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1 June, 2020

Mr. Jack Alberts
Chairman
Raad van Beheer op Kynologisch Gebied in Nederland
Postbus 75901, Amsterdam
Netherlands

TRANSMITTED TO EMAIL ADDRESS: info@raadvanbeheer.nl

Dear Mr Alberts,

The Australian National Kennel Council Ltd strongly supports the FCI in its expressed concern regarding the rules introduced by the Netherlands Government with regards to the breeding of 12 Brachycephalic breeds being, Affenpinscher, Boston Terrier, English Bulldog, French Bulldog, Griffon Belge, Griffon Bruxellois, Petit Brabancon, Japanese Chin, King Charles Spaniel, Pug, Pekingese and Shih Tzu, of great concern is the suggestion of introducing cross breeding which will surely result in genetic loss from generations of dogs many of whom have been health tested with only a few having issues. We do not believe that consideration has been given to the genetic bottlenecks that will result within these breeds when trying to adjust to extremely rapid changes in morphology.

We have considered the contents of the Raad Van Beheer response to the letter from the FCI President, and appreciate the difficult position you are in having had your proposals to Minister Schouten rejected. However, the Australian National Kennel Council Ltd feels this is entirely the wrong way to tackle the issues highlighted in the 'Breeding Short Muzzled Dog's' paper commissioned by the Ministry of Agriculture in January 2019. In our estimation the Netherlands government has taken a machine gun approach to tackling BOS and BOAS in these 12 breeds, the majority of these breeds do not show any signs of having both these conditions, and a large proportion of these breeds have neither condition."

In studying the paper 'Breeding Short Muzzled Dogs', we feel that it may be flawed as a major error seems to have been made in the mode of measuring skull length which in turn can significantly affect the CFR (Cranial Facial Ratio), this will be the subject of our forensic response which will be published in coming days.



In our opinion the proposed changes will have the opposite effect in their implementation. Cross breeding will not resolve these issues, it will merely create new “designer” breeds each with a combination of their parent breeds issues. To echo the words of the FCI President, “we are greatly saddened that the RVB agrees to register the above-mentioned breeds, only if they are crossbred with other breeds”. The Australian National Kennel Council feels this decision by the RVB, to totally disregard the origin and breed standards for these breeds, not to mention the work of breeders and enthusiasts over hundreds of years, to preserve and protect the long standing heritage of all these breeds, we appeal to the RVB to reconsider their plan to compel breeders of brachycephalic dogs, to introduce other breeds into their breeding programs, the Raad van Beheer and Dutch breeders have a long history of producing outstanding dogs, and leading the way with health programs, it will be a sad day for global Cynology if the Netherlands are the first Country to allow the registration of crossbreeds on their purebred Register, there are other solutions, if brachycephalic breeders worldwide embrace the emerging methodology to improve the health of their breeds, there will not be any need to crossbreed.

Support for the ANKC Ltd position is expressed in several letters from Australian brachycephalic breed clubs which accompany this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Hugh Gent OAM
President & Chairman of the Board of Directors

Att.

Copy to:

- Dr. Tamás Jakkel, President,
Fédération Cynologique Internationale
- Mr Augusto Benedicto Santos III, President,
FCI Asia, Africa & Oceania Section

22 May 2020

Australian National Kennel Council
C/- Dogs NSW
Attention: Mr Hugh Gent & Dr Karen Hedberg

Our respective breed clubs are aware and deeply concerned with the ruling by the Dutch government to restrict the breeding of 12 brachycephalic dog breeds in the Netherlands – Affenpinscher, Boston Terrier, English Bulldog, French Bulldog, Griffon Belge, Griffon Bruxellois, Petit Brabançon, Japanese Spaniel, King Charles Spaniel, Pug, Pekingese and Shih Tzu.

Raad van Beheer (RvB) is supporting these restrictions, stating ***“The Dutch Kennel Club ‘Raad van Beheer’ supports the Minister in setting rules for the breeding of brachycephalic dogs. The Raad van Beheer plays a supervising role in breeding of pedigree dogs and therefore takes its responsibility, as expressed in ‘FairFok’ (Fairbreeding), and will set additional requirements for issuing pedigree certificates.”***

“In the future, breeders must demonstrate that brachycephalic dogs are proven free of conformation related problems. Healthier dogs will be used for breeding. Both crossbreds and look-alikes will be eligible to enter the studbook in order to breed dogs with a longer muzzle.” [Breeding Strategy Brachycephalic Pedigree Dogs RvB]

Restrictions and recommendations being imposed on Dutch breeders are draconian and put these breeds at risk. Genetic diversity of generations of well-bred healthy dogs may be lost forever. Even worse, there is the problem of further exploitation by unregistered puppy farmers. There lies one of the major problems in all of this, dogs being bred outside of registered/monitored breed clubs and official canine registries around the world. It is unconscionable to follow this path of banning (as we know them) these popular and historic breeds - punishing the very people who have dedicated so much to their well-being and preservation.

