



THE KENNEL CLUB
Making a difference for dogs

Breed Watch Booklet

Promoting Pedigree Dog Health

A Judge's guide to particular points of concern
for individual breeds



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Making a difference for dogs

FIT FOR FUNCTION
BREED WATCH

To all Kennel Club Judges

Dear Judge

The objective of the Kennel Club is to promote, in every way, the general improvement of dogs. We believe that every dog should have the opportunity to lead a healthy, happy life and our “Fit For Function: Fit For Life” campaign aims to encourage breeders, judges and all dog lovers to take the necessary steps to ensure that this happens, and to act as a reminder that a dog’s health and welfare should be the most important consideration in any decisions made.

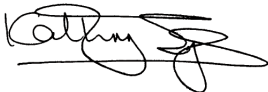
As a judge you are in a unique position: firstly to influence the future development of the breed by your decisions at shows, and, secondly, to assess the current state of the breed as indicated by the dogs shown under you. You will play a crucial role in helping to identify points of concern for breeds as well and helping to make a difference for dogs.

Breed Watch serves as an ‘early warning system’ to identify points of concern for individual breeds. Its primary purpose is to enable anyone involved in the world of dogs, but in particular dog show Judges, to find out about any breed specific conformational issues which may lead to health problems. These conditions are known as a ‘point(s) of concern’

From 2014 the way in which the Kennel Club monitors the health of pedigree dogs will be enhanced through the expansion of the role of Breed Watch **(diagram on page 2 refers)**. As part of this work, all Judges at Championship Shows will have the opportunity to report on any visible conditions or exaggerations that they consider to be detrimental to the health and welfare of dogs.

I hope you have a very successful judging appointment and please do not hesitate to contact Canine Activities with any queries or concerns you might have in your position as a Championship show Judge.

Thank you



Kathryn Symms, Canine Activities Executive

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Introduction

As part of its on-going work to ensure that pedigree dogs lead happy, healthy lives, the Kennel Club launched Breed Watch in 2009.

Breed Watch is a quick and easy reference tool which provides up-to-date information on breed specific visible health conditions that may arise from exaggerated conformation. Breed Watch also provides an opportunity to monitor and protect the future of Pedigree dogs.

The Kennel Club considers that providing information on breed specific visible health concerns allows Judges, Breeders and Exhibitors to discourage the breeding of dogs with exaggerated conformational issues that are detrimental to a breed's health and welfare.

To this effect, from 2014 Breed Watch will be enhanced to include a health monitoring system (**diagram on page 2 refers**). As part of this process, every Judge at Championship Shows will have the option to report any emerging issues which may affect their breed by completing a form provided in the back of their judging book.

In addition to this, the Kennel Club will provide all Championship show judges of category 2 & 3 breeds (**Category definitions outlined over the page**) with a report form, which enables them to provide feedback on the overall health of those dogs they have judged.

This Breed Watch Booklet and web tool provide judges with breed specific points of concern that they can reference prior to judging. This tool allows Judges to highlight to the Kennel Club any emerging undesirable trends or exaggerations in a particular breed(s). Judges are then encouraged to take these points into account when deciding awards and to penalised accordingly. These reports also provide a facility for reporting on improvements of specific points of concern and provide supportive evidence for their removal when appropriate.

For further information on Breed Watch, or to obtain a copy of the Breed Watch FAQ please visit

<http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/services/public/breed/watch/Default.aspx>

What is Breed Watch and how does it work?

Where does my breed fit into Breed Watch?

CATEGORY 1

Breeds with no current Breed Watch Points of concern



CATEGORY 2

Breeds with Breed Watch Points of concern



CATEGORY 3

High Profile Breeds

BREED WATCH

Breed Watch is used to identify visible points of concern for individual breeds. Information is gathered from health surveys, feedback from judges and dog health experts. Full consultation with breed clubs/councils is central to this process.

How do Breeds move between the different categories?

CATEGORY 1 → 2

The transition between categories occurs when sufficient information is received indicating an emerging health issue is prevalent in the breed. Mandatory Judges reporting begins.



CATEGORY 2 → 3

The transition between categories occurs when judges' and observer reports show no discernible improvement in the points of concern. BOB Vet Health Checks begin.



CATEGORY 1 ← 2

The transition between categories occurs when Judges, Breed Clubs and Dog Health experts consider the conditions to be no longer prevalent in the breed. Mandatory Judges reporting ceases.



CATEGORY 2 ← 3

The transition between categories occurs when Breeds successfully meet the HP removal criteria. BOB Vet Health Checks cease.

