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## **ABOUT THE BELGIAN MALINOIS**

### **THE MARVELOUS BELGIAN MALINOIS**

In Europe the Belgian Malinois (short-haired fawn) is one of four varieties of the Belgian Shepherd Dog. The other varieties are the Groenendael (long-haired black, called Belgian Sheepdog in the US), the Tervuren (long-haired fawn), and the Laekenois (wire-haired fawn or gray). The American Kennel Club split the varieties into three separate breeds back in the 1950s (AKC does not recognize the Laekenois). The genetics behind each breed are very similar, as are their personalities and temperaments. The advantage here is that a study of the more common Tervuren and Sheepdog will give you some indication of the qualities of the short-haired, fawn colored Malinois. A word of caution: The US Military has imported many dogs from the Netherlands for use as Military Working Dogs (MWDs). Although they refer to these dogs as Belgian Malinois, many of them are mixed with other breeds and do not possess all of the Belgian Malinois breed's characteristics.

The Belgian Malinois is a sensitive, family-oriented dog. They love to do anything and everything with their owners, and at times they will insist! They are not a breed that is happy being kenneled or otherwise deprived of their owner's companionship. They are also an extremely high-energy dog. This is an important note for if you are unprepared and do not enjoy their activity level, they can make your life miserable! Malinois, if not given something to occupy their time, will make something up by themselves - usually not to your liking. Many people have said that they have had active dogs in the past, but the Malinois differs in that all his energy is directed at his owner! If you throw the ball for him 100 times, then he will return it to you 101 times for another throw. A person often wonders if it is possible to ever wear these dogs out!

The Malinois is an extremely devoted dog. He likes to be your shadow whether you are going out for a jog or spending quiet time reading. He will even follow you around the house. They are an extremely sensitive dog and will pick up very quickly on their owner's mood. You may come home from work and reflect on the fact that you have had a bad day only after seeing your dog's expression. They seem to know what you are feeling almost before you do. It is uncanny and at the same time very rewarding to share that type of relationship with your dog.

The Malinois possesses a keen intelligence. They do not accept harsh punishment, but blossom when trained with positive methods based on rewarding proper behavior. Many owners report just showing their Malinois what is required and rewarding him for a proper response gets results. Their desire to please their owner is very strong. The breed excels in obedience, agility, tracking, herding, schutzhund, and search and rescue. Proper training and socialization is a must for the Malinois as his desire to work and his natural protectiveness can get him into trouble without direction. Puppies should be raised in a home environment and taken out often to see the world. They need lots of positive interactions with different people and situations so that they learn to accept the overtures of strangers. Malinois should be confident in their behavior toward strangers, never shy or skittish. Some shyness can be traced to a lack of early socialization (socialization later in life is important too)! Responsible breeders will evaluate the temperament of each puppy in

their litter and will help you choose an individual Malinois that will fit best with your particular situation.

Fortunately the Malinois is a healthy breed. Although genetic problems are rare, there are a few heritable problems in the Malinois gene pool. You should be aware of these problems when choosing a breeder. There is hip and elbow dysplasia present in the breed, and all breeding stock should be certified clear of this problem. Responsible breeders will provide the proper documentation concerning hip certification. There is epilepsy present in the breed, although it is less prevalent in the Malinois than in the Tervuren and Sheepdog. A responsible breeder will be aware of this potential problem and will explain what steps they are taking to prevent it in their puppies. There has also been concern about eye defects in the Malinois, particularly Progressive Retinal Atrophy. The problem is present, though rare, in the Tervuren. There are heritable eye problems in the Belgian Sheepdog. For this reason all breeding stock should be certified free of hereditary eye diseases by the Canine Eye Registry Foundation (C.E.R.F.). Again, responsible breeders will provide you with documentation. Fortunately genetic problems in the Malinois are rare. However, responsible breeders and puppy buyers need to be aware of these problems so that they do not become common tragedies.

Socialization and exposure to different situations and sounds should begin early and continue throughout the dog's life. Children should always be supervised and never be left alone with any dog of any breed.

The Malinois excels in dog sports (Agility and Flyball) and activities such as herding, search and rescue, competitive obedience, jogging companion and more. An active lifestyle with many challenges is best for the Malinois to thrive to his full potential. Without this type of routine many Malinois can become destructive and hyper. Not every Malinois has the exact same degree of "high drive," but the first-time Belgian Malinois owner needs to be aware of these generally common traits.

The Belgian Malinois is at his best when given a job, but it is equally important to integrate the Malinois into family life by setting clear behavior guidelines as well as training him to behave as a "Canine Good Citizen" whether at home, with guests or strangers, or in the park.

## **HISTORY OF THE BELGIAN MALINOIS**

Belgian Shepherd Dogs were established as a breed during the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The Belgian Malinois is in fact a variety of the Belgian Shepherd Dog. Other varieties are the Groenendael, long-haired and black; the Tervuren, long-haired and red- brown or gray with black mask, ears and overlay; and the Laekenois, wirehaired and red- brown or gray, is recognized as a Tervuren if born into a Tervuren litter. Since 1901 The Club Societe Royale de St. Hubert has recognized and registered the Malinois, Groenendael, Tervuren and Laekenois. The wirehaired is not recognized by the American Kennel Club (AKC) in the United States. Malinois, Groenendael, Tervuren and Laekenois are considered different varieties but one breed by The Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) and United Kennel Club (UKC). In 1911 the first two Malinois were imported into the United States: Belgian Blackie AKC

#148516 and Belgian Mouche AKC #148517. From 1911 to 1958 Belgians were registered with the AKC as Belgian Sheepdogs. In 1958 the AKC

declared the Belgians to be three distinct breeds. From 1959 to 1965 Belgian Malinois were placed in the Miscellaneous Class. Both the Groenendael (registered as the Belgian Sheepdog) and the Tervuren were placed in the Working Group as separate breeds. In 1965 the Belgian Malinois was reinstated in the Working Group. In 1983 all three Belgians were placed in the newly formed Herding Group as separate breeds.

## **THE BELGIAN MALINOIS BREED STANDARD**

### **General Appearance**

Belgian Malinois is a well balanced, square dog, elegant in appearance with an exceedingly proud carriage of the head and neck. The dog is strong, agile, well muscled, alert, and full of life. He stands squarely on all fours and viewed from the side, the topline, forelegs, and hind legs closely approximate a square. The whole conformation gives the impression of depth and solidity without bulkiness. The male is usually somewhat more impressive and grand than his female counterpart, which has a distinctly feminine look.

### **Size, Proportion, Substance**

Males are 24 to 26 inches in height; females are 22 to 24 inches; measurement to be taken at the withers. Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches and females under 21 inches or over 25 inches are to be disqualified. The length, measured from the point of the breastbone to the point of the rump, should equal the height, but bitches may be slightly longer. A square dog is preferred. Bone structure is moderately heavy in proportion to height so that the dog is well balanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky.

