

MARCH 2021 CBC NEWSLETTER

From the Chair: a refresher for all our new members and breeders 😊

THE ORIGIN AND BACKGROUND TO THE BULLMASTIFF

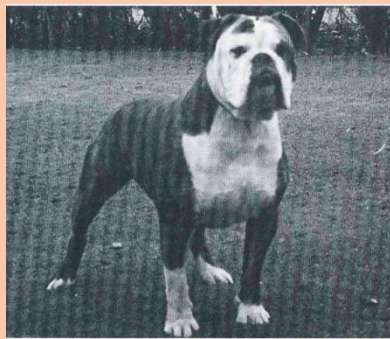
The making / development of the Bullmastiff commenced in the early 19th C for and by wealthy estate owners who were desperate to protect their large game herds from poachers. What they needed specifically for this purpose was a guard dog that could take enormous physical abuse and at the same time be reliable, powerful, and agile. The dog also had to blend into the surrounding vegetation.

Various combinations of breeds were experimented with including the Great Dane, the European and English Mastiffs and the St Bernard's and Bloodhounds of that time

Some authorities claim that the Dogue de Bordeaux and the Dalmatian were also used.

As these 'breeding' programmes were not registered it is absolutely impossible to account for the total gene pool of the present-day Bullmastiff.

However, the recognised and accepted origin of the Bullmastiff is a cross between the Old English Mastiff and the Bulldog **OF THAT TIME** with a ratio of 60% to the Mastiff and 40% to the Bulldog.



An old type of Bulldog and the brindle Mastiff of 100 years ago

MASTIFF 60 % VS BULLDOG 40%. This equation should never be forgotten by breeders. The Bullmastiff should not be a reversion to either of these 'breed types' but should hold its own phenotype as decided by our forefathers. Featured below are some top winners from around the world.



Australia



UK



RSA



Russia

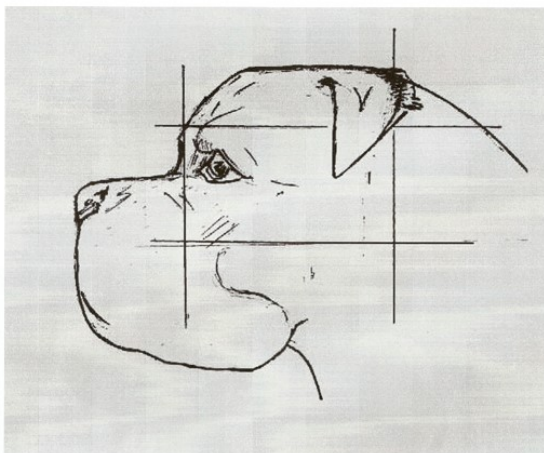


USA

Correct phenotype: A balanced & proportional dog without any reversion to 'the old style'.

The first Breed Standard was from the Kennel Club (UK) and was registered in 1925. The KUSA Breed Standard follows this verbatim - its country of origin. Over the years there have been minor alterations to the Standard, but it is very specific regarding the head & height & weight ratios. Southern African breeders should not revert to the standard of any other country as there are some differences.

The head and muzzle:



The correct head proportions as required by the Breed Standard are 1/3 tip of nose to stop and 2/3 stop to occiput. The stop must be well pronounced.

The skull must be large and square viewed from all angles with its circumference equal to the height of the dog at the withers. The muzzle must be blunt and cut off.

Line drawing : Bullmastiffs . An Owners Companion
Alan and Mave Rostron
Page 45

Problematic areas: **Wrinkle**. The KUSA Breed Standard specifies **FAIR WRINKLE WHEN ALERT BUT NOT IN REPOSE**. There is no compromise to this. Referring to the reason was that the Gamekeeper would sit alongside the dog with his hand placed between the dog's ears and was thus alerted to any activity picked up by the dog without a sound being uttered.

Muzzle too long or too short: Length of muzzle: one third from tip of nose to stop to two thirds stop to occiput.

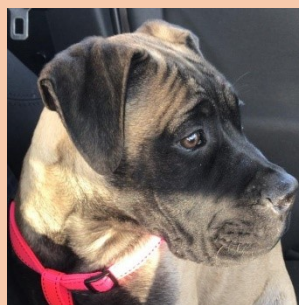
That is a square muzzle on a square head.

Diagram: An Owners Companion by Alan & Mave Rostron Page 45

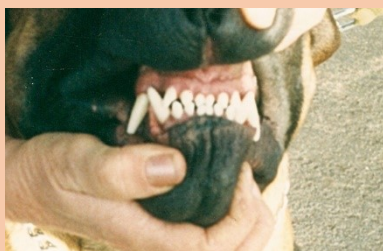


Correct proportions to the head. Any other proportion is simply incorrect.

Muzzle blunt and square and cut off.



