

**HIRAM I. BEARSS POUND 111  
MILITARY ORDER OF DEVIL DOGS, INC.**

**BYLAWS**

**PREAMBLE TO BYLAWS**

These Bylaws at no time will change or take away any Bylaws set forth in the Kennel or Pack Bylaws statute ever. These are enacted to see that every Dog in HIRAM I. BEARSS POUND 111 MILITARY ORDER OF DEVIL DOGS, INC. (MODD Pound 111) is treated fairly, squarely and equally. They are for the good of the Pound and the members of MODD Pound 111.

**ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP**

A. All new members must be voted on by the membership of HIRAM I. BEARSS POUND 111 MILITARY ORDER OF DEVIL DOGS, INC. (MODD Pound 111) at a Growl of the Pound according to Kennel Bylaws statute Article I, Section C and must be adhered to.

B. Dues for all Non-Paid Life Members in MODD Pound 111 shall be twenty (20) Big Bones if paid before 1 January of the fiscal year of those dues. If not paid before 1 January MODD Pound 111 dues will be twenty (22) Big Bones with two (2) Big Bones being late fee. This will make the total of twenty (20) Big Bones until 31 December and twenty-two (22) Big Bones after that date. This includes Kennel Dues of ten (10) Big Bones and Pack Dues of three (3) Big Bones. New Fiscal Year Dues are due on 1 September following the Supreme Growl and LATE on 15 September.

C. Election and Initiation fees for all Members in MODD Pound 111 shall be five (5) Big Bones.

**ARTICLE II - POUNDS**

**Section 204 - Authority of the Pound**

A. MODD Pound 111 after having been formally instituted presented with its Charter and after the installation of its officers, shall be a functioning Pound in this order. It shall have the full power and authority and be entitled to all the rights and privileges of a constituent unit of the Order.

B. The functioning MODD Pound 111 shall have the sole right to determine the amount of membership dues to be assessed each member annually for the fiscal year, which membership dues shall include membership dues for the Pack (if the Pound is a member of a Pack) and the annual membership dues of the Kennel. Membership dues are for the full fiscal year and cannot be pro-rated.

C. The functioning MODD Pound 111 shall have the sole right to determine the amount of election fee to be paid for each candidate applying for initiation and obligation to the Degree of PUP, which election fee shall be used to apply toward the expenses of the initiation.

D. The functioning MODD Pound 111 shall have the right, power, and authority to initiate and obligate qualified applicants for the Degree of PUP in this Order.

**Section 205 - Growls -Regular, Annual, Special and Staff**

A. REGULAR - MODD Pound 111 shall hold no less than four regular assemblies during any fiscal year, which assemblies shall include the annual assembly of the Pound, for the election of officers.

B. ANNUAL - MODD Pound 111 shall hold one annual assembly to be held during the three months following the month of the Supreme Growl of the Kennel. This assembly may be one of the regular assemblies specified in Paragraph A, above, and shall be designated a Growl of the Pound. At this annual Growl of the Pound the full order of business shall be called and acted upon, including the nomination, election and installation of Officers, and at which Growl the outgoing officers shall make full and proper reports and accounting to the Pound. The Installation Report for the new officers shall be submitted to the Honorable Kennel Dog Robber no later than the end of the month immediately following the Growl. The Installation Report

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shall be submitted via the Worthy Pack Dog Robber, if there is such, and a copy shall be sent to the respective Division Vice Chief Devil Dog.

### C. SPECIAL GROWL -POUND AND/OR STAFF

1. Special Growls of MODD Pound 111 may be called at the discretion of the Pound Keeper or upon the written request of not less than four members of the Pound then in good standing, and setting forth the reason for such special growl. Notice of special growls, giving the time, place and purpose, shall be mailed to each member of the Pound, then in good standing, not less than seven days prior to the date of such growl, with no other business being transacted except that for which the growl was called.

2. Staff Growls of MODD Pound 111 may be called at the discretion of the Pound Keeper or upon written request of three or more members of the Pound Staff. Notice of each growl of the Pound Staff shall be mailed to members of the Pound Staff not less than seven days prior to the date of the growl.

### **Section 206 - Quorum**

A. A Quorum of MODD Pound 111 shall be considered to be at least five (5) members; this includes MODD Pound 111 Officers present at any MODD Pound 111 Growl.