### **Head**

The head is clean-cut and strong without heaviness; overall size is in proportion to the body. The expression should indicate alertness, attention and readiness for activity, and the gaze is intelligent and questioning. The eyes are brown, preferably dark brown, medium size, slightly almond shaped, not protruding. Eye rims are black. The ears approach the shape of an equilateral triangle and are stiff, erect, and in proportion to the head in size. The outer corner of the ear should not come below the center of the eye. Ears hanging as on a hound or semi-prick ears are disqualifications. The top of the skull is flattened rather than rounded with the width approximately the same as the length but no wider. The stop is moderate. The muzzle is moderately pointed, avoiding any tendency to snipiness, and approximately equal in length to the top skull. The planes of the muzzle and top skull are parallel. The jaws are strong and powerful. The nose is black without discolored areas. The lips are tight and black with no pink showing on the outside. The Belgian Malinois has a full complement of strong, white teeth that are evenly set and meet in a scissors or level bite. Overshot and undershot bites are a fault. An undershot bite in which two or more of the upper incisors lose contact with two or more of the lower incisors is a disqualification. One or more missing teeth is a serious fault.

### **Neck, Topline, Body**

The neck is round and of sufficient length to permit the proud carriage of the head. It should taper from the body to the head. The topline is generally level. The withers are slightly higher

and slope into the back, which must be level, straight and firm from withers to hip joint. The croup is medium long, sloping gradually. The body should give the impression of

power without bulkiness. The chest is not broad but is deep with the lowest point reaching the elbow. The underline forms a smooth ascendant curve from the lowest point of the chest to the abdomen. The abdomen is moderately developed, neither tucked up nor paunchy. The loin section, viewed from above, is relatively short, broad and strong, and blends smoothly into the back. The tail is strong at the base, the bone reaching to the hock. In action it is raised with a curve, which is strongest towards the tip, without forming a hook. A cropped or stumped tail is a disqualification. Forequarters are muscular without excessive bulkiness. The shoulder is long and oblique, laid flat against the body, forming a sharp angle with the upper arm. The legs are straight, strong, and parallel to each other. The bone is oval rather than round. Length and substance are well in proportion to the size of the dog. The pastern is of medium length, strong, and very slightly sloped. Dewclaws may be removed. The feet are round (cat footed) and well padded with the toes curved close together. The nails are strong and black except that they may be white to match white toe tips.

#### Hindquarters

Angulation of the hindquarters is in balance with the forequarters; the angle at the hock is relatively sharp, although the Belgian Malinois should not have extreme angulation. The upper and lower thigh bones should approximately parallel the shoulder blade and upper arm respectively. The legs are in proportion to the size of the dog; oval bone rather than round. Legs are parallel to each other. The thighs should be well muscled. Dewclaws, if any, should be removed. Metatarsi are of medium length, strong, and slightly sloped. The hind feet may be slightly elongated, with toes curved close together and well padded. Nails are strong and black except that they may be white to match white toe tips.

#### Coat

The coat should be comparatively short, straight, and hard enough to be weather resistant, with dense undercoat. It should be very short on the head, ears, and lower legs. The hair is somewhat longer around the neck where it forms a collarette, and on the tail and backs of the thighs. The coat should conform to the body without standing out or hanging down.

The basic coloring is a rich fawn to mahogany, with black tips on the hairs giving an overlay appearance. The mask and ears are black. The underparts of the body, tail and breeches are lighter fawn, but washed-out fawn color on the body is a fault. Color should be considered a finishing point, not to take precedence over structure or temperament. The tips of the toes may be white, and a small white spot on the breastbone/prosternum is permitted, not to extend to the neck. White markings, except as noted, are faulted.

#### Gait

Movement is smooth, free and easy, seemingly never tiring, exhibiting facility of movement rather than a hard driving action. The Belgian Malinois single tracks at a fast gait, the legs, both front and rear, converging toward the center line of gravity, while the topline remains firm and level, parallel to the line of motion with no crabbing. The breed shows a marked tendency to move in a circle rather than a straight line.

### Temperament

Correct Temperament is essential to the working character of the Belgian Malinois. The breed is confident, exhibiting neither shyness nor aggressiveness in new situations. The dog may be reserved with strangers, but is affectionate with his own people. He is naturally protective of his owner's person and property without being overly aggressive. The Belgian

Malinois possesses a strong desire to work and is quick and responsive to commands from his owner. Faulty temperament is strongly penalized.

### Faults

The degree to which a dog is penalized should depend upon the extent to which the dog deviates from the standard and the extent to which the particular fault would actually affect the working ability of the dog.

### Disqualifications

Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches and females under 21 inches or over 25 inches. Ears hanging as on a hound or semi-prick ears. An undershot bite in which two or more of the upper incisors lose contact with two or more of the lower incisors.

A cropped or stumped tail.

## **BREEDER REFERRAL**

### **IS THE BELGIAN MALINOIS THE RIGHT DOG FOR YOU?**

The American Belgian Malinois Club has compiled a list of questions you can ask yourself to determine if the Belgian Malinois is the right dog for you and your family. This assists prospective buyers to think long and hard about this particular breed and a new puppy's or even adult dog's future.

#### **Is the Belgian Malinois the Right Dog For You?**

A new dog means added responsibilities. When you bring a Belgian Malinois into your home you make a commitment to raise, train, and care for your Malinois throughout his lifetime. This can often mean responsibility that spans the next 14 - 16 years. The following questions will help you in deciding if the breed characteristics of the Belgian Malinois makes him the right breed for you.

#### **Do You Have Time to Socialize and Train Your Malinois?**

The Belgian Malinois is an active, curious, intelligent dog that requires early exposure to different people and dogs so that he will be accepting of new situations later in life. The Malinois requires training to channel his energy into useful activities. A puppy socialization or puppy kindergarten class is recommended for your Malinois puppy. Formal obedience training in a group obedience class will help your Malinois become a welcome member of the human community.

#### **Do You Want a Dog Living in Your House?**

The Malinois develops a strong attachment toward the people in his life. He does not do well in a kennel situation. He is at his best when allowed to become a member of the family. The Malinois are double-coated and they do shed.

#### **Do You Have a Fenced Yard?**

The Malinois likes to play hard and needs daily exercise. Daily walks will not satisfy him unless you are an avid runner who jogs 5 miles a day with your dog! A fenced yard is necessary to provide a safe area for you to exercise your dog. Many Malinois enjoy playing retrieve games.

#### **Can you Afford a Dog?**

A new dog is a lifetime commitment and the cost of his care is a necessary consideration. Will your budget allow for the cost of food and veterinary care including annual veterinary visits for preventative vaccinations and physical exams?

