

THE FRENCH BULLDOG



Short Introduction

French Bulldog Breeders NZ group has been setup to help ensure and promote the best possible health of French bulldogs bred and raised in New Zealand. We aim to promote the ethical breeding and rearing of French bulldogs through the sharing of information and through educating current and potential owners of the breed.

French Bulldogs are bred in line with the NZKC standard and this means that the group does not advocate the breeding or support of the so called "fad colour" French bulldogs i.e. blues, merles, black and tan, chocolate etc.

For the good and longevity of the breed.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF THE FRENCH BULLDOG

Breed History

In the early 1800's, Normandy lace workers from England set off to find work in France. They took with them smaller bulldogs to be kept on the farms as companions and to chase away the rats. In these northern French farming communities, the popularity of this hardy dog grew quickly. In fact, established bulldog breeders in England were happy to perpetuate this "new" breed by selling their undersized dogs to the French.

Some reports say the French bulldog was developed in Paris as a fighting dog. However, the dog is more widely known as a very fashionable household companion kept by the upper class and royalty.

One French bulldog, insured for an incredible sum (at that time) of \$750, travelled aboard the Titanic. In the late 1800's and early 1900's the French bulldog was considered a dog of high society; the breed still attracts people who appreciate the finer things in life.

10 Things You Should Know Before Owning a French Bulldog

Kind-hearted, affectionate, fascinating and funny are just a few of the words that you can use to describe a French bulldog. Though these dogs are adorable and thousands of people around the world gravitate to these dogs, as with any breed, these dogs are not right for every owner.

Today, the French bulldog is ranked as the 6th most popular dog breed. These dogs are recognized by their bat ears and scrunched up faces, and it comes in a range of colours. Are you thinking about buying or adopting a French bulldog?

Here are the 10 things you should know before owning one:

10. French Bulldogs Are Not Cheap



French Bulldogs are a spendy proposition!

Due to the popularity of these dogs, one might believe that they are an affordable purchase, but to most people, a Frenchie puppy is more of an investment than a purchase.

The average cost of a French bulldog ranges from about \$4000, depending on the breeder, and the pedigree of the dog. But it is

extremely important that you only buy from a reputable breeder, and someone who sells their Frenchies for a lot of money is not necessarily a reputable breeder.

Why are Frenchies so expensive? Because it takes a lot of hard work for a breeder to care for the dog from the time it is born until it is time to go to its new home. A breeder who cares about the quality of their puppies will give them the best of everything, including care. Reputable breeders put a lot of time, effort and money into their breeding programmes, health testing and importing the best dogs and bloodlines for breeding in New Zealand.

9. French Bulldogs can be Stubborn



Who Me.....STUBBORN!!

Though Frenchies are small, when compared to many other breeds, they have a big stubborn streak, and this can make them a bit more difficult to train than other dogs. But they love to please their owners and they love to play, so if training is like a game you will have their full attention.

8. French Bulldogs can be a Bit Destructive



French bulldogs may enjoy chewing!

You should also know that French bulldog puppies like any puppies can be a bit destructive before you go out and get one.

One of the reasons these pups get destructive is because they get bored easily, and they use chewing to explore their world. Chewing is also a common behaviour for puppies, and it helps them to get rid of their baby teeth, so that their adult teeth can move in.

If you choose a French bulldog, you will have to be sure that you are keeping all of your personal belongings and valuables out of his or her reach. Frenchies are small, but they are big enough to get on tables to reach remote controls, and they will easily find shoes, socks, cell phones and even your kid's toys.

If you have a Frenchie and you notice that the dog is chewing items in your home that he or she shouldn't, make sure to interrupt the behaviour and offer an item that the dog is allowed to chew, such as a bone or chew toy. Remember, chewing is a natural behaviour of a dog, so scolding the dog for this behaviour is not something you should do. Instead, make sure to provide a number of toys for the dog, and choose toys that they will not destroy. Frenchies are well known for destroying those plush dog toys with a squeaker, but they can choke on the squeaker if swallowed, so it's best to keep those toys to a minimum. If you do choose to give your dog a toy with a squeaker, make sure to watch him or her closely.

