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## Convenant Bulldog, breeding rules

The Dutch Kennel Club and both breeding clubs, de Engelse Bulldog Club Nederland and de Bulldog Club Nederland, signed an agreement which will take effect on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

The Dutch Kennel Club, in cooperation with both breeding clubs, established rules which eventually should lead to an improvement of the general health of the Bulldog (FCI no 149).

These rules apply to all matings taking place on and after June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. No pedigrees will be issued to litters if the parents do not comply with these rules. The rules apply to all litters born in the Netherlands, which means that these rules also apply to foreign stud dogs. The rules apply to all litters, whether or not the breeder is a member of one of the breeding clubs.

Requirements for Bulldogs used for breeding as from June 1, 2014:

1. Breeding Suitability Test: fitness test, patellar luxation (physical exam), physical appearance
2. ECVO eye test
3. DNA test-HUU
4. Restrictions for in-breeding
5. Natural birth, caesarean section

### ***Breeding Suitability Test: fitness test, physical appearance***

The Dutch Kennel Club will organize special days for testing. Forms will be available in English for owners of stud dogs living abroad. The fitness test will be performed by a veterinarian. The physical appearance of the dog will be judged by an official judge according to the set criteria.

#### **Fitness test:**

Minimal age of the dog/bitch : 12 months

Number of meters to walk (on the leash): 1000 meter

- Maximum time: 12 min
- heart rate recovery time: 15 min. measured before and after the test
- temperature recovery time: 15 min. measured before and after the test

Results of the fitness test can either be sufficient or insufficient. Only dogs/bitches that pass the test may be used for breeding.

When a dog/bitch does not pass the test, the test may be performed once more. The result of the second test will be regarded as the final result.

#### **Transitional terms for the fitness test**

- **Bitches** born between 01-06-2010 and 01-06-2012 are required to participate, however there are no consequences to the result of the test
- **Dogs** born before 01-06-2012 are required to participate, however there are no consequences to the result of the test

#### **Patellar Luxation:**

The examination of the patellae needs to be done by a specialist, member of the [European College of Veterinary Surgeons - Small Animal Surgery](#). In Holland you can have the dog tested at one of the veterinarians the Dutch Kennelclub has an agreement with. You can find them at the [website](#).

Combination of dogs with the following results can be used for breeding

- Grade 0 x Grade 0
- Grade 0 x Grade 1
- Grade 0 x Grade 2
- Grade 1 x Grade 1

#### **Physical appearance**

Using a special form, points will be granted to all aspects of the dog. This will be valued by an official judge, preferably by a breed specialist.

Pictures of the dog should be added to this form.

#### ***ECVO eye test***

All dogs/bitches used for breeding should be tested annually.

Dogs/bitches suffering from KCS (Keratoconjunctivitis Sicca, dry eye syndrome) may not be used for breeding.

#### ***DNA test for HUU***

All dogs/bitches used for breeding need to be tested for hyperuricaemia (HUA), specifically on the SLC2A9 mutation.

This test can be done, among other, by the following laboratories:

- Van Haeringen Laboratorium
- Animal Health Trust
- Laboklin

Following combinations are allowed:

- Normal x Normal
- Carrier x Normal
- At-Risk x Normal



### ***Restrictions for in-breeding***

To minimize in-breeding the following rules apply.

#### Dogs:

- For dogs born after 01-06-2013 a maximum of 15 litters are allowed to be registered in the Dutch studbook.
- For dogs born before 01-06-2013 a maximum of 15 litters are allowed to be registered in the Dutch studbook after 01-06-2014.
- For dogs (regardless of the country of origin) a maximum of 5 litters per calendar year are allowed to be registered in the Dutch studbook.

#### Bitches:

- Bitches are allowed to have a maximum of three litters in their life.

In addition, after a second caesarean section they are not allowed to have another litter.

A bitch should not mate with her grandfather, father, brother, half-brother, son or grandson.

### ***Natural birth, Caesarean section***

A bitch is not allowed to mate after a second caesarean section.

When a bitch gave birth naturally this should be reported within three days after the birth of the litter. If not, a caesarian section will be assumed and registered.

All caesarean sections of a bitch born before 01-03-2013 will count as one, regardless of the actual number of caesarean sections.

For more information please contact The Dutch Kennel Club [bulldog@raadvanbeheer.nl](mailto:bulldog@raadvanbeheer.nl)