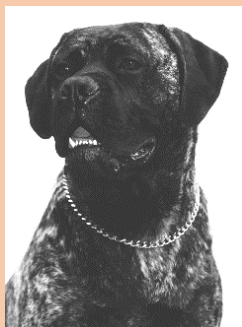
Heads / muzzles / wrinkles and bites not compatible with the KUSA Breed Standard



THE BITE / MUZZLE : REFER TO THE BREED STANDARD

- The Breed Standard desires a level bite – but slightly undershot allowed but not preferred
- With the interpretation of 'undershot' the Canadian Breed Standard specification of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch is a good guideline to follow
- What is vital is that the canines are large and set wide apart giving the required broad muzzle which must also be deep.
- The rest of the teeth should be strong and even. There is no mention of a full complement of 42 teeth.
- A level bite in a narrow muzzle is not necessarily a good bite
- **NB : Square head with a square muzzle on a square body = Bullmastiff**

Ears and crown line:



The dog in the first photo has ears that are too large and too long. The second dog has acceptable ear size and position. Tips level with the eye enhancing the size of the head with an acceptable crown line.

Larger ears in a developing puppy are acceptable but not in an adult.



lhs: Rose ears - undesirable

QUESTION: WHY WAS IT SO IMPORTANT FOR THE BULLMASTIFF TO HAVE SMALL NEAT EARS AS OPPOSED TO LONGER LARGER EARS?

BRINDLE: - THE ORIGINAL COLOUR FOR THE BULLMASTIFF

Brindle: dark chevrons on a red or fawn base coat colour. There is no description as to how the chevrons should be spaced or how heavy the chevrons should be, however on an aesthetic value a 60 / 40 % or 70/30% would be most attractive.

The red and fawn colours originate from the mastiff and were just a fashion statement in the beginning. Today we have some beautiful clear and pure fawns and a few reds displaying the Mulorna colouring, which is that deep dark, almost mahogany red which is believed to have originated from the Mulorna Kennels in the 1930's.



THIS ARTICLE WILL BE CONTINUED IN THE APRIL NEWSLETTER

JUST LOVE THOSE BRINDLES!



AND INTRODUCING THE FIRST OF OUR BREEDERS:

**SHIRLEY- ANNE DIPPENAAR OWNER OF THE BLUKEN BULLMASTIFF
KENNEL KUSA # 121432 REG 1998**

Poormanspub6007@gmail.com or 0823741479 or info@bluken.co.za

Lives in Gauteng



**Pups born 6th March 2021 from Bluken HoneyApplejack with the sire Sargethrust
Sambo Hanno of Sanniesebos.**



PHOTOS TO PERUSE





Health checks done HD & ED & SAVA Eyes certificates

11 litters spread over the years never more than 3 litters per bitch

Constant quality puppies that are homed with no written purchase agreement or 'contract' and sold at an affordable price. Home checks done.

Some of the kennels that have Bluken pups Rianel, Chizelhurst, Starkpride, Fountainvalley, Sargethrust, Sanniesebos.

CBC Puppy of the year 2020 Bluken the Blue Chip for Chizelhurst HD A2 A2



Content submitted by kennel owner and edited

Next month April: - KILAAB BULLMASTIFFS

We welcome Charmaine Hoffman to the CBC Committee and Charmaine will administer the Trophy & Points portfolio.

WORDS

From Mariaan Weideman

Mariaan is the breeder of the 2020 top Bullmastiff, Ch Eumali Laylah of Starkpride, and hence takes possession of the Breeder of the Year Trophy



She says she is honoured to receive this accolade and has re-joined the CBC.

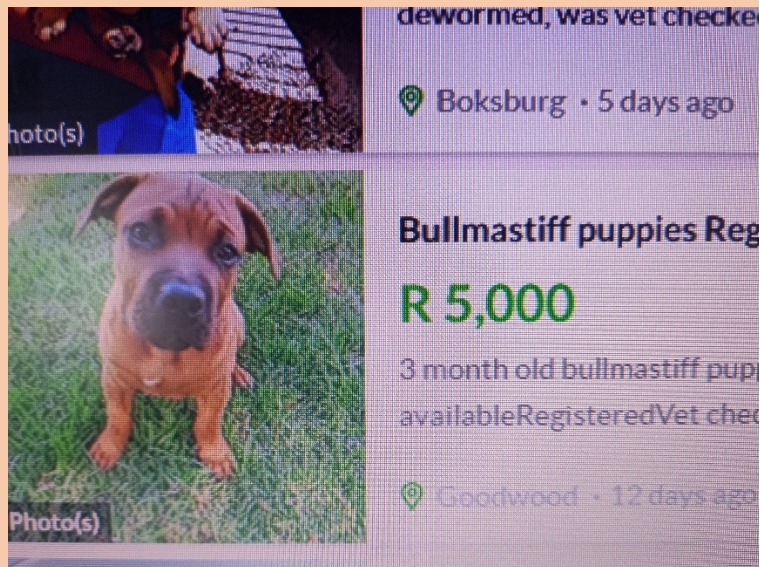
Welcome back Mariaan! WE MISSED YOU!

THE CBC HAS BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION TO HOLD ITS TROPHY SHOW AND CBA ON THE WEEKEND OF 30/31 OCTOBER 2021. FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE POSTED AS AVAILABLE. OUR TRADITIONAL DATE IN JANUARY STILL STANDS.

EVERYTHING DEPENDENT ON THE COVID STATUS AND KUSA REGULATIONS AT THE TIME

BULLMASTIFF PUPPIES FOR SALE ON GUMTREE

CAVEAT EMPTOR



The information in this magazine is confidential 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.

RABIES

Rabies has flared up again- please make sure that your dogs are inoculated

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