7. French Bulldogs Do Not Require a Lot of Exercise



I'll work out tomorrow. Promise!

Some people prefer a dog that they do not have to exercise, and if this is the case for you, the French bulldog may be a good choice. This dog has a lot of energy, but they are happy with a walk around the block once or twice a day. If the weather is too hot, however, it's best to skip the walk for a day, as these dogs are very sensitive to hot weather. If this is the case, playing indoors is the best option. You will get some of that pent up energy out of the dog, something that Frenchies have a lot of, plus have a little fun yourself.

These dogs are quite comical and they love to have fun with their owners.

6. French Bulldogs Can and Do Shed



I shed... No way!

One of the requirements of some people looking for a new dog is that the dog does not shed. If this is the case for you, a French bulldog is not a good choice. The coat of a French bulldog is smooth, short and fine, which makes it easy to care for with a simple soft bristle brush or

a rubber brushing glove. These dogs are moderate shedders, and tend to shed heavily two times a year, when they lose their undercoat.

You should make sure that you bath your French once a month unless you notice that he or she is developing dry skin. If this is the case, change the bathing to once every two months. You will need to trim their toenails every couple of weeks, and if they are so long that you can hear them on a hard floor, they are too long. Brush your dog's teeth, too, as this will keep your dog's teeth healthy and their breath fresh.

The ears of your French bulldog will also have to be clean, and you will have to clean their wrinkles. These are deep skin folds that can be a breeding ground for bacteria, and you will need to clean them out from daily to once or twice a week. Use a damp cloth or baby wipe to wipe out the wrinkles, and then make sure the wrinkles are dry.

5. French Bulldogs can be Heavy, Loud Breathers



Ok. Maybe I snore.....

If you have visions of snuggling with your sweet pup and having a great night's sleep, you might want to choose another breed, because a Frenchie can be a heavy, loud, breather. Lots of them snore, so if you are a light sleeper and still want a Frenchie, this is something you will need to get used too.

Managing mild cases of heavy breathing can be done by keeping the dog at a normal weight and controlling the level of exercise that the dog gets. If it is hot, you should keep your French bulldog inside in the cool air.

During the summer they love water play, but beware they are not good swimmers!!

4. French Bulldogs Can Have Digestive Issues



You should also know that French bulldogs can have digestive issues. These dogs are notorious for their noxious gas. Because of this, owners should make sure that they are providing their dog with a high-quality food, and not rely on grocery store brands as the main food source for their Frenchie.

Supermarket brands, or other affordable brands are not good always for French bulldogs, as they contain too much grain and corn, which many Frenchies are allergic to. These are also empty calories for a French bulldog, and since these dogs can already have the tendency to be overweight, this inexpensive, low-quality food should not be used.

Instead, it's best to choose foods that come with more than two protein sources, carbs from vegetables such as sweet potatoes, and contains omega fatty acids. The perfect combination is 30 percent protein, 30 percent healthy fats and 20 percent carbohydrates. Grain-free food is preferred, as grains can lead to more gas and digestive issues, and lean proteins such as venison, chicken and game birds. Simple is best when it comes to feeding your French bulldog, most French Bulldogs will eat anything although you do get the odd picky eater.

3. French Bulldogs are Extremely Affectionate



French bulldogs are lovers not fighters.

If you are considering a French bulldog, you should also know that these dogs are extremely affectionate, and they want nothing more than to give love to their owners. Though this might sound great at the moment, keep in mind that this means a French bulldog will always be underfoot.

These are very loving dogs, and also playful, so they constantly require attention, and some people simply do not have time to give a dog the attention that they need. These dogs do not do well when left alone, and they often require the companionship of their family to be happy. A Frenchie is excellent for children; though small children may not be able to tolerate the enthusiastic nature of this breed. The French bulldog generally gets along well with other pets, as long as they are just as playful. Because of this, many people have two Frenchies, as they get along great together, and love to play with each other.