#### **Will a Malinois Fit Into Your Lifestyle?**

How many hours a day will your Malinois be left alone? The Malinois' high activity level and keen intelligence are characteristics that can get him into trouble if boredom sets in. While many people must leave their Malinois alone for eight hours while they go to their jobs, the successful owner limits activities that would keep him away from his dog after work. The Malinois likes to be included in all your activities so if you like jogging, hiking, running, biking, obedience training, nature, and the out of doors then the Malinois may be a

good choice for your lifestyle. However, if you often work extended hours, and are already over committed to family and friends then perhaps this is not a good time to be considering a dog at all.

#### Is a Puppy the Right Choice For You?

Many individuals who do not have the necessary time, or may be unsure of their ability to raise, socialize, and train a young puppy, may prefer to start with an older puppy or young adult. Young adult Malinois may be available through the American Belgian Malinois Club's Breed Rescue Program. Many breeders often have older puppies or young adults available that would make wonderful loyal pets and companions. If you don't have the extra time and energy necessary to raise a puppy then consider the adult Malinois.

Additionally, if you are contemplating a puppy, it is important for you to understand puppy temperament. Correct Malinois temperament starts with heredity. It can range from bold and friendly to reserved and aloof. This is very different from incorrect temperament, which can be inappropriately fearful and/or aggressive with anyone the dog meets.

Good temperament in a Malinois will remain constant, and is enhanced by a positive bond with the owner. Socialization is critical to the Malinois puppy, helping to educate and build confidence. It includes exposure to new locations, meeting people active in various activities, and walks on leash in familiar and unfamiliar locations. Positive training techniques, with lots of praise and play and an occasional treat, help build good canine character.

Bad, incorrect temperament remains constant regardless of efforts to improve it. Snapping, growling, backing away or bolting with a "don't touch me!" attitude is undesirable behavior, whether it is seen in a puppy at the first meeting or during socialization. It should never be rewarded at any level in the show ring.

Some Malinois puppies go through various temporary emotional phases in their first year. Good temperament will override these short-lived behaviors (e.g., silly, out of control exuberance, fidgety, suspicious, etc.). Further, Malinois puppies are very aware of people's words and emotions. Anger, fear and joy can influence a puppy's behavior in any given situation.

When new owners show their dogs, judges need to be aware that Malinois puppies are not finished show dogs; rather, they are works in progress.

A final word to owners who think you may have an aggression problem in your dog. Please don't live in denial. Have your dog evaluated by an experienced trainer, and do the hard work necessary to solve the problem. It won't solve itself. You owe it to yourself, your breed and the public.

Is the BELGIAN MALINOIS the RIGHT DOG FOR YOU? The American Belgian Malinois Club is available to help answer your questions and assist you in locating responsible breeders.

## THE MALINOIS AND CHILDREN

It is important to research the temperament of any dog you would bring into your home, including a Belgian Malinois. Determine as much as possible about the dog's temperament and relationship with children. Some dogs are very gentle and tolerant while others make

better companions for older children. The safest dog for children is one who is raised with them from a very young age. However, a dog can be carefully socialized and taught how to behave around children. This is a slow thoughtful process of getting the dog to first accept the presence of children and then, in time, teaching the dog to interact with one child, then two, etc. Children need to be careful not to scare a dog during the early phases of socialization and they need to be taught not to tease a dog. This involves careful supervision with any dog. Often children are not even aware they are teasing when holding a cookie just out of the dog's reach. Adult supervision is vitally important to assure the safety of the child and the well being of the dog.

Malinois are good with children and other animals when properly introduced or raised with them. However, this dog can also be protective, territorial, possessive, and jealous. Malinois are high-energy dogs and, like many other herding breeds, are strongly interested in moving objects exhibiting what is called high prey drive. This trait can lead to chasing vehicles, children or animals if the dog's natural instincts are not guided toward acceptable activities. The Belgian Malinois requires a daily exercise routine as well as exposure to people outside the family and to a variety of sights and sounds that should begin early and continue throughout the dog's life. Children should always be supervised and never left alone with any dog of any breed.

The Malinois excels in dog sports (Agility and Flyball) and activities such as herding, search and rescue, competitive obedience, jogging companion and more. An active lifestyle with many challenges is best for the Malinois to thrive to his full potential. Without this type of routine many Malinois can become destructive and hyper. Not every Malinois has the exact same degree of "high drive" but the first time Belgian Malinois owner needs to be aware of these generally common traits.

The Belgian Malinois is at his best when given a job, but it is equally important to integrate the Malinois into family life by setting clear behavior guidelines as well as training him to behave as a "Canine Good Citizen" whether at home, with guests or strangers, or in the park.

## HOW TO IDENTIFY A REPUTABLE BREEDER (BUYERS GUIDE)

Once you have contacted a breeder, how do you know if that person is a reputable breeder who cares about the breed and about the people whom he or she sells to? Although the impulse to get a dog right away can be very strong, resist it. You are going to have this puppy for the next 12 years or so. It will be well worth taking your time to find the right breeder and waiting until puppies are available, if necessary.

Answer the following questions to decide if the breeder that you are thinking of buying a puppy from is reputable or not. You should answer "Yes" to most and hopefully all the questions, otherwise we would recommend that you keep looking. Try not to purchase a puppy from someone just because he or she is the only person that has puppies available right now.

1. Are the sire and dam both over two years old? Yes                      No

OFA (Orthopedic Foundation of America) certification for hips and elbows cannot be done until two years old. (Although PennHip certification can be done at a younger age.) Also, some heritable health problems, such as epilepsy, may not show up until three years of age or older.

2. Do the sire and dam have their hips and elbows certified (and has the breeder given you copies of their certifications)?

Yes                      No

Hip and elbow dysplasia both exist in the Belgian breeds. Making sure that both parents have these certifications helps limit the chance that your puppy will develop these debilitating problems.

3. Do the sire and dam have their eyes CERFd (Canine Eye Registration Foundation) and has the breeder given you copies of their certifications)?

Yes                      No

PRA (Progressive Retinal Atrophy) and juvenile cataracts are just two of the eye diseases that Belgians can have. If the sire and dam have CERF certifications, they have been declared free of any genetic eye diseases.

4. Do the sire and dam have titles in conformation, obedience, herding, agility, schutzhund, or other activities?

Yes                      No

While a title before or after a dog's name does not prove anything, if you are interested in purchasing a dog to show in breed, obedience, agility, tracking, schutzhund, herding or other dog sport, it may be of benefit to purchase a dog whose sire and dam are titled in that respective discipline. Titles also show that the breeder is active and interested in the world of purebred dogs and that they are breeding for a purpose, not simply to make money.

5. Have you met the sire and dam of the puppy that you are going to purchase? Has the breeder sent you pictures of the sire and dam?

Yes                      No

If distance makes it impossible for you to meet the sire and dam, then you should get referrals from others that know the sire and dam. Don't just take the breeder's word for it that their dogs have great temperaments or look beautiful.

6. Has the breeder provided you with at least a 3-generation pedigree? Yes No  
This pedigree should show you each dog's titles and health checks. If none of the dogs in the pedigree have earned titles in any area, you should closely question the breeder as to their reason for breeding.

