

**Minutes of Meeting to be held on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023**

**at**

**The Fieldhead Hotel, Markfield Lane, Markfield LE67 9PS**

In attendance

Chairman – Dave Lee

Secretary/Treasurer – Helen Reaney

PRO – Claire Robinson-Cox

KCBLO – Karon Jackson

Lead Health Co-Ordinator – Gem Rowe

Downlands – Stuart Breckall

East Anglia – Martin Johnson/Gem Rowe

East Midlands – Maureen Ward/Janet Higgins

Merseyside – Helen Reaney – acting in regards for proposals

Northern Counties – Lorraine King

North West – Claire Crossman/Roy Day

North of Scotland – Maureen Ward acting in regards for proposals

Notts & Derby – Kirsty Summerfield

Potteries – Dave McKimm/Jose Martinez

Scottish – Jay Rogers acting in regards for proposals

Southern Counties – Ken Meneer

SBTC – Alan Hedges/Karon Jackson

South Wales – Tyler Rochelle

Western – Martin Grimwood/Lisa Emery

**None Council Members-**

MB&C – Karon Jackson regarding breed standard proposals

North East – Karon Jackson regarding breed standard proposals

**1. Apologies for absence. – none**

**2. Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023 Matters Arising**

Helen ran through the previous minutes any queries had been dealt with prior to the meeting or were on the agenda today. See voting sheet.

**3 Reports.**

**3.1. Chairman's Report.** - See Attached Report

**3.2. Secretary/BEC Report.** – See Attached Report

**3.3. Public Relation Officer's Report.** – to follow

**3.4. Kennel Club Breed Liaison Officer's Report.** See Attached Report

**3.5 Breed Health Co Ordinator Report** – See Attached Report

**Main points**

- L2 mutation – need one more dog and then we will have a new test.

- BOAS over 100 dogs have been tested. Mid 2024 a full report will be provided. Some are affected but it is not widespread in the breed.
- Focus has been on BOAS and L2 in the last 12 months with Cleft Pallets and Hair Lips not being discussed and this is still in the breed. A survey on this would highlight any areas of concern something Gem will be looking into.
- Litter mortality – possible survey
- Breed Health Survey – on going.
- Breed Health Talks have been carried out with Carly Bingham who is a vet nurse and is working with Gem.
- On going talks with Cathryn Mellish on various topics.
- A vote of thanks from SCSBTS for all the hard work she is carrying out on behalf of the Breed, this was echoed by everyone at the meeting.

#### **4. Correspondence & matters arising.**

Helen ran through the correspondence one of which had been included in her report. The process of how to update the Breed Standard.

- Email from Western SBTC stating that they would not be willing to organise an Evaluator for Ian Biddestone at his first CC appointment at Bath 2024, as although Ian is a breed specialist, he did not meet the 3 breed club criteria and only one club out of the 14 clubs who gave their opinion voted in favour. Helen did state that most clubs did state that they would support. Discussion took place and it was agreed that Helen would email the RKC and state that we as a breed were not able to arrange the evaluator based on our response previously.
- No reply from the Producers of Loose Women regarding the photo of a SBT when discussing the XL Bully.

#### **5. Propositions**

5.1 SBTC propose/2<sup>nd</sup> North West SBTC: - Under the Head and Skull Clause. (The proposed additional wording in RED)

Short, deep through with broad skull. Very pronounced cheek muscles, distinct stop, short foreface **with a minimum ratio of 2 parts skull to 1 part muzzle** nose black, **nostrils open** – Please refer to the Voting Sheet

5.2 WSBTC proposed/2<sup>nd</sup> Potteries (Additional wording in RED)

Head and Skull

Short, deep through with broad skull. Very pronounced cheek muscles, distinct **but moderate** stop, **relatively** short foreface, **with muzzle length no shorter than half of the length of skull from stop to occiput, without wrinkles at set on.** Nose black **with wide open nostrils, closed pinched nostrils are unacceptable and must be heavily penalised.**

5.3 EMSBTC proposed/2<sup>nd</sup> Western SBTC – (Additional Wording in RED)

Head and Skull

Skull **is broad with equal depth.** Very pronounced cheek muscles. Distinct **but unexaggerated** stop, **relatively** short foreface, **muzzle length half of the length of**

**skull (minimum 2:1) without excess flesh.** Nose black **with wide open nostrils.**  
**Pinched nostrils to be penalised. Please refer to the voting sheet**

- In relation to the above 3 proposals regarding the Head and Skull Clause a lengthy discussion took place. Each Club delegate who had put a proposal forward was given the opportunity to give an overview of their respective club's views.
- Following this the meeting opened to all the delegates to discuss. This took up a lot of the meeting. It was pointed out that Committees are not elected to change the breed standard only run the Breed Clubs. Several people had viewed their concerns that what right had the breed clubs got to change the standard. Agreed that Helen would email the RKC get direction regarding Breed Club membership and if their opinion is sought. Since the meeting a response had been received and sent to all breed clubs.
- It was highlighted by a few delegates that the Breed Standards Discussion group was set up to review the standard NOT to completely change it.
- Following the voting (see attached voting sheet) it was agreed that the 3 clubs should have a zoom meeting with the SBTC to discuss what wording they would agree.
- Since the meeting the SBTC have sent around the clubs an amended proposal which would be agreeable to all 17 breed clubs.
- Gem Rowe stated that considering the recent XL Bully issues, we as a breed need to get our breed protected and get the minimum wording.

#### 5.4 EMSBTC proposed/2<sup>nd</sup> Western SBTC: - (Additional Wording in RED)

General Appearance – Smooth coated, well balanced, of great strength for his size. Muscular, active, and agile. **Dogs showing respiratory distress or making excessive respiratory noise, highly undesirable.**

Discussion took place, please refer to the Voting sheet.

#### **6. Breed Standard Discussion Group Update.**

Most of the meeting had been taken up with the Breed Standard and additional meetings would continue as needed. The Head and Skull Clause needs to be the focus to protect the breed.

#### **7. Matters brought forward by delegates for discussion.**

The SBTC, suggested that all Club get more involved with the Dog Coalition and a link to the website would be forwarded to all the Clubs by the SBTC.

#### **8. Free discussion period on the Staffordshire Bull Terrier – minutes taken by the PRO** – Clare took notes and would provide her report in due course to all the Clubs

#### **9. A.O.B.**

- Helen reported to the meeting that the Officers of the Breed Council were up for re-election for 2024-2026. Nominations for Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer and PRO need to be with the Secretary by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

- Potteries queried the 3-breed club rule. - b. To have judged both sexes, at a minimum of 3 breed club shows. Does this mean a judge has to judge both sexes three times. The delegates all agreed that it means that an apprentice judge must have judges at 3 breed clubs shows and NOT have judged only one sex for each three.

**10. Date of the next meeting. TBC**

**Helen E Reaney (Hon Secretary)**

**Circulated to all Member Clubs 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023**