Guidance for Judges

Introduction

It is believed that judges at Kennel Club licensed Shows and at Championship Shows in particular, influence the future development of the breeds that they judge. It is essential that judges take into account the well-being of those exhibits that they judge and by implication the stock that will be bred from these dogs.

Introductory Paragraph to All Breed Standards

“A Breed Standard is the guideline which describes the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed and ensures that the breed is fit for function. Absolute soundness is essential. Breeders and judges should at all times be careful to avoid obvious conditions or exaggerations which would be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare or soundness of this breed. From time to time certain conditions or exaggerations may be considered to have the potential to affect dogs in some breeds adversely, and judges and breeders are requested to refer to the Breed Watch section of the Kennel Club website for details of any such current issues – Breed Watch. If a feature or quality is desirable it should only be present in the right measure.”

No matter how outstanding an exhibit appears in relation to the breed standard in other ways, care must always be taken to consider it in more general terms prizes should never be awarded to dogs which are visibly suffering from any condition which would adversely affect their health or welfare e.g.:

- Lameness – including ‘hopping’
- Inappropriate temperament – refusal to be handled, timidity or aggression
- A discharge from one or both eyes or any signs of discomfort in either eye
- Obvious breathing difficulty
- Obvious skin disorder or ear irritation
- Exaggerations that would make the dog unsuited to the breed’s original purpose
- Significantly over or under weight

Judges and exhibitors are reminded that:

- Decisions made by judges in the show ring strongly influence future breeding plans
- Judges must take conformation related health problems and temperament into account when making their decisions, alongside breed type
- All show dogs should be Fit for Function: Fit for Life
- Judges should never award prizes to dogs which are visibly suffering from any condition which would adversely affect their health or welfare.
- A judge is expected to make such decisions based on their extensive experience of dogs as owners and breeders – they are not expected to display the knowledge of a veterinary surgeon and should not undertake any extra examination of a dog other than that which they would normally perform in assessing general fitness and breed type.

Particular points of concern for individual breeds may include features not specifically highlighted in the breed standard. The features listed are derived from health surveys, meetings of Kennel Club Group Judges, judges' feedback and consultation with individual breed club(s)/council.

BOB Veterinary Health Checks

Veterinary inspections of the High Profile Breeds (category 3 breeds) have been introduced at Championship shows prior to the Group competition in order to ensure that no dog goes forward to the group which may be suffering from a visible condition which adversely affects its health or welfare.

Hound Group

Afghan Hound	Dachshund (Miniature Long-Haired)	Ibizan Hound
Azawakh	Dachshund (Miniature Smooth-Haired)	Irish Wolfhound
Basenji	Dachshund (Miniature Wire-Haired)	Norwegian Elkhound
Basset Bleu De Gascogne	Dachshund (Smooth-Haired)	Otterhound
Basset Fauve De Bretagne	Dachshund (Wire-Haired)	Pharaoh Hound
Basset Griffon Vendéen (Grand)	Dachshund (Smooth-Haired)	Portugese Podengo (Warren Hound)
Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)	Dachshund (Wire-Haired)	Rhodesian Ridgeback
Basset Hound	Deerhound	Saluki
Bavarian Mountain Hound	Finnish Spitz	Segugio Italiano
Beagle	Fox Hound	Sloughi
Bloodhound	Grand Bleu De Gascogne	Whippet
Borzoi	Greyhound	
Cirneco Dell'etna	Hamiltonstovare	
Dachshund (Long-Haired)		

Breeds shown in **bold** are those with points of concern

Particular points of concern for individual breeds may include features not specifically highlighted in the breed standard.

The features listed below are derived from health surveys, meetings of Group Judges, feedback from judges at shows or in consultation with individual breed clubs/councils.

Afghan Hound

- Excessive hind angulation
- Excessively profuse coat

Basset Hound

- Significantly overweight
- Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present). Handlers should be discouraged from pulling skin forward over head and eyes
- Incorrect bite
- Excessive length of ears
- Inadequate ground clearance – overly deep body and/or presence of ‘skirt’

Hound Group

- Signs of dermatitis in skin folds
- Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Bloodhound

- Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present).
- Excessive skin on head or body. Handlers should be discouraged from pulling skin forward over head and eyes
- Weak hind quarters
- Nervous temperament
- Signs of dermatitis in skin folds
- Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Borzoi

- Overly narrow lower jaw
- Misplaced lower canine teeth
- Excessive turn of stifle