7. Has the breeder given you a copy of their guarantee? Yes No  
A responsible breeder will guarantee their puppies for any genetic diseases that may occur. They may give you another puppy or reimburse your purchase price. A responsible breeder will take back a puppy or dog (no matter the age) if you are unhappy with it. In fact, many breeders will insist that you return a dog to them if you cannot keep it for any reason. Their concern for the puppies they produce does not end when the puppy goes home with you, but lasts for the dog's lifetime.

8. Does the breeder only sell puppies that are at least 7 weeks old? Yes No  
A responsible breeder would never take a puppy away from its mother before 7 weeks old. Numerous studies have shown that puppies taken from their mothers before this age do not adapt and thrive as well as older puppies. Often they will grow up to be fearful or timid.

9. Did the breeder screen you as a puppy buyer? Yes No  
A responsible breeder will ask you questions about what you hope to do with the puppy, where it will live, and how you will take care of it. This indicates that the breeder cares for the ongoing welfare of the dogs he or she produces.

10. Does the breeder know the breed well? Yes No  
A responsible breeder will know the Belgian Malinois breed. They will know about the health and temperament problems that exist in the breed. They will be able to talk to you about the energy level of these dogs and help you determine if this is the right breed for you. An experienced breeder will also know how to recognize certain traits in individual puppies that will help him or her match the right puppy to the right home.

11. Is the breeder a member of the American Belgian Malinois Club (ABMC) and on the club's Breeder List?

Yes No

While club membership does not guarantee that the breeder is reputable, it does show that the breeder is interested in learning more about their own breed.

Now that you have asked all of your questions be prepared to answer some from the breeder. Responsible breeders do not just sell puppies; they place them into proper homes. The breeder has put a lot into his litter in terms of time, money and love - love not only of his dogs

but also for the breed itself. Do not be offended if you are asked questions about YOUR qualifications to be a Belgian Malinois owner. A dedicated breeder will not pressure you to buy his puppies. He will encourage you to discuss the breed both its positive and negative attributes, and to talk with other breeders.

What the Breeder should provide at the time of sale

1. Sales contract with the dogs name and registration number, or litter number, its parents' names and registration numbers, its date of birth and sex, and explanation of any guarantees and agreements such as neutering requirements, and signature of both seller and buyer.
2. Registration paper or application form properly filled out and signed.
3. Complete record of vaccinations, worming and veterinary exam.
4. A supply of food currently being fed to the puppy and instructions for care and feeding.
5. Certifications:

OFA: The Orthopedic Foundation of Animals evaluates hip and elbow x-rays submitted for evidence of Canine Hip Dysplasia (CHD) and Canine Elbow Dysplasia. Dogs over two years of age with normal hips and elbows are issued a certification number. It is believed that by only breeding those dogs with OFA certification that hip and elbow dysplasia can be eliminated. CHD is a progressive syndrome, which result (ADD S) in deformed hip joints and lameness.

CERF: The Canine Eye Registry Foundation collects reports from eye examinations by board certified veterinary ophthalmologists. Dogs over a certain age, depending upon the breed, that have no evidence of any kind of eye defect are issued a certification number for ONE year. Since some defects can develop later in life, dogs must be re-certified annually. Eye defects in Belgian Malinois include cataracts and Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA).

PennHip: PennHip is another method used to evaluate hip x-rays submitted for evidence of CHD. Dogs may be evaluated younger than two years of age. PennHip measures laxity in the joint, which can indicate whether or not there is likelihood of a dog developing CHD.

GDC: The Institute for Genetic Disease Control (GDC) evaluates CHD, other orthopedic diseases, eye and many other diseases as well. GDC records their evaluations in an open registry and thus all evaluations are available to the public. OFA is a closed registry.

## 2009 ABMC Breeder Referral List

**Northwest Region:** Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming

### **Suzanne Belger**

(208) 542-6552

desertmtnmalinois@msn.com

www.desertmountainmalinois.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Training

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation, Herding

Obedience, Pet, Tracking

COE Signed: 1/08; 1/09

### **Nancy Lasky**

(208) 523-5158

(208) 339-5158

vertimal@cableone.net

Breeder Offers: Stud Service

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation, Herding,

Obedience, Pet, Tracking

COE Signed: 1/08; 2/09

### **Catherine Shields**

(503) 981-8643

carouselmal@gmail.com

www.carouselmalinois.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Adults, Stud Service

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation, Herding

Obedience, Schutzhund/Ring Sport, Search & Rescue

Tracking

COE Signed: 1/09

**Southwest Region:** Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah

### **Steph Bunch**

(805)528-7500

(805) 748-4788

Stephanie@superfastdogs.com

www.superfastdogs.com

Breeder offers: Puppies, Training, Handling, Stud Service

Breeder Emphasis: Agility Conformation, Flyball, Herding,

Obedience, Pet, Search & Rescue, Tracking

COE Signed: 1/08; 1/09

**Danny Craig & Sunny Baik**

(619) 284-8660

dannycraig@cox.net

maligator1004@aol.com

www.templeofthetree.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Adults, Stud Service

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation, Flyball

Herding, Obedience, Pet, Schutzhund/Ring Sport

Search & Rescue, Tracking

**Rosie Hampton**

(928) 453-7387

rosie@dbeljunz.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies

Breeder Emphasis: Conformation, Obedience

COE Signed: 1/09

**Tasha Plum**

(530) 277-5748

elementbelgians@sbcglobal.net

www.elementbelgians.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Handling

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation, Herding,

Obedience, Schutzhund/Ring Sport, Tracking

COE Signed: 1/08; 2/09

**Debbie Skinner**

(951) 551-3879

Debbie.Skinner@pawsnclaws.us

www.pawsnclaws.us

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Adults, Stud Service

Breeder Emphasis: Schutzhund/Ring Sport

COE Signed: 1/09

**North Central Region:** Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin

**Ann MacKay**

ann@avonleamalinois.com

www.avonleamalinois.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation, Herding,

Obedience, Pet

COE Signed: 1/08; 1/09

**South Central Region:** Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas

**Sherri Brittan**

(417) 540-3789

sherribrittan@earthlink.net

www.espritbelgians.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Training, Stud Service

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation, Obedience,

Pet, Schutzhund/Ring Sport

COE Signed: 1/08; 1/09

**Laura Fahrenkamp**

(785) 218-2298

KLFahrenkamp@sunflower.com

www.DeVelMalinois.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Adults, Stud Service

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation,

Obedience, Pet

COE Signed: 1/09

**Trish Gautier**

sterlingmalinois@cox.net

www.sterlingmalinois.com

Breeder Offers: Stud Service

COE Signed: 1/08; 1/09

**Kathy Greenwood**

(918) 625-0737

malinois@mac.com

www.alouettebelgians.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation, Herding