1. Each Pound may set a minimum number of members required to be present at any assembly of the Growl of the Pound in order to legally transact business of the Pound, provided, however, that such quorum is of record in the Bylaws of the Pound, and further provided that no quorum shall be set at less than five members.

B. Any Officer in MODD Pound 111 who absents themselves from two consecutive Growls of the Pound without a valid reason shall have that office declared vacant by the Pound Keeper and the Pound Keeper shall appoint a new officer as so stated in Kennel Bylaws.

### **Section 208 - Eligibility to Hold Office**

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A. All members of MODD Pound 111 shall be eligible for election, or appointment, to any office in the Pound, Subject, however, to the following limitations and restrictions:

1. The Pound Keeper must have the Degree of Devil Dog or Pedigreed Devil Dog, with the Degree of Pedigreed Devil Dog being preferred.
2. It is preferable that the Pound Dog Robber has the Degree of Devil Dog or Pedigreed Devil Dog.
3. To be eligible for an elective or appointive office, a Pup must have been a faithful Pup for at least one calendar year. This restriction may be waived ONLY when the fifth person making application for a Pound Charter is a Pup, who may be a proper Charter Applicant, and the Pup Charter Applicant may hold any Appointive Office other than that of the Pound Dog Robber. A Pup will be eligible to hold any office in the Pound that is elective other than the Pound Keeper and Pound Dog Robber.
4. All officers must be currently paid up in membership dues in the Marine Corps League, Inc., and in the Order.
5. Any officer permitting their membership dues and good standing in the Marine Corps League, Inc., and in the ORDER, to lapse, shall forthwith surrender their office, and the office be declared vacant.
6. Any nominee for any elective office must be present at the time their name is placed in nomination and shall accept the office, except for valid reasons. The DOG ROBBER provided they have stated by written word their acceptance of the office if elected, may be nominated and elected in absentia.

**Section 209 - Pound Officers - Elected and Appointed**

A. ELECTED - The Elected Officers of MODD Pound 111 shall be the Pound Keeper, Senior Vice Pound Keeper, Junior Vice Pound Keeper, Pound Smart Dog, Pound Dog Trainer, Pound Police Dog, and Pound Mad Dog.

B. APPOINTED - The Appointive Officers of MODD Pound 111 shall be the Pound Dog Robber, Pound Watch Dog and the Pound Barking Dog and such other subordinate officers as the Pound Keeper, in his discretion, may choose to appoint. It is preferable that the Pound Keeper make all appointments following the election so as to permit the installation of the appointive officers with the elective officers. The appointive officers shall serve only at the convenience and pleasure of the Pound Keeper.

C. STAFF - The Pound Staff shall consist of all elected officers, together with the Pound Dog Robber, Pound Watch Dog and the Pound Barking Dog, together with all Past Pound Keepers.

D. POUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES - When the Pound is incorporated, the Pound Board of Trustees shall consist of the Elected Pound Officers and the Junior Past Pound Keeper. The Pound Dog Robber, if that office is not elected, will be an ex-Officio member of the Pound Board of Trustees, without a vote.

E. MINIMIUM MEMBERSHIP - With Pounds having minimal membership, the following officers must be chosen: Pound Keeper, Pound Dog Robber, Pound Smart Dog, Pound Dog Trainer, Pound Police Dog, Pound Mad Dog, and Pound Watch Dog, with no objection to a member holding one additional office, exclusive of the Pound Keeper, who shall be limited to that office alone

F. SUCCESSION - All Pound Officers may succeed themselves in office for so many additional terms of office as they may be elected or appointed.

**Section 210 - Election**

A. The annual Growl of the Pound shall be held during the three months following the Supreme Growl of the Kennel. (See Section 205 of Kennel ByLaws)

B. At the annual Growl of the Pound, the officers of MODD Pound 111 shall be nominated, elected and installed.

C. All nominations for elective office shall be from the floor.

D. The elective officers shall be chosen by secret ballot.

E. The ballot may be cast for the full slate of officers or may be cast for each office in sequence.

F. Should the Pound fail to nominate for any office, after the election of officers, the Pound Keeper elect shall appoint an eligible member of the Pound to the office for which no nomination had been made?

