

NEWS LETTER APRIL 2015



From the Chair: This News Letter continues with the Bullmastiff Breed evaluation

HEAD AND SKULL (excluding eyes, ears and mouth)

Skull large and square, viewed from every angle, fair wrinkle when interested but not when in repose. Circumference of skull may equal height of dog measured at top of shoulder; broad and deep with well filled cheeks. Pronounced stop. Muzzle short; distance from tip of nose to stop approximately one third length from tip of nose to centre of occiput, broad under eyes and sustaining nearly same width to end of nose; blunt cut off and square, forming right angle with upper line of face, and at the same time proportionate with skull. Under jaw broad to end. Nose broad with widely spreading nostrils; flat, neither pointed nor turned up in profile. Flews not pendulous, never hanging below level of lower jaw.

The question here is why did the Bullmastiff's head have to be large and square?

To find the answer let us go to the dog's original function - to 'down and hold' the poacher. The poacher had everything to lose, including his life, so he was prepared to fight with anything and everything at his disposal, including his feet, sticks, clubs and stones. The dog had to be able to withstand this onslaught without losing his senses. What better than a 'fortified' square box? The square muzzle attached to the head being another 'fortified' box and the steep attachment (the stop) in between the two, another part of the excellent construction, with frontal vision for the dog another great advantage. The strong well muscled broad cheeks were to enable the dog to hold his prey without tiring, as were the broad nostrils for breathing.

The neat flews of course should be short and well out of the way of the grip. For practical as well as aesthetic purposes the flews, eye rims and nose should be a dark colour bordering on black. This colour prevents sunburn and insect attraction and the sun's rays are also not reflected into the dog's eyes.

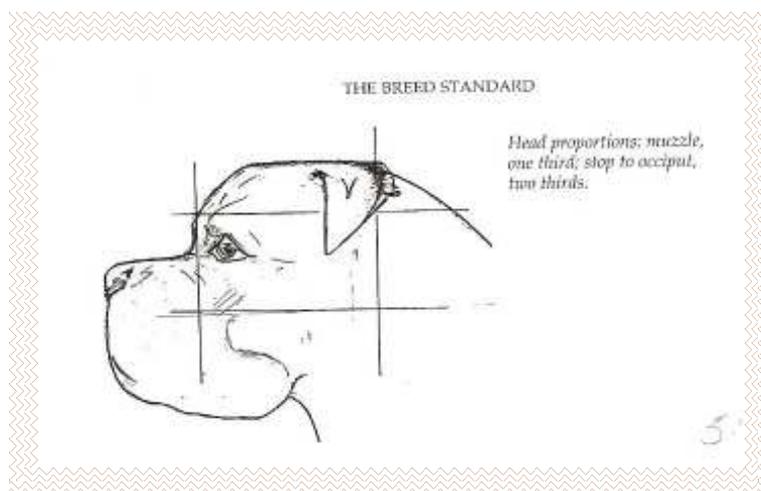
The wrinkle on the head **'fair when interested but not when in repose'** was of vital importance as the change alerted the Gamekeeper to the presence of intruders without a sound being made. The Game keeper would sit with his hand on the dogs head.

Some of today's Bullmastiffs are presenting with too much permanent wrinkle on their foreheads and this needs to be addressed.

The circumference of the skull is required to be equal to the height of the dog measured at the withers and, not mentioned in the Breed Standard, the length of the dog measured from the tip of the withers to the tail set on. This provides the finished picture of a well balanced and symmetrical dog.

The head of the Bullmastiff also determines the breed type and a Bullmastiff without its characteristic large square head is simply not a Bullmastiff and should certainly not win in the Breed Show ring.

The bitch is required to have exactly the same as the dog but to a lesser degree. Femininity is important.



Line drawing: A&M Rostron. Bullmastiffs. An owners Companion. Page 45

Diagrammatic & precision measurements make for a perfect 'paper head'. In real life with living tissue a perfect head is a bit more difficult to achieve. Below are photographs of different proportions taken from the side view The Breed Standard requires a 1/3rd to 2/3rd measurement measured from the occiput to the stop – 2/3rds - and then to the nose 1/3. You decide which the correct profile is!





BULLMASTIFF HEADS FROM THE FRONT VIEW

The 'fortified box' – a large and square head and typical of the breed





The Bullmastiff on the extreme right has a Dudley nose – acceptable or not? You decide!

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To be continued: eyes, ears and mouth next month

SPONSORSHIP



Contact Johan at Pet Creations 0218510362 or 0793146351

FAMILY PHOTO'S





SHOW / CONFORMATION RING RESULTS

Western Cape

Adult Points

Ch LaGratitude Durango Duke	= 39
LaGratitude Atticus Earl	= 15
Sanniesebos Spooner	= 4
Ch Bluevioletjemma	= 4
Lee of Keera	= 2

Puppy points

Zeus of Olympus	=29
Sanniesebos Suri Sukani of Chizelhurst	= 8

McHelm Duke = 5

Gauteng

Adult points

Ch Bullsaints Elder Gjordur = 46

Ch Juohn Donna Arabella = 42

Chizelhurst Chinga = 40

Juohn Don Raphael = 30

Juohn Lord Rufus = 4

KZN

Adult points

Chizelhurst Checkmate of Haaita = 18

Ch LaGratitude African Dream of Haaita = 10



Zeus : Best Puppy BRVKC



Duke : BOB BRVKC

JUNIOR HANDLERS



Anika Potgieter



Amy Kiefer - KUSA Junior Handler 2014

With a Bullmastiff

PUPPIES

Please inform the Chairlady if you have puppies – either in the ‘pipeline’ or in the ‘box’. If you supply the HD & ED ratings for the Club we can advertise for you on the CBC web page😊

The information in this magazine is confined to its members. Statements or opinions may be expressed in this communication that are personal to the writers and do not necessarily represent the views of the Club

Cape Bullmastiff Club

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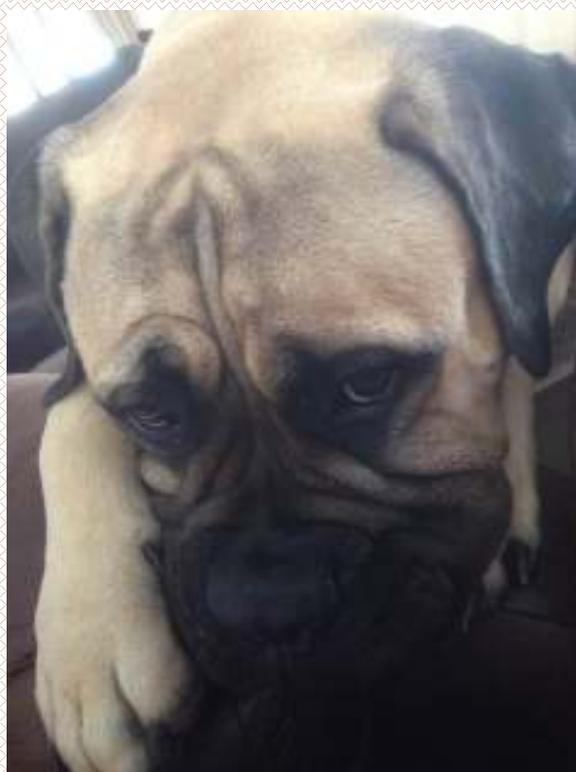
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Somerset West

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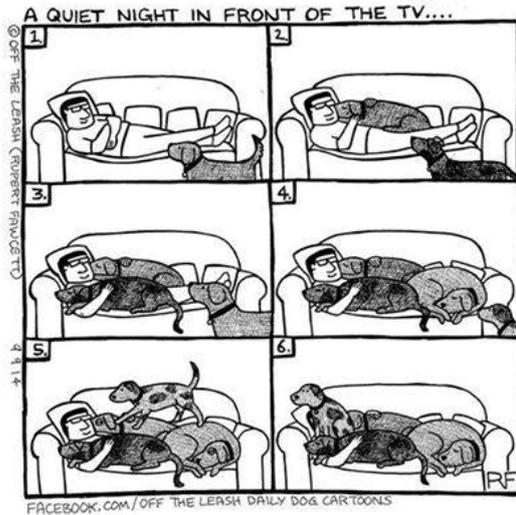
info@capebullmastiffclub.co.za & / or www.capebullmastiffclub.co.za

KUSA #1151 Est 2011



LEARN A LESSON FROM YOUR DOG – NO MATTER WHAT LIFE BRINGS YOU, KICK SOME DIRT OVER THE SHIT AND MOVE ON

'FUNNIES'



TO MY DOG
I WILL NEVER MOVE AND NOT TAKE YOU WITH ME
I WILL NEVER PUT YOU IN A SHELTER AND LEAVE
I WILL NEVER LET YOU STARVE
I WILL NEVER LET YOU HURT
I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU WHEN YOU GET OLD
I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU WHEN YOU GO BLIND
IF THAT TIME COMES, I WILL BE THERE TO HOLD YOU
BECAUSE I LOVE YOU AND YOU ARE FAMILY