Obedience, Pet, Tracking

COE Signed: 1/08; 1/09

**Paige Tate**

(806) 779-8871

(806) 334-0249

conchomals@yahoo.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Stud Service

Breeder Emphasis: Conformation, Obedience, Pet

COE Signed: 1/09

**Susie Williamson**

(214) 500-8493

mersonmalinois@hotmail.com

www.mersonmalinois.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Stud Service

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation, Herding,

Obedience, Pet, Tracking

COE Signed: 1/08; 1/09

**Penny Winegartner**

(281) 692-9053

daretu@earthlink.net

www.mpactmalinois.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Adults

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation, Obedience,

Pet, Schutzhund/Ring Sport, Search & Rescue, Tracking

COE Signed: 1/09

**Northeast Region:** Connecticut, Delaware, D.C., Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia

**Bette LeBlanc**

(978) 433-1889

bette4y@yahoo.com

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Training, Handling

Breeder Emphasis: Conformation, Herding,

COE Signed: 1/08; 1/09

**Barbara Vitarelli**

(703) 978-7940

Vitarelli@cox.net

Breeder Offers:

Breeder Emphasis:

COE Signed: 1/09

**Southeast Region:** Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia

**Dr. Deborah Alexander-Davis**

(865) 717-3005

DRA0729@hughes.net

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Stud Service

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation,

Obedience, Pet

COE Signed: 1/09

**Carolyn Kaiser**

(904) 845-2348

turickmals@gmail.com

[www.angelfire.com/nh/turickmalinois/index.html](http://www.angelfire.com/nh/turickmalinois/index.html)

Breeder Offers: Information, Training, Handling

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation, Herding,  
Tracking

COE Signed: 1/09

**Angela McCalla**

(804) 733-1288

malinois@delriokennels.com

[www.delriokennels.com](http://www.delriokennels.com)

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Adults

Breeder Emphasis: Agility, Conformation, Herding,  
Obedience, Tracking

COE Signed: 1/08; 1/09

**John Melton**

(205) 670-0027

jemelton@bellsouth.net

Breeder Offers: Puppies

Breeder Emphasis: Conformation, Obedience

COE Signed: 1/08; 1/09

**Shawn Mullinix**

(706) 498-8795

taliesinmalinois@aol.com

[www.taliesinmalinois.com](http://www.taliesinmalinois.com)

Breeder Offers: Puppies, Adults

Breeder Emphasis: Conformation, Pet,

COE Signed: 1/08; 2/09

## **THE AMERICAN BELGIAN MALINOIS CLUB BREEDERS CODE OF ETHICS 2009**

**The American Belgian Malinois Club members are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:**

1. I will maintain sportsmanlike behavior in all canine endeavors and will work toward the betterment of the Belgian Malinois breed. I will not degrade any fancier, his dogs, or his kennel operation. However, I will notify the ABMC Board of Directors of breeders whose actions do not appear to be in the best interest of the breed.
2. I will maintain high standards in the care of my dogs. I will provide each dog in my care with individual attention and strive to bring each dog to its full potential.
3. I will maintain accurate records in accordance with AKC regulations.
4. I will only breed dogs and bitches possessing sound temperament, structure, good health and who exemplify the AKC Belgian Malinois breed standard as I interpret it. I will not breed any dog or bitch under two years of age nor will I allow anyone to use a stud dog younger than two years with one of their bitches.
5. I will breed or offer at stud only dogs which have been certified free of hip and elbow dysplasia by at least one of the registries listed below. Dogs born in 2000 or after must also have elbows certified by the OFA or foreign registry equivalent when required by dogs home country to comply:
  - Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA)\* free of hip and elbow dysplasia
  - PennHip DI above the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile for the Belgian Malinois breed
  - A recognized foreign registry equivalent.

\*or from the Genetic Disease Control (GDC)

I will only breed dogs who possess a current clear certification from the Canine Eye Registration Foundation. (C.E.R.F.)

I will not knowingly breed any dog that has a hereditary disease.

When breeding to a foreign stud dog or importing a bitch in whelp.

The imported semen should come from a male whose hips were scored and passed in his homeland. An imported male should have his OFA hips & elbows certifications done when he arrives in the states (if he is 24 months or older). If he was hip scored and passed in his country, his elbows and eyes should be done here. If he is under 24 months of age, he should not be used until health checks (OFA hips/elbows, CERF) are done.

A bitch in whelp should have been hip scored and passed in her homeland according to that countries requirements before being bred and sent to the USA. She should be over 24 months of age. She should have her CERF done once she arrives in the USA.

6. I will raise my puppies in a healthy environment with adequate socialization. All puppies will be inoculated and dewormed in accordance with veterinary recommendations. Prior to placement I will permanently identify every puppy, by either tattoo or microchip. No puppy will be placed in a new home before the age of seven weeks.
7. I will screen each puppy buyer and strive to place each dog in a permanent home. Under no circumstances will I engage in wholesaling litters nor will I knowingly sell to puppy mills, pet dealers or retailers, catalog houses, commercial breeding operation or buyer/broker or supply puppies or dogs for raffles, lotteries, auctions or laboratories.
8. I will provide each purchaser with a bill of sale, a three-generation pedigree, health record, registration (unless it is withheld by written agreement of both parties), and instructions for care and feeding. I will also supply a written health guarantee detailing conditions for replacement or reimbursement.
9. I will provide written agreements for stud services.
10. I am aware that there is a surplus of dogs in today's society and will undertake breeding with a lasting commitment to the dogs I produce. I will help the purchaser in every reasonable way for the life of the dog. In the event the purchaser must give up the dog, I am prepared to take the dog back and to be responsible for placing the dog in another suitable home.
11. I will require and provide a DNA profile in accordance with AKC regulations.
12. I pledge to help educate the public in the standard and the care of the Belgian Malinois and in all other areas where I am qualified.

If a breeder voluntarily removes themselves from the Code of Ethics/Breeder Referral List due to a breeding that would be in violation of the Code of Ethics they will have to wait two years to rejoin.

**I agree to the above guidelines.**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **AMERICAN BELGIAN MALINOIS CLUB**

The American Belgian Malinois Club Inc. (ABMC) is the organization of the fanciers of the Belgian Malinois in the United States of America. The club's objectives are to protect and promote the interests of the breed through the encouragement of good sportsmanship and camaraderie and to promote activities aimed at improving all aspects of the breed. The club offers educational materials, an awards program, a bi-monthly newsletter, a breeder listing and also supports AKC sanctioned matches and shows. The club is made up of a sponsored membership of fanciers of the Malinois breed. Officers and a board of directors govern the actions of the club. The ABMC is the designated parent club for the Malinois and represents the breed to the American Kennel Club.

The ABMC is a relatively young club with general membership starting in 1978 and becoming a member club of American Kennel Club (AKC) in 1993. We are working to improve the programs and events that we sponsor. The members are all volunteers, and we love to see new faces at sponsored events. Annually we have a National Specialty show that is usually held in the spring. Our first independent National Specialty was held in Texas in March 1998.

