

## **An example of the procedures for revising an FCI standard**

The standard for the **English Bulldog** was revised in 2010 after many years of discussions between the many breed club's in England and finally approved by the English KC, passed by the FCI Standards Commission and in October 2010 by the FCI General Committee (GC).

The standard for **Pug Dogs** was also revised in 2010 in close co-operation between the FCI Standards Commission and the English KC.

The revised standard for the **French Bulldog** was finally approved by the FCI GC in April 2015.

Any change in a standard is usually preceded by many years of work between the country's breed clubs and their KC.

The procedures of any amendments/revisions of an FCI standard (which is always the same as the standard of Country of origin) takes many years and always begin with a request from country of origin to the FCI Standards Commission. Standard is checked by the Commissions president for being correctly adapted to the FCI model standard as well as for language & grammatical correctness before it is put on the agenda of the FCI Standards Commissions next meeting. This Commission only meets once a year. The six Commission members then discuss the requested change. If there are questions the country of origin will be consulted for clearance. In some matters, often regards health issues the Standards- and Scientific Commissions have a joint meeting where both Commissions join in the decisions.

If a standard change is approved at the meeting it is sent to the FCI GCs next meeting (they only meet twice a year). After the GC has approved, standard will be translated into the four FCI languages (English, French, German and Spanish) before being published on the FCI website. That publishing date is when a standard is officially valid.

This procedure can take anything from three to six years. An immediate change decided by the GC in co-operation with country of origin has been heard of but is very unusual.

The so-called "**Model standard**" (see Enclosure 11b) is a working document that was invented in 1987 by prof Raymond Triquet, former president of The FCI Standards Commission. Renée Sporre-Willes activated its use during (1999–2015) her years in office in the Commission, in particular regards matter of health and

issues re. exaggerations. The Model standard is a guideline when revising or writing new standards. See Enclosure 11b, where all such changes are highlighted in red.

## Enclosure 11b

*Text highlighted in red to show measures taken to avoid exaggerated text in standards*

### **FCI Model Standard**

#### *Advisory text in italics*

(First FCI Model Standard was approved at the General Assembly in Jerusalem 23-24 June 1987 and revised by the General Committee in Vienna, July 2009.) Text revised after 2009 is mentioned in the text with place and year of approval.

*The model standard is proposed as a frame for any new or revised standard in the FCI. The experts of the breed will choose the items they think fit and observe the order of the model. The text should reflect the ideal picture and true type of the breed. Features that are distinctly opposed to ideal type should be, in order of degree, under FAULTS and SEVERE FAULTS. Features that are untypical, anomalies or not acceptable behaviour are DISQUALIFYING FAULTS.*

*In case of translation, always indicate the name of the breed in the original language between brackets under the name of the translated name in question, the name of the translator (s) and the date of the publication of the translation.*

#### **A breed standard is:**

*A document which is a methodical description of the archetype of a breed.*

*A document which only describes what can be assessed by the human eye.*

*A document, which advises against surgical procedure. Wording asking for surgery will be rejected in any FCI standard (General Committee Dortmund 2010).*

*A document which is used by breeders, owners and specialty show judges to assess that the pedigree dog (General Committee Helsinki, October 2013)*

*-has a temperament that makes it possible to examine it;<sup>[L]</sup>~~SEP~~ has correct breed type;*

*-has sound movement;*

*A blue print for correct breed type as well as the tool to use when assessing the outcome of pedigree dog breeding.*

00.00.0000 /EN/FR/DE/ES: date when a translation into English, French, German or Spanish is published by the FCI Office.

FCI-Standard Nr : 000 Number corresponding to the FCI Nomenclature of Dog Breeds

## **BREED NAME**

*IN ENGLISH, FRENCH, GERMAN OR SPANISH*

*(Breed name in the country of origin)*

### ***Illustration on first page***

*Drawing or photo of the breed to illustrate (body + head) <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> To be provided by country of origin/patronage/development of the breed*

TRANSLATION: *Name of translator (s). Official authentic language (EN/FR/GE/SP) is chosen by the country of origin and is indicated between brackets. (General Committee Dortmund 2010)*

ORIGIN: *If required name of the country of patronage or development.*

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICIAL VALID STANDARD: *00/00/0000. Date of the meeting when the FCI General Committee approved the standard.*

UTILIZATION: *What the breed is - or has been - used for. Should be a short presentation, only on utilization. Behaviour/Temperament should be described separately under the appropriate heading (General Committee Helsinki, October 2013).*

FCI-CLASSIFICATION: *Indicate group and section, subject to a working trial or not. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>*

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY: *Preferably not more than 12-15 lines and of such interest as to understand the breed better (General Committee, Luxemburg 2009).*

<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

GENERAL APPEARANCE: *Text must never include anomalies as breed features, nor exaggerations resulting in a risk for health.*

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS: *Length of body/Height at withers. Depth of chest/Height at withers. Length of muzzle/Length of head. (Length of body:*

measured from point of shoulder to point of buttock). Extensive use of metrics, such as grade and percentage is to be avoided (General Committee Helsinki, October 2013).

