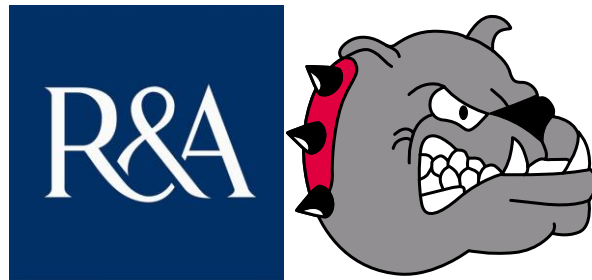


THE RULES OF GOLF



AS VARIED AND SUPPLEMENTED BY THE BDT RULES OF GOLF



Effective from 1 January 2022

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1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

"**BDT**" is an abbreviation of "Big Dogs Tour" and details of each of the BDTs attended from time to time can be found on Bigdogstour.com;

"**BDT Logo**" means the bulldog logo shown for illustration purposes on the front page of these BDT Rules;

"**BDT Rules**" means the R&A Rules as varied and supplemented by these rules and shall be deemed to include (a) any supplemental rules introduced with the agreement of the Committee for future BDTs and (b) such elements of Bigdogstour.com as are necessary to give full meaning to these rules (including, for example, the Big Dogs Trophies detailed on Bigdogstour.com);

"**Best Fourball Pairing**" means the two Dogs who win the Seve & Jose Trophy in accordance with clause 18;

"**Big Dog**" means the Dog who from BDT to BDT wins the Individual Trophy;

"**Big Dogs Ryder Cup**" means the annual competition for the Big Dogs Ryder Cup Trophy which shall be contested in accordance with the terms of clause 7 and, where the context requires, references to the Big Dogs Ryder Cup shall include references to the Big Dogs Ryder Cup Trophy itself;

"**Big Dogs Ryder Cup Logo**" means Big Dogs Ryder Cup logo shown for illustration purposes on the front page of these BDT Rules;

"**Big Dogs Ryder Cup Points**" shall be awarded in the following manner:

- (a) one point for a fourballs or singles victory; and
- (b) half a point for a fourball or singles halve;

"**Big Dogs Ryder Cup Trophy**" means the trophy so named on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com;

"**Big Dogs Tour**" means any annual golf tour involving:

- (a) the exclusive company of the Dogs;
- (b) three rounds of golf; and
- (c) the occasional drink;

"**Bigdogstour.com**" means the website <https://pauldineen.wixsite.com/Bigdogstour> or any replacement website notified by the President to the Dogs;

"Big Dogs Trophies" means the trophies detailed on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com and shall be deemed to include any further trophies introduced from BDT to BDT by the Dogs;

"Big Dogs Trophy Winners" means the Dogs who from BDT to BDT win the relevant Big Dogs Trophies and all previous winners of each of the Big Dogs Trophies shall be listed on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com;

"Bloodhounds" means the team of such name competing for the Big Dogs Ryder Cup and shall (subject to the provisions of clauses 3.2 and 3.3 of these rules) comprise of eight Dogs;

"Captains" means the two Dogs appointed in accordance with clause 2.4 as captains of the Bloodhounds and the Retrievers respectively and **"Captain"** and **"Captaincy"** shall be construed accordingly;

"Charity" means the BDT Charity determined by the Big Dog in accordance with clause 8.15;

"Cheat" means the Dog who wins The Cheat Trophy in accordance with clause 19;

"Cheat Trophy" means the trophy so named on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com;

"Chief Barker" means the Dog responsible for organising the BDT in question who shall be elected annually in accordance with clause 2.3;

"Closing Ceremony" means the ceremony convened in accordance with clause 6;

"Committee" means the Inaugural Tourists;

"Deputy Dawg" means the Dog appointed to be the Judge's deputy in order to ensure balance in the dispensation of Fines in accordance with the terms of clause 5.9 and who shall always be on the opposite Team to the Judge;

"Dogs" means (subject to the provisions of clauses 3.2 and 3.3 of these rules) the 16 hounds selected to go on any BDT and a **"Dog"** shall be construed accordingly;

"Duncan Goodhew Competition" means a competition organised and held in accordance with clause 4.17;

"Dogsbody" means the Shitzu or the Dog otherwise appointed from time to time in accordance with clause 12;

"EG Rule" means the rule whereby upon finishing any alcoholic drink a Dog must tap his empty glass, bottle, can or other drinking vessel on his own or another Dog's body prior to placing his glass on a table or other surface and the phrase **"to EG"** shall be construed accordingly;

"Elton Ravo" means the Dog who wins the Elton Ravo Competition and with it the Elton Ravo Prize;

"Elton Ravo Competition" means a karaoke competition for the Elton Ravo Prize conducted in accordance with the terms of clause 13;

"Fine" means a punishment for a Dog (usually involving the consumption of specified units of alcohol measured in digits, but alternatively a monetary fine) decided upon by a majority of the Dogs or by the Judge and Deputy Dawg (depending on the circumstances) and **"Fined"** shall be construed accordingly;

"Format" means:

(a) during the first and second rounds of golf on BDT, fourball matches between the chosen pairings from each of the Bloodhounds and the Retrievers;

(b) during the third round of golf on BDT, single matches between the Bloodhounds and the Retrievers;

"Goblat" means the trophy so named on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com;

"Great Dane" means the Dog who wins the Great Dane Trophy in accordance with clause 10;

"Great Dane Trophy" means the trophy so named on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com;

"Greyhound" means the Dog who finishes in first place in each of the first and second rounds of golf in accordance with the provisions of clauses 8.2 and 8.3;

"Greyhound Shirt" means a yellow polo shirt with the BDT logo on the left chest and which is to be worn in accordance with the provisions of clauses 8.2 and 8.3;

"Guard Dog" means the Dog responsible for keeping the golfing and other records of all BDTs in accordance with clause 22 and shall be Paul Dineen until further notice from the Committee;

"Handicap Threshold" means the highest number to which a Dog's handicap can be raised and shall be 28 (unless the specific provisions in clause 14 allowing a waiver or increase apply);

"I Am A Virgin T-Shirt" means a white t-shirt with the words "I Am A Virgin" emblazoned in red on the front;

"Inaugural Tourists" means the inaugural tourists who attended the 2002 BDT to Marbella (Paul Dineen, Gregory Gardner-Boyes, Ashley Hurst, James Hurst, Nicholas "Langers No Wangers" Langdon, Nicholas Roberts and Brendan Taylor);

"Judge" means James Hurst or, in his absence, another Dog nominated by the Committee;

"Kennels" means the hotel or other accommodation arranged for the Dogs by the Chief Barker for each BDT;

"Kittymaster" means the Dog appointed by the Committee in accordance with clause 4.22;

"Left Hand Rule" means the rule whereby all Dogs must drink any alcoholic drink with their left paws at all times during BDT, except whilst on a golf course;

"Mongrel" means any Dog who has represented both the Bloodhounds and the Retrievers;

"MDE" means "Member of the Dogs Empire", being an honour bestowed in accordance with clause 4.39 upon a Dog who has made an outstanding contribution to the BDT;

"MVD" means the Dog who wins the Goblat Trophy in accordance with clause 17;

"Opening Ceremony" means the ceremony convened in accordance with clause 5;