We have several committees that do many different tasks. These people represent the main working body for the club. We have a breeder referral program, a rescue web site, and a membership coordinator. In addition, we also have committees and chairpersons for the AKC Gazette and Internet correspondence, CERF and ADOA Liaison, Historian and Archives, OFA Liaison, Judges Education, Annual Awards and Recognition, AKC Delegate, Obedience Columnist, Register of Merit, Policy and Procedures, Herding, Health and Genetics, Performer Newsletter, Constitution and By Laws, Judges Selection, General Education, and Specialty Planning Committee and a Show Committee for each national show. To run these committees takes many hours on the part of each chairperson. Assistance is always welcome.

The American Belgian Malinois Club publishes a bimonthly newsletter, The Malinois Performer, which is the official publication of the ABMC. For Malinois enthusiasts at all levels, members and non-members, it is an excellent source of information about the breed and the many activities at which they can excel. For non-members a one year subscription costs \$40 and can be had by writing the editor, Terrie Janssen, 4465 N. Piqua Troy Rd., Troy, OH 45373 (checks payable to ABMC). Yearly foreign subscriptions cost \$45.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the ABMC, we hope that you might join the efforts of these chairpersons in their corresponding committees. To make our club grow and prosper takes many hands and hearts. We love our breed and want to make it the best by educating and working with the public in all of our committees. We believe we can. Thank you for your interest.

**CURRENT ABMC OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**  
2009-2011

President

Suzanne Belger  
208-542-6552  
president@malinoisclub.com

First Vice President

Jane Rothert  
1stvicepresident@malinoisclub.com

Second Vice President

April Albert  
2ndvicepresident@malinoisclub.com

Recording Secretary

Maryanne Ryno Vrabel  
recordingsec@malinoisclub.com

Corresponding Secretary

Allison Gil  
728 Blackbird Landing Road  
Townsend, DE 19734  
302-376-8799  
correspondingsec@malinoisclub.com

Treasurer

Angela Silvestri  
treasurer@malinoisclub.com

Director

Jo Ann Charnik  
director1@malinoisclub.com

Director

Catherine Shields  
director2@malinoisclub.com

Peformer Editor

Carol Bell  
editor@malinoisclub.com

CLUB USE ONLY Joined \_\_\_\_\_  
Amt Paid \_\_\_\_\_  
Acknowledged \_\_\_\_\_  
Performer Issue \_\_\_\_\_  
Board Action \_\_\_\_\_

## AMERICAN BELGIAN MALINOIS CLUB

AN AKC MEMBER CLUB

### **APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP – Multiple Pages**

Membership is open to all persons who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of the Club. Members (except Junior members) must be 18 years of age or older. (Please complete in black or blue ink; print or type except for signatures.)

#### **General Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone:  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ If membership is granted, may we print your phone numbers? (Y/N) Home  
\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ E mail  
address \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation/Business \_\_\_\_\_ Junior Membership Only  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

#### **General Questions:**

Are you in good standing with the American Kennel Club \_\_ Yes \_\_ No.

What prompted your interest in Malinois?

From whom did you obtain your present Malinois? Please include breeder(s) name & Address(es):

Registered Name(s) of Malinois owned and AKC number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Malinois presently owned: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years in Malinois: \_\_\_\_\_

What plans do you have for your Malinois? List specific areas of interest—i.e. obedience, conformation, tracking, protection, flyball, herding, agility, etc.:\_\_\_\_\_

Affiliations with other specialty and all breed dog clubs:

Why do you wish to join ABMC?

Are you interested in actively supporting the ABMC? If so, what are your areas of interest? (Please continue on other side of page) Additional comments (Please feel free to add attachments):

**TWO SPONSORS ARE REQUIRED.** They must be from different households, and, must have been ABMC members for at least one full year. Please have them fill out the information below. (Please complete in blue or black ink; type or print except for signatures.)

**#1 SPONSOR** Name:

How did you become acquainted with the applicant(s)?

What was the applicant(s)' expressed interest in the breed?

\*\*\*Sponsor's Signature  
(Date)\_\_\_\_\_

**#2 SPONSOR** Name:

How did you become acquainted with the applicant(s)?

What was the applicant(s)' expressed interest in the breed?

\*\*\*Sponsor's Signature

(Date)\_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership per year: \$35.00 Junior Membership [under 18] per year: \$10.00  
Family Membership [two related or unrelated persons eighteen years of age or older who  
reside in the same household] per year: \$55.00 ADDITIONAL for US First Class and all Overseas  
Postage: \$25.00 I/we agree to abide by the Constitution and By Laws of the American Belgian  
Malinois Club, Inc. and the rules of the American Kennel Club. ***The American Belgian Malinois  
Club does not sanction the sale of litters, puppies, or adult Malinois to pet shops or puppy  
mills.***

Signature(s) of Applicant(s):\_\_\_\_\_ Make  
checks payable to: ABMC Return completed application with appropriate fees to:

April Albert  
201 Baldwin Circle  
Winchester, VA 22605  
540-722-0910  
govynnie@gmail.com

**Do you want to pay by credit card via Electronic Invoice? Yes [ ] No [ ] \*\*Note: the  
electronic invoice will have to be paid prior to full acceptance into the Club  
AMERICAN BELGIAN MALINOIS CLUB**

## AN AKC MEMBER CLUB

### **APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP – INSTRUCTIONS**

To make sure your application is processed as quickly as possible: Print clearly in black or blue ink, or type the information on the application. Complete each section of the form. Obtain the signatures of two sponsors who are current club members. Your sponsors must have been members of the ABMC for at least one year, and they must reside in different households. If you have trouble locating sponsors, please contact the membership chair at the address shown on the form, who can provide you with contact information for members in your geographic area. Many members offer to serve as points of contact for club information. While this does not obligate them to act as sponsors, getting to know them at shows or other events can often lead to sponsorship. When your application is received, your name and your sponsors' names will be printed in the next issue of our bimonthly newsletter, *The Malinois Performer*. After the membership has had the opportunity to comment on the applications, the club board will vote on the applications. *Performer* deadlines are the 10<sup>th</sup> of January for the February/March issue, the 10<sup>th</sup> of March for April/May, and so on. If your application is received before the deadline, it can appear in that issue, otherwise there can be up to a two month delay before your name is published and then voted on. The club bylaws state that anyone paying their first annual dues after October 1<sup>st</sup> will be credited as having paid their dues through December 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year. Return the application to the membership chair at the address indicated on the form, with the applicable dues and fees: Individual Membership per year: \$35.00 Junior Membership [under 18] per year: \$10.00 Family Membership [two related or unrelated persons eighteen years of age or older who reside in the same household] per year: \$55.00 ADDITIONAL for US First Class and all Overseas Postage: \$25.00

## **AMERICAN BELGIAN MALINOIS CLUB Constitution**

Section 1. The name of the Club shall be the American Belgian Malinois Club.

