



Club du Bouledogue Français



ASSOCIATION A BUT NON LUCRATIF REGIE PAR LA LOI DU 1^{ER} JUILLET 1901

AGREEE PAR LE MINISTERE DE L'AGRICULTURE

AFFILIEE A LA SOCIETE CENTRALE CANINE 

To : Mr Tamás Jakkel, President
Fédération Cynologique Internationale
Place Albert 1er, 13
B-6530 THUIN. BELGIQUE

May 20th, 2020

Mr. President of the FCI,

Subject: Request from the CBF.

The Raad van Beheer must comply with FCI regulations and standards

In your open letter posted on social networks, you invite all national canine organizations, in particular those which operate in the country of origin of the 12 above-mentioned species, to express their official reaction to a decision taken by a foreign government, which tends to ignore a significant part of them without prior consultation with the professional authorities of the countries involved.

The French Bulldog Club had already developed an answer for several days and wrote the letter it is sending you today.

Since May 18, 2020, the Dutch government has been implementing the measures announced in March 2019, relating to the breeding of 12 breeds of brachycephalic dogs, including the French Bulldog.

According to these measures, the Raad van Beheer could refuse to issue a pedigree certificate to subjects who have certain characteristics defined in the standard, and, on the contrary, he could issue a pedigree certificate to dogs produced according to the new standards laid down in the Netherlands, whereas these dogs may do not meet any standard recognized by the FCI.

The Club du Bouledogue Français (CBF) joins in the dismay and outrage expressed in the clubs of the breeds concerned, in the countries which are members of the FCI, and expresses its solidarity with them.

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Since the French bulldog is a breed for which France holds the standard, the CBF is the only body authorized to propose to the FCI any modification concerning the standard of this breed.

The CBF is afraid that the new measures will lead to the eradication of the genuine French Bulldog from Dutch territory, to replace it with a dog of a completely different morphological type, which would unfairly bear the name of French Bulldog.

The CBF intends to oppose this threat with the utmost determination.

Since "pedigrees certificates are, in fact, birth certificates", as underlined in Basic Rule 18 of the FCI International Breeding Regulations, they must be issued to certify that the dogs come from two parents themselves registered in a Stud Book recognized by the FCI.

By refusing to issue a pedigree certificate to certain dogs according to criteria decided unilaterally in the Netherlands, the Dutch government and the Raad van Beheer have exceeded their rights and committed faults on three points:

- 1) they replaced the CBF in its mission to manage the standard, which constitutes an interference, prohibited by article 7 of the FCI Regulations,
- 2) since the criteria laid down in the new measures are of a sanitary nature and the subject of contradictory debates in the scientific community, the Dutch government and the Raad van Beheer neglected to seek the advice and support of the FCI Scientific Commission, whose intervention is required in the assessment of hereditary defects, as indicated in the preamble to the FCI International Breeding Regulations,
- 3) they implemented their decisions by getting rid not only of the holder of the standard but also of the FCI Standards Commission, in violation of article 19, paragraphs 3 and 4 of the FCI Regulations.

In addition, by excluding certain dogs from breeding on criteria whose relevance is not not unanimously recognized, they do not allow the genetic diversity of the breed to be preserved and extended, which is however the objective assigned to the breeding by article 4.2 of the FCI Regulations.

Consequently, the CBF requests:

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1) that a pedigree certificate attesting to its registration in the Stud Book continues to be attributed in the Netherlands to any dog of French Bulldog breed whose two parents are themselves registered in a Stud Book of this breed,

2) that dogs born in the Netherlands under the conditions produced by the new measures and whose morphological characteristics do not correspond to those described in the French Bulldog standard are not allowed to bear the name of French Bulldog,

3) that the ban on breeding a breed recognized by the FCI and according to the FCI standard, as well as the ban on importing pure-bred French bulldogs, registered in a recognized Stud Book by the FCI, must be canceled.

We will send a copy of this letter to Dr. Kirsi Sainio, President of the Scientific Commission and to Mr. Jorge Nallem, President of the Standards Commission.

Faithfully yours.

Mrs Elyse WAGET
President of the CBF

Mr Daniel BÉGUIN
Vice-President of the CBF

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