G. The Pound Police Dog will permit no person to enter or leave the Growl while the Pound Officers are being nominated and elected.

**Section 211 - Duties and Authority of Pound Officers, Tenure**

The authority and duties of all Pound officers shall be comparable to those of corresponding Pack and Kennel officers within the scope of their jurisdiction and shall include the tenure of office therein specified.

**Section 212 - Past Pound Officers**

A Past Pound Officer is one who, having been elected or appointed and installed, has served to the end of their full normal term or whose term of office is terminated by death.

**Section 213 - Vacancy**

A. In case of any elective or appointive office (except that of Pound Keeper) being declared vacant during the fiscal year, the Pound Keeper, with the approval of the Pound Staff, shall appoint promptly, a successor for the uncompleted term of office.

B. In case the vacant office be that of Pound Keeper, the Senior Vice Pound Keeper shall assume all of the title, rights and privileges of the office of Pound Keeper for the uncompleted term thereof The Pound shall immediately fill the office of Senior Vice Pound Keeper by election.

C. In case the vacancy in the office of Pound Keeper occurs in a Pound not having a Senior Vice Pound Keeper, the Pound shall immediately fill the office of Pound Keeper by election.

D. Pound offices shall be declared vacant for any of the following reasons:

1. The Pound Officers permit themselves to become in arrears in their membership dues in the Marine Corps League, Inc., and/or this Order; or lose their status as a member in good standing in the League, and/or in this Order.
2. The Pound Officer absents themselves from two consecutive Growls of the Pound without valid reason.
3. For any other just cause or reason.

**Section 214 - Voting**

A. Each and every member of MODD Pound 111 present at the Grawl and in good standing in the League and this Order shall have one vote.

1. Election of candidates for membership or for office shall be by secret ballot.
2. All other voting on Pound business shall be by voice vote.
3. Two or more members present and eligible to vote may call for a secret ballot on any matter.

**Section 215 - Initiation**

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A. Approved candidates for the Degree of Pup may be initiated at any Growl of the Pound.

B. In States where there is only one functioning Pound and there are annual assemblies of the Department of the Marine Corps League, Inc., that Pound for so long as it remains the sole functioning Pound in the state, is hereby and herewith authorized and empowered to initiate into the Degree of Pup any approved candidate for that Degree as may present themselves for initiation at such annual assemblies of the Department. Such Pound sitting as such Initiatory Body can only initiate to the degree of Pup.

### **Section 216 - Growl of the Pound**

A. All assemblies of MODD Pound 111 shall be officially known as the Growl of the Pound.

B. The assembly place of the Growl of the Pound shall be officially known as the Pound.

C. A Growl of the Pound shall be considered a formal assemblage, empowered to consider motions and expend funds ONLY if the Holy Bible, Bone and Charter are present. Absence of these three (3) Sacred Articles shall render the assemblage an informal gathering.

### **Section 217 - Acts of the Pound**

In all the acts, actions and activities of the Pound, it shall abide by and conform to the Constitution, Bylaws and Ritual of the MODD Pound 111., and the Constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations of the Marine Corps League, Inc.

**Section 219 - MODD Pound 111 Order of Business**

The Order of Business for any Growl of the Pound shall be:

1. Opening Ceremony
2. Roll Call of Officers
3. Reading and Publishing Minutes of the previous Growl(s)
4. Memorial Services
5. Unfinished Business; Officers and Committee Reports, Other Unfinished Business.
6. New Business; Resolutions, Other New Business, Nomination, Election and Installation of officers
7. # Initiation of Candidates to Degree of Pup
8. # Obligation of Candidates to Degree of Pup  
# Initiation and Obligation of candidates shall be under the jurisdiction of the retiring Pound Keeper and Staff, if "Election and Installation of officers" has occurred.
9. Good of the Order, Including Announcement of next Growl.
10. Closing Ceremony

At the discretion of the Pound Keeper, a recess of the Growl may be called before the order of business, "Nomination, Election, and Installation of Officers" and/or before the Order of Business, "Good of the Order." The Order of Business of any special Growl of the Pound or any Growl of the Staff may be called up for attention and action at the next ensuing regular Growl of the Pound under the Order of Business, "Reading or Publishing of Minutes of Previous Growl(s)."