Section 2. The objectives of the Club shall be:

To encourage and promote quality in the breeding of purebred Belgian Malinois and do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection.

To urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which Belgian Malinois shall be judged.

To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed and to encourage sportsmanlike behavior at dog shows, obedience trials and herding trials.

To conduct sanctioned matches, specialty shows, obedience trials and herding trials under the rules of the American Kennel Club.

To encourage the formation of local Belgian Malinois clubs.

Section 3. The club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits or remainder or residue from dues or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

Section 4. The members of the Club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such by-laws as may be required to carry out these objectives.

### **By-Laws**

#### **Article I - Membership**

##### **Section 1. Eligibility**

There shall be two types of regular membership, individual and family - 2 adults in the same household - open to all persons 18 years of age and older who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club. For purposes of voting, each individual membership and each individual comprising a family membership shall be entitled to one vote.

Another type of membership shall be Junior Membership open to all persons 10-17 years of age who are in good standing with the American Kennel club and who subscribe to the purposes of the Club. Junior members shall not be entitled to vote or hold office. Upon reaching the age of 18, junior members shall have the option of converting to Regular membership without being required to reapply.

##### **Section 2. Dues**

Regular membership dues shall be \$20.00 per year for individual, \$25.00 per year for family. Junior membership dues shall be \$10.00 per year. Dues are payable on or before the 1st day of April of each year. Members who submit their annual dues after April 1 of each year, and before the 60- day grace period has ended (see Article I, Section 4. Termination of Membership), shall be subject to a five-dollar late renewal fee.

No regular member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of February the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his dues for the ensuing year. Members joining and paying their first annual dues after January 1, will be credited as having paid their dues to March 31st of the following year.

### Section 3. Election to Membership

All applications shall be sent to the Second Vice President. Applications are to be voted upon by the Board at the next Board meeting after the names of applicants are published in the club newsletter. A favorable vote of a majority of the entire Board is required to elect the applicant to membership. Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form approved by the Board of Directors and which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by the Constitutions

and By-laws and rules of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address and occupation of the applicant. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues payment for the current year. Applications shall be endorsed by two members in good standing. Applicants for membership who have been rejected by the Club may not re-apply within six months after such rejection. Any application receiving a negative vote by the Board may be presented by one of the applicant's endorsers at the next annual meeting of the club at which time the club may elect by a favorable vote of 75% of the members present.

### Section 4. Termination of Membership

Memberships may be terminated by:

Resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Second Vice President; but no member may resign when in debt to the Club. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club and they become incurred on the first day of each fiscal year.

Lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 60 days after the first day of the fiscal year; however, the Board may grant an additional 60 days of grace to such delinquent members in meritorious cases. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting whose dues are unpaid at the date of that meeting.

Expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VI of these by-laws.

## Article II - Meeting and Voting

### Section 1. Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Club shall be held, when possible, in conjunction with the Club Specialty each year at a place, date, and hour designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed by the Corresponding Secretary at least 30 days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be 10% of the members in good standing.

### Section 2. Special Club Meetings

Special Club meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority vote of the members of the Board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board, and shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held at such place, date and hour

as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed by the Corresponding Secretary at least 30 days and not more than 60 days prior to the date of the meeting, and said notice shall state the purpose of the meeting, and no other Club business may be transacted there at, the quorum for such a meeting shall be 10% of the members in good standing.

### Section 3. Board Meetings

The Board of Directors shall hold at least one meeting prior to the 15th day of June of each year. Said meeting may be held by mail vote or by personal attendance of the members. Other meetings may be called by the President or at the request of three (3) members of the Board of Directors and held at such time and place as may be designated by a majority vote of the entire Board. Notice of Board of Directors meetings shall be sent by the President or Recording Secretary, to all members of said Board at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting by first class mail. The Board of Directors may conduct business by mail through the Recording Secretary. A quorum for Board of Directors meetings shall be a majority vote of the entire Board, in person or by mail.

### Section 4. Voting

Voting at any meeting of the Club members or Board of Directors can be by mail if received by the Recording Secretary not less than five (5) days before the meeting. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted.

## Article III - Directors and Officers

### Section 1. Board of Directors

The Board shall be comprised of the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and two other persons, all of whom shall be members in good standing who are residents of the United States. These Directors are to serve for a term of two years from the date of their elections or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

### Section 2. Officers

The Club's officers, consisting of the president, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meetings.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President in addition to those articularly specified in these by-laws.

The First Vice-President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's death, absence or incapacity. Further, the First Vice-President shall perform other duties as designated by the Board.

The Second Vice-President shall maintain an accurate membership list, receiving applications for membership and forwarding them to the appropriate party for inclusion in the newsletter and action by the Board. Additionally, he shall contact possible members to acquaint them with the club's functions, as directed by the Board.

The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club. The Recording Secretary shall be responsible for notifying Board members of the meetings.

The Corresponding Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of the meetings, notify new members of their election to membership, notify officers and directors of their elections to office, and carry out other duties as are prescribed in these by-laws.

The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging to the Club. He shall deposit the same in a bank approved by the Board, in the name of the Club. His books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and he shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt of payment not before reported, and at the annual meeting shall render an account of all moneys received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.

### Section 3. Vacancies

Any vacancies occurring on the Board or among the officers during the year shall be filled for the unexpired term of office by a majority vote of all the then members of the Board, except that a vacancy in the office of President shall be filled automatically by the First Vice-President and the resulting vacancy of First Vice-President shall be filled by the Board.

## Article IV - Club Year and Elections

### Section 1. Club Year

The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of April and end on the 31st day of March.

### Section 2. Nominations and Elections

No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated in accordance with these by-laws. During the month of October, in the final year of the term of office, or before the 15th, the Board may select a nominating committee of three members in good standing and two alternates, not more than one of whom shall be a member of the Board. The Corresponding Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen and the alternates of their selection. The Nominating Committee may conduct its business by mail.

The Nominating Committee shall nominate from among the eligible members of the Club, one candidate for each office and for each other position on the Board of directors and shall procure the acceptance of each nominee so chosen. The Committee should consider geographical representation of the membership on the Board to the extent that it is practicable to do so. The committee shall then submit its slate of candidates to the Corresponding Secretary who shall mail the list, including the full name of each candidate and the name of the State in which he resides, to each member of the Club on or before December 15th, so that additional nominations may be made by the members if they so desire.

Additional nominations of eligible members may be made by written petition addressed to the Corresponding Secretary and received at his regular address on or before January 15th, signed by five members and accompanied by the written acceptance of each such additional nominee signifying his willingness to be a candidate.

If no valid additional nominations are received by the Corresponding Secretary on or before January 15th, the Nominating Committee's slate shall be declared elected at that time, and no balloting will be required.