French bulldogs do not often bark to excess, but they will do their best to protect their home from strangers. The Frenchie does not have a vicious bark, but it is deep, and can be scary if not prepared for it. Fortunately, these dogs are happy to take a back seat to dogs that are barkers, and are more clownish than aggressive.

Remember, these dogs are happiest when they have affection from their owners, and they are true lapdogs that are not often fond of being alone.

2. French Bulldogs can be Prone to a Number of Health Problems

Though it was already mentioned that Frenchies are prone to brachycephalic airway syndrome, they can also have other health problems. These issues are mostly non-life threatening, but they can be quite expensive if you have to visit your vet too often.

The first way to keep your Frenchie as healthy as possible is to make sure that you are buying the dog from a reputable breeder. Always ask about the pedigree of the parents, as well as any health problems that these dogs have.

Anytime you notice that a French bulldog is having trouble breathing, consult with a vet and have the doctor evaluate the soft palate and nostrils of the dog. If your dog has to have surgery, you should know that they are more at risk of complications due to their short-faces, so it is also important that you go to a vet who is experienced with breeds that have short-faces.

French bulldogs may also require special attention when it comes to the spine. Though the Frenchie is a small breed, it is also a stocky breed that can have an abnormally developed vertebrae or premature degeneration of the discs of the back. This can cause the dog to become disabled, and though surgery can often repair these back issues, the surgery usually costs thousands of dollars, and it can cost hundreds of dollars to diagnose the condition due to the medications and X-rays that are necessary.

1. You Can Have French Bulldogs in Apartment



You have an apartment! When can I move in?

Finally, many people seek out a dog that can live in the city in an apartment, and the Frenchie is the perfect choice. Since these dogs do not require a lot of exercise, they don't need a yard to run around in. Many owners of French bulldogs choose to train their dogs on puppy pads, too, so going on walks is reserved for exercise, only. Though you should make sure to set aside time each day for a short walk with your Frenchie, you will find that they are quite at home and very content simply staying in the apartment. Even people who have a lot of property find that their French bulldogs stay close to home and don't wander away.

Choosing a smaller dog for apartment living is important, especially if you often find yourself getting caught up in the hustle and bustle of work and your personal life. Keep in mind, your Frenchie will miss you when you are gone, but if properly crate training the dog, there is no reason you have to be at home with your pup 24/7. This is especially the case if he or she has a companion, and if adequate toys and other enrichment items are available to the dog.

Conclusion

The French bulldog is a small dog, and even the largest ones are less than 12kgs on average, and this makes them the perfect size for cuddling. You will also find that these dogs were bred as companions, and will often want to be at your side at all times. Though these dogs are notorious for their heavy breathing and snoring, this is all part of their charm.

If you are going to bring a French bulldog into your home, make sure to only go to a reputable breeder. Do not buy these dogs from online classified ads, such as Trademe, and make sure to meet the breeder, if possible, before buying the dog.

Remember, these dogs are quite expensive to purchase, and you must make sure that you are getting a dog that does not have genetic health issues. When talking to a breeder, ask a lot of questions, do a lot of research, and make sure that they are providing a high quality dog. Also, make sure that you can afford the vet bills that could occur. Remember, this is in addition to the vet bills to keep your Frenchie healthy.

You will love your Frenchie just as much as he or she loves you, and you will find that you will have a trustworthy companion for many years to come.

Raising a French Bulldog Puppy

By Errol Tooth - Gesundheit Kennels

In my humble opinion there is only one thing cuter than a french bulldog and that is a french bulldog puppy! I remember getting my first puppy and seeing those cute eyes and oversized ears and watching how she waddled when walking. Then of course there was the personality, outrageously confident for such a small thing yet still hesitant and looking back for reassurance. As a breeder of frenchies I always get asked by people who adopt my pups what they need to do. With this in mind I have decided to write this article as a simple guide in raising a frenchie within the first 3 months after receiving him/her. There will naturally be a lot of similarities in raising any young puppy but with frenchies due to their physique and personality I hope to give you a bit more specific guidance.

