



THE KENNEL CLUB
Making a difference for dogs

The Kennel Club/University of Cambridge Respiratory Function Grading Scheme

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Health & Welfare Development Manager



Why did the Kennel Club launch a Scheme?



- The Kennel Club has designated Pugs, Bulldogs & French Bulldogs as high profile(category 3 breeds) since 2009, with significant concerns about brachycephalic obstructive airways syndrome.
- In 2010 the Kennel Club Charitable Trust funded BOAS research at the University of Cambridge who went on to form a BOAS group. Breeders and owners of Pugs, Bulldogs and French Bulldogs have contributed to the research over ten years to date.
- The Kennel Club launched the scheme in partnership with the University of Cambridge in February 2019. The Kennel Club appointed Dr. Jane Ladlow to be Chief Assessor of the Respiratory Function Grading Scheme as Jane had been key to the BOAS research group since 2010.



Who is the RFG Scheme for and what is the process for breeders and owners?

- The scheme is available for Pugs, Bulldogs and French Bulldogs and dogs must be a minimum of 12 months of age to participate in the scheme. Dogs must be reassessed every 2 years.
- To be assessed as part of the scheme the owner must take the dog to a regional approved assessor. All regional approved assessors are trained by the chief assessor and are also required to complete an online learning module.
- Owners can find a regional approved assessor on the Kennel Club website [here](#) .



What happens during the assessment what does the owner receive?

Grading & Advice

What does each grade mean?

Grade 0: Your dog is clinically unaffected and is currently free of respiratory signs of BOAS. If your dog is under two years old we suggest they have an annual health check with their own vet, as BOAS can develop later in life.

Grade 1: Your dog is clinically unaffected but does have mild respiratory signs linked to BOAS. These signs do not affect their exercise performance. If your dog is under two years old we suggest they have an annual health check with their own vet, as BOAS can develop later in life.

Grade 2: Your dog is clinically affected and has moderate respiratory signs of BOAS that should be monitored and may require veterinary treatment.

Grade 3: Your dog is clinically affected and has severe respiratory signs of BOAS and should be seen by your own vet for a thorough veterinary examination with treatment. We do not recommend that you breed from your dog.

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UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The Kennel Club & University of Cambridge Respiratory Function Grading Scheme
Assessment Form - Bulldog/Pug/French Bulldog

This assessment is carried out according to the terms and conditions set out on the reverse of this assessment form, which will be later to be available to the individual presenting the dog. It requires a full veterinary examination and a supply of the following information:

Registered Name Lolo's Garden's A.R.I.F.L	Date of birth 08/06/2017
Kennel Club Registration Number A002634301	Microchip number 958000010721635
Name of breeder Miss Charlotte McNamara	Email of breeder charlot.mcnamara@thekennelclub.co.uk
Address of breeder 37 West Coast Road, Reet, Southampton, SO9 6GJ	
Phone number KING LYNN PE33 0BN	

The following information is to be completed by the assessor (printed name, the assessor's practice and address & contact details of the assessor)

Age (y)	Sex (m/f)	Body condition score (BCS)	Rectal temperature at time of assessment
12	m	5	20°C

Physical examination: Please tick (yes/no) on complete examination and examine respiratory tract

Respiratory patterns

Normal Inspiratory effort Coughs

Wheezes

None Localised Multiple central Systemic

Stridor (low pitch rattle)

None Mild Moderate Severe

Stridor (high pitch rattle)

Not audible Mild Moderate Severe

Stridor (whistling)

Not present Mild Moderate Severe

Coughs and/or sneezes

No Yes

Heart/lung auscultation

Normal Abnormal

Comments pre & post exercise

None

BOAS Functional Grading (see the reverse of this assessment form for grade definitions)

Grade 0 Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3

Additional comments (Please include any observations/problems etc.)

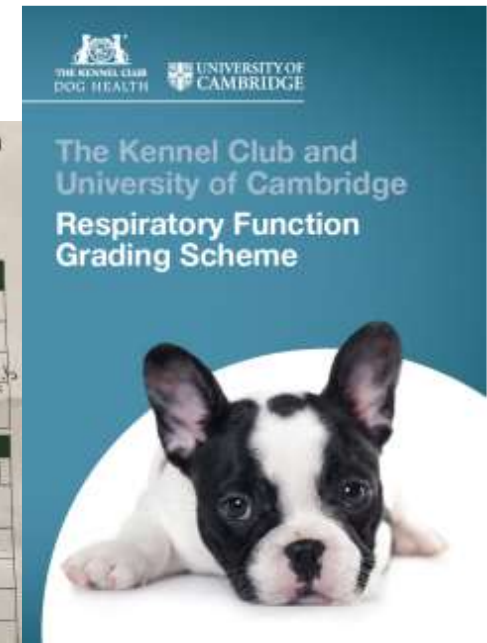
Monitoring needed (under 2 years old/Grade 2 & 3)

The above dog is over the physical characteristics and was assessed within the scheme protocol as marked on the data sheet. The above assessment and grade are not a guarantee against any likelihood of acquired conditions/traits developing in the future.

Signature of Assessor

Dr J Mitchell BVMS MRCVS
5 Floor Vets
Unit 5, First Road Industrial Estate
Northampton
PE1 2JY
Tel: 0787 1412276
VAT No: 172508422

Date: 20/9/19
Valid until: 20/9/21



What support and breeding advice is given to the owner?

Breeding advice

The way that BOAS is inherited is not fully understood and is not always entirely predictable. Using the guidelines below can help you reduce the chances of breeding puppies affected by BOAS. However, even if used responsibly, this guidance cannot guarantee that a puppy from two unaffected parents will be free from BOAS.

		DOG ONE (sire or dam)			
		Grade 0	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
DOG TWO (sire or dam)	RFG Grade for each dog				
	Grade 0	Green	Green	Green	Red
	Grade 1	Green	Green	Green	Red
	Grade 2	Green	Green	Amber	Red
Grade 3	Red	Red	Red	Red	

Green: The lowest risk of breeding dogs affected by BOAS.

Amber: A higher risk of producing puppies that may grow up to be affected by BOAS.

Red: A mating which has a high risk of producing puppies that may grow up to be affected by BOAS. These matings are not recommended. Producing puppies affected by BOAS has a serious impact on their health and welfare. A mating which may produce affected puppies should never knowingly be carried out.

