



SOUTHERN BOSTON TERRIER CLUB

2026 AGM

Wednesday 25 March 2026 @ 8pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8540650697?pwd=3kYZqXMCxZIT4CV89s1ob7asEblx2T.1>

Meeting ID: 854 065 0697 / Passcode: 4zQ82R

AGENDA

1. **Chairman's welcome**
2. **Approval of the 2025 AGM Minutes** (Paper A)
3. **Election of Committee members** (Paper B)
4. **Update from the Officers**
 - a. Chairman (*B King*)
 - *Review of 2025 events and upcoming ones for 2026*
 - b. Secretary (*F King*)
 - *Notice of changes to the Breed Standard*
<https://www.southernbostonterrierclub.org.uk/breed-standard/>
 - *Notice of RKC BfHF launch and impact*
<https://www.royalkennelclub.com/health-and-dog-care/health-dog-care/health/what-we-do-for-dog-health/breeding-resources-and-health-schemes/breeding-for-health-framework/>
 - *Notice to annex the Code of Ethics to the club rules to make annual return*
<https://www.southernbostonterrierclub.org.uk/membership/>
 - c. Treasurer (*J Mason*)
5. **Approval of the 2025 Accounts & (re)appointment of Auditor for 2026** (Paper C)
6. **Proposal to award an Honorarium to the Club Secretary** (Paper D)
7. **Update from the Membership Secretary** (*C Mewse*)
8. **Update from our Breed Representatives (in attendance verbally or via a report):**
 - a. Breed Education Coordinator: Gerry McCallum
 - b. Breed Health Coordinator: Sarah Walker
 - c. Notice of election of BUBA Breed Representative: Jan Mason
9. **Closing remarks from the Chair**

MINUTES of the
SOUTHERN BOSTON TERRIER CLUB
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Held (via Zoom) on
Thursday 20 March 2025

Attendees

Maureen Hounslow (President)
Brian King ((Chairman)
Jan Mason (Treasurer)
Fiona King (Secretary)
Chris Mewse (General Committee) (“GC”)
Andy Strickland (General Committee)
Karen Sandells (General Committee)
Julie Cox (General Committee)
Lucy Wheatley (General Committee)
Kate Snell (General Committee)
Ceri Strickland
Peter Hounslow
Simon Gill
Gillian Trevett
Debbie Rodaway
Dena Murphy
Cheryl Grange
Derfel Owen

Apologies

Simone Masters
Rosemary Rostron-Parker
Sue Worrall
Lauren Garcia
Dawn Atherton-Kemp (GC)

1. Chairman’s Welcome

Chair (BK) thanked everyone for joining the meeting and asked the Secretary if a Quorum was present and FK confirmed (two officers and two committee members being present). BK proceeded to open the meeting.

2. Approval of 2024 Minutes

FK had received notice from Sarah Ford requesting her name to be corrected to Sarah Hughes on the Minutes. Amendment was made to the final version which was circulated to members. No other errors or omissions have been received.

BK asked the meeting if there were any further matters arising from the Minutes; there were none, therefore BK moved for approval.

Proposed Chris Mewse (CM) and Seconded Andy Strickland (AS)

Approval of the 2024 Minutes were confirmed

3. Re-election and Election of Committee and Treasurer

BK directed the meeting to a table included in Paper B within the supporting paperwork and highlighted re-elections duly proposed and seconded. In particular, BK informed the meeting that JM, DA-K and AS offer themselves for re-election and Kate Snell was co-opted during 2024 so offered herself for election at this AGM. FK confirmed that no other proposals for committee membership had been received and there remained two vacancies. Therefore, there being more vacancies than elections, no ballot is required. BK asked if there were any objections to the elections and receiving none, declared these proposals to be approved.

Proposed and seconded as per table in papers

The (re)election of Jan Mason, Dawn Atherton-Kemp, Andy Strickland and Kate Snell to the General Committee was approved.