In raising and caring for any puppy there are basically 2 elements that need to be taken care of, the soft side being emotional and mental development and the physical side being things such as food, medicine and shelter etc. The former is probably the trickier so let's start with the physical side which everyone is able to grasp quickly:

1) Crating

In my opinion everyone should crate their frenchie puppy when they received them. Why? Because like raising a young child every puppy needs a place that they feel safe. See it the same way as a child having their own bed and bedroom. A place where they can go that they know is his/her place to rest, recover and feel secure. It provides the puppy with their own little house within a house. A crate also is going to play a strong part in the toilet training process in the sense that the puppy will try its darndist not soil their crate.

Remember to make the crate comfortable with a nice futon like cushion so it keeps your frenchie warm and cosy and did I mention toys? Yes some toys! Your frenchie needs some to keep it occupied. Make sure the toy has nothing that can be easily bitten off and swallowed to avoid choking. The other thing I find useful is to cover the crate's top, back and sides so it gives the impression of walls i.e. security.

2) Toilet Training

This is probably the most testing part for puppy owners and more so for those who have not had a dog before. I have to say though with frenchies they learn really quickly and the process is not as bad as it could be. Remember a puppy still has a weak bladder so you need to make sure you are like clockwork and take the puppy outside to do its business at regularly scheduled intervals. Even if you think they don't want to go, be clockwork. It will save you from having to clean the carpet and also help the puppy develop the habit of once it goes outside it pees or poos. It's also important that you let the puppy walk itself out. It's tempting to carry him/her out to go to the toilet but the puppy will never learn to go up to the door and therefore give you an indication it wants to go. When the puppy does its business, praise, praise, praise! Make it an enjoyable process for him/her.

3) Exercise

Lucky for us Frenchies don't need a lot of exercise (quite different from being occupied) and as a puppy because of their stocky build you need to go easy. This is so that their bones can set. In these first 6 months sleep is a priority, much like a young child sleep promotes growth and mental wellbeing. 30 minute walks a day under the age of 6 months is fine. Try to avoid letting your Frenchie jump off anything high. This to avoid any sprains, dislocations or heaven forbid broken legs. Once you are beyond that point then you can up the activity but go easy - no jogging with you and please take into account summer weather. You do not want to overheat your puppy or dog.

4) Diet

The most important part of any growing puppy. Like an army the Frenchie marches on its stomach, at this age nearly all puppies can eat anything however as they get older Frenchies have a tendency to develop food allergies. There are a couple things that most people should consider when choosing the food for your puppy and eventual little companion: 1) Your lifestyle and 2) Your budget. I know a lot of you will think that if you have a Frenchie there is no budget but we all have budgets and lifestyles to take into account.

There are 2 options when it comes to food for frenchies: The raw diet or dried kibble. The raw diet is as the name suggest feeding your dog a diet of raw meat. There are many articles on this outlining the benefits and risk of going raw and I will not go into the detail, I will say though that in

regards to feeding a puppy my preference is for using a kibble (grain free such as GO, Orijen, Nutrience, Addiction, Black Hawk etc) I do not need to worry about adding supplements to balance the diet e.g. phosphorus, calcium, oil etc., I do not need to worry about bits of bone in the food which can be lethal to a young pup or dog for that matter and it suits my lifestyle. This is my preference though and some of you out there I know are strong advocates of raw for your guys and I understand that but if you are going to go raw make sure you do your research as to where you will get your supply and make sure you do not be tempted to mix raw food with dried kibble because you run out of one or the other. The two diets cannot be mixed as they have different digestive times and the last thing you want is for raw food to be sitting in you puppies gut building up bacteria!

The next question is how often do I feed my puppy? This depends on the food you are feeding and all dog food packs will have a guideline and you should follow this as the manufacturer will know the protein content of their kibble.