Irish Wolfhound

- Misplaced lower canine teeth

Sloughi

- Significantly under weight

Gundog Group

Bracco Italiano	Korthals Griffon	Spaniel (American Cocker)
Brittany	Lagotto Romagnolo	Spaniel (American Water)
English Setter	Large Munsterlander	Spaniel (Clumber)
German Longhaired Pointer	Pointer	Spaniel (Cocker)
German Shorthaired Pointer	Retriever (Chesapeake Bay)	Spaniel (English Springer)
German Wirehaired Pointer	Retriever (Curly Coated)	Spaniel (Field)
Gordon Setter	Retriever (Flat Coated)	Spaniel (Irish Water)
Hungarian Vizsla	Retriever (Golden)	Spaniel (Sussex)
Hungarian Wirehaired Vizsla	Retriever (Labrador)	Spaniel (Welsh Springer)
Irish Red & White Setter	Retriever (Nova Scotia Duck	Spanish Water Dog
Irish Setter	Tolling)	Weimaraner
Italian Spinone	Slovakian Rough Haired Pointer	
Kooikerhondje	Small Munsterlander	

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Gordon Setter

- Excessively thick woolly coat
- Excessive hind angulation
- Overlong hip to hock
- Sickie hocks

Retriever (Golden)

- Significantly overweight
- Legs too short in proportion to depth of body and to length of back

Retriever (Labrador)

- Legs too short in proportion to depth of body and to length of back
- Significantly overweight

Gundog Group

Spaniel (American Cocker)

- Incorrect bite
- Incorrect dentition
- Excessively prominent eyes

Spaniel (Clumber)

- Significantly overweight
- Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present)
- Weak hind quarters
- Obvious ear irritation
- Evidence of eyelid surgery

Terrier Group

Airedale Terrier	Fox Terrier (Smooth)	Parson Russell Terrier
Australian Terrier	Fox Terrier (Wire)	Scottish Terrier
Bedlington Terrier	Glen Of Imaal Terrier	Sealyham Terrier
Border Terrier	Irish Terrier	Skye Terrier
Bull Terrier	Kerry Blue Terrier	Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier
Bull Terrier (Miniature)	Lakeland Terrier	Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Cairn Terrier	Manchester Terrier	Welsh Terrier
Cesky Terrier	Norfolk Terrier	West Highland White Terrier
Dandie Dinmont Terrier	Norwich Terrier	

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Bedlington Terrier

- Cracked and corny pads

Bull Terrier

- Misplaced lower canine teeth

Bull Terrier (Miniature)

- Misplaced lower canine teeth

Cesky Terrier

- Incorrect dentition

Irish Terrier

- Cracked and corny pads

Terrier Group

Norwich Terrier

- Difficulty breathing
- Misplaced lower canine teeth

Staffordshire Bull Terrier

- Misplaced lower canine teeth
- Difficulty breathing

West Highland White Terrier

- Misplaced lower canine teeth
- Skin Irritation

Utility Group

Akita	Japanese Akita Inu	Poodle (Miniature)
Boston Terrier	Japanese Shiba Inu	Poodle (Standard)
Bulldog	Japanese Spitz	Poodle (Toy)
Canaan Dog	Keeshond	Schipperke
Chow Chow	Korean Jindo	Schnauzer
Dalmatian	Lhasa Apso	Shar Pei
Eurasier	Mexican Hairless (Intermediate)	Shih Tzu
French Bulldog	Mexican Hairless (Miniature)	Tibetan Spaniel
German Spitz (Klein)	Mexican Hairless (Standard)	Tibetan Terrier
German Spitz (Mittel)	Miniature Schnauzer	

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Bulldog

- Significantly overweight
- Pinched nostrils
- Heavy overnose wrinkle (roll)
- Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present)
- Unsound movement
- Screw tail
- Lack of tail
- Inverted tail
- Tight tail
- Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis
- Sore eyes due to damage or poor eyelid conformation

Utility Group

Chow Chow

- Difficulty breathing
- Audible breathing
- Narrow eyelid opening
- Small, deep set eyes with consequent eyelid abnormalities (e.g. the eyelids are turned in)
- Unstable hocks
- Excessive coat
- Evidence of eyelid surgery

French Bulldog

- Difficulty breathing
- Pinched nostrils
- Overly short neck
- Excessively prominent eyes
- Incomplete blink
- Incorrect bite
- Screw tail
- Lack of tail
- Inverted tail
- Tight tail
- Exaggerated roach in the top line
- Signs of dermatitis in skin folds
- Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Utility Group

Keeshond

- Excessively Long Coats

Shar Pei

- Lower lip folding over lower incisors (tight lip)
- Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present)
- Signs of dermatitis in skin folds
- Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Working Group