**Section 412 - MODD Pound 111 Officers - Duties**

A. The Pound Keeper shall preside at all Growls of the Pound, Pound Staff and at all Pound initiations. It shall be the Pound Keeper's duty to require the observance of and obedience to all laws, rules and regulations not in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Order and of the Marine Corps League, Inc. The Pound Keeper may appoint other officers and committees as deemed necessary, if not otherwise provided for in these Bylaws. The Pound Keeper shall issue the call for all Growls of the Pound Staff as deemed necessary. The Pound Keeper shall be the custodian of, with the Pound Dog Robber, all monies, property, securities and records of the Pound and shall countersign all orders for the disbursement of monies when approved by proper authority, perform such other duties and issue such other orders as are necessary and proper for the harmonious and efficient functioning of MODD Pound 111 and of the membership of the Order.

B. The Senior Vice Pound Keeper shall assist the Pound Keeper, shall preside at the Growls of the Pound, and Pound Staff in the absence of the Pound Keeper or at the Pound Keeper's request, and shall be responsible to the Pound Keeper and the Pound for the growth and expansion of the Pound, and shall perform such other duties for the good of MODD Pound 111., as the Pound Keeper may direct.

C. The Junior Vice Pound Keeper shall assist the Pound Keeper and the Senior Vice Pound Keeper, shall be responsible for all activities seeking to increase the revenue of the Pound, and for the supervision of all entertainment and amusement provided at all Growls of the Pound, and Pound Staff, and shall perform such other duties as the Pound Keeper may direct.

D. The Pound Dog Robber

1. Shall be responsible to the Pound Keeper and the Pound for all records and accounts of the Order, shall keep a brief but proper record of all pertinent minutes of all Pound Growls and Pound Staff Growls, and shall be the custodian with the Pound Keeper, of all monies, property, securities and records of the Pound. They shall keep on deposit in a reputable bank, all monies and securities of the order, and shall make all disbursements for all accounts owing when approved by proper authority, by check, which shall be countersigned by the Pound Keeper. They shall keep an accurate and current file on all

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members of the Order, and shall issue all membership cards. They shall perform such duties customarily executed by recording secretaries, financial secretaries and treasurers. They shall make a full and correct accounting and report, including financial statements, to each Growl of the Pound and at such other times as may be directed by the Pound Keeper or the Pound Staff. They shall forward an up-to-date financial report to all members of the Pound Staff, all Worthy Pack Leaders, all Worthy Pack Dog Robbers, all Pound Keepers, and all Pound Dog Robbers semi-annually, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Honorable Chief Devil Dog, or by other competent authority. The Pound Dog Robber shall not disburse any funds after the close of the Supreme Growl of the Kennel except those approved by the Supreme Growl. They shall serve as the Secretary and Treasurer of the Corporation.

2. Due to the technical requirements of the position, the Pound Board of Trustees may, upon the recommendation of the Honorable Chief Devil Dog, divide the responsibilities of this position between two members of the Order. The listed duties and the titles will be assigned to the two offices by the Pound Keeper and the Pound Board of Trustees, and all other provisions of these Bylaws will apply to both offices.

3. The Pound Dog Robber shall propagate a Dog Robbers Manual to provide instruction and guidance for Pack and Pound Dog Robbers in the performance of their administrative duties, and the Dog Robbers shall be required to follow the instructions contained therein. Said Manual and all subsequent changes shall have the approval of the Pound Board of Trustees."

4. The Honorable Pound Dog Robber/Honorable National Executive Secretary will, in the first WOOF-OGRAM following each Growl of the Pound and each Growl of the Pound Staff, publish the Scratchings to the Membership.

E. The Pound Smart Dog shall interpret and explain the Constitution and Bylaws of MODD Pound 111 and any and all rules and regulations established by the Pound, the Pound Staff or the Pound Keeper, when requested by competent authority. Such interpretation and explanation shall not be binding, shall not have the effect of law and shall be considered only as advisory opinion, unless, and until approved by the Pound in session.