5) Rest and Sleep

All Frenchies love to sleep and your puppy more so! Please don't be alarmed if your puppy sleeps most of the day they are just building up their strength and much like a baby or toddler they need that sleep to grow and be healthy. The tempting thing is always to touch your bundle of joy but please let them sleep. When they want to play they will let you know. So my rule here is leave them alone and LET THEM SLEEP!

6) Puppy School Training & Socializing

If you have never owned a dog or even if you consider yourself a "professional dog owner" I highly recommend going to a puppy school. The reason for this is twofold. One is that you and your little friend will develop a bond of trust during the training process where you will guide him/her and reward her and then the socialization with other dogs and people.

A puppy school will help you teach your little guy basic skills like lead walking, "stay" on command and recall. These are fundamental for later having a great dog and making your life easy which trust me is a god send when you take your dog out. Have you ever seen a badly behaved dog? If not I suggest if you do, you will see the dog out of control and the owner stressed. Why do I think this is important because a well-mannered dog makes a dog owner's life easy and the long term ownership easy. As a dog breeder I have heard too many stories of people getting dogs and then because they have not spent the time to train their dog adopt him out

because "he is uncontrollable" - what a load of rubbish! Like children if you invest the time now in teaching your puppy good habits and manners you will be rewarded when they get older.

I won't recommend in this article any particular puppy school but ask around your breeder, other dog owners or your vet may be able to recommend a puppy school.

Socialisation - I cannot emphasize this enough. A puppy who has been well socialized will grow up to be a great dog. They will have no fear and importantly will not act out aggressively when approached. They will have been socialized enough to know that when approached not to bite or bark. So how do you socialize your puppy and when should I do it? As a general rule the socialization process can begin publicly once your puppy has completed its series of shots. For those of you who have a backyard and who has a friend with a dog (who has all its shots) you can actually begin socializing your puppy with your friend's dog straight away. Here the puppy will learn the rules of play from the older dog and what it can and cannot do. What about people touching your puppy? This can begin as soon as you get your puppy. Allowing people to touch your puppy will make your puppy comfortable being handled and use to getting touched and stroked by strangers (and trust me I have never ever not seen a frenchie puppy attract a crowd! So the sooner the little guy gets used to it the better). One thing I will stress is to not allow people who do not know how to handle a puppy to hold your guy from a height because if they drop him he is likely to break a leg and the healing process at this age can be tricky. So handle with care!!

One thing that was told to me with regards to socializing puppies is to turn them on their back, what this does is make them to be submissive. It's a good trick and has helped me.

I hope this information is useful to frenchie pup owners or prospective owners.

Errol

Why buy a Pedigree Dog

The advantages of buying a pedigree dog far outweigh the disadvantages. With a pedigree dog you have a long line of history as far as health issues go. A pup or dog advertised as a Pedigree means he/she is registered with DogsNZ and will come with pedigree papers. Pedigree papers are issued by DogsNZ once the breeder has registered the litter. These are 3 generation papers and will have the new owner/breeder and any endorsements on them.

Endorsements are what a lot of breeders use to protect their lines and to discourage uneducated unethical breeding practice. There are 10 endorsements a breeder can choose to use. These are typed on the back of your papers and if a breeder is going to endorse pups you must be made fully aware of this before signing the transfer into your name through the Kennel Club. It is not ethical for a breeder not to discuss whether endorsements will be placed on the pedigree.

Exotic Colours

While there are now some colours such as blue, merle, black and tan etc appearing, these are not exotic as some people would have you believe. These coloured dogs are not in fact recognised colours and can also come with some serious health problems, which are terrible for the dog to say nothing of the heartache and cost it could cause the owner. There is also a very interesting article about so called rare colours on the following website.

<http://www.dogster.com/lifestyle/why-you-dont-want-a-purebred-dog-in-a-rare-color>

BUYER BEWARE – a lot of money is being paid for these dogs that cannot be registered with the Kennel Club as they are not recognised.