The meeting was noticed that Jan Mason was re-elected as Treasurer by the Committee.

4. Reports from Officers

a. Chairman's Report

BK addressed the meeting with the following remarks:

"Since its Kennel Club recognition, our Club has held its three required limit shows; all were successful and friendly shows with the first being held in a small hall. The next two were held in conjunction with general canine societies" open shows.

Our second limit show was held back in May 2024 and our main show judge was David Matthews, David was a likeable knowledgeable dog person and it was truly upsetting to learn that he passed away late in 2024. Our thoughts and condolences go to his family and all those close to him.

We have had a number of well attended meet up walks across the southern half of the country and we intend for these to continue to for our non-showing members to enjoy.

For a bit of fun, we held an online auction of a Boston Terrier figurine kindly donated by our vice president Val Kemeny which raised an excellent £100!

Dawn organised some calendars using members' photos; these have proved popular, and I believe the next issue is already being worked on.

*Last month we held our first Breed Appreciation Day (*BAD*) day. It was an unknown entity for us but judging by the feedback we got a lot right; there are a couple of small tweaks to be made but hopefully people enjoyed their day with us, I know how much work Fiona put into the presentations so a big thank you to her and we look forward to the next one when the new breed standard revisions are finalised.*

Crufts has been and gone; it was pleasing that the Discover Dogs stand had representatives from at least two clubs with Andy and Ceri Strickland representing the breed from our club.

In just a few weeks' time we look forward to holding our first open show at Steventon Village Hall. Dale Hick is our main show judge; he is an experienced CC awarding toy breed judge who has a keen interest in our breed. Our special award classes are being judged by Faye Gardner, who has experience judging Staffies and Labs and owns a Boston so is just starting out on her judging pathway in our breed.

Lucy will have a fair amount to put into the next club newsletter!

Later in the year we plan to hold a fun event, and more meet ups and walks and next year we are planning to hold one or two open shows, hopefully being able to find two breed specialists for these shows. At

present, it is no easy task finding breed specialists to judge at open show level, but perhaps that is a conversation for another day.

It has to be said I am a little concerned that the KC is being influenced by some veterinary input within its own ranks that seem to just lump things onto breeds without really thinking of the consequences of how those changes will affect the show going exhibitors but will have little or no effect on those that don't breed to show. This is why I believe our club has to be proactive and try to be on the front foot to head off any further directives aimed at our breed. I'm pleased to say that we have been able to work closely with The Boston Terrier Club of Scotland on the revised Breed Standard. It was especially pleasing to have representatives from all four breed clubs present at the Breed Standard Revision Meeting with the KC. It's my view that all our breed clubs need to have open dialog and have the best interest of our breed first and foremost, with the way things are in the dog show world at the moment.

I'd like to finish by saying thank you; firstly, to our members for your continued support, it is your club and we run it for you, so please let us know if there is anything you'd like to see us do and we can try and make your ideas a reality. Secondly, to our committee for all they do for the club and our beloved breed. A big thank you also to those non committee members that help us when putting on events, Kim Mason, Mark Snell, Robin Sandells to name a few.

Finally, I'd like to say a huge thank you to Fiona and Jan; you both truly are the backbone of the club, the time and effort you put in is simply outstanding, thank you both."

b. Secretary's Report

Fiona King addressed the meeting with the following remarks:

"Your committee met frequently throughout the year and exceeded the minimum requirement set out in the constitution by meeting monthly and more often when it was required, to plan events and set up JSC for opinions.

We co-opted one new member onto the committee, Kate, who I'm pleased to say has now been elected by the members to serve the Club.

It's been an extremely busy year for the Club Secretary with a very active KC, who have been engaging with Breed Clubs frequently. Your committee has handled quite a significant number of matters relating to changes in how the KC are operating and moving to more online engagement, including the introduction of a regional coordinator (Denise Newsom), as well as the uptick in all-rounders wanting approval to award CCs and, of course, the matter closest to our hearts; changes to the Breed Standard, which we have on the agenda this evening for later discussion.

Here are some of the highlights, since the last AGM:

- *Chris Mewse took on the role of Membership Secretary.*
- *The KC Annual Return (covering the year 2023) was submitted. This contained proposed changes to the constitution and membership fee-adjusted wording to reflect applications received after October in a given year, would be carried forward to include membership for the subsequent year. I'm pleased to say these have been acknowledged and approved with the KC complimenting us on the quality of our constitution.*
- *We carried on working with BTCoS to agree on a KC letter proposing changes to the Breed Standard.*
- *We received notice from the KC that the election of the BLO would be carried forward a year (Mar2024) to give time for clubs to make the three-year term elections.*
- *Notice that KC shows license applications now online.*
- *The KC sent various emails on development of the JEP system*
- *Notice from RKC BLC of proposal from the NBTC that all KC breed elected positions be rotated on a three-year cycle – the SBTC agreed and this was subsequently enacted.*
- *KC/BHC communication stating eye testing essential for a strong population sample to be recorded.*
- *The KC notice of the CEO resignation and we note a new CEO was recently appointed (Jannine Edgar).*

- *KC notice about intention to set up regional networks. Denise Newsom is our named advisor, but we haven't had any contact with her yet.*
- *The Club delivered a BAD which was well received. This required considerable planning with KC request and approval, event location planning, content design and delivery, exam application management; etc.*
- *Confirmation from the KC of changes to our constitution as approved at last year's AGM and commended the style and content.*
- *The KC asked for a studbook proofreader – at the time none on the committee had the capacity (but Kate Snell has subsequently volunteered).*
- *The Committee agreed to encourage standing order payments for membership fee renewals.*
- *The KC proposed changes to the Standard beyond that which we requested and in line with their review of all pedigree breed standards. This contained changes to the colour, tail and eye clauses. The Committee agreed to the colour clause but objected to the tail clause in January 2025.*

c. Treasurer's Report

Jan Mason addressed the meeting with the following remarks:

"It has been another successful year financially for the Club with a surplus for the year of over £1000.

Our members are generous in their support, both practically and financially and our member base has remained strong in 2024.

We held the last of our Limit shows in May and August with both making a profit.

The beautiful items that Fiona makes and donates to the Club raised a significant amount for us (£383) as did the Club calendars designed by Fiona Atherton-Kemp (£125.66).

The Club is now a paid-up member of BUBA (British Utility Breed Association).

The Southern Club does not pay any honoraria to officers or committee members."

5. **Approval of the 2024 Accounts and Appointment of the Auditor for 2025**

JM requested approval of the Club's 2024 accounts.

Proposed BK and Secoded Cheryl Grange

Approval received

JM requested approval of Jo Wade becoming auditor of the club's 2025 accounts.

Proposed BK and Secoded FK

Approval received

Derfel Owen queried why the club did not pay honoraria and requested that the Club reconsider to recognise the responsibility and commitment of hardworking officers. FK agreed to take the matter for discussion at a committee meeting and if agreement is reached, the matter would be raised at the next AGM for member approval.

6. **Report from the Membership Secretary**

CM advised that membership is down slightly from last year and is currently 80 paid members and five junior members. CM said he is canvassing renewals and membership via email to encourage new members which contains pointers (links) to the Club's website, where members can access member-only information.

CM spoke about how meet ups are a good way to attract new members because the Club wants all Boston people and not just show folk.

CM mentioned the membership fee of £7.50 has been discussed previously and the Club feel that the amount is a reasonable one; however, the Club would prefer annual membership subscriptions to be paid via standing order.

CM is helping plan for future events as the Club's aim is to give back to its members.

7. Update from Breed Representatives

FK referred the meeting to the Agenda papers and said she had asked for reports from each of our nominated Breed Representatives, but had only received a short report from Victoria Jackson who had advised that no meetings had been held due to a lack of agenda items and the only item of note was three yearly rotations for breed representative positions which had been proposed and approved by the KC.

BK mentioned that he had been contacted by the BHC and has agreed to be involved in a population survey. He is not sure what this involves but believes the purpose may be to look at our gene pool. BK will report back if he feels the survey is of value.

8. Update on revision to the Breed Standard

FK shared a screen with the meeting attendees which showed the old versus KC proposed changes to the Breed Standard and referred them to the electronic copy distributed ahead of the meeting.

FK advised the meeting about the sequence of KC communication regarding revisions to the Breed Standard as there had been some confusion on social media and between breed clubs. She confirmed that following last year's AGM where approval to propose changes to the Breed Standard had been obtained, the SBTC along with the BTCoS wrote a joint proposal to the KC in July 2024. The KC was undertaking a wholesale review of Standards and wrote to all Utility Breed Clubs in September 2024 stating that they wanted to make terminology used in Standards more consistent, but included a table which showed changes and additions to the Boston Terrier Standard that contained a not-recognised colour clause of 'unacceptable' and a tail clause that stated an absence of a tail was to be 'highly undesirable'. The Committee responded to the KC in October 2024 with support for the addition to the colour clause, but a strong objection to the tail clause. Since this time, and at the beginning of 2025 the other breed clubs begun to express their disquiet around these changes and a meeting with the KC was held with all four breed clubs to run through the proposed changes that the SBTC & BTCoS had proposed but which included the new terms the KC wanted to adopt. Following this online meeting, the KC wrote to all breed clubs again with the detailed proposals for changes to the breed standard. FK said the significance of the tail clause had caused much concern amongst the breed clubs and the SBTC had the opportunity to ask its members at this meeting their views and that this was the subject for discussion and agreement in the next section of the meeting.

BK mentioned that the joint breed club meeting with the KC had been constructive and was optimistic about the proposals for changes to the Breed Standard that we had agreed and put forward to them and hoped the KC would listen to the feedback we had given them.

9. Discussion about the Tail clause Notified to Breed Clubs by KC

FK drew the meeting's attention to Paper F and asked those present to comment and agree to the committee's position with the KC. She said the committee continues to object to the change and suggested the drafting should be reversed into a presence being positive rather than the absence being negative. There was general agreement to this approach.

BK said that the changes to the colour clause description brought the UK standard into line with the country of origin but that the tail clause was taking us away from this and too far from the characteristic of the breed.

FK referred to the scientific studies – the links of which had been shared – and commented that none of these were breed specific or conclusive and contained single-digit numbers of Bostons in a broader canine study, which sought to link screw tails with spine health and spine health with BOAS.

LW (on behalf of Debbie Rodaway, who had problems with her audio, so messaged Lucy and asked her to speak on her behalf) said that all breed clubs should stand together on this topic and consult with one another.

BK asked the meeting to agree and approve with the Committee's stance on these matters with the KC.

Agreement and approval received

10. Closing Remarks from the Chair

BK closed by stating that he hoped all breed clubs should stand together regarding the changes to the tail clause. He further reiterated the Club's desire to promote breed specialist judges and the importance of doing so as more generalists are being approved where it seems they are only qualifying themselves for group appointments and offer little benefit to the long-term future of the Boston Terrier.

BK thanked members for their time and attendance.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Proposal 1: To confirm the election of committee members as shown in Table 1

- Fiona King offers herself for re-election to the Committee. The General Committee have agreed that if re-elected by the membership, she will be nominated as an officer and serve as Club Secretary.
- Chris Mewse offers himself for re-election to the Committee. Chris currently serves as the Membership Secretary for the Club.
- Lucy Wheatley offers herself for re-election to the Committee. Lucy currently serves as the Editor of the Newsletter for the Club.
- Joshua Dearn offers himself for election to the Committee and replaces Kate Snell who resigned during her term. Josh is expected to serve as a digital marketing advisor for the Club.

Note: conditional upon the AGM re-electing Fiona King to the Committee, it has been agreed by the General Committee that she shall be (re)elected as Secretary.

These elections are in accordance with rule 2, 3 and 4 of the Club’s constitution

<https://www.southernbostonterrierclub.org.uk/about-our-club/>

There remain two vacancies for eligible members wishing to serve on the Committee.

Nominations to serve on the Committee must be made in compliance with the Club’s rules and be proposed and seconded and sent to the Chair before the final agenda is set. If the number of nominations exceed vacancies, a ballot shall be held by a show of hands at the AGM.

No	Nominee Name	Proposer	Seconded	Post
1	Brian King			
2	Fiona King	Jan Mason	Dawn Atherton-Kemp	Officer - Secretary
3	Jan Mason			
4	Karen Sandell			
5	Chris Mewse	Karen Sandells	Brian King	General Committee
6	Dawn Atherton-Kemp			
7	Josh Dearn	Jan Mason	Fiona King	General Committee
8	Lucy Wheatley	Andy Strickland	Julie Cox	General Committee
9	Andy Strickland			
10	Julie Cox			
11	Vacancy			
12	Vacancy			

Southern Boston Terrier Club



Annual Accounts for 2025

I certify that these are a true record of accounts
for the above society.

Audited By : Jo Wade BSc FCMA

Signed: Jo Wade

Date: 19th January 2026

Year Ending 31 December 2025

Income & Expenditure Summary

Income

Member subscriptions	627.50
Calendar sales	141.71
BAD income	565.00
Interest on deposit account	20.51
Sale of goods	335.05
Donation	10.00
Total Income	£1,699.77

Expenditure

April 2025 show loss	185.30
Website/Zoom costs	250.00
Pull up banner	162.29
Calendar Postage	36.00
Insurance	127.86
BAD expenses	230.84
BUBA Membership	20.00
Bank charges	42.50
Accountant fee (2024 & 2025)	118.54
Purchase of goods	86.23
KC registration	45.00
Total Expenditure	£1,304.56
Total Profit	£395.21

BALANCE SHEET

BALANCE SHEET @ 31 December 2025

Current Assets

Current account	318.15
Deposit account	3,670.51
Prepayments	370.00

Current Liabilities

Deferred Revenue	- 120.00
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Net Assets **£4,238.66**

P&L B/F 3,843.45

Excess of income over expenditure 395.21

Balance **£4,238.66**

Open Show 6 April 2025

Income

Entries	278.00
Rosette donations	35.00
Catalogue sales	57.50
Spectator dogs	3.00
Raffle	113.00
Refreshment donations	40.00

Total show income **£526.50**

Expenses

Rosettes	115.23
Fosse Data printing costs	60.00
Judges' gifts	24.23
Fosse Data	119.22
Hire of mats	30.00
Class prizes	22.20
Show licence	35.00
Hire of hall	129.00
Refreshments	176.92

Total show expenses **£711.80**

Total loss **-£185.30**

The financial accounts have been prepared in accordance with RKC requirements and presented to the AGM for approval.

Proposal 2: that the accounts for 2025 be approved (proposed Jan Mason)

Proposal 3: that Mrs J Wade be asked to audit the 2026 accounts (proposed Jan Mason)

Proposal to award the Secretary an Honorarium

At the 2025 AGM it was proposed and agreed that the Committee would consider whether an honorarium should be paid to the Club Secretary in recognition of the incidental costs incurred to fulfil the obligations of the role.

The Committee held several conversations on the topic and recognised that larger sums were awarded in other clubs but that the SBTC was not as well-established, so must balance the income received to any amount awarded.

Proposal 4: that the Secretary be awarded the sum of £250 annually in arrears at the beginning of each year provided they have served for the full year and following the audit of that years accounts and for so long as the Club holds sufficient funds to do so and payment of such shall not place the Club into financial deficit.

Proposed: Chris Mewse & seconded Andy Strickland