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F. The Pound Dog Trainer shall administer to the spiritual needs of MODD Pound 111., and shall prepare and conduct suitable Memorial Services at each Growl of the Pound, shall supervise the welfare and relief programs of MODD Pound 111., shall inform and assist all Worthy Pack and Pound Dog Trainers in the proper performance of their duties, shall perform such other duties as the Pound Keeper may direct.

G. The Pound Police Dog shall maintain order and decorum in all Growls of the Pound and Pound Staff, shall expel from any Growl any Dog exceeding the bounds of decency, creating a disturbance, or hindering the orderly conduct of the Growl, shall perform such other duties as the Pound Keeper may direct.

H. The Pound Mad Dog shall direct and supervise the public and private initiation of candidates to the Degree of Devil Dog and Pup. Additional aides as may be requested and designated by the Pound Mad Dog with the approval of the Pound Keeper. Such initiation shall be in a manner that is entertaining and impressive with due regard to the well being and safety of the candidate. The Initiation shall not be repulsive or against the dignity and modesty of the candidate. All other duties shall be performed in line with the office as the Pound Keeper Dog may direct.

I. The Pound Watch Dog shall guard the portals of the Pound at all times, permitting no one to enter or leave without proper authority, and shall be responsible to the Pound Keeper and the Pound for the worthiness and eligibility of every person present at any Pound or Pound Staff Growl and shall perform such other duties as the Pound Keeper may direct.

J. The Pound Barking Dog shall supervise and direct all publicity and public relations of MODD Pound 111., under the direction of the Pound Keeper, shall perform the functions commonly executed by Public Relations and Publicity Directors, shall inform and assist all Worthy Pack and Pound Barking Dogs in such manner as to insure a uniform and effective public relations program, and shall perform such other duties as the Honorable Chief Devil Dog may direct.

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### **ARTICLE III - AWARDS**

A. MODD Pound 111 DOG OF THE YEAR Committee is made up of all former recipients who will choose the new MODD Pound 111 Dog of the Year. The Chair of this committee shall be the most Junior Pound Dog of the Year. Discussion should be held strictly to the work performed by the Dogs so nominated. The likes or dislikes of any Dog nominated shall not be discussed, tolerated or allowed at anytime, only discussion should be the activities of the Pound the Dog participated in. All Devil Dogs of MODD Pound 111 shall be eligible for this award. Only one Pack Dog of the Year will be nominated. That is then forwarded on to the Pack by the MODD Pound 111 as our nomination. The nomination for Pack Dog of the Year will be at the discretion of the convening Pack Dog of the Year Committee. Only one Pound Dog of the Year will be nominated. That is then forwarded on to Pound by MODD Pound 111 as our nomination. The nomination for Pound Dog of the Year will be at the discretion of the convening MODD Pound 111 Dog of the Year Committee. No discussion about the working and discussions of this Committee will be public at anytime, punishable by discipline.

B. All other MODD Pound 111 Awards are at the discretion of the Pound Keeper such as Certificates of Appreciation and Pound Keepers Commendation.

### **ARTICLE IV - DISCIPLINE**

A. Including all Pound and Pack Bylaws offenses this article will strengthen the right to discipline where the oath of the Military Order of the Dog unequivocally is circumvented. Where another member or member's family is wronged or injured by word, act or deed by any member. This oath is to be strictly adhered to, especially at election time and selection of awards. Every member should be elected or receive an award on their merit not at the discredit of others.

1. CHARGES: Any such charge can and should be filed with the Dog Robber by submitting triplicate copies as so defined under the Kennel Bylaws. The charges will distribute as by the directive.

2. PROCEDURE: These shall be carried out according to the Kennel Bylaws.

### **ARTICLE V - FINES**

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A. No fine shall be in violation of the Kennel Bylaws or guidelines. Each infraction in MODD Pound 111 shall be one (1) Small Bone or Big Bone, with a maximum of two (2) Small Bones or Big Bones, at one time. This means the same Dog can be fined again for other infractions or disruptions at another time in the Growl of the Pound.

### **ARTICLE VI - ADVANCEMENTS**

A. No Dog in MODD Pound 111 shall advance a degree without attending one (1) of MODD Pound 111 Growls of the Pound the year of the Convention they are advancing. The Dog must have participated in MODD Pound 111 functions.

B. MODD Pound 111 shall discuss the advancement and vote whether to recommend advancement.