The objectives of breed clubs and national canine bodies include preserving our respective canine breeds and remaining true to official breed standards - in our case it is the French Bulldog.

Of fundamental concern is the mandate to change the head shape of the French Bulldog. One of the largest registries of French Bulldogs is held by the American Kennel Club. The French Bulldog Club of America has stated ***“It has come to our attention that the Dutch government is mandating cross-breeding of the French Bulldog. This mandate will significantly change the head shape, ratio of muzzle to skull, and the dentition. The head is one of the hallmarks of the breed and its change in this manner will cause the breed’s essence to be eliminated.***

The stated reason for this mandate is to improve the welfare and health of the French Bulldog. The French Bull Dog Club of America (FBDCA)’s position is that the French Bulldog like any other breed, is not inherently unhealthy when well-bred.

Evidence based on research is often deceiving. The FBDCA has reviewed much of the research findings with its team, which includes scientific experts, and believes a significant portion of the research was poorly conducted, based on a minute localized sample and often made conclusions about brachycephalic breeds not supported by clear-cut evidence.”

First and foremost, breed clubs work to maximise the efforts of their members to breed healthy, well rounded dogs which are excellent representatives of their race. Breed clubs support, educate

and implement health schemes which overtime see vast improvements in the health, quality and temperament of our canines.

Here in Australia registered ANKC breeders are bound by a strict Code of Ethics to; *"...take responsible action to reduce the incidence of hereditary diseases in accordance with the ANKC Ltd Code of Practice for Hereditary Diseases"*.

Initiatives by the French Bulldog Club of NSW in collaboration with the French Bulldog Club of Queensland include a French Bulldog spine & hip grading scheme which has been in place for many years. Results are submitted to the ANKC with published breed averages available for the benefit of our breeders. BOAS chamber testing is in train following the Cambridge University study. Our breeders have embraced the advances in technology and scientific veterinary recommendations and do their utmost to improve the health of the French Bulldog. **French Bulldogs when well-bred are not unhealthy.** How will cross breeding and allowing "lookalikes" onto the Dutch registry in any way improve the health and welfare of the French bulldog without destroying its unique & classic feature – its head and expression? Will these dogs be fully health screened beforehand for other disorders which may affect the French Bulldog?

FCI President Dr Tamas Jakkel and Dr Jane Ladlow of the Animal Health Trust and BOAS Research Group at the University of Cambridge have entered into a cooperation agreement to develop guidelines for breeders *"...to contribute to improve the health of our popular brachycephalic breeds. We also aim to monitor the results of these programmes over the next 5 to 10 years so that we can assess their effectiveness and determine if other strategies are required."* This seems an infinitely preferable approach rather than that instituted by Raad van Beheer. Dutch breeders should be given the opportunity of working within these FCI guidelines and should certainly be supported by Raad van Beheer to do so.

We call on the ANKC to send a strong and clear message to the FCI and Raad van Beheer that Australia opposes the restrictive measures being imposed on Dutch breeders. It is imperative that we speak up now before it is too late.

Liz Davidson (FBCNSW)

Kelly McClelland (FBCQ)

Tracey @ ANKC

From: Rob Harrison <rob@dogsqueensland.org.au>
Sent: Saturday, 23 May 2020 6:53 AM
To: Tracey @ ANKC
Subject: FW: FBCQLD - FB health focus

Dear Tracey, please see below from our French Bulldog Club

Kind Regards
Rob Harrison | General Manager | Dogs Queensland



PO Box 1136, Mt Ommaney, Qld, 4074
Phone (07) 3252 2661 | Fax (07) 3252 3864
Website www.dogsqueensland.org.au