If one or more valid additional nominations are received by the Corresponding Secretary on or before January 15th, he shall, on or before February 1st, mail to each member in good standing a ballot listing all of the nominees for each position in alphabetical order, with the name of the state in which they reside, together with a blank envelope and a return envelope addressed to the Corresponding Secretary marked 'Ballot' and bearing the name of the member to whom it was sent. Ballots must be received by the 15th of February. So that the ballots may remain secret, each voter, after marking his ballot, shall seal it in the blank envelope which in turn shall be placed in the second envelope addressed to the Corresponding Secretary. The inspectors of the elections, as designate by the Board, shall check the returns against the list of members whose dues are paid for the current year prior to opening the outer envelopes and removing the blank envelopes, and shall certify the eligibility of the voters as well as the results of the voting. Nominations cannot be made at the Annual Meeting or in any manner other than as provided above.

The newly elected Board will take Office no later than April 20th of the fiscal year that they are elected.

#### Article V - Committees

Section 1. The Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as dog shows, obedience trials, herding trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other fields which may well be served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board. Special committees may also be appointed by the Board to aid it on particular projects.

Section 2. Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board upon written notice to the appointee; and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose service has been terminated.

#### Article VI - Discipline

##### Section 1. American Kennel Club Suspension

Any member who is suspended from the privileges of the American Kennel Club automatically shall be suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period.

##### Section 2. Charges

Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Club or of the breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Recording Secretary together with a deposit of \$10.00 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the Board or a committee following a hearing. The Recording Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the Board or present them at a Board meeting, and the Board shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed. If the Board considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed, it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the Board entertains jurisdiction of the charges it shall fix a date of a hearing by the Board or a committee of not less than three members of the Board, not less than three weeks nor more than six weeks thereafter. The Recording Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to the accused member by certified mail, together with a notice of

the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if he wishes.

### Section 3. Board Hearing

The Board or Committee shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the hearing, but both complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in that regard. Should the charges be sustained after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by complainant and defendant, the Board or Committee may by a majority vote of those present suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six months from the date of the hearing, or until the next annual meeting if that will occur after six months. And if it deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before his fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the recommendation of the Board or Committee. Immediately after the Board or Committee has reached a decision, its findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the decision and penalty, if any.

### Section 4. Expulsion

Expulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only at the annual meeting of the Club following a hearing and upon the recommendation of the Board or Committee as provided in Section 3 of Article VI. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his own behalf, though no evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his own behalf. The meeting shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A 2/3 vote of those present and voting at the annual meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted the suspension shall stand.

### Article VII - Amendments

Amendments to the Constitution and By-laws and to the Standard for the breed may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Corresponding Secretary signed by twenty percent of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the members with recommendations of the Board by the Corresponding Secretary for a vote within three months of the date when the petition was received by the Corresponding Secretary. The Constitution and By-laws and the Standard for the Breed may be amended at any time provided a copy of the proposed amendment has been mailed by the Corresponding Secretary to each member accompanied by a ballot on which he may indicate his choice for or against the action to be taken. The notice shall specify a date not less than thirty (30) days after the date of mailing by which date the ballots must be returned to the Corresponding Secretary to be counted. The favorable vote of 2/3 of the members in good standing whose ballots are returned within the time limit shall be required to effect any such amendment. (No amendment to the Constitution and By-laws or to the Standard for the Breed that is adopted by the Club shall become effective until it has been approved by the Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club.)

#### Article VIII - Dissolution

The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than two thirds (2/3) of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club other than for the purpose of reorganization, whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the Club nor any proceeds thereof nor any assets of the Club shall be distributed to any members of the Club, but after payment of the debts of the Club, its property and assets shall be given to a charitable organization for the benefit of dogs selected by the Board of Directors.

#### Article IX - Order of Business

Section 1. At meetings of the Club, the order of business, so far as the character and nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows: Roll Call, Minutes of Last Meeting, Report of President, Report of Corresponding Secretary, Report of Treasurer, Report of Committees, Election of New Members, Unfinished Business, New Business, Adjournment

Section 2. At meeting of the Board, the order of business, unless otherwise directed by a majority vote of those present shall be as follows: Reading of Minutes of Last Meeting, Report of Corresponding Secretary, Report of Treasurer, Report of Committees, Unfinished Business, Election of New Members, New Business, Adjournment.  
(Board meetings can be conducted by mail.)

## **ABMC MORE INFORMATION**

### **ABMC WEBSITE INFORMATION**

ABMC HOME PAGE

<http://www.malinoisclub.org>

ABMC BREEDER REFERRAL MAIN PAGE

<http://www.malinoisclub.com/abmc/abmc-breeder-information>

IS THE MALINOIS THE RIGHT BREED FOR YOU?

<http://www.malinoisclub.com/abmc/about-the-malinois/is-the-malinois-right-for-you>

MALINOIS AND CHILDREN

<http://www.malinoisclub.com/abmc/about-the-malinois/malinois-childre>

HOW TO IDENTIFY A REPUTABLE BREEDER

<http://www.malinoisclub.com/abmc/abmc-breeder-information/identify-a-reputable-breeder>

ABMC BREEDER CODE OF ETHICS

<http://www.malinoisclub.com/abmc/abmc-breeder-information/abmc-breeder-code-of-ethics>

ABMC BREEDER LIST

<http://www.malinoisclub.com/abmc/abmc-breeder-information/abmc-breeder-list-2009>

AKC WEB SITE PAGE WITH BREED STANDARD

<http://www.akc.org/breeds/recbreeds/belqmal.cfm>

ABMC RESCUE WEB SITE

<http://www.malinoisrescue.org/>

## ABMC VIDEO AND BOOK LIST

### Videos

Videos for purchase on the Belgian Malinois, #VVT802, may be obtained by phoning The American Kennel Club at 1-919-233-9767. and asking to purchase Video #VVT802.

### Books

"Belgians From Start to Finished", Sallyann Comstock, Beyond Graphics, Inc., Little Rock Arkansas, 1997.

"The Belgian Malinois Handbook, Volume I through 1991", edited by Cindy L. Fitzgerald.

"The Belgian Malinois Handbook, Volume II, 1992 - 1996", edited by Cindy L. Fitzgerald.

"The Belgian Annual 1993".

"The Belgian Annual 1994". "The Belgian Annual 1995".

"Sheepdogs of Belgium", Henri De Bylandt, reprinted from "Les Races de Chiens", 1905 Deventer (Hollande).

"The Berger Belge Anthology", Sally Mitchell Perry and Adrienne Pagel. "The Belgian Shepherd Dog and Its History, 3rd Edition", Erna Bossi.

"Studies of the French Dog Sports "Championships of France" (1982 - 1989), John Jons.

"Basic Narcotic Detection Dog Training", Jack Robicheaux and John Jons.

"AKC Malinois Stud Book"

"Les Chiens de Berger Belges", (French Edition) F. Fiorone, 1984. "Blueprint of the Belgian Shepherd Dog (Pamphlet), Dr. R. Pollet, 1981

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