

# ISIC Constitution

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## Preamble

The *Icelandic Sheepdog International Cooperation (ISIC)* is a democratic, non-profit federation of national Icelandic Sheepdog clubs.

ISIC exists to safeguard the breed's future through cooperation, shared knowledge, and ethical stewardship across all participating nations.

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## Chapter 1 – Foundations

### §1 Name and Status

ISIC is an international federation of recognized national Icelandic Sheepdog clubs. It operates as a non-profit and independent organization governed by this Constitution and its Bylaws.

### §2 Mission and Objectives

ISIC's mission is to ensure the long-term preservation and responsible development of the Icelandic Sheepdog.

Objectives include:

- a) **Following** the breed standard and cultural heritage.
- b) Supporting research, genetic diversity, and health monitoring.
- c) Coordinating international databases and information exchange.
- d) Providing education, communication, and cooperative projects.

### §3 Core Principles

ISIC is founded on equality, transparency, accountability, and majority-based democratic decision-making. Majority-based decision-making as defined in §12 ensures democratic legitimacy.

All member clubs hold equal rights and responsibilities.

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## Chapter 2 – Membership

### §4 Eligibility and Admission

Each country may be represented by one officially recognized national Icelandic Sheepdog club. Applications are reviewed by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Assembly. New clubs enter a two-year probation period before attaining full voting membership.

### §5 Rights and Duties

Member clubs shall:

- Participate actively in meetings and votes.
- Submit required data and reports.
- Notify ISIC/exec of contact or board changes after each **General Assembly**.
- Uphold this Constitution and Bylaws.

### §6 Suspension and Termination

Membership may be suspended or terminated by a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly for serious or repeated violation of ISIC regulations or ethics.

Resignation must be submitted in writing to ISIC/exec.

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# Chapter 3 – Governance Structure

## §7 Organs of ISIC

1. **General Assembly (Chairman Meeting)** – the supreme decision-making body.
2. **Executive Committee (ISIC/exec)** – the administrative and coordinating body.
3. **Subcommittees** – specialized technical groups (e.g., Breeding, Data, etc).
4. **Treasurer - financial bookkeeper.**
5. **Auditor** – independent financial control.

## §8 Distribution of Authority

- The General Assembly decides policy, strategy, and membership matters.
- The Executive Committee executes decisions and manages operations.
- Subcommittees provide expertise and recommendations.
- **The treasurer keeps the financial books of the ISIC organisation.**
- The Auditor reviews financial compliance and transparency.

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# Chapter 4 – General Assembly

## §9 Composition and Representation

The General Assembly consists of one official voting delegate (Chairman) appointed by each member club.

The annual ISIC meeting consists of four coordinated sessions, each with defined participation and voting rights:

### **Seminar**

An open educational session for presentations and lectures related to the Icelandic Sheepdog and ISIC activities.

Participation is open to all interested parties, including breeders, members of national clubs, and guests.

No voting or decision-making takes place in this session.

### **Common Session**

A joint closed session where Chairmen, official breeding representatives, and invited observers from national club boards participate.

The purpose is to exchange strategic information, present national updates, and discuss common issues across the ISIC community.

Voting rights in the Common Session are held by Chairmen.

Invited observers may attend without vote.

### **Chairmen Meeting**

The formal decision-making body of ISIC.

Attended by the Chairmen and the Executive Committee.

Observers from national club boards may attend by invitation, without voting rights.

Decisions of ISIC are adopted exclusively in this session in accordance with §12.

### **Breeding Meeting**

A **theoretical** session dedicated to breeding-related topics.

Each national club may appoint one official breeding representative with voting rights.

Breeders and observers may attend without voting rights, provided they are members of a recognized national Icelandic Sheepdog club.

## §10 Meetings

An ordinary meeting is held annually.

Meetings may be physical, digital, or hybrid.

A physical meeting shall occur at least every second year.  
Extraordinary meetings may be called by the Exec or by one-third of member clubs.

## §11 Powers and Competence

The General Assembly:

- Elects the Executive Committee, **sub-committees**, **treasurer** and Auditor.
- Approves annual reports, budgets, and membership fees.
- Decides on membership applications and terminations.
- Adopts and amends the Constitution and Bylaws.
- Provides guidance on strategic projects and **approves** partnerships. **Provides guidance on projects and approves (commercial) partnerships to promote the breed.**

All decisions of the General Assembly are subject to the voting rules defined in §12 unless otherwise specified.

## §12 Decision-Making and Voting

Each member country holds one vote.

A quorum requires verified participation\* of at least half of all voting members.

Unless otherwise stated, decisions of the General Assembly require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast. Amendments to the Constitution require a three-quarters (3/4) majority of votes cast.