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From: Secretary FBCQLD <secretaryfbcqld@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 22 May 2020 2:55 PM
To: Rob Harrison <rob@dogsqueensland.org.au>
Cc: dqboardsmith@icloud.com; President FBCQLD <presidentfbcqld@gmail.com>; vicepresfbcqld <vicepresfbcqld@gmail.com>; mirribandi@gmail.com; ainsliecarius@icloud.com; ulla@leatherwoodlodge.com
Subject: Re: FBCQLD - FB health focus

Good afternoon all,

In light of the snowball affect that the Netherlands ruling is having on an international scale, and the positive show of support from the FCI via their press release dated 20/05/20, it was wonderful to see today's ANKC press release (please see below). Please note the final paragraph (verbatim) "For clubs to be included in the ANKC letter of support to the FCI and Dutch Breeders, please write to your Member Body or National Breed Councils so they can forward to the ANKC".

<https://www.dogsqld.org.au/members/news-and-updates/ankc-statement-status-of-the-brachycephalic-breeds-in-the-netherlands/>

The French Bulldog Club of Queensland whole heartedly supports the preservation of our breed, and our breed standard, and firmly believes that we are already focussing on healthy breeding practices, incorporating skeletal and DNA testing. Per our earlier emails, we would like Dogs QLD to confirm their position of support, and ensure that all is being done to ensure that legislation, and pressure from animal rights groups, do not force changes to our breed away from their historical origins. We will continue to work closely with our sister clubs, to develop ongoing health schemes (including the BOAS chamber), and work towards gathering data to support our push for happy, healthy Frenchies.

As always, we are here to support, and discuss, and we welcome your feedback. Thank you in advance for notifying the ANKC of our resolve to preserve our breed.

Kind Regards,

Kelly McClelland
Secretary
FBCQLD

Tracey @ ANKC

From: Hugh Gent <hughgent@bigpond.net.au>
Sent: Monday, 1 June 2020 10:02 AM
To: Tracey @ ANKC
Subject: FW: To DogsWest and the ANKC
Attachments: Page 1.jpg; Page 2.jpg

From: Lynne Hudson <earsrup@bigpond.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 27 May 2020 3:32 PM
To: 'Ann Rushby' <ARushby@dogswest.com>; hughgent@bigpond.net.au; gsdvetkh@bigpond.com
Subject: To DogsWest and the ANKC

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Committee & the A.N.K.C Members of the French Bulldog Awareness Group of Western Australia, I would like to express our support to the French Bulldog Clubs of N.S.W. & Qld. and their request that the A.N.K.C. contact the F.C.I. to fight and maintain the current breed standards of the Brachycephalic Breeds as per attached letter. It is very concerning what is happening in the Netherlands for breeders and owners of all pedigree dogs.

Best regards,

Lynne Hudson

Treasurer

French Bulldog Awareness Group of WA (inc)

Perth, Western Australia.

www.frenchbulldogswa.com.au

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK =

<https://www.facebook.com/PerthFrenchBulldogAwarenessGroupofWA>



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

www.avast.com



The Boston Terrier Club of Victoria, Australia

OFFICIAL STATEMENT FROM THE BOSTON TERRIER CLUB OF VICTORIA REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE BRACHYCEPHALIC BREEDS IN THE NETHERLANDS

In light of the recent happenings in the Netherlands we, the Boston Terrier Club of Victoria, would like to express our support to the ANKC and the FCI in maintaining our current Boston Terrier breed standard which we do not believe requires (dramatic) change.

As any good breeder or admirer of the Boston Terrier should, we do want to produce healthy quality puppies of correct type who can enjoy life to the full. To assist with this we believe an effective approach is to research, understand and take evidence based action to reduce and ultimately eliminate the health problems our breed can face and to educate both puppy buyers and breeders to this end.

Therefore, we would welcome the opportunity to work with the ANKC and the Australian Veterinary Association to introduce an evidence based Australian wide mandatory health testing regime which would provide information and guidance on how to progress with breeding to improve and maximise the quality and health of our breed.

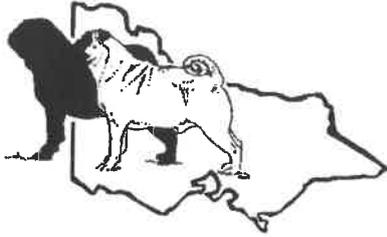
By implementing these pre-breeding protocols we want to preserve the Boston Terrier as we know and love them, a great asset for any home.

'The Boston Terrier is a lively, highly intelligent, smooth coated, short headed, compactly built, short tailed, well balanced dog, brindle, seal or black in colour and evenly marked with white.....The dog conveys an impression of determination, strength and activity, with style of high order, carriage easy and graceful...'