Breed Standard

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 with soundness essential. Breeders and judges should at all times be mindful of features which could be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare or soundness of this breed.



Origin: France.

Utilization: Companion, watch dog, pleasure dog.

Classification F.c.i.: Group 9 Companion and Toy Dogs.

Section 11 Small Molossian Dogs.

Without working trial.

Brief Historical Summary: Probably issued, like all the mastiffs, from the Epirus and the Roman Empire molosses, relative of the Bulldog of Great Britain, the Alans (tribe of the Middle Age), the mastiffs and small type mastiffs of France, the bulldog we know is the product of different crossings done by enthusiastic breeders in the popular quarters of Paris in the years 1880.

During that period, the Bulldog being a dog belonging to butchers and coachmen of « les Halles » (market place), he soon knew how to conquer the high society and the artistic world by his particular appearance and character. He then rapidly propagated himself.

The first breed club was founded in 1880 in Paris. The first registration dates from 1885 and the first standard was established in 1898, year in which the « Société Centrale Canine » of France recognized the breed of the French Bulldog. The first shown dog was from 1887. The standard, modified in 1931, 1932 and 1948, was reformulated in 1986 by H.F. Reant and R. Triquet (F.C.I. publication 1987), then in 1994 by the committee of the Club of the French Bulldog with the collaboration of R. Triquet.

General Appearance: Typically a small size molossian. Powerful dog for its small size, short, compact in all its proportions, smooth-coated, with a short face, a snub nose, erect ears and a naturally short tail. Must have the appearance of an active animal, intelligent, very muscular, of a compact build with a solid bone structure.

BEHAVIOUR / CHARACTER: Sociable, lively, playful, sporty, keen. Particularly affectionate towards his masters and the children.

Head: The head must be very strong, broad and square, the skin of the head forming almost symmetrical folds and wrinkles. The head of the bulldog is characterized by a contraction of the maxillary-nasal part; the skull has taken up in width that which it has lost in length.

Cranial Region:

Skull: Broad, almost flat, forehead very bulging. Superciliary arches prominent, separated by a particularly developed furrow between the eyes. The furrow must not extend onto the forehead. Occipital crest is hardly developed.

Stop: Deeply accentuated.

Facial Region:

Nose: Broad, very short, turned up, nostrils well open and symmetrical, slanting towards the rear. The inclination of the nostrils as well as the snub nose (i.e. upturned) must, however, allow a normal nasal breathing.

Muzzle: Very short, broad, with concentric symmetrical folds coming down on the upper lips (length of muzzle about 1/6 of the total length of the

head).

Lips: Thick, a little loose and black. The upper lip rejoins the lower lip at its middle, completely covering the teeth which should never be visible. The profile of the upper lip is descending and rounded. Tongue must never show.

Jaws: Broad, square, powerful. Lower jaw shows a broad curve, terminating in front of the upper jaw. The mouth being closed, the prominence of the lower jaw (prognathism: undershot) is moderated by the curve of the lower mandibular branches. This curve is necessary to avoid a too important shifting of the lower jaw.

Teeth: The lower incisors must never be behind the upper incisors in any case. The arch of the lower incisors is rounded. The jaw must not show lateral deviation, nor torsion. The disposition of the incisoral arches should not be strictly delimited, the essential condition being that the upper and the lower lips rejoin to completely cover the teeth.

Cheeks: The muscles of the cheeks are well developed, but not prominent.

Eyes: Lively expression, set low, quite far from the nose and especially from the ears, dark coloured, quite big, well round, slightly protruding, showing no trace of white (sclera) when the dog is looking straight ahead. Rims of eyelids must be black.

Ears: Medium size, wide at the base and rounded at the top. Set high on the head, but not too close together, carried erect. The orifice is open towards the front. The skin must be fine and soft to the touch.

Neck: Short, slightly arched, without dewlap.

