represent a member in the event that they are unable to attend a board meeting.

The simple majority is used to make decisions. Every member of the board is equal in terms of influence. Auditors and adjunct specialists are entitled to voice member's right to voice ideas and submit recommendations, but not their right to cast a ballot.

§ 5. Notice of meetings

The chairman calls a meeting with the board. A meeting must also be called if at least two board members or the auditor requests it. All members and deputies are called to the board's meetings at least seven days before the scheduled date.

The chairman and any additional board member or deputy nominated during the meeting must make adjustments to the minutes, which are preserved during board meetings. All of the board's decisions and opposing views are documented in the minutes. Voter distribution at the poll needs to be declared. Unless there is a documented dissenting opinion, all members who took part in a case are deemed to have endorsed the decision documented in the minutes. The board can delegate certain assignments and the decision of certain cases to individual board members or working committees. However, measures taken in this way must be notified at the next board meeting.

§ 6. The board's duties

It is the responsibility of the board to manage the association's funds in accordance with the association's purposes and to arrange for the placement and disposition of the association's assets.

The board is responsible for ensuring that the association's assets generate interest while closely adhering to financial security regulations. Valued documents must all be stored securely. Along with other rules imposed about the administration, the board stipulates that all the association's donation accounts, wills, and other documents must be preserved in an organized collection. The board must keep accounts of the association's assets, liabilities, income and expenses, as well as annually close the accounts and write an annual report.

§ 7. Company signatory

The company is signed by the person or persons that the Board determines by Board resolution. Company signatories may not, without special authorization from the board, purchase real property on behalf of the association, dispose of, or mortgage such property belonging to the association for debt, invest funds, or take out or grant loans on behalf of the association. All decisions affecting the economy must be made by the board.

OPERATING AND ACCOUNTING YEARS, ETC

§ 8. The calendar year serves as the association's accounting and operational year.

In order to comply with the law and sound accounting practice, the association must perform its accounting obligation. In compliance with the Annual Accounts Act regulations, the association is required to prepare an annual report. How the goal was advanced during the fiscal year must be demonstrated in the management report included in the annual report.

MEMBERSHIP

§ 9. Supporting membership

Supporting membership is a passive membership that consists of financial support to the association with a monthly or annual membership fee determined by the board. Supporting members receive information about the association's activities via the website and newsletter. Supporting members have no influence over decisions or the association's finances.

§ 10. Membership with voting rights

Another type of membership is voting membership, and in order to make decisions that serve the interests of the association, the member must be knowledgeable about the operations of the organization. A voting member is someone who regularly participates in the association's activity, is acquainted with its interests and activities, and is a member of the association's core group. The chairman assigns a spot in the core group and an association email address (@raisethestandards.se).

A voting member can be an employee or volunteer and must be a natural person. If the association has fewer than six voting members in accordance with the criteria above, the association's board can appoint suitable members with voting rights.

Another type of membership is one that entitles the holder to vote, provided that the member is knowledgeable about the association's operations and can decide what's best for it. Voting members are aware about the association's interests and activities, actively participate in the association's work, and are a part of the association's core group. The Board assigns a spot in the core group and an association email address (@raisethestandards.se). A voting member must be a natural person and may be an employee or volunteer. The association's board may designate eligible members with voting rights if, in accordance with the aforementioned conditions, the association has fewer than six voting members.

§ 11. Exclusion

Members with voting rights can be excluded from the association if they do not fulfill their obligations, or if their actions are contrary to the association's goals. The decision on exclusion is made by voting in the board.

ANNUAL MEETING

§ 12. The annual meeting

The annual meeting is the association's highest decision-making body.

§ 13. Notice to annual meeting

All voting members must receive a notice with an agenda at least one month before the meeting.

§ 14. Proposals for examination at the annual meeting

A motion may be submitted by any member and the board to be discussed at the annual meeting. The board must receive member proposals no later than three weeks before to the annual meeting.

§ 15. Agenda

When convening an annual meeting, the agenda must be attached. New questions (bylaw amendments excepted) may be added if a ballot proposal is requested by at least two-thirds of the voting members.

§ 16. Nomination Committee

The nomination committee shall consist of at least one member entitled to vote and shall present proposals for new board members and chairman.

§ 17. Right to vote

The board and all voting members of Raise the Standards have voting rights.

§ 18. Decision making

At the annual meeting, all decisions must be taken by a simple majority, unless otherwise stated in the Statute. Voting takes place openly.

§ 19. Extraordinary annual meeting

The board, the auditor, or at least one-third of the voting members must call an extraordinary annual meeting. A legitimate request for an additional annual meeting must be received by the board, which then has four weeks to announce the meeting's date and time.

Only the issue that called for the gathering may be discussed at an extraordinary annual meeting. The voting members must receive a written notice at least three weeks before to the meeting, along with the agenda.

SUPERVISION

§ 20. Supervision

The association must be under the supervision of an auditor.

§ 21. The accounts of the association

The board is required to maintain thorough records of the association's operations, which must be completed for each fiscal year and turned in to the auditor for assessment no later than one month before to the annual meeting of the following year. The calendar year and the association's fiscal year align.

§ 22. Revision

Every fiscal year, an auditor is required to audit the board's finances and operations. At the association's annual meeting, auditors are chosen.

The auditor is in charge of overseeing and monitoring the association's finances and assets. For this reason, whenever the auditor requests them, all minutes, accounts, and other records pertaining to the association's management must be provided. It is not permitted to withhold from the auditor any information he requests on any administrative measure. The auditor is required to provide an audit report following the review, which must be delivered to the association's board no later than 14 days before to the annual meeting.

STATUTE

§ 23. Amendment of the Statute

Changes to the association's Statute is decided at the annual meeting. Unanimous decisions or two consecutive annual meetings with a two-thirds majority are required for amendment decisions. The purpose clause of the association cannot be changed.

§ 24. Statutory interpretation, etc.

The subject is brought up at the following annual meeting if there is uncertainty on how this Statute should be interpreted or if situations arise that are not anticipated by the Statute. In urgent situations, the board may make a decision. By joining the group, the member agrees to refrain from bringing a lawsuit in a general court about the implementation of these legislations. Instead, disagreements over how the Statute should be applied will be resolved in line with § 25.

§ 25. Arbitration clause

A general court is not the appropriate venue for actions involving disagreements between an association member and itself, such a dispute shall be resolved with the assistance of an unbiased third-party arbitrator, unless the Statute specify other particular arrangements. Both the party's own expenses and the arbitrator's fees are the responsibility of each party.

§ 26. Dissolution of the association

A unanimous vote of the board is needed to dissolve the association. Any portion of the association's assets cannot be claimed by a member.

Prior to the dissolution going into effect, the assets of the association must be transferred to an institution, association, or organization with ANBI status in the Netherlands, which is equivalent to a Swedish 90 account, and used in a manner consistent with the association's goals. The board, in consultation with the auditor, must make sure of this.

These statute is adopted on 2022-12-26 and revised 2023-02-17, by the Raise the Standards association.

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