Tara Korn
President

Diane Boyle
Secretary

James Farrugia
Treasurer



Pug Club of Victoria Inc.

ABN. 68855935860

A0018514M

VCA 300 704 4700

President Mr Dale Taylor



Secretary

Jane Dowdy

65 Underwoods Lane

Buckley Vic 3240

03 52672258

Patrons: Mrs Pat Mc Dougall
Mr Jeff Chivell

24/05/2020

To Whom It May Concern,

The Pug Club of Victoria is profoundly dismayed regarding the decision by the Raad van Beheer (the Kennel Club of the Netherlands) to impose breeding and registration restrictions in relation to certain Brachycephalic Breeds, Pugs being one of them.

Bought about by the need to comply with Government regulations it appears the Raad van Beher has taken it one step further and as such has jeopardised the future of these breeds and their standards which have been in existence for hundreds of years. Furthermore, it would appear that the decision was made based on selected and not evidenced based research. There seems to be a blatant disregard for the research and testing being undertaken by leading authorities such as the BOAS team from Cambridge University.

The implementation of these regulations in the Netherlands will have a detrimental effect on true preservation breeders but will not prevent unregulated breeders from mass producing litters of "fad/fashion" puppies with little or no regard for good health. This action will serve to perpetuate health problems by promoting the mistaken belief that crossbreeding produces pups with no health problems.

The Pug Club of Victoria is working to ensure the continued health of our Breed by encouraging our Breeders to participate in Health Testing programs where appropriate and available. We have been closely following the progress of the Pug Club (of England) and the BOAS team, and the implementation of their Breed Health Scheme, with the view of this being the basis of our own Club's direction for the future. We have worked with Dogs Victoria on a number of occasions to help gain a greater understanding of health issues within our breed. We have continued to provide our breeders and members with up to date information on health concerns.

Therefore, the Pug Club of Victoria would like to declare its support to the ANKC for its response to the FCI and the Dutch Breeders.

We would like to also extend our support to the affected Clubs and Breeders in the Netherlands of the 12 threatened Breeds especially the Pugs.

Yours Sincerely

Jane Dowdy
Secretary
Pug Club of Victoria Inc



We Love



Our Pugs





THE BRITISH BULLDOG CLUB OF NSW INC.

www.bbcnsw.com
02 9832 3473
annsmall@bigpond.com

26TH May 2020

OFFICIAL STATEMENT FROM THE BRITISH BULLDOG CLUB OF NSW INC. REGARDING THE STATUS OF BRACHYCEPHALIC BREEDS IN THE NETHERLANDS

The British Bulldog of NSW (Australia) is extremely distressed by the breeding and registration changes adopted by the Raad van Beheer (the Kennel Club of the Netherlands) in relation to The Bulldog as well as the Affenpinscher, Boston Terrier, French Bulldog, Griffon Belge, Griffon Bruxellois, Japanese Chin, King Charles Spaniel, Pekingese, Petit Brabancon, Pug and Shih tzu.

The Raad van Beheer made the changes to comply with directive from the Dutch government. The stated reason for the changes is to improve the health and welfare of the breeds. The decision appears to be based on selected bias research, often not evidence based.

The breeding guidance plan to be enforced by the Raad van Beheer for the Bulldog and other breeds would change the Breed Standards which have been in existence for hundreds of years, essentially altering hundreds of years of history & heritage. Resulting in cross breeding which will see the complete elimination of breed types.

Implementation of these regulations in the Netherlands will punish true preservation breeders and will not prevent unregulated breeders from continuing to mass produce litters with no regard for good health. We feel this action will continue to produce health problems in these breeds and will lead to more unregulated breeding and illegal breeding where there can be no influence and promotion of health and welfare.

The decision made has failed to acknowledge the growing body of evidence-based information on conformation risk factors, testing and selective breeding of brachycephalic dogs, and has effectively banned the breeds in their recognised form.

Well bred, health tested pedigree brachycephalic breeds including the British Bulldog bred to their standard are not the problem.

The integrity and preservation of pedigree dogs with their health and welfare at the core, can and should be done using an evidence-based approach to eliminate health problems these breeds may face. Collaboration between dog breeders, kennel clubs and veterinary scientists should be essential to animal welfare concerns in the relevant breeds and involve validated health testing and utilisation of selective breeding guidelines whilst preserving breed standards.