ISIC shall always seek to reach decisions by **consensus**, ensuring that all member countries are heard and that resolutions reflect the shared interest of the international community.

When full consensus cannot be achieved, voting thresholds as defined above shall apply.

**\*Verified participation is defined in §5 and §10.**

Voting may take place physically, digitally, or through verified hybrid participation.

Digital votes have equal validity to physical votes.

Abstentions are not counted as votes cast.

## §13 Elections and Timeline

- Election procedures are defined in the Bylaws §4–§5 – Elections

## §14 Agenda Structure

1. Opening & approval of agenda
  2. Approval of previous minutes
  3. Reports (Exec, committees, finance)
  4. Proposals & motions
  5. Budget and membership fees
  6. Amendments (if any)
  7. Elections
  8. Closing remarks
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## Chapter 5 – Executive Committee (ISIC/exec)

### §15 Composition

Three members:

- One appointed by DÍF for **three-year terms**.
- Two elected by the General Assembly for three-year terms.

### §16 Mandate and Responsibilities

The Exec:

- Implements Assembly decisions.
- Oversees daily operations and communication.
- **Responsible for preparations of** budgets and financial reports.
- Ensures that ISIC's databases, archives and official website are properly maintained, secured and updated, either directly or through appointed technical administrators.
- **Supervises** subcommittee **tasks**.
- Monitors and enforces all deadlines established in the Bylaws.
- The Executive Committee shall remind clubs of upcoming deadlines and follow up when obligations are not fulfilled.
- Organises the **General Assembly** in cooperation with the host club.
- The Executive Committee is responsible for setting the agenda, collecting necessary reports and documentation, and coordinating the programme.  
The host club provides the venue, local logistics and may arrange lectures or excursions as agreed with the Executive Committee.
- **Activity report is presented at the General Assembly.**
- **Notes and protocol from the General Assembly are to be published no later than 30 days after the General Assembly.**

### §17 Procedures

Meetings may be held physically or digitally.

Decisions by simple majority.

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## Chapter 6 – Subcommittees

### §18 Establishment and Composition

Subcommittees are established by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Assembly according to ISIC's strategic priorities.

Each subcommittee shall consist of at least three members, preferably an odd number, to ensure balance in decision-making.

Each committee may include apprentices to ensure learning and continuity.

Apprentices are elected annually by the Chairmen Meeting in accordance with **Appendix 2 §9** and must be members of a recognized national ISIC member club.

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### §19 Mandate and Responsibilities

Each subcommittee operates under a written Terms of Reference approved by the Executive Committee and ratified by the General Assembly.

Subcommittees shall:

- Conduct their work according to the objectives set in the Terms of Reference.
- Submit an annual written report to the Executive Committee.

- Propose relevant initiatives and research projects within their field.
- Ensure that membership, workload, and reporting are distributed fairly among participating countries.

Subcommittees normally operate digitally and are self-funded unless specific financial support is approved by the General Assembly.

Operational procedures for subcommittees are further defined in the Bylaws §10–§12.

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## Chapter 7 – Finance

### §20 Financial Principles

ISIC operates on a non-profit basis.

Fiscal year = calendar year.

All transactions must be transparent and auditable.

### §21 Funding Sources

- Annual membership fees from **approved members as defined in chapter 2.**
- Grants and approved donations.
- Revenue from approved projects or seminars.

### §22 ISIC Fund

Managed by the Exec to cover operational costs and strategic activities.

Use of the Fund follows Assembly decisions.

Annual accounts audited and distributed to clubs.

### §23 Treasurer

**The Assembly elects one treasurer for a three-year term.**

**The treasurer can be someone outside of ISIC/Exec.**

### §24 Auditor

The Assembly elects one independent auditor for a three-year term.

The auditor must not hold any position in Exec.

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## Chapter 8 – Amendments and Dissolution

### §25 Amendments

Proposals must be submitted at least three months before the **General Assembly.**

**Approval** requires a three-quarters (3/4) majority of votes.

Minor editorial corrections may be approved by simple majority.

### §26 Dissolution

ISIC may be dissolved only by unanimous decision of all member clubs.

Remaining assets are divided equally among member clubs.

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# Chapter 9 – Final Provisions

## §27 Bylaws and Appendices

Detailed operational procedures are defined in the Bylaws and their Appendices:

1. Executive Committee Terms of Reference
2. Digital and Hybrid Meeting Protocol
3. Election Procedures
4. Subcommittees Terms of Reference

## §28 Entry into Force

This Constitution takes effect upon approval by the ISIC General Assembly and supersedes previous rules in matters of governance.