**BEHAVIOUR/TEMPERAMENT:** *Text must not state aggressiveness / acute wariness of people or severe aloofness as a breed feature. Breeds must behave calmly and not present any threat to the judge or to any person or dog in public areas.*

## HEAD

**CRANIAL REGION:** *Shape of skull, direction of axes of skull and muzzle, upper outline.*

**Skull:** *Width of skull, shape of superciliary ridges, frontal indentation of furrow, occipital protuberance.*

**Stop:** *Degree.*

## FACIAL REGION:

**Nose:** *Form, size, colour.*

*Brachycephalic breeds have a general clause (General Committee, Luxemburg 2009) that reads: "Well opened nostrils". The clause concerns for the time being : Boston Terrier; Boxer; Griffon Belge; Griffon Bruxellois; Petit Brabançon; Bulldog; Bullmastiff; Dogue de Bordeaux; Bouledogue Français; Japanese Chin; King Charles Spaniel; Mastiff; Mastino Napoletano; Pekingese; Pug; St Bernard; Staffordshire Bull Terrier and Shih Tzu.*

**Muzzle:** *Length, depth, width, profile of the nasal-bridge, shape and profile of the lower jaw.*

**Lips:** *Shape, thickness, properties (flaccid or tight), pigmentation. Colour of nose and of pigmentation on eye rims and lip rims should be according to the genetic make-up of the coat-colour.*

**Jaws/Teeth:** *Shape of jaw, number and properties of teeth, position of the incisors, bite (scissors or pincer bite), over or undershot mouth. Recommendation: lack of PM1 and M3 is scientifically proved as variability and not a known hereditary trait, hence it should no longer be considered as a disqualifying fault.*

*(FCI Standards & Scientific Commissions, Dortmund, February 2015)*

**Cheeks:** *Shape and aspect.*

**Eyes:** *Size, form, colour, setting, expression, direction of palpebral aperture, pigmentation of eye rims. Text must never contain exaggerated size.*

**Ears:** *Set, carriage, shape, size, (length-width).*

NECK: Upper line, length, shape, musculature, skin (tight, flaccid, dewlap).

## BODY

Top line: As a whole.

Withers: Properties, set on of neck.

Back: Contour of backline, musculature, ratio of length between back and loin.

Loin: Length, width, musculature.

Croup: Outline, obliquity (direction), length, width, musculature.

Chest: Length, width, depth of brisket, spring of ribs, fore chest.

Underline and belly: Contour of underline, shape of belly and flanks.

TAIL: Set on, shape, length, thickness, hair, carriage at rest and in movement, description of the natural tail.

## LIMBS

### FOREQUARTERS

General appearance: Forelegs seen from the front and from the side, proportions between different parts of body and forequarters.

Shoulder: Length, obliquity, musculature, layback of shoulders (angle of scapula-humeral joint).

Upper arm: (Arm) length, axis and musculature.

Elbow: Position, angle of the elbow. Forearm: Length, musculature, bone (quality, shape).

Carpus (Wrist): Width, thickness.

Metacarpus (Pastern): Length, width, position (direction).

Forefeet: Shape, size, arching of toes, tightness, nails and pads (qualities, pigmentation). ). Colour of pigmentation on pads should be according to the genetic make-up of the coatcolour. (General Committee Helsinki, October 2013)

### HINDQUARTERS

General appearance: Hindlegs seen from side and rear, proportions between different parts of body and hindquarters.

Thigh: Length, width, musculature, position (angle of coxo-femoral joint).

Stifle (Knee): Position, angle of the stifle joint (femoro-tibial joint).

Lower thigh: Length, direction, musculature, bone (quality, shape)

Hock joint: Width, thickness, angle of the hock joint (tibio-tarsal joint).

Metatarsus (Rear pastern): Length, width, position.

Hind feet: Shape, size, arching of toes, tightness, nails and pads (qualities, pigmentation). Colour of pigmentation on pads should be according to the genetic make-up of the coat colour. (General Committee Helsinki, October 2013)

GAIT / MOVEMENT: Description of movement, preferred gait. SKIN: Thickness, laxity, characteristic wrinkles and folds, pigmentation.

## COAT

Hair: Length, texture, distribution (beard, ruff), thickness, undercoat. If applicable, a description of the trimmed or clipped dog. Text never to require extreme length or thickness that can impede the dog's mobility or well-being. (General Committee Helsinki, October 2013).

Colour: Basic colour, markings and colours permissible. Coat colour should be described as close as possible to the genetic make-up. Even when a colour has a traditional name, the correct name of the genetic make-up should be added in brackets (General Committee Helsinki, October 2013).

SIZE AND WEIGHT: It is recommended to have a size and weight limit in every standard in order to combat extreme features. Any change in the standard that is regarded as unhealthy for a particular breed will be rejected. (General Committee, Dortmund 2010).

Height at the withers: Males: Females:

Weight: Males: Females:

FAULTS: Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog. (compulsory sentence in every standard)

For utility and hunting breeds, addition of "and its ability to perform its traditional work".

The list of faults should be kept short and the compulsory sentence under the heading "FAULTS" should be considered thoroughly. The list of faults should preferably only contain faults commonly known in a breed. A long list of faults could

give the impression that the breed is strongly affected by common faults (General Committee Helsinki, October 2013)

Faults listed should be in degree of seriousness.

### SEVERE FAULTS

Faults listed should be in degree of seriousness.

### DISQUALIFYING FAULTS

☐☐ Aggressive or overly shy dogs (*compulsory sentence in every standard*)

☐☐☐ Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified. (*compulsory sentence in every standard*)

☐☐☐ *Untypical specimen.*

☐☐☐ *Faults which prohibit a dog from winning any award at dog shows wrong type of bite; <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>Unacceptable colour; over or undersized, etc.*

☐☐☐ *Only disqualifying faults should be listed – not those which are not disqualifying (General <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>Committee Helsinki, October 2013). <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>*

### N.B:

- Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>scrotum (*this sentence is compulsory in every standard*).
- Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation, should be <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>used for breeding (*this sentence is compulsory in every standard*) (General Committee, Madrid 2013).  
<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

*Illustration on last page <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>*

*Drawing of anatomical features (in any of the four FCI languages), compulsory in every standard (General Committee, Helsinki, October 2013)*



# ANATOMICAL FEATURES