Changes in breed standards will result in producing an animal that is no longer purebred.

In the event the Netherlands change the face of the many breeds, the British Bulldog Club of NSW will petition the Australian National Kennel Council to deny any pedigrees from Bulldogs registered in the Netherlands.

We must continue our efforts to educate the public, puppy buyers, and breeders regarding the healthy dog.

We call all responsible clubs and breeders to raise their voices and be the advocates for the brachy breeds. We cannot let one biased view be the demise of so many ancient breeds and loved family members worldwide.

#standwithnetherlands

To: A.N.K.C.
c/- Dogs SA

May 28, 2020

From:
Pug Club of S.A. Inc, Pug Dog Club of N.S.W. Inc,
The Country N.S.W. Pug Club and Pug Club of Victoria Inc

Collectively, our four Committees, wish to voice our deep concern and opposition to the Netherlands Governments announcement.

These new restrictions regarding muzzle length of the 12 Brachycephalic Breeds listed is contrary to current scientific evidence. The causes of BOAS* are far more complex than simply breeding dogs for a longer muzzle length. Even crossbred dogs with NO Brachycephalic breeding can be affected, as are some other pedigree breeds with longer muzzles.

Australian Pug breeders have been actively breeding away from Pugs with BOS; Brachycephalic Ocular Syndrome ie shallow eye sockets and diverted eyes: the breeders have had a fairly steady improvement across Australia.

We, The Pug Clubs of Australia, collectively promote health schemes to improve the general health of the Pug breed.

It has to be acknowledged that some, NOT ALL, Pugs can have various health issues but to penalise all Pug breeders is counterproductive. Responsible breeders who have the health and welfare of the Pug Breed as the major criteria and follow the breed standard produce dogs that are healthy and need minimal veterinary care.

The above collective of Pug Dog Clubs within Australia offer their full support to the breeders and exhibitors of all the 12 BRACHYCEPHALIC breeds affected by this legislation in the Netherlands.

We also support the BOAS Research Group in the UK, being conducted by Dr Jane Ladlow.



Pug Club
of SA Inc

The Country NSW
Pug Club

Pug Dog Club
of NSW Inc.

Pug Club of
Victoria Inc

*Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome

To: A.N.K.C.
c/- Dogs N.S.W

May 28, 2020

From:
Pug Dog Club of N.S.W. Inc
The Country N.S.W. Pug Club
Pug Club of S.A. Inc
Pug Club of Victoria Inc

Collectively, our four Committees, wish to voice our deep concern and opposition to the Netherlands Governments announcement.

These new restrictions regarding muzzle length of the 12 Brachycephalic Breeds listed is contrary to current scientific evidence. The causes of BOAS* are far more complex than simply breeding dogs for a longer muzzle length. Even crossbred dogs with NO Brachycephalic breeding can be affected, as are some other pedigree breeds with longer muzzles.

Australian Pug breeders have been actively breeding away from Pugs with BOS; Brachycephalic Ocular Syndrome ie shallow eye sockets and diverted eyes: the breeders have had a fairly steady improvement across Australia.

We, The Pug Clubs of Australia, collectively promote health schemes to improve the general health of the Pug breed.

It has to be acknowledged that some, NOT ALL, Pugs can have various health issues but to penalise all Pug breeders is counter productive. Responsible breeders who have the health and welfare of the Pug Breed as the major criteria and follow the breed standard produce dogs that are healthy and need minimal veterinary care.

The above collective Pug Dog Clubs within Australia offer their full support to the breeders and exhibitors of all the 12 affected by this legislation. BRACHYCEPHALIC breeds in the Netherlands.

We also support the BOAS Research Group in the UK, being conducted by Dr Jane Ladlow.

Pug Dog Club
of NSW Inc

The Country NSW
Pug Club

Pug Club of
SA Inc.

Pug Club of
Victoria Inc

*Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome



The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc

Response statement to the ban on breeding of twelve brachycephalic breeds in The Netherlands

The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc would like to express grave concerns regarding the actions of the RvB – Kennel Club of The Netherlands as a response to Dutch government decisions regarding twelve brachycephalic breeds.

We would also like to express our support and solidarity with the many high quality and ethical Dutch breeders of brachycephalic breeds who will be so severely affected by these decisions

As breeders we are custodians of the breed. We need to understand the breed history, which in many cases goes back for several thousand years, the purpose, the function, the temperament and the conformation of the breeds and we have an obligation to preserve and protect these breeds as a living history as well as healthy, functioning, purpose bred dogs.