Body:

Topline: Rising progressively at loin level to slope rapidly towards the tail. This conformation which must be sought after, is the consequence of the short loin.

Back: Broad and muscular.

Loin: Short and broad.

Rump: Oblique.

Chest: Cylindrical and well let down; ribcage barrel shaped, very rounded.

Chest: Wide.

Belly and flanks: Drawn up without excessive tuck up.

Tail: Short, set low on the rump, close to the buttocks, thick at the base, knotted or kinked naturally and tapering at the tip. Even in action, must stay below the horizontal. A relatively long tail (not reaching beyond the point of the hocks), kinked and tapering is admissible, but not desirable.

Belly and flanks: Belly and flanks: Forelegs vertical and parallel seen in profile and from the front, standing well separated.

Shoulder: Short, thick, with a firm and visible musculature.

Upperarm: Short.

Elbows: Close to the body.

Forearm: Short, straight and muscular.

Pastern joint: Pastern: Solid and short.

Hindquarters: Strong and muscular, hindlegs a little longer than the forelegs, thus raising the hindquarters. The legs are vertical and parallel as seen both in profile and from behind.

Thigh: Muscled, firm without being too rounded.

Hock joint: Quite well let down, neither too angulated nor certainly too straight.

Hock: Solid and short. The French Bulldog should be born without dewclaws.

Feet:

Forefeet round of small dimension, i.e. « cat feet », well set on the ground, turning slightly outward. The toes are compact, nails short, thick and well separated. The pads are hard, thick and black. In the brindle subjects, the nails must be black. In the peds (caille = brindled fawns with medium white patching) and fawn subjects, dark nails are preferred, without however penalising the light coloured nails.

Hindfeet well compact.

Gait / Movement: Free movement, the legs moving parallel to the median plane of the body.

Hair: Beautiful smooth coat, close, glossy and soft.

Colour:

Uniformly fawn, brindled or not, or with limited patching (pied). Fawn brindled or not, with medium or predominant patching. All the fawn shades are admitted, from the red to light brown (café au lait) colour. The entirely white dogs are classified in « brindled fawn with predominant white patching ». When a dog has a very dark nose, dark eyes with dark eyelids, certain de-pigmentations of the face may exceptionally be tolerated in very beautiful subjects.

Weight: The weight must not be below 8 kg (17 ½ lb) nor over 14 kg (30 ¾ lb) for a bulldog in good condition, size being in proportion with the weight.

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.

Nose tightly closed or pinched and chronic snorers. Lips not joining in the front. Depigmentation of the lips. Light eyes. Dewlap. Tail carried high, or too long or abnormally short. Loose elbows. Straight hock or placed forward. Incorrect movement. Coat (hair) too long. Speckled coat.
SERIOUS

Faults:

Incisors visible when mouth closed. Tongue visible when mouth closed. Stiff beating movement of the forelegs. Pink spots on the face, except in the case of brindled fawns with medium white patching (« caille ») and fawns with limited or predominant white patching. (« fauve »). Excessive or insufficient weight. VERY SERIOUS

Faults:

Aggressive or overly shy. Colour of nose other than black. Hare lip. Dog with lower incisors articulating behind upper incisors. Dog with permanently visible canines, mouth being closed. Eyes of two different

colours (heterochromatic). Ears not carried erect. Mutilation of ears, tail or dewclaws. Taillessness. Dewclaws on hindquarters. Colour of coat black and tan, mouse grey, brown. Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.

N.B.: Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

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IN CONCLUSION:-

Please do your homework. Visit shows, talk to breeders and owners of Frenchies before you make your final decision. Who doesn't love a puppy, but you will hopefully have them for a long time and so it is important to do everything you can to make sure your new family member has come from a breeder who is reputable and doing their best to promote the best possible health of their french bulldogs.

CONTACTS:-

Auckland Bulldog Club:- sarahj.baker@xtra.co.nz

The French Bulldog Society:- trina.far74@xtra.co.nz

Central Bulldog Club – sueclaytor@kinext.co.nz

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