"Patter Protector" means a clothes peg;

"Phodographer" means the Dog appointed annually by the Committee as the official tour photographer for the relevant BDT;

"Poodle" means the Dog who wins the Poodle Trophy in accordance with clause 16;

"Poodle Trophy" means the trophy so named on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com;

"President" means the Dog appointed as such in accordance with clause 20;

"R&A Rules" means the Rules of Golf as illustrated at the attached link: <https://www.randa.org/en/rog/2019/pages/the-rules-of-golf> and shall be deemed to include any subsequent variation of the R&A Rules insofar as it does not contradict the BDT Rules;

"Retrievers" means the team of such name competing for the Big Dogs Ryder Cup and shall (subject to the provisions of clauses 3.2 and 3.3 of these rules) comprise of eight Dogs;

"Rottweiler" means the Dog who wins the Rottweiler Trophy in accordance with clause 15;

"Rottweiler Trophy" means the trophy so named on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com;

"Scribe" means the Dog appointed annually by the Committee as the official tour historian for the relevant BDT;

"Second Dog" means the Dog who wins the Second Place Trophy in accordance with clause 9;

"Second Place Trophy" means the trophy so named on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com;

"Seve & Jose Trophy" means the trophy so named on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com;

"Shitzu" means the Dog who wins the Shitzu Trophy or the Dog who finishes in last place in each of the first and second rounds of golf (depending on the context) in accordance with clause 12;

"Shitzu Shirt" means a brown polo shirt with the BDT logo on the left chest and the word "Shitzu" underneath the logo and which is to be worn in accordance with the provisions of clause 12;

"Shitzu Trophy" means the trophy so named on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com;

"Stableford Points" shall be awarded in the following manner for the following scores on each hole of golf during BDT:

2 or more over par	-	0 points
1 over par	-	1 point
par	-	2 points
1 under par	-	3 points
2 under par	-	4 points
3 under par	-	5 points

The player's score is the nett score for each hole dependent on the player's handicap. The nett score is calculated by taking strokes at the appropriate hole using the stroke index for the relevant golf course illustrated on its scorecard;

"Stash" means the items detailed on the "Stash" page on Bigdogstour.com and shall be deemed to include any further items of stash introduced from BDT to BDT by the Stashmaster and/or any of the Dogs;

"Stashmaster" means Nicholas Langdon, or in his absence another Dog nominated by the Committee;

"St Bernard" means the Dog who wins the St Bernard Trophy in accordance with clause 11;

"St Bernard Trophy" means the trophy so named on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com;

"Teams" means the Bloodhounds and the Retrievers and references to a "Team" shall include one or other such team as the context requires;

"Team Shirts" means the shirts presented to each Dog at the Opening Ceremony which must (without limitation):

(a) be in the Chief Barker's chosen colours for the Bloodhounds and the Retrievers for the relevant BDT but with recognition given to the fact that the Bloodhounds lean towards red-based colours and the Retrievers towards blue-based colours;

(b) (if nicknames are being adopted for the relevant BDT) show each Dog's BDT nickname for the relevant BDT; and

(c) show the BDT Logo and the year and location for the relevant BDT (preferably on the left chest); and

(d) show the BDT Ryder Cup Logo (preferably on the right chest);

"Third Dog" means the Dog who wins the Third Place Trophy in accordance with clause 9;

"Third Place Trophy" means the trophy so named on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com;

"Treasurer" means Mark Clarkson, or in his absence another Dog nominated by the Committee;

"Videographer" means the Dog appointed annually by the Committee as the official tour videographer for the relevant BDT;

"Virgin" means any Dog who attends a BDT having not previously attended a BDT or any other Dog appointed as a Virgin by the Committee;

"Xolo" is an abbreviation of Xoloitzcuintli, a Mexican breed of Dog (in recognition of Mexican bandit status), and means the Dog who wins the Xolo Trophy in accordance with clause 14.2; and

"Xolo Trophy" means the trophy so named on the "Trophies" page on Bigdogstour.com.

2. DURATION AND ARRANGEMENTS

- 2.1 There shall be a BDT no more than and no less than once a calendar year.
- 2.2 Each BDT shall be of sufficient length to allow three rounds of golf to be played.
- 2.3 The Committee shall appoint the Captains and the Chief Barker for each BDT at the Closing Ceremony of the immediately preceding BDT or, if this is not feasible, as soon as possible following the conclusion of each BDT.
- 2.4 In forming their decision on the appointment of the Captains the Committee shall be guided (but not bound) by the following principles:
 - 2.4.1 a Dog should have served an absolute minimum number of two BDTs before being considered for the Captaincy;
 - 2.4.2 a Dog should have made a significant contribution to BDT before being considered for the Captaincy;
 - 2.4.3 every reasonable effort should be made to award the Captaincy to Dogs who have attended the highest number of previous BDTs but have not previously had the privilege of being a Captain;
 - 2.4.4 a Dog should not be appointed as a Captain if he has been a Captain on one of the previous five BDTs; and
 - 2.4.5 where a Mongrel is being considered for the Captaincy he should (preferably) only be appointed as a Captain of the team for which he has played the majority of his previous BDTs.
- 2.5 In forming their decision on the appointment of the Chief Barker the Committee shall be guided (but not bound) by the following principles:
 - 2.5.1 a Dog should have served an absolute minimum number of two BDTs before being considered for the role of Chief Barker;
 - 2.5.2 there is no requirement to rotate the role of Chief Barker between members of the Retrievers and Bloodhounds;
 - 2.5.3 every reasonable effort should be made to award the role of Chief Barker to Dogs who have attended the highest number of previous BDTs but have not previously had the dubious privilege of being a Chief Barker.

- 2.6 The President (working in conjunction with the Chief Barker and the Treasurer) is responsible for keeping the Dogs informed of arrangements for the impending BDT using Bigdogstour.com as he sees fit.
- 2.7 The President, the Chief Barker and the Treasurer are collectively responsible for organising the flights, transfers, Team Shirts, Kennels, meals, nightlife and golf for any BDT. They are entitled, but not obliged, to ask the Captains to assist them with these tasks.
- 2.8 The Treasurer is responsible for running the finances for the BDT in question, including setting a budget for that BDT, collecting deposits from the Dogs attending that BDT and paying the costs incurred in connection with that BDT.
- 2.9 The Chief Barker, Stashmaster and the Captains are collectively responsible for organising the Stash for any BDT and are entitled to enlist the help of other Dogs to assist with this.
- 2.10 If the Committee decides that nicknames are being adopted for a BDT, the Captains shall be responsible for choosing the nicknames for each other and for the Dogs on their own Teams for the BDT in question. In choosing nicknames the Captains are entitled to enlist the help of other Dogs.
- 2.11 All Dogs are responsible for ensuring prompt payment of any reasonable deposits requested by the Chief Barker, President and/or Treasurer for arranging a BDT. Dogs consistently late in paying such deposits will be Fined at the Opening Ceremony as will the last Dog or Dogs to respectively make payment of any such deposit on each occasion such a deposit is requested.
- 2.12 A BDT shall formally commence when the Chief Barker declares the BDT open at the Opening Ceremony and shall end upon the Dogs' arrival back at the relevant airport in the UK. The BDT Rules shall apply throughout this period but certain rules set out in these BDT Rules will also apply for periods before and after any BDT. The Dogs shall use their reasonable discretion in determining which rules apply during which periods whether before, during and/or after any BDT and any dispute shall be determined in accordance with clause 21.