Overview

We are concerned that the decision regarding the twelve breeds appears to be based on a reading of some research data, gathered primarily from French Bulldogs, Pugs and Bulldogs that showed a number of dogs suffering from Brachycephalic Obstructed Airway Syndrome (BOAS).

The RvB – Kennel Club of The Netherlands' reaction is to promote cross breeding of dogs purely on the basis of longer noses. We believe this is not only an erroneously simplistic response to the complex issue of BOAS but it also fails to take into account the many healthy examples of the breeds.

We are also concerned that the research results of French Bulldogs, Pugs and Bulldogs have been generalised to such an extent that nine other breeds have been included, despite limited or non-existent evidence to indicate that they have any problems. The generalisation seems to have been made purely on physical similarities with no understanding of the unique breed differences or characteristics.

We are aware and acknowledge that there are dogs within these breeds that have health issues associated with BOAS.

We acknowledge that BOAS appears to be a significant problem within French Bulldogs , Pugs and Bulldogs with an increase in numbers in the past decade.

However, we are also aware that these breeds have been the victims of enormous commercial, public popularity which has given rise to vast numbers of unethical breeders and irresponsible breeding practices.

We do not support the breeding of unhealthy dogs of any breed but we do not believe that random crossbreeding based on the one physical feature of nose length is the solution. Genetics and the genetics of BOAS are far more complex than this rather naive direction.

In addition the research by both the Cambridge University research team and additional research carried out by The University of Copenhagen both conclude that other factors influencing BOAS include stenotic nares, elongated soft palates, narrow tracheas, short thick necks and obesity. Both research teams also place more importance on stenosis of nostrils and neck thickness than they do on nose length

We are concerned that limited research appears to have been carried out to identify the breeders of healthy functioning BOAS free dogs and at no time has the RvB – Kennel Club of The Netherlands, acknowledged that there are breeders who are successfully breeding healthy, functioning, long lived brachycephalic dogs.

The Griffon Bruxellois

In our breed of Griffon Bruxellois, BOAS is rarely seen. The breed has remained largely physically unchanged for over 150 years and the majority of dogs have large open nostrils. Research by Cambridge University with Griffons did not find BOAS present in the cohort which ranged in age from 13 years – 8 months.

There are three Griffon breed standards in the world; FCI, UK and USA. While each breed standard has minor variations in description, they all describe a healthy, active, small breed dog.

In Australia we follow the UK breed standard and the description of the nose is as follows:

“Nose always black, with large, open nostrils and definite stop between muzzle and skull.”

The FCI standard calls for

“Nose leather is broad with wide-open nostrils”.

In both cases the requirement is for a healthy dog with open nostrils

In 2016 The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc carried out an international survey on the Griffon Bruxellois to obtain a snapshot of the state of health of the breed worldwide. Griffon owners both past and present were surveyed and many of the responses came from pet owners.

The survey ran for one month from February to March 2016 and received 457 responses from individuals. These responses referred to over 9,000 Griffons making it the largest survey on the breed ever undertaken and arguably providing the most accurate assessment of the health of the breed in its entire history.

From these responses the top 5 issues identified were:

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. | 1. Slipping Patellas | 224 |
| 2. | 2. Cleft Palate/ Hair Lip | 193 |
| 3. | 3. Undescended testicle | 127 |
| 4. | 4. Cataracts | 104 |
| 5. | 5. Inguinal Hernia | 94 |

BOAS was not a major concern mentioned.

The club intended to carry out the survey every 5 years but will create another survey in 2020 due to the current situation.

Conclusion

- The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW is strongly opposed to any form of generalisation regarding canine breed health. It is counter-productive and inaccurate.
- The club is also strongly opposed to random and uncontrolled cross breeding based on a single physical characteristic. This concept shows a limited understanding of genetics and can only be detrimental. Should cross breeding be needed at any stage then it should only take place after thorough scientific investigation to identify need and detailed consultation with geneticists to determine the most appropriate cross breeding.
Puppy farmers have been carrying out random cross breeding for decades and there is no scientifically validated and documented evidence to show that these “Jugs” or “Puggles” etc are healthier. The club sees no value in cross breeding without evidence to support the results of such cross breeding
- The club opposes knee jerk reactions based on current politically popular welfare fads of the time and believes that if any changes were to occur, they should only occur after detailed and scientifically validated research established a proven and well documented need for the change
- The club believes that the way to improve the health of breeds is to study the actions of successful breeders and learn from them, consult with geneticists and veterinary specialists and work with objective University research teams; not randomly cross breed to any dog that has a longer muzzle. Such a practice will not benefit the breed in the long term and has the potential to introduce new health problems into a breed
- The club supports the statements of the FCI.
- The club strongly condemns the actions of RvB – Kennel Club of The Netherlands