Alaskan Malamute	Entlebucher Mountain Dog	Newfoundland
Beauceron	German Pinscher	Portuguese Water Dog
Bernese Mountain Dog	Giant Schnauzer	Pyrenean Mastiff
Bouvier Des Flandres	Great Dane	Rottweiler
Boxer	Greenland Dog	Russian Black Terrier
Bullmastiff	Hovawart	Siberian Husky
Canadian Eskimo Dog	Leonberger	St. Bernard
Dobermann	Mastiff	Tibetan Mastiff
Dogue De Bordeaux	Neapolitan Mastiff	

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Dogue De Bordeaux

- Nervous temperament
- Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present)
- Signs of dermatitis in skin folds
- Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis
- Unsound movement - specifically resulting from weak hind movement
- Grossly undershot jaw
- Significantly underweight
- Significantly over weight

Great Dane

- Conformational defects of the upper and lower eye lids (loose eye lids)

Working Group

Mastiff

- Significantly overweight
- Excessive skin on head or body
- Excessive wrinkle
- Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in or out, or both abnormalities are present)
- Unsound movement
- Weak hindquarters
- Signs of dermatitis in skin folds
- Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis
- Evidence of eyelid surgery

Neapolitan Mastiff

- Significantly overweight
- Excessive skin on head or body
- Excessive dewlap
- Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in or out, or both abnormalities are present)
- Unsound movement – specifically resulting from weak hind movement
- Evidence of eyelid surgery
- Signs of dermatitis in skin folds
- Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Working Group

Newfoundland

- Conformational defects of the upper and lower eye lids (loose eye lids)

Siberian Husky

- Significantly underweight
- Significantly over weight

St. Bernard

- Incorrect bite
- Incorrect dentition
- Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in or out, or both abnormalities are present)
- Unsound movement
- Weak hindquarters
- Evidence of eyelid surgery

Pastoral Group

Anatolian Shepherd Dog	Collie (Smooth)	Old English Sheepdog
Australian Cattle Dog	Estrela Mountain Dog	Polish Lowland Sheepdog
Australian Shepherd	Finnish Lapphund	Pyrenean Mountain Dog
Bearded Collie	German Shepherd Dog	Pyrenean Sheepdog
Belgian Shepherd Dog	Hungarian Kuvasz	Samoyed
Bergamasco	Hungarian Puli	Shetland Sheepdog
Border Collie	Komondor	Swedish Lapphund
Briard	Lancashire Heeler	Swedish Vallhund
Catalan Sheepdog	Maremma Sheepdog	Welsh Corgi (Cardigan)
Collie (Rough)	Norwegian Buhund	Welsh Corgi (Pembroke)

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Bearded Collie

- Excessively long coats

Collie (Rough)

- Overly narrow lower jaw
- Excessively small eyes
- Weak hindquarters
- cow hocks
- Incorrect dentition

Collie (Smooth)

- Excessively small eyes

Pastoral Group

German Shepherd Dog

- Weak hindquarters
- excessive turn of stifle
- Cow hocks
- Sickle hocks
- Nervous temperament

Old English Sheepdog

- Excessively long coat
- Excessively profuse coat
- Cow hocks
- Weak hind movement

Pyrenean Mountain Dog

- Weak hindquarters
- Unstable hocks
- Significantly over weight

Shetland Sheepdog

- Misplaced upper canine teeth
- Excessively small eyes

Toy Group

Affenpinscher	Coton De Tulear	Maltese
Australian Silky Terrier	English Toy Terrier (Black And Tan)	Miniature Pinscher
Bichon Frise	Griffon Bruxellois	Papillon
Bolognese	Havanese	Pekingese
Cavalier King Charles Spaniel	Italian Greyhound	Pomeranian
Chihuahua (Long Coat)	Japanese Chin	Pug
Chihuahua (Smooth Coat)	King Charles Spaniel	Yorkshire Terrier
Chinese Crested	Lowchen (Little Lion Dog)	

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Chihuahua (Long Coat)

- Insufficient closure of the fontanelle

Chihuahua (Smooth Coat)

- Insufficient closure of the fontanelle

Chinese Crested

- Clipper rash or burns caused by shaving

Pekingese

- Pinched nostrils
- Insufficient length of muzzle
- Heavy overnose wrinkle (roll)
- Excessive nasal folds
- Excessively Prominent eyes
- Incomplete blink

Toy Group

- Weak hindquarters
- Poor muscle tone
- Excessive coat
- Difficulty breathing
- Audible breathing
- Sore eyes due to damage or poor eyelid conformation

Pomeranian

- Insufficient closure of the fontanelle

Pug

- Difficulty breathing
- Excessively Prominent eyes
- Incomplete blink
- Excessive nasal folds
- Pinched nostrils
- Unsound movement
- Significantly overweight
- Sore eyes due to damage or poor eyelid conformation
- Signs of dermatitis in skin folds
- Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis



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