3. NUMBER OF DOGS AND DATES FOR A BDT

- 3.1 Subject to clauses 3.2 and 3.3, no more than 16 Dogs shall attend a BDT.

- 3.2 If there are more than 16 potential tourists declaring themselves available to attend a BDT, the Committee shall decide on the appropriate procedure for determining the makeup of the final touring party having regard to (but not being bound by) the following factors:
- 3.2.1 the number of previous BDTs attended by each potential tourist;
 - 3.2.2 each potential tourist's recent commitment to BDT; and
 - 3.2.3 any other reasonable factors the Committee considers relevant including (without limitation) the make-up and balance of the Teams.
- 3.3 If prior to a BDT there are more than 20 Dogs who have expressed a serious interest in attending that BDT then the Committee shall be entitled to take the decision that 20 (or, in exceptional circumstances, 24) Dogs shall be permitted to attend that BDT and the Retrievers and Bloodhounds shall each comprise of 10 (or, in exceptional circumstances, 12) Dogs.
- 3.4 When determining the dates of a BDT, the Chief Barker (on behalf of the Committee) shall invite the Dogs to confirm the dates to which they can and cannot commit. To facilitate easy organisation of any BDT, the Dogs shall respond promptly to any such request. If a Dog does not respond promptly the Chief Barker shall be entitled to conclude that that Dog does not wish to attend the BDT in question.
- 3.5 In selecting the dates for a BDT the Committee shall:
- 3.5.1 determine the dates of that BDT by reference to the dates on which the majority of the Dogs can attend that BDT;
 - 3.5.2 give greater weight to those dates to which the Dogs who have attended the greatest number of previous BDTs can commit;
 - 3.5.3 (if it is proving problematic to select dates) be entitled to discount Dogs who have block booked dates for a period of three consecutive weekends or more.
- 3.6 Any dispute relating to this clause 3 shall be determined in accordance with clause 21.

4. OTHER SPECIFIC BDT RULES & FINES

- 4.1 Any breach of any of these BDT Rules can result in a Fine for the offending Dog from the Committee or from the Judge and/or Deputy Dawg.
- 4.2 All Dogs must wear the immediately previous BDT's Team Shirt to the airport up to the point of reaching the Kennels for the then current year's BDT. That a Dog does not have or has never been given the immediately previous BDT's Team Shirt is not an excuse.
- 4.3 All Dogs must use a bag from the Stash to carry their belongings to and from any BDT. That a Dog does not have a bag from the Stash is not an excuse.
- 4.4 A Dog who arrives at a BDT destination on his own or significantly earlier or later than the majority of the other Dogs on any BDT shall be Fined at the Opening Ceremony.
- 4.5 A Dog who leaves any BDT at a time significantly earlier than the majority of the other Dogs shall be Fined at the Closing Ceremony or, if that Dog has already departed by the time of the Closing Ceremony, at a time appointed by the Finemaster.
- 4.6 Any Dog who is a Virgin must be presented with an I Am A Virgin T-Shirt at the Opening Ceremony and the Dog(s) in question must wear the I Am A Virgin T-Shirt throughout the first night of the relevant BDT.
- 4.7 If the Committee so requests at any time prior to the first round of golf, the Dogs must produce and show an item or items chosen out of the Stash. That a Dog does not possess or has never been given any such item is not an excuse for not producing the same.
- 4.8 All Dogs must use their Shoe Bags to carry their golf shoes to, during and from any BDT. That a Dog does not have a Shoe Bag is not an excuse.
- 4.9 All Dogs should make every effort to wear and use appropriate items from their Stash during rounds of golf on any BDT, including (without limitation) golf bags, sundogs, tour caps, pitch mark repairers and ball markers.
- 4.10 For the opening drive of the third round of golf, each Dog must use the biggest dog in his golf bag and spank off a drive without having had a prior practice swing at any point during that day. A Dog spotted:

- 4.10.1 employing a practice swing on the day of the third round of golf at any time prior to that Dog's first drive on the third round of golf; and/or
- 4.10.2 using anything other than the biggest dog in his golf bag,
- will be Fined.
- 4.11 Dogs must always obey the EG Rule, except whilst on a golf course. Any Dog who fails to comply with the EG Rule must down a full glass (or, as appropriate, bottle, can or other drinking vessel) of the same drink just consumed.
- 4.12 Any competition involving the downing of an alcoholic drink can only be won by the Dog who is the first to EG that drink.
- 4.13 Dogs must always obey the Left Hand Rule.
- 4.14 A Dog must never point with his finger(s) during BDT, except whilst on a golf course.
- 4.15 The Chief Barker must ensure that the Big Dogs Trophies are brought on each BDT but there is no requirement to engrave any of the Big Dogs Trophies as long as the winners of each Big Dogs Trophy Winner are published on Bigdogstour.com.
- 4.16 Hawaiian shirts and aviators are part of a Dog's BDT wardrobe. If the Committee decides that there will be a Hawaiian night on a BDT, any Dog who attends that BDT without wearing a Hawaiian shirt or aviators on the night chosen as Hawaiian night will be Fined.
- 4.17 The Committee shall ensure that during each BDT there shall be a Duncan Goodhew Competition. The Committee shall determine the participants for each Duncan Goodhew Challenge, the qualification being a certain degree of baldness. The Committee's determination as to such degree shall be final and binding. The Duncan Goodhew Challenge participants shall conduct a race in BDT swimming caps and the loser shall be Fined. Any Duncan Goodhew Challenge participant who fails to bring his BDT swimming cap to any BDT shall also be Fined.
- 4.18 A Dog who has competed for the Bloodhounds and the Retrievers will, unless circumstances otherwise demand, always play on future BDTs for the Team he represented on all preceding BDTs. If this is not possible due to an imbalance of the

number of Bloodhounds and Retrievers attending any BDT, the Dog in question will compete for the Team selected for him by the Committee.

- 4.19 Any Dog who has appeared for the Bloodhounds and the Retrievers on separate BDTs shall be labelled foreverafter as a Mongrel.
- 4.20 In making the decision to appoint a Mongrel the Committee shall not be bound by any rules but shall take into account such factors as it may see fit including:
 - 4.20.1 the number of caps won by each Dog in contention;
 - 4.20.2 each Dog's recent commitment to BDT;
 - 4.20.3 whether a Dog in contention has previously captained one of the Teams (in which case he should, preferably but not necessarily, play for that Team); and
 - 4.20.4 whether a Dog in contention has previously been a Mongrel.
- 4.21 Before each BDT the President shall announce a pre-tour favourite for the Individual Trophy based on that Dog's handicap, current form and historic achievements on BDT.
- 4.22 The Dogs shall usually operate a kitty whilst on BDT and shall appoint on an annual or nightly basis a Kittymaster to maintain and run the kitty for the Dogs from time to time during any BDT, provided that under no circumstances shall the Kittymaster be James Hurst. Any Dog who is found not to have contributed to a kitty when asked to do so, whether by accident or design, will be Fined.
- 4.23 The kitty is to be used only on occasions when all the Dogs, or at least the vast majority of the Dogs, will benefit from its use. For example, a Dog should not ask the Kittymaster to pay for splinter rounds of drinks or for drinks which benefit smaller groups of Dogs in isolation from the wider group.
- 4.24 The Kittymaster shall be entitled to run the kitty in a manner of his own choosing and the Dogs shall comply with the Kittymaster's rules. For example, if the Kittymaster intends to operate a Revolut-based or similar system then, provided that the Kittymaster has given sufficient advance notice to the Dogs of such intention, each Dog shall ensure he is in a position to comply with that system.

- 4.25 Any monetary Fines will be added to the kitty or to the Charity on the majority verdict of the Dogs.
- 4.26 Tardiness in timekeeping amongst the Dogs is not acceptable and any Dog who is late whether by one minute or one hour when a meeting time has been scheduled will be Fined.
- 4.27 If for any reason a Dog misses the Opening Ceremony or Closing Ceremony he can expect to be heavily Fined.
- 4.28 Any Dog suspected of practicing or playing far too much golf prior to a BDT can expect to be Fined. In particular, attending another golf tour between two BDTs will be treated as a serious breach of the BDT Rules.
- 4.29 When playing the three rounds of golf during any BDT the Dogs shall give one another reasonable gimmies. For the avoidance of doubt, this is a rule which the Dogs must comply with rather than an entitlement.
- 4.30 In fourballs a gimmie can only be given with the agreement of at least one member of the opposing Team and in singles can only be given with the agreement of a Dog's direct opponent from the opposing Team.
- 4.31 Generally speaking, buggies are allowed on the fairways of the relevant courses played on any BDT, unless local rules specifically state to the contrary.
- 4.32 The Captains are solely responsible for selecting and announcing the order of their respective pairings and singles line-ups for each round of golf during any BDT but in arriving at their decision can liaise with any members of their own Team as they see fit.
- 4.33 The Captains shall announce:
- 4.33.1 the pairings for the first day of golf at the Opening Ceremony;
 - 4.33.2 the pairings for the second day of golf during the evening following completion of the first round of golf;
 - 4.33.3 the singles for the third day of golf during the evening following completion of the second round of golf.

- 4.34 Before each fourball and singles match the members or member of the Team which won the immediately preceding BDT shall have the choice on the first tee of whether or not to tee off first or to make their opponent(s) tee off first.
- 4.35 The Captains shall not collude with one another to arrange or fix the line-ups for any matches during a BDT.
- 4.36 The Captains for each BDT shall wear "Captain Morgan" patches on their Team Shirts to signify their captaincy.
- 4.37 On any BDT the Dogs shall actively encourage the use of drinking games and in particular the nostalgic use of drinking games used on previous BDTs.
- 4.38 There is a Big Dog spirit that must always be preserved during any BDT. Any Dog found acting in contravention of that spirit will be heavily Fined.
- 4.39 The Committee shall be entitled to award a MDE to a Dog who has made a consistently outstanding contribution to the BDT. Any Dog can nominate another Dog for consideration by the Committee for the award of a MDE. If the Committee decides that a Dog is deserving of a MDE then, at the immediately following Opening Ceremony, the President shall present that Dog with a medal with the words "MDE Member of the Dogs Empire" engraved upon such medal along with the year in which such medal is awarded.

5. THE OPENING CEREMONY

- 5.1 The Opening Ceremony shall (unless circumstances otherwise dictate) be convened on the first evening of any BDT.
- 5.2 Any Dog who does not attend or is late for the Opening Ceremony will be heavily Fined.
- 5.3 The Chief Barker must bring the Big Dogs Trophies to the Opening Ceremony.
- 5.4 All Big Dogs shall wear their BDT Blazers to the Opening Ceremony and during the first night out of that BDT save that the reigning Big Dog shall wear the Green Jacket to the Opening Ceremony and his BDT Blazer on the first night out. If the Committee requires it, all other Dogs shall wear white shirts and Team ties to the Opening Ceremony and on the first night out.

- 5.5 The Chief Barker shall chair the Opening Ceremony and shall declare that the BDT in question is open and that the BDT Rules apply.
- 5.6 The Chief Barker shall make an opening speech introducing any items he feels are relevant to the Dogs, and he shall ensure that his agenda over the course of the Opening Ceremony covers the following matters (in any order he sees fit):
 - 5.6.1 introducing any Dog who has not previously attended a BDT and presenting him with his BDT Badge and an I Am A Virgin T-Shirt;
 - 5.6.2 introducing new items to add to the Stash of his own choosing;
 - 5.6.3 appointing a Kittymaster;
 - 5.6.4 appointing a Phodographer for the BDT, who shall ensure that he takes phodographs during the BDT in order to preserve a phodographic record of each BDT;
 - 5.6.5 appointing a Videdographer for the BDT who shall record footage of his own choosing during BDT in order to preserve an audiovisual record of each BDT;
 - 5.6.6 appointing a Scribe who shall take a note of key moments of the relevant BDT;
 - 5.6.7 ensuring the Dogs are aware of the Dogsboddy duties;
 - 5.6.8 handing over proceedings to the Captains in order for the Captains to conduct their roles; and
 - 5.6.9 formally appointing the Finemaster (who shall appear in his Gown & Wig and with his Gavel & Block) and, in addition, formally appointing a Deputy Dawg, and leaving the Judge and Deputy Dawg an appropriate period of time to hand out appropriate Fines to those Dogs who have already flouted the BDT Rules either at any time prior to the commencement of that BDT or during the BDT in question.
- 5.7 The Captains shall conduct their segment of the Opening Ceremony in a manner of their own choosing, but they shall ensure that their agenda covers the following matters:

- 5.7.1 issuing the Team Shirts first to one another and then to their own Team members with a few introductory words about each Dog and (if relevant) explaining the background to the nicknames chosen for each other and their respective Team members in an extremely humorous fashion;
 - 5.7.2 introducing new items to add to the Big Dogs Mementos and Big Dogs Handouts; and
 - 5.7.3 announcing their pairings for the first round of golf.
- 5.8 When announcing their pairings and nicknames, the Captain of the Team which won the immediately preceding BDT shall have the privilege of going first.
- 5.9 The Judge and Deputy Dawg shall be responsible for deciding the Fines and the level of those Fines respectively handed out to those Dogs found in breach of the BDT Rules at the Opening Ceremony.

6. THE CLOSING CEREMONY

- 6.1 The Closing Ceremony shall be convened following the third day's round of golf on a BDT.
- 6.2 The Chief Barker shall bring the Big Dogs Trophies to the Closing Ceremony.
- 6.3 The Closing Ceremony shall be declared open and introduced by the Chief Barker, who shall arrange the presentation of the Big Dogs Trophies to the new Big Dogs Trophy Winners in accordance with the relevant clauses of these BDT Rules.
- 6.4 Wherever possible, the immediately previous BDT's winners should hand over the relevant Big Dogs Trophies to the new winner but if that is not possible then the Chief Barker shall do so.
- 6.5 The Chief Barker shall then hand over proceedings to the Judge and Deputy Dawg who shall hand out appropriate Fines for breaches of the BDT Rules and inappropriate behaviour by the Dogs during that BDT.
- 6.6 Before formally concluding the Closing Ceremony, the Chief Barker shall announce the appointments made by the Committee of the Chief Barker and Captains for the next BDT or, if those appointments have not been finalised, shall confirm that this announcement will be made in due course.

- 6.7 On every third BDT computed from and including the 2012 BDT, the Chief Barker shall at the Closing Ceremony invite nominations for the election of a President to be determined in accordance with clause 20 of these rules.

7. BIG DOGS RYDER CUP

- 7.1 The Bloodhounds and the Retrievers shall contest the Big Dogs Ryder Cup in the Format for the Big Dogs Ryder Cup Points.
- 7.2 For the avoidance of doubt, the golf matches shall be conducted in the following manner:
- 7.2.1 the Dogs involved in the relevant fourball match or singles match shall determine which Dog has the lowest handicap;
- 7.2.2 the other Dog or Dogs in that fourball or singles match shall take their stroke or strokes off the Dog with the lowest handicap on a full difference of handicap basis;
- 7.2.3 the other Dog or Dogs will be awarded their strokes on the appropriate holes with corresponding stroke indices on the course in question (eg. if a player is to receive 8 strokes over his opponent(s), then he will receive a stroke on the holes with stroke index 1-8); and
- 7.2.4 the best nett score on each hole taking into consideration the full handicaps shall win the hole, or if nett scores are equal then the hole shall be halved.
- 7.3 The Team with the most Big Dogs Ryder Cup Points after the third round of golf shall win the Big Dogs Ryder Cup.
- 7.4 In the event of a tie of Big Dogs Ryder Cup Points, the reigning Big Dogs Ryder Cup champions shall retain the Big Dogs Ryder Cup and the result will be considered a "win" for the purpose of maintaining a score of the overall tours won by each of the Teams.
- 7.5 The losing Captain from the BDT in question shall present the Big Dogs Ryder Cup to the winning Captain at the Closing Ceremony.

8. INDIVIDUAL TROPHY

- 8.1 For the purposes of establishing each Dog's scores to count towards the Individual Trophy each Dog shall be entitled to apply his full handicap and will be awarded his strokes on the appropriate holes with corresponding stroke indices on the course in question. For example, if a player has a handicap of 22 and so receives 22 strokes in total, then he will receive a stroke on the holes with stroke index 1-18 and an additional stroke on the holes with stroke index 1-4 and his nett score shall be used to calculate that Dog's number of Stableford Points. So a Dog with a handicap of 20 who scores a 6 playing a par 4 with stroke index 2 shall be awarded a nett score of 4 and two Stableford Points for that hole.
- 8.2 The Dog with the highest number of Stableford Points for the first round of golf of any BDT shall be known as the Greyhound and must wear the Greyhound Shirt for the night out after the first round of golf. In the event of a tie for the highest number of Stableford Points after the first round of golf, the Committee shall use a count back or another suitable mechanism to determine who is to be the Greyhound for that evening, including looking back to the last round of golf played by the two Dogs in question to see who had the higher score.
- 8.3 The Dog with the highest number of Stableford Points for that Dog's combined first and second rounds of golf of any BDT (ie the clubhouse leader) shall be known as the Greyhound and must wear the Greyhound Shirt for the night out after the second round of golf. In the event of a tie for the highest number of Stableford Points after the first two rounds of golf, the Greyhound shall be the Dog with the better second round score. If there is still a tie, the Committee shall use a count back or another suitable mechanism to determine who is to be the Greyhound for that evening including looking back to the last round of golf played by the two Dogs in question to see who had the higher score.
- 8.4 The Dog with the highest number of Stableford Points for that Dog's combined three rounds of golf on the BDT in question shall be the Big Dog for that BDT and shall win the Individual Trophy.
- 8.5 In the event of a tie between two or more Dogs for the highest number of Stableford Points, the tied Dogs shall attempt to conduct a play-off at the 18th hole or another suitable hole of the third golf course and the Dog with the highest number of Stableford Points on that hole shall be the Big Dog. In the event of a tie after such a play-off the Dogs shall keep attempting to hold a further play-off.

- 8.6 In the event that there is still a tie after such a play-off or play-offs or if it is not possible to hold a play-off, the tied Dogs shall attempt to hold a longest drive play-off. The Dog who drives it furthest within the boundaries defined by the other Dogs shall win the drive-off and shall be the Big Dog.
- 8.7 In the unlikely event that there is still a tie after any play-offs and a longest drive play-off or it is not possible to hold a play-off or a longest drive play-off, the Committee shall decree another method for determining the Big Dog, including a count back or a putt-off where the relevant Dogs shall each have a putt towards a specified hole or object of not less than 30 feet. The Dog who wins on the count back or who putts it nearest to the specified hole or object shall win the putt-off and shall be the Big Dog.
- 8.8 If it is not possible to hold a play-off, a longest drive play-off or a putt-off or in the very unlikely event that there is still a tie after a count back, the Big Dog shall be the Dog who has contributed the most Big Dogs Ryder Cup Points for the BDT in question.
- 8.9 At the Closing Ceremony, the immediately previous BDT's Big Dog (or, in his absence, the Chief Barker), shall present the Green Jacket, the Individual Trophy and the I Am The Big Dog T-Shirt to the new Big Dog.
- 8.10 The Big Dog must wear the Green Jacket:
- 8.10.1 on and throughout the night of his victory regardless of the venue until he reaches his Kennel;
 - 8.10.2 during the journey back to his homeward destination from the BDT he has won;
 - 8.10.3 to the airport before the following year's BDT and during the flight to the relevant BDT destination until arrival at his Kennel.
- 8.11 If so required by the Committee the Big Dog must wear the I Am The Big Dog T-Shirt (back to front) throughout the night of his victory, unless venue rules dictate otherwise.
- 8.12 Prior to the next BDT the Big Dog shall (if he has not previously been a Big Dog) purchase himself a BDT Blazer.

- 8.13 A Big Dog will be entitled to stitch one bone to the lapel of his BDT Blazer in recognition of each BDT victory and the number of bones stitched to the lapel of a Big Dog's BDT Blazer shall signify how many BDTs that Big Dog has won.
- 8.14 All Big Dogs shall be entitled to wear their BDT Blazers at any time of their own choosing but must wear them to the Opening Ceremony (save for the reigning Big Dog, who shall wear his Green Jacket to the Opening Ceremony).
- 8.15 The Big Dog shall have the privilege of determining the chosen Charity for the period from the end of the BDT which he has won until the next following BDT and the Dogs shall use reasonable efforts to raise money for each chosen Charity from year to year.

9. SECOND AND THIRD PLACE TROPHIES

- 9.1 The Dogs with the second and third highest number of Stableford Points over the three rounds of golf on the BDT in question shall win the Second Place Trophy and the Third Place Trophy respectively.
- 9.2 In the event that there has been a tie to decide who is the Big Dog, the criteria used in clause 8 to select the Big Dog shall be applied and the Second Dog and the Third Dog shall be determined accordingly so that the top three placed Dogs following the application of the criteria in clause 8 and, if necessary, in this clause 9 are awarded the top three trophies respectively.
- 9.3 In the event of a straight tie for second place or third place, the tied Dogs shall attempt to conduct a play-off at the 18th hole or another suitable hole of the third golf course and the Dog with the highest number of Stableford Points on that hole shall be the Second Dog or the Third Dog (as appropriate) and, if relevant in the circumstances, the Dog with the next highest number of Stableford Points on that hole shall be the Third Dog. In the event of a tie after such a play-off the Dogs shall keep attempting to hold a further play-off.
- 9.4 In the event that there is still a tie after such a play-off or play-offs or if it is not possible to hold a play-off, the tied Dogs shall attempt to hold a longest drive play-off. The Dog who drives it furthest within the boundaries defined by the other Dogs shall be the Second Dog or the Third Dog (as appropriate) and, if relevant in the circumstances, the Dog who drives it the next furthest shall be the Third Dog.

- 9.5 In the unlikely event that there is still a tie after any play-offs and a longest drive play-off and/or it is not possible to hold a play-off or a longest drive play-off, the Committee shall decree another method for determining the matter, including a count back, or a putt-off where the Dogs shall each have a putt towards a specified hole or object of not less than 30 feet. The Dog who wins on the count back or putts it nearest to the specified hole or object shall be the Second Dog or (as the case may be) the Third Dog.
- 9.6 If it is not possible to hold a play-off, a longest drive play-off or a putt-off or in the very unlikely event that there is still a tie after a count back, the Second Dog or the Third Dog (as appropriate) shall be the Dog(s) who has contributed the most Big Dogs Ryder Cup Points for the BDT in question.
- 9.7 At the Closing Ceremony the immediately previous BDT's Second Dog and Third Dog (or, in their absence, the Chief Barker) shall present the Second Place Trophy and Third Place Trophy to the new Second Dog and Third Dog respectively.

10. GREAT DANE TROPHY

- 10.1 There shall be a longest drive competition for the Great Dane Trophy in each of the first two rounds of golf on any BDT at appropriate holes agreed upon by the Dogs.
- 10.2 In order to constitute a longest drive, a Dog's ball must finish on the fairway.
- 10.3 Subject to clauses 10.4 and 10.5, the two winning Dogs of the longest drive competition from the first and second rounds of golf shall conduct a longest drive play-off in the presence of the Dogs at the driving range prior to or after the third round of golf.
- 10.4 If the two winning Dogs happen to be part of the same group for the third round of golf, then they can choose instead to conduct their longest drive play-off at an appropriate hole during the third round of golf. If neither Dog's ball lands on the fairway in those circumstances the Dogs in question shall conduct a further drive-off during the third round of golf or after it on the driving range. Alternatively, if the two winning Dogs are not part of the same group for the third round of golf, they can make their longest drive at the hole appointed for this and the fellow Dogs in their groups shall make an honesty shout about how far each drive went.

- 10.5 If for any reason the longest drive competition is not completed in accordance with the provisions of clauses 10.1 to 10.4 then the Dogs shall decide the winner of the longest drive competition based upon evidence put forward as to who they saw make a long drive.
- 10.6 For the avoidance of doubt, before or during the third round of golf the Dogs competing for the Great Dane Trophy will not be allowed practice swings. However, their actual drives shall not constitute practice swings.
- 10.7 The Dog who drives it furthest either upon the fairway or within the other boundaries defined by the other Dogs shall win the longest drive play-off and with it the Great Dane Trophy.
- 10.8 If it has not proved possible to hold a longest drive play-off, the two winning Dogs shall down a pint of an alcoholic liquid of the Committee's choosing and the Dog to down his pint and EG it first shall win the Great Dane Trophy.
- 10.9 At the Closing Ceremony the immediately previous BDT's Great Dane (or, in his absence, the Chief Barker) shall present the Great Dane Trophy to the new Great Dane.

11. ST BERNARD TROPHY

- 11.1 There shall be a nearest the pin competition for the St Bernard Trophy in each of the first two rounds of golf on any BDT at appropriate par 3 holes agreed upon by the Dogs.
- 11.2 Subject to clause 11.3, the two winning Dogs of the nearest the pin competition from the first and second rounds of golf shall conduct a nearest the pin play-off in the presence of the Dogs at the driving range prior to or after the third round of golf.
- 11.3 If the two winning Dogs happen to be part of the same group for the third round of golf, then they can choose instead to conduct their nearest the pin play-off at an appropriate par three hole during the third round of golf. Alternatively, if the two winning Dogs are not part of the same group for the third round of golf, they can make their nearest the pin attempt at the hole appointed for this and the fellow Dogs in their groups shall make an honesty shout about whose ball was closer to the hole.

- 11.4 If for any reason the nearest the pin competition is not completed in accordance with the provisions of clauses 11.1 to 11.4 then the Dogs shall decide the winner of the nearest the pin competition based upon evidence put forward as to who they saw make a great opening shot at a par 3.
- 11.5 The Dog whose ball finishes nearest to the hole or other target set by the Dogs shall win the nearest the pin play-off and with it the St Bernard Trophy.
- 11.6 If it has not proved possible to hold a nearest the pin play-off, the two winning Dogs shall down a pint of an alcoholic liquid of the Committee's choosing and the Dog to down his pint and EG it first shall win the St Bernard Trophy.
- 11.7 At the Closing Ceremony the immediately previous BDT's St Bernard (or, in his absence, the Chief Barker) shall present the St Bernard Trophy to the new St Bernard.

12. SHITZU RULES

- 12.1 At the Opening Ceremony the Committee can decide to appoint a Dogsboby or Dogsbodies for the first evening of that BDT. Such Dogsboby or Dogsbodies can be a Virgin, or a Dog who finished as Shitzu on the immediately preceding BDT, or another Dog who in the opinion of the Committee is deserving of the Dogsboby role.
- 12.2 The Dog with the lowest number of Stableford Points for the first round of golf of any BDT must wear the Shitzu Shirt for the night out after the first round of golf and shall also be appointed as the Dogsboby for that evening. In the event of a tie for the lowest number of Stableford Points after the first round of golf, the Committee can decide to use a count back, a game of finger spoof, a drink-off, a coin toss or another suitable mechanism to determine who is the Shitzu and therefore the Dogsboby for that evening or alternatively the Committee can decide to appoint joint Dogsbodies for the evening in question.
- 12.3 The Dog with the lowest number of Stableford Points for the second round of golf of any BDT (ie not the cumulative score, only the score for the second round) must wear the Shitzu Shirt for the night out after the second round of golf and shall also be appointed as the Dogsboby for that evening. In the event of a tie for the lowest number of Stableford Points after the second round of golf, the Shitzu shall be the Dog (out of the tied Dogs) with the least cumulative points over the first two rounds of golf. If there is still a tie, the Committee can decide to use a count back, a game of

finger spoof, a drink-off, a coin toss or another suitable mechanism to determine who is the Shitzu and therefore the Dogsboby for that evening or alternatively the Committee can decide to appoint joint Dogsbodies for the evening in question.

- 12.4 After the third round of golf, the Dog with the lowest number of Stableford Points for that Dog's combined three rounds of golf on the BDT in question shall "win" the Shitzu Trophy. That Dog shall wear the Shitzu Shirt during the Closing Ceremony and (if required by the Committee) during the night out after the third round of golf and shall also be appointed as the Dogsboby for that evening.
- 12.5 In the event of a tie for the lowest number of Stableford Points for the combined three rounds of golf between two or more Dogs, the tied Dogs shall attempt to hold a longest drive play-off. The Dog who does not keep the ball with the boundaries defined by the other Dogs, or drives it the least distance within the boundaries defined by the other Dogs shall be the Shitzu.
- 12.6 In the event that it is not possible to hold a longest drive play-off, the tied Dogs shall attempt to hold a putt-off where the Dogs shall each have a putt towards a specified hole or object of not less than 30 feet. The Dog who putts it furthest away from the specified hole or object shall lose the putt-off and shall be the Shitzu.
- 12.7 If it is not possible to hold a longest drive play-off or a putt-off or in the very unlikely event that there is still a tie after applying a count back, the Shitzu shall be the Dog with the least Big Dogs Ryder Cup Points for the BDT in question.
- 12.8 At the Closing Ceremony the immediately previous BDT's Shitzu (or, in his absence, the Chief Barker) shall present the Shitzu Trophy and the Shitzu Shirt to the new Shitzu.
- 12.9 A Shitzu's Dogsboby duties shall be determined by the Judge, in consultation with Deputy Dawg, but can include (without limitation):
 - 12.9.1 buying rounds of drinks (out of the kitty) for the other Dogs;
 - 12.9.2 fetching items from their rooms on behalf of the other Dogs; and/or
 - 12.9.3 arranging for the other Dogs' shirts to be washed.

13. ELTON RAVO PRIZE

- 13.1 On every BDT, the Dogs shall use best endeavours to hold an Elton Ravo Competition at which each Dog will be required to sing a tune of his choice in front of the other Dogs.
- 13.2 The Dogs shall vote for the best performing Dog and if a decision cannot be reached by a majority verdict of the Dogs it shall be referred to the Committee for adjudication.
- 13.3 The best performing Dog is not necessarily the Dog with the best vocal performance, but is quite likely to be the Dog providing the most entertainment to the other Dogs by virtue of his swagger and stagger when performing.
- 13.4 In the event that it is not possible to hold the Elton Ravo Competition during a BDT, any Dog can stake a claim for the Elton Ravo Prize at any time during that BDT by voluntarily howling a tune in front of the other Dogs.
- 13.5 A dog who has previously been on a BDT but who is not actually present on that BDT can compete for the Elton Ravo Prize if he sings via a mobile phone on loudspeaker in the presence of the Dogs.
- 13.6 At the Closing Ceremony, the immediately previous BDT's Elton Ravo (or, in his absence, the Chief Barker) shall present the Elton Ravo Prize to the new Elton Ravo or in the event that one or both of those Dogs is not present on the current BDT alternative arrangements shall be made.

14. HANDICAP RULES AND XOLO TROPHY

- 14.1 Each Dog has his own handicap during a BDT which shall apply for the purposes of calculating the Big Dogs Ryder Cup Points and the Stableford Points.
- 14.2 The Dog who scores the most impressive number of Stableford Points relative to his handicap and/or who by the consensus of a majority of the Dogs has played the best golf relative to his ability and/or deserves to be known as a bandit for his performance, will be the Xolo and will win the Xolo Trophy.
- 14.3 In the event of any dispute as to the winner of the Xolo Trophy, the Committee shall make the final determination and if the Committee are unable to reach a verdict the matter shall be referred to the President in accordance with clause 21.4.

- 14.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the Xolo can be the same Dog who has also won the Individual Trophy.
- 14.5 Subject to the Handicap Threshold, the handicaps will be updated annually prior to each BDT.
- 14.6 Prior to every BDT the President will circulate to the Dogs a list containing each Dog's current handicap.
- 14.7 Unless exceptional circumstances apply, any Dog who has an official handicap shall play off that handicap.
- 14.8 In respect of any Dog who does not have an official handicap:
- 14.8.1 the President shall invite comments from each Dog as to whether he wishes to appeal against his own handicap or that of any other Dog and the President shall be entitled to set a reasonable deadline by which to receive such comments;
- 14.8.2 the President shall make it clear that any Dog appealing against a handicap must give reasons why the appeal is being made;
- 14.8.3 if by the deadline set by the President no comments are received in respect of a Dog's handicap, his handicap shall remain unchanged;
- 14.8.4 if by the deadline set by the President a Dog has appealed against his handicap or that of any other Dog, the President shall report such any such appeal to the Committee who shall, acting reasonably and in good faith, determine whether the appeal should be allowed and, if so, how many strokes should be added to the handicap in question. Factors which may be taken into account by the Committee include (without limitation) each Dog's recent performances on BDT, the amount of golf that Dog has been playing and/or any injury suffered by that Dog;
- 14.8.5 following the outcome of all appeals, the President shall circulate an updated list containing each Dog's current handicap and that list shall be adopted for the immediately following BDT.

- 14.9 For the avoidance of doubt there is no minimum handicap threshold, so a Dog who is playing off 0 can have his handicap increased to +1 or lower should that be his official handicap or should his form dictate that this would be a reasonable handicap.
- 14.10 No handicap should exceed the Handicap Threshold, unless clauses 14.12 and 14.13 apply.
- 14.11 When allocating a handicap to a Virgin the Committee should seek to allocate a handicap which does not exceed the Handicap Threshold. However, the Committee shall be entitled to waive the Handicap Threshold for a Virgin if the Committee is reasonably satisfied that a handicap of 28 would be manifestly unfair for that particular Dog.
- 14.12 Regardless of whether an appeal has been made, the Committee shall be entitled to waive the Handicap Threshold for a Dog who has previously participated in a BDT or BDTs if the Committee feels that this is justified on any one or more of the following grounds:
- 14.12.1 that the relevant Dog's previous BDT performance(s) (with his most recent performances being given more weight) would justify an increase; and/or
- 14.12.2 that the relevant Dog's current form would justify an increase; and/or
- 14.12.3 that other mitigating circumstances are and/or persuasive evidence is presented to the Committee which would justify an increase.
- 14.13 Where the Committee has decided to allocate a handicap above the Handicap Threshold the Committee shall allocate a handicap that is fair and reasonable in the circumstances and on the grounds that there really should be no need under any circumstances for a handicap to be allocated above 32.
- 14.14 Any Dog who chooses not to drink alcohol during any BDT shall have his handicap docked by a mandatory three shots. A Dog who announces that he will not be drinking prior to any BDT and who subsequently reneges on that announcement during that BDT will not be entitled to have any of his three shots reallocated to him regardless of how much he may behave like a Rottweiler on that BDT.

15. ROTTWEILER TROPHY

- 15.1 The Dog nominated by the majority of the Dogs or otherwise selected by the Committee as the Dog who has:
- 15.1.1 shown the feistiest form on any BDT, including picking drunken fights with randoms or indeed with other Dogs;
 - 15.1.2 shown an aggressive refusal to accept Fines as and when they are due;
 - 15.1.3 displayed the worst etiquette and/or most temper tantrums on the golf course or off it;
 - 15.1.4 generally been very loud over the course of a BDT; and/or
 - 15.1.5 displayed any other similar behaviour which makes him an ideal candidate for the Rottweiler Trophy,
- shall be named the Rottweiler.
- 15.2 At the Closing Ceremony, the immediately previous BDT's Rottweiler (or, in his absence, the Chief Barker) shall present the Rottweiler Trophy to the new Rottweiler.

16. POODLE TROPHY

- 16.1 The Dog nominated by the majority of the Dogs or otherwise selected by the Committee as the Dog who has:
- 16.1.1 shown the worst tour form or the behaviour most akin to a female during BDT;
 - 16.1.2 consistently failed to produce his big dog golf club or drive the ball very far off the tee;
 - 16.1.3 for some reason decided not to participate in the whole duration of any BDT;
 - 16.1.4 shown a fondness for going home to his bed far earlier than the rest of the Dogs;
 - 16.1.5 refused to drink and/or failed to complete fines placed before him;
 - 16.1.6 badly represented the BDT "spirit" during that BDT;
 - 16.1.7 generally been very quiet over the course of a BDT;

16.1.8 displayed any other behaviour which makes him an ideal candidate for the Poodle Prize,

shall be named the Poodle and shall be presented with the Poodle Prize at the Closing Ceremony.

16.2 At the Closing Ceremony, the immediately previous BDT's Poodle (or, in his absence, the Chief Barker) shall present the Poodle Trophy to the new Poodle.

17. GOBLAT

17.1 In honour of Oliver Gobat the Dog voted for by a majority of the Dogs attending a BDT or otherwise selected by the Committee as the Dog who has shown the greatest all round form and best represented the BDT spirit on that BDT shall be the MVD for that BDT and shall be awarded the Goblat.

17.2 Before the first round of golf on each BDT, the Dogs shall hold a minute's silence for Oliver Gobat, David Pickering and any other Dogs who have passed away. Following this, the previous year's MVD (or in his absence, the previous year's Big Dog, or in the absence of both, another Dog appointed by the Committee) shall hit a ball off the first tee with "OLLIE" written on it. The Dog in question can choose whether or not to play that ball or play another ball for the first hole.

18. BEST FOURBALL TROPHY

18.1 The two Dogs nominated by the majority of the Dogs or otherwise selected by the Committee as the Dogs who have formed the most formidable fourball pairing during a BDT shall be named the Best Fourball Pairing and awarded the Seve & Jose Trophy.

18.2 Circumstances which could lead to a pairing winning the best fourball pairing include:

18.2.1 the pairing which has had the largest victory over their opponents;

18.2.2 the pairing which has won an unexpected victory against seemingly stronger opponents;

18.2.3 the pairing which has staged an unlikely comeback; and/or

18.2.4 the pairing which has won a crucial match in the context of a BDT.

19. CHEATING

- 19.1 Any Dog found in breach of the R&A Rules by the Committee during any round of golf on a BDT will forfeit the match that that Dog was contesting when found cheating (regardless of whether such match is a singles or fourballs contest).
- 19.2 The Dog nominated by the majority of the Dogs or otherwise selected by the Committee as the Dog displaying any dubious/immoral/sly/cheating-like behaviour on or off the golf course (whether amusing or not) during a BDT shall be presented with the Cheat Trophy at the Closing Ceremony.
- 19.3 In the event that the Dogs find themselves unable to nominate a suitable Dog for the Cheat Trophy, the Dogs shall be entitled to presume that Ashley Hurst has cheated during one or more of his rounds of golf and to present the Cheat Trophy to Ashley Hurst.

20. PRESIDENT

- 20.1 The President shall be elected by a majority of the Dogs at the Closing Ceremony of the 2012 BDT and every third BDT thereafter.
- 20.2 Each President from time to time shall be appointed for a term of three consecutive BDTs.
- 20.3 There is no limit on the number of consecutive terms which a President can serve nor is there any requirement to rotate the election of the President between members of the Bloodhounds and the Retrievers.
- 20.4 At the end of the President's three-year term, any Dog can put his own or another Dog's name forward for consideration for the role of President.
- 20.5 The President shall be appointed on a majority vote provided that at least two members of each Team shall have voted for the new President. Otherwise the President shall be appointed by the Committee on a fair and reasonable basis taking into account (but not being bound by) the representations of the Dogs and the number of votes cast for the nominated Dogs.

- 20.6 In the event of a dispute as to who should be the next President, the Committee shall decide the outcome.
- 20.7 If for any reason a President cannot attend a BDT, withdraws from a BDT or is otherwise unable to perform the role the Committee shall nominate a proxy from amongst the Dogs who shall stand as President for that BDT or for the remainder of the President's term, as appropriate.
- 20.8 For the avoidance of doubt the President does not gain a place on the Committee by virtue of his appointment.

21. APPEALS AND DISPUTES

- 21.1 If a Dog takes the unwise decision to moan about or appeal against a Fine, the moan/appeal will be referred to the majority verdict of the Committee.
- 21.2 The Committee is entitled to take the view that the appellant Dog should have his fine doubled for whining without good cause.
- 21.3 Wherever the Committee is required to take a decision under these rules, that decision shall be valid and binding if it is made by majority verdict.
- 21.4 If the Committee is unable to reach a majority verdict on any matter, the matter shall be referred to the President who shall exercise his casting vote which shall be final and binding.
- 21.5 If the President shall for any reason abstain from voting or be unable for whatever reason to determine the matter at hand, then the matter shall be referred to an independent expert nominated by the President. The independent expert should preferably, but not necessarily, be someone with previous experience of attending a BDT. The independent expert's determination shall be final and binding and there shall be no right of appeal against it.

22. BIGDOGSTOUR.COM

- 22.1 The Guard Dog will ensure that records are taken of the winners of the Big Dogs Trophies for each BDT and of all Stableford Points and Big Dogs Ryder Cup Points handed in by the Dogs.

- 22.2 The Guard Dog shall update Bigdogstour.com with all such records at the end of each BDT.
- 22.3 The Videdographer and the Phodographer shall liaise with the Guard Dog to ensure that all videographic and photographic evidence of each BDT is posted to Bigdogstour.com or otherwise distributed amongst the Dogs.
- 22.4 The Dogs shall send through to the Guard Dog any photos and videos they have taken during any BDT.
- 22.5 Following the conclusion of each BDT the Scribe shall write up a report of that BDT and provide it to the Guard Dog so that it can be added to the blog on Bigdogstour.com.

23. AMENDMENTS

- 23.1 The BDT Rules can only be revised with the consent of the majority of the Committee.
- 23.2 The Committee shall post on Bigdogstour.com any proposed revisions to these BDT Rules for at least one week in order to allow the Dogs to submit comments upon the revisions. Any such comments and submissions must be posted in a manner such that they are available for all of the Dogs to view.
- 23.3 The Committee may take into account any reasonable comments and submissions made by any of the Dogs, but for the avoidance of doubt will not be bound by the same.
- 23.4 Provided that the Committee has allowed comments and submissions in accordance with clause 23.3 of these BDT Rules and subject to clause 23.5, any newly drafted BDT Rules will come into force and be binding from and including the date on which they are formally published and announced on Bigdogstour.com and the date on which they come into effect shall be shown on the front page of these BDT Rules and such new BDT Rules shall immediately replace any existing BDT Rules.
- 23.5 Any BDT Rules which have not been posted at least one week prior to the commencement of any BDT will not be valid for that BDT and the remaining pre-existing BDT Rules shall for the avoidance of doubt remain binding during the subsistence of that particular BDT.