Signed

The Executive, Committee and Members of The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc

Executive

Michelle Parker Brien (President)
Janelle Tremenheere (Secretary)
Matthew O’Sullivan (Treasurer)
Ashleigh Barber (Vice President)

Committee

Victoria Mercer
Terri Odell
Jane Wistuba
Nicola McLean
Sarah Peddie Mc Guirk
Claire Parker O’Sullivan

References

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<https://curis.ku.dk/portal/files/233846218/journal.pone.0226280.pdf>

<http://www.griffonnsw.com/2016-international-griffon-health-survey.asp>



New South Wales Country British Bulldog Club

25th May 2020

email: nswcountrybritishbulldogclub@gmail.com

The President
ANKC Ltd
Mr Hugh Gent

Dear Hugh

In response to your request for National Councils and Breed Clubs to write to ANKC Ltd in support for your letter to the Netherlands Kennel Club, we, the members of the NSW Country British Bulldog Club, a newly formed club, and not as yet a member of our National Council, wish to convey our support.

We share the concerns of the ANKC and other countries in this matter of banning Brachycephalic Breeds throughout the Netherlands by their Government.

The Brachycephalic Breed Clubs, and as is our concern, the British Bulldog Club must be devastated by this outrageous decision. The British Bulldog is the symbol of a nation and this decision is an utter disgrace.

Breeders of Brachycephalic Breeds have spent years and in many cases generations of families in their pursuit to breed the perfect, healthiest and most sound specimens of their breed, following Breed Standards, which in some breeds are over 100 years old. Now these same people are being penalised, the people who have abided by the Rules and Regulations and the Codes of Ethics of the Netherlands Kennel Club and of their own breed clubs.

This new ruling will only affect the ethical breeders, those that breed for all the right reasons in search of the best specimen and registering with the Kennel Club.

The backyard unregistered breeder will now be unchecked, no legislation is going to affect their breeding program, just breed for the Dollar and lovers of the breed will be there to buy them as this will be their only choice, no longer an ethical choice.

We very much hope that the Kennel Club of the Netherlands will object to the suggested cross breeding as has been suggested, and with the support of every Kennel Club throughout the world can come to less drastic solutions to these problems being brought down upon the Brachycephalic Breeds.

We fully support the ANKC Ltd in their very much needed support of the Brachycephalic Breeds in the Netherlands.
on behalf of the members of this Club,

Yours faithfully,
Narelle Spencer President,
Melanie Singh Secretary, Narelle Taylor Treasurer.

To: A.N.K.C.
c/- Dogs N.S.W

May 28, 2020

From:
The Pekingese Club of N.S.W. Inc

Our Committee, wants to voice its deep concern and opposition to the Netherlands Governments announcement.

These new restrictions regarding muzzle length of the 12 Brachycephalic Breeds listed is contrary to current scientific evidence. The causes of BOAS* are far more complex than simply breeding dogs for a longer muzzle length. Even crossbred dogs with NO Brachycephalic breeding can be affected, as are some other pedigree breeds with longer muzzles.

Australian Pekingese breeders have been actively breeding away from Pekingese with BOS; Brachycephalic Ocular Syndrome ie shallow eye sockets and diverted eyes: our breeders have had a steady improvement across Australia.

We, The Pekingese Club of N.S.W Inc, promote health schemes to improve the general health of the Pekingese.

It has to be acknowledged that some, NOT ALL, Pekingese can have various health issues but to penalise all Pekingese breeders is counter productive. Responsible breeders who have the health and welfare of the Pekingese Breed at heart; follow the breed standard to produce dogs that are healthy and need minimal veterinary care.

The Pekingese Club of N.S.W. Inc offers its full support to the breeders and exhibitors of all the 12 affected by this legislation; in the Netherlands.

We also support the BOAS Research Group in the UK, being conducted by Dr Jane Ladlow.

Jonathon Nash
Secretary
The Pekingese Club of N.S.W. Inc

*Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome