

SCRAPS

august 2010

Official Newsletter of the Western Province Boxer Club



Photo: Monique Hodgkinson

WHO'S WHO

2010

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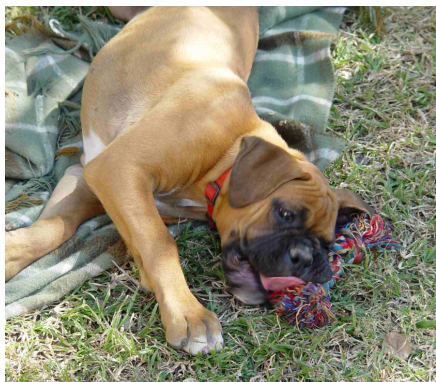


Photo: Erna Faber

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From the Editor

Hello Everyone,

Well, now that the sound of vuvuzelas has finally dwindled to an occasional squawk, Wimbledon and the British Open have come and gone and the Boks have returned from Australasia (or is it Oceania) with their tails firmly tucked, we can perhaps turn our attention to doggy affairs again...

We have quite a full calendar of events ahead of us, as a quick glance through this issue of Scraps will reveal. So please dust off your show paraphernalia, start wielding the grooming glove, jiggle those sluggish doggy minds with a few firm instructions and rewards and, most important, charge your camera's batteries!

The content of this issue of Scraps is perhaps rather on the serious side. What it lacks is some contributions in a lighter vein, so please do let us have anecdotes, funny incidents and pictures of you and your Boxers (or other people's Boxers) to share with club members.

In the meantime we hope to see you all at all the events we have lined up over the next few months!

Best regards
Marlien Heystek
Editor

We are very pleased to be able to welcome our trainer, Rex Koning, back at Sunday training after his heart surgery!

PET—FRIENDLY ACCOMMODATION

VIOLA & OWL COTTAGES



Bloubergrant / Table View, Cape Town

Two tastefully furnished and equipped Pet Friendly Cottages, situated totally separate from each other in a quiet residential area just 5 minutes from the beach overlooking Table Mountain and Robben Island and close to local amenities.

Each Cottage has its own private and walled garden with braai, table, chairs and loungers – 100% secure for pets.

Gated access to Pool, for owners' peace of mind.

Secure off road parking area for cars and trailers.

Bedding and towels are provided and changed during stay.

There is a Veterinary Clinic at the bottom of the road.

PET POLICY:

All pets are welcome.

Pets may sleep inside – please bring your own beds and bowls.

Pets must be free of Ticks and Fleas and must be disease free – eg Kennel Cough. Pets stay FREE. No Doggie damage deposit required, but any damage incurred by pets will be charged.

Contact Helen by phone on 021 557 2899 or 082 698 1244
or via email : helen@violacottage.co.za



Please visit our website:
www.violacottage.co.za
for further information and to view the
photographs in our image gallery.



WHAT'S ON?

calendar of events

	CLUB	TYPE	EVENTS	CONTACT
AUGUST				
7th/8 th	George Outeniqua	CH CH	BR BR	044 272 2412 044 272 2412
15 th	Liesbeek	Open	BR,OB,AG,DJ,FB	083 925 4350
22 nd	WPBC		Seminar Part 1	021 715 9758
29 th	WPBC		Walk & Breakfast	021 715 9758
SEPTEMBER				
4 th /5 th	Queenstown Baakens Valley Grahamstown	CH CH CH	BR,OB,DJ,CA,AG BR BR,OB,DJ,CA,AG	045 838 2962 041 581 6994 046 622 3050
12 th	Breede Rivier	Open	BR,DJ,AG,FB	021 904 3454
19 th	WPBC		Seminar Part 2	021 715 9758
25 th	Cape Handlers	CH	OB,DJ,AG,FB	083 601 9647
OCTOBER				
9 th	WPBC	Open	OB,DJ,AG,FB,WT	021 715 9758
16 th	Breede Rivier	CH	BR	021 904 3454
16 th	WPBC	CH	BR (Specialty)	021 715 9758
17 th	Cape Town KC	CH	BR	021 447 7654
22 nd	Working & Herding	CH	BR,OB,DJ,AG,FB	021 865 2691
23 rd	Western Province	CH	BR	021 865 2691
23 rd	WPBC		BREED ASSESSMENT	021 715 9758
24 th	Hottentots Holland	CH	BR	021 881 3656
30 th	Cape Town KC	CH	OB,DJ,AG,FB	021 447 7654
NOVEMBER				
19 th -21 st	WODAC	Open	BR,OB,DJ,AG,FB	021 715 9758
27 th	WC Top Dog	Open	TOP DOG	021 715 9758
28 th	WPBC		Annual Braai	021 715 9758
DECEMBER				
5 th	Kennel Ass	Open	BR,OB,DJ,AG,FB,CD	021 715 9758

Please join us at Canon Creek Independent School, cnr Nursery Way & Princess Path, Pinelands on Sundays:

Weekly obedience training classes from 08:30.

Contact Rex Koning at 082 535 1135

Puppy Socialization and Ringcraft Get Togethers

Contact Fay Roberts at 082 783 1590 for dates and time

CONSULT OUR WEBSITE <http://www.wpbc.co.za> or
<http://www.showdogs.co.za> for schedules of events



The Toyota Puppy—Tanyati Feelin' Famous, aka “Kimi”
Bred by Monique Hodgkinson and owned by the Marais family, Centurion



Invitation...

ANNUAL WALK AND BREAKFAST IN TOKAI FOREST



SUNDAY 29th AUGUST 2010

**MEET BOXER CLUB "WALK CAPTAINS" CLAUDE DAVIS & MICHELLE MARTIN AT
9.00am at
TOKAI FOREST (MAIN WALKING SPOT)
WHERE SECURITY GUARD WILL BE ON DUTY FOR CARS**

**BREAKFAST 10.30am AT "LISTERS" TOKAI FOREST
straight up Zwaanswyk Road, turn left at Tokai Manor House,
1st right to "LISTERS"**

**TO BOOK A BREAKFAST PLACE SIMPLY CREDIT W P BOXER CLUB BANKING
ACCOUNT WITH THE BREAKFAST FEE, INCLUDING YOUR NAME AND BREAKFAST IN
THE REFERENCE ON THE DEPOSIT SLIP.**

**BREAKFAST TO BE BOOKED BY WEDNESDAY 25th AUGUST 2010
PLEASE FAX DEPOSIT SLIP TO THE SECRETARY Fax No 021 712 1489**

MENU

**Scrambled eggs, 2 rashers bacon, 1 sausage, grilled tomato,
2 slices toast, Glass Orange Juice/ Tea/ Coffee.
Club will supply Champagne.**

R75.00 PER HEAD

PAYMENT TO BE MADE TO:

W P Boxer Club

Nedbank

Milnerton Branch Number 109309

Account Number 1093047224

**Unfortunately no bookings for the Breakfast
can be accepted after the 25th August 2010**

GOOD NEWS

**Peter Thompson our Treasurer is making good progress at home after
suffering a severe stroke in April this year. We all wish him well and
look forward to his continued good recovery**

SPONSORED BY: **Eukanuba** 
Make a Good Dog Great



Western Province Boxer Club
CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW
16th OCTOBER 2010

VENUE	Brackenfell Rugby Grounds, Brackenfell
ENTRIES CLOSE	1 st October 2010
ENTRY FEE	Members: R80.00 per dog Non-members: R90.00 per dog
CATALOGUE	R10.00 Advertising in catalogue: Full page: R50.00 Half page: R25.00
JUDGING	To commence after the Boxer judging at the Breede Rivier Vallei KC 10:00
BANKING DETAILS	Nedbank Milnerton Branch No 109 309 Account No 1093047224 W P Boxer Club <i>No postal orders or post dated cheques</i>
ENTRIES	Faxed entries with proof of payment: 021 712 1489 Postal: D E Powell P O Box 167 Constantia 7848
ENQUIRIES	Mrs D E Powell e-mail: drn.pwl@gmail.com Tel: 021 715 9758
KUSA REPRESENTATIVE	Miss M Ott
SHOW MANAGER	Mrs A Rossouw
JUDGE	Ms DAWN PILLING (UK) Boxer Specialist
BREED CLASSES	Minor Puppy (6 to 9 months) Puppy (9 to 12 months) Junior (12 to 18 months) Graduate (18 to 24 months) S A Bred Veteran Working Dog (minimum qualification Class A/CD/IPO1/BWT) Open Champion
PRIZES	Trophies and rosettes for class winners, Best in Show, Reserve Best in Show and Best Puppy
PLEASE NOTE	All exhibitors/Handlers are personally responsible for the control of their dogs at all times and shall be personally liable for any claims which may be made in respect of injuries which may arise or be caused by their dogs RIGHT OF ADMISSION TO SHOW RESERVED
WPBC Membership fee for 2010: R50.00	
FOR BREED ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE PLEASE SEE PAGE 18	

Cryptorchidism in the Boxer

Compiled by M Heystek

For more information on cryptorchidism as well as the references and sources used in the compilation of this article, consult

<http://www.saboxer.co.za/cryptorchidism.html>

Cryptorchidism is the failure of one (unilateral) or both (bilateral) testes to descend and be maintained in the normal position in the scrotum. The retained testis may be in the abdominal cavity, in the inguinal canal or just outside the scrotum. When only one testis is present in the scrotum, the term monorchid is sometimes used. This is incorrect – in a monorchid only one testis exists in the body, a condition which, like anorchidism (no testes), is extremely rare.

OCCURENCE

Cryptorchidism occurs in many species e.g. pigs, horses, goats, sheep, cats and other mammals, but is most common in the dog. In dogs it is found more often in purebred dogs and small breeds are more at risk than large breeds. In breeds with different sized varieties, such as the poodle, schnauzer and dachshund, it occurs more frequently in the smaller (miniature) variety than its larger relatives. Breeds with short skulls have a higher incidence than normal and the risk for Boxers has been found to be the highest of all large breeds. Generally unilateral cryptorchidism occurs more often than the bilateral form.

WHAT EFFECT DOES AN UNDESCENDED TESTIS HAVE ON A MALE DOG?

REDUCED FERTILITY

Bilateral cryptorchids are sterile as sperm does not develop in the retained testes due to the raised temperature and the abnormal size and primitive morphology of the testes and epididymus (coiled segment of the spermatic ducts that serves to store, mature and transport sperm).

Some breeders argue that unilateral cryptorchids should not be regarded as abnormal, as they are often fertile. However, it has been found that cryptorchidism results in lowered fertility and a variably lowered ejaculation reflex. In 47 cryptorchid dogs examined, less than half of the unilateral cryptorchids ejaculated and 27% of these had no sperm in the ejaculate. Only 8% of the unilateral cryptorchids examined produced a normal volume of semen.

INCREASED RISK OF TESTICULAR TUMOURS

It is very well documented that the incidence of tumours (Sertoli cell tumours) is significantly higher (about 10x) in retained gonads than in normally descended ➔

testes. Further complications of testicular tumours are feminization, hair loss, blood dyscrasias and testicular torsion. Removal of the retained testes is therefore recommended before 4 years of age.

OTHER ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS

Cryptorchidism has been linked to other defects such as penile/preputial defects, umbilical hernia, inguinal hernia, hip dysplasia and particularly subluxation of the patella, even in breeds not normally at high risk for patellar subluxation.

NORMAL DESCENT OF THE TESTES IN THE DOG

In mammals the sex of the individual is determined at fertilisation by the sex chromosome present in the sperm. If a Y chromosome is present, the embryo will develop into a male. An X chromosome will result in a female. However, early development of the genital system is indeterminate and similar in male and female embryos. The differences between the sexes arise when the undifferentiated gonads develop into ovaries in females, which remain in the abdominal cavity, or testes in males, which then have to migrate from the body cavity to their correct position in the scrotum.

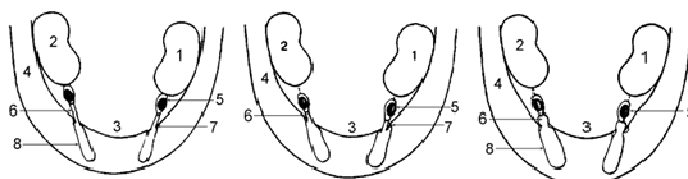
The exact timing of the process of testicular descent may vary in dogs, depending on breed, just as the age at which puberty and enlargement of the testes starts, varies. However, in the majority of dogs studied, progress of normal descent of the testis occurred as follows:

- about 53 days after conception the developing testes are located at the rear end of the kidneys in the male foetus.
- at birth the testis are about halfway between the kidney and the internal inguinal ring;
- it passes through the inguinal ring by about the 3rd or 4th day after birth;
- by 15-17 days after birth it reaches the halfway mark between the inguinal ring and the scrotum; and
- by 35-40 days after birth it attains its final position at the lowest point of the scrotal pouch.

Initially the left testis always precedes the right one during the descent; probably due to the fact that the left kidney (and the accompanying developing testis) is situated further back) in the body cavity. It is interesting to note that in cryptorchid dogs the right testis is more frequently retained than the left. (The ratio is about 2:1). This could reflect a generally slower descent on the right side, due to the greater distance that that testis has to travel. In normal dogs the right testicle normally lies in front of the left in the scrotum.

In a week-old puppy the scrotum is filled with subcutaneous fat. This fat should disappear by about 25 days of age to make room for the testes. However, from 3-4 weeks of age onwards, "well-reared" puppies lay down considerable deposits of fat in the scrotal area, which may in some cases hinder the final descent of the testes.

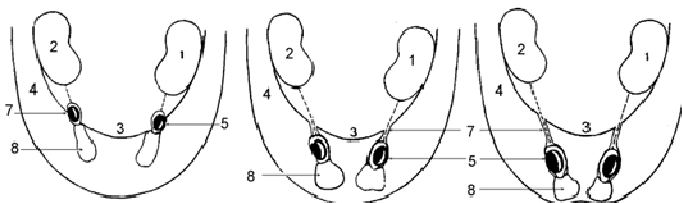
TESTICULAR DESCENT IN THE DOG



Days after conception: 53

59

Day of birth

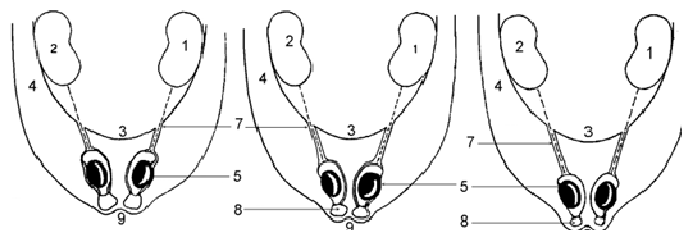


Days:

3

5

10



Days:

15

27

35

1. left kidney
2. right kidney
3. abdominal wall
4. subcutis
5. testis

6. gubernaculum (intra abdominal part)
7. inguinal canal
8. gubernaculum (extra abdominal part)
9. scrotum

SCHEMATIC DRAWING ILLUSTRATING FRONTAL SECTIONS THROUGH THE LOWER ABDOMEN OF A PUP DURING THE PERIOD 53 DAYS AFTER CONCEPTION TO 40 DAYS AFTER BIRTH

Boxer pups conform to the "typical dog" described above and the testes of normal pups are usually in the scrotum by six weeks of age. If both testes are not fully descended by the time a Boxer pup is eight weeks old, he must be regarded as genetically suspect. Due to a highly effective reflex of the cremaster muscle, puppies up to 10 or 12 weeks of age may retract their testes into the groin area when picked up and examined. In normal pups, the testes can be pushed back into the scrotum ➔



Tasha the Boxer and the Canine Genome Sequencing Project

The search for causes as well as ways to reduce the incidence of genetic disorders as discussed in this article, may soon be rendered irrelevant by the sequencing (completed in 2004) of the complete genetic code of Tasha, a Boxer bitch. Researchers wanted to select a dog with the most homozygosity (the least variation between maternal and paternal genes in all of its gene pairs). Tasha was chosen from more than 120 dogs and 60 breeds. The genes that make a dog reproduce as a dog are the same across all breeds. The genes that create the differences between

breeds but allow the breed to reproduce itself are homozygous within the breed. Based on the pedigree relationship of her sire and her dam, Tasha was not the most inbred of the dogs evaluated. When the sperm and egg of Tasha's parents combined, they just happened to carry a large proportion of the same genes which combined into homozygous pairs. The Boxer was not the most inbred breed based on the genetic sequence analysis of the breeds studied – many breeds showed greater average homozygosity. No other individual dog, however, was as homozygous as Tasha. The canine genome will enable researchers to identify the specific genes responsible for disorders (such as cancer, deafness, heart disease, blindness, epilepsy and hip dysplasia) and of traits (morphology and behaviour). With the sequencing of the dog genome, it may soon be possible to localize genes that cause the difference between Giant Mastiffs and Pekingese, Pointer and Terrier, sight and scent hounds.

READ MORE: <http://americanboxerclub.org/canine-genome.html>

easily, with light digital pressure. If a testicle tends to remain at the entrance to the scrotum and requires a good deal of traction to reach the correct position, particularly if it is then retracted again when released, this should be regarded as a minor degree of cryptorchidism.

INHERITANCE

Whatever the mechanisms involved, there is general agreement that the defect is an inherited trait, as indicated by the following evidence:

- It occurs more often in some breeds than in others.
- The frequency is higher in certain lines within breeds and in these lines, it increases with inbreeding.
- Studies in other species (pigs, goats) have shown that the incidence of cryptorchidism can be increased by using known carriers as parents and reduced by eliminating them from the breeding population.

A heritability of 40% has been established for cryptorchidism in the Boxer, as well as a polygenic mode of inheritance. This signifies that environmental factors

(which have not been identified) may be responsible for the remaining 60%. Regardless of the exact mode of inheritance, it must be accepted that both parents of a cryptorchid male are carriers, and that male and female litter mates may also carry the genes responsible for the defect.

HOW CAN THE INCIDENCE OF CRYPTORCHIDISM BE REDUCED?

Unfortunately the only way to entirely eradicate the problem would be not to use for breeding the cryptorchid dog, its parents, their parents and any of its siblings. Regrettably this would probably also eradicate the Boxer as a breed.

The main problem that breeders face in respect of genetic defects is the fact that the genetic base of the entire Boxer breed as it exists worldwide is quite limited. There is probably not a Boxer alive today which does not trace back to the four great German stud dogs – *Sigurd von Dom* and his three grandsons *Utz von Dom*, *Dorian von Marienhof* and *Lustig von Dom*. These dogs were widely used in Europe and thereafter exported to the USA. Unfortunately all four had cryptorchid progeny. The tight linebreeding to these dogs both in Europe and North America is probably why the incidence of cryptorchidism is such a problem in the breed today.

While there is evidence that inbreeding can increase the incidence of cryptorchidism, with a defect as widespread as this is in the Boxer, it has been postulated that the risk is as high with outcrossed as with inbred pedigrees.

Unilateral cryptorchid males have been excluded entirely from breeding in Germany from as early as 1942. This did not reduce the incidence at all. In fact there was an increase in the incidence from 6.39% in 1941 to 10.21% in 1981 in East Germany. In West Germany it increased from 7.4% in 1959 to 14.2% in 1985. Breeders were encouraged to try and increase the heterozygosity of the breed by not only using the popular, top-winning stud dogs, but by breeding to lesser known males and those in neighbouring countries. The results were disappointing. Some of the widely used stud dogs had percentages of above 20% and as high as 30%. After the reunification of Germany, the incidence increased further to 17.0% in 1995. In 1996 various quite severe measures to address the problem were instituted in Germany. A bitch was excluded completely from breeding if she produced cryptorchids in two litters, and the use of males with more than 20% cryptorchids produced in 10 litters with more than 20 male offspring, was restricted. This resulted in the prevalence of cryptorchidism coming down to 11.1% in 1998. This however had to be weighed up against the alarming fact that these and the numerous other breeding restrictions had further limited the genetic base of the Boxer in Germany to the extent that only 16% of the population could still be used for breeding. The initial reduction in cryptorchidism also did not last and slowly started rising again. In addition breeding activities lessened dramatically with the number of matings recorded falling from 597 in 1998 to 483 in 1999. ➔

As a result all previous restrictions in respect of cryptorchidism and certain other inherited traits were revoked in Germany after the year 2000. The method already in operation for curtailing HD (Breed Value Assessment) was extended to include cryptorchidism. Breeding partners are selected on the basis of a system where the risk of producing affected offspring is calculated for every dog and bitch to be used for breeding, based on all available information for that animal, its parents, siblings, half sibs, as well as its progeny. The combined figure for a proposed breeding pair may not exceed a specified threshold value (105 for cryptorchidism). Breeding prohibition was replaced by breeding recommendations. In this way they hoped to gradually improve the incidence of the inherited defects without further restricting the genetic base of the breed. By 2002 breeding activities had shown a slight increase and the incidence of cryptorchidism had gone down to 10%. Unfortunately the gene pool remains very limited and the degree of inbreeding very high. Just to complicate matters further, a study carried out in the Netherlands (Janneke *et al* 2009) using data of 11 230 litters in 12 purebred dog breeds, found that litters produced by two parents who were both cryptorchidism carriers had an increased number of males (all breeds), a reduced number of females (8 breeds) and an increased litter size (11 breeds) when compared to litters from non-carrier or mixed parents. They concluded that a mechanism exists in the dog species which causes both cryptorchidism as well as increased male/female ratios and increased litter sizes. A consequence would be that selection for bigger litters frustrates selective efforts to eliminate cryptorchidism.

CONCLUSIONS

In South Africa with its small Boxer population, it would obviously be very dangerous and foolish to base the selection of breeding partners entirely on one or two aspects. A Boxer does not consist of testes or hips or a fawn coat only. Most knowledgeable breeders would list correct type, sound conformation and a steady disposition as their main concerns. The absence of serious health problems, such as heart defects and hip dysplasia, is also regarded as important, with some breeders placing a premium on working ability. Genetic defects, while a problem, can however never be the only selection criterion for our Boxers.

In respect of cryptorchidism, perhaps in our circumstances we should heed the advice of Fred Lanting (2001):

“At any rate, the unilateral condition at least is so widespread in many families and breeds that an all-out effort to combat it would take our minds and efforts away from more serious disorders, which would consequently increase. It’s just a minor thing we have to put up with. Simply remove the affected ones from the gene pool and shift your preference away from breeding any (including females) that come from litters in which the defect occurred.

Since cryptorchidism is sex-limited (only affected males, not carrier females, show it) it is likely to persist at about the same prevalence in the breed for a long, long time.”



NEWS FROM THE OVERBERG

Here we are at the end of July and the end of Vuvuzela Madness. Let us hope that our country will benefit in some way or other with the anti-

pated improved input after the World Cup. Much has happened in the month of July. Boxer lovers share in the tragic loss of our fellow Boxer breeder, Wayne Streak, who lost his beloved wife Christelle and son Chandon. On behalf of all Boxer lovers and owners I would like to give my sincere sympathy to Wayne and his family and we are praying for him and his son Keagan.

In our previous edition we looked at olive oil, pumpkin seeds, peppermint and plantain. We are getting to the end of our alphabetical list of herbs, and I realised that I left out the uses of pumpkin seeds. I am sure you all know the good health in this wonder source of goodness that has been discarded for so long but has become very popular now. I used to grind the large seeds of the pumpkin family and mixed it with olive oil and some honey and once a week my youngsters and later my grandchildren got a dosage, as a detox. Then I decided to do



the same with my Boxers and it's a good dewormer. So gather the pumpkin seeds for yourselves as well as your doggies.

You can buy the ready cleaned ones at any store.

Our next healing wonder is the famous tea tree oil. This oil is a terrific antiseptic recommended by so many experts. Always dilute the tea tree oil. NEVER allow your dog to lick the treated part. Make sure it is well diluted with equal parts of water or vegetable oil. Remember the golden rule: always use a good carrier oil. I make a wonderful soap with this as one of the ingredients. We have alpine goat farmers nearby; they produce the famous goat's milk cheese trading under the name "Dragonfly Farm Organic Alpine Goat's Milk Cheese." The

workers use this soap and we find it a great antiseptic. I use it on my Boxers for a nice wash all over. Use any essential oil with great care. Adhere to the golden rule. This oil can cause a reaction. It can kill any stubborn fungus, but do not use on sensitive parts.

We all know the lovely deep yellow spice called turmeric. Yes, for yourself, an absolute wonder spice. Take in your food (beautiful curries) or take in a glass of milk. It works for aches and pains - come on: TRY It! Like the tea tree oil it can be used as an antifungal treatment. Mix it in with a cream (I use Vaseline). It will help cure a stubborn ulcer or scratch.

So keep in mind that you can have great success in trying one of the wonderful healers in nature provided by Our Great Healer.

With the up and coming shows Darinas Tanya and I will have to steel ourselves, forfeit our comfort and take the trip over the mountain to the shows.

We wish you all a warm winter. We had very cold frosty days up to now.

Until next time,

Rina Black





BOXER SEMINAR

SABOX BREED ASSESSMENT & SURVEY PROCEDURES GRADING & CRITIQUES

presented by Marlien Heystek

hosted by

WESTERN PROVINCE BOXER CLUB



SUNDAY 22nd August 2010 & 19th September 2010

Starting time: 10.00am

Venue: CANON CREEK SCHOOL, NURSERY WAY, PINELANDS

The main purpose of the seminar is to assist SABOX in the qualification of Boxer Specialist Judges as official SABOX Breed Assessors. It should however be of interest to all judges who judge the Boxer at breed shows and to all Boxer breeders and owners.

Due to time constraints, only Candidate Breed Assessors will be able to actively participate in the practical work session, but all those present may observe and ask questions.

The tests to be conducted after conclusion of the seminar will be for Candidate Breed Assessors only.

PROGRAMME

22nd August 2010

- 10:00 Coffee / Tea
- 10:30 Breed Survey / Assessment Rules and Evaluation Report
- 11:00 Form Follows Function:
Discussion on the Standard and the evaluation of conformation and movement in a Breed Assessment
- 11:30 Critiquing and grading the Boxer at Breed Shows and Assessments

19th September 2010

- 10:00 Coffee/Tea
- 10:30 Breed assessment/survey procedures
Demonstration of evaluation and reporting procedures
 1. Establishment of eye colour and bite formula
 2. Body measurements
 3. Movement evaluation
 4. Steadiness to gunshot
 5. Conformation evaluation
 6. Disposition evaluation
- 11:30 Practical work session for Candidate Breed Assessors

SEMINAR FEE: R50.00 for both sessions, including refreshments and reference notes.

RSVP and provide proof of payment by 7th August 2010

Doreen Powell Fax: 021 712 1489. Email: drn.pwl@gmail.com

What is that?

BREED ASSESSMENTS / BREED SURVEYS

In a **BREED ASSESSMENT** the type, conformation and movement of the dogs entered are examined in detail in relation to the relevant Breed Standard, to determine whether the dog is phenotypically free of any weaknesses or faults which could affect its type, soundness and working ability and thus impact on its suitability for breeding. It is not a competition - no prizes are awarded and participants are not placed in competitive order. The assessor completes a prescribed assessment form, which is submitted to KUSA. The registered owner of the dog may obtain a certified copy of the form from KUSA.

A **BREED SURVEY** is identical to a Breed Assessment, except that the character/temperament of the dog is also evaluated to determine whether it possesses the mental traits required to fulfil the functions expected of the breed (eg self-assurance, steady nerves, courage, protective instincts, toughness and fighting spirit in the case of the Boxer).



APTITUDE TESTING

Efforts are currently being made to resuscitate Aptitude Testing in the Western Cape. Boxers generally do very well in Aptitude Tests.

Aptitude Testing provides dog breeders with an effective tool to determine the natural inherent mental potential of dogs used for breeding. It was developed in the 1960's for the *Svenska Brukhundklubben* (Swedish Working Dog Association) by a team of canine ethologists (ethology = the scientific study of animal behaviour) and is based on the principles of canine psychology as explained by Konrad Lorenz. Dogs are not trained for this test - it is aimed at evaluating the inborn instincts and drives of the dog. During the test the dog must solve a number of problems by itself, without any assistance or commands from its handler. It has already been applied to many thousands of dogs and has been proven to be a valuable indicator of the innate mental attitude, temperament and steadiness of a dog, as well as its ability to unwind rapidly after being exposed to stressful situations.

A Test Leader and 2 Judges assess the following attributes during the test:

- Approachability and willingness to contact and play
- Prey drive/chase response
- Attachment to pack leader (owner)
- Social fighting spirit (reactive aggression)
- Sensitivity to surprise and sudden noise
- Nervous constitution



- Toughness
- Eagerness
- Dominance
- Defensive behaviour
- Sensitivity to gunshot

To pass, the dog must obtain a minimum of (+)100 marks out of a possible range of (-)300 and (+)300, provided it does not fail in the test for steadiness to gunshot. An "Excellent" qualification is awarded to dogs which obtain at least (+)200 marks. A gun-shy dog cannot qualify, regardless of its score. Gun-shyness is an inherited trait and is a disqualification in almost all canine character tests, as it has been proven to indicate nervous instability.

The test is recognised by KUSA and the "Apt" or "Apt Ex" qualification may be added to the registered name of a dog that has passed the test.

Any dog may be entered, provided it is healthy and at least 22 months old on the day of the test. Qualifying Certificates are however only awarded to dogs registered with KUSA or canine control bodies recognised by KUSA. Should a dog fail, one retest is allowed after a waiting period of at least 3 months.

Find out more about Aptitude Testing at <http://home.mweb.co.za/ne/neff/aptitude.htm> and <http://www.kusa.co.za/> (Schedule 5F (9.1.5)).

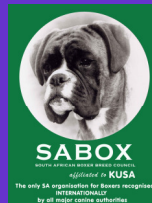


WPBC / SABOX BREED ASSESSMENT

To be held on 24th October 2010, at 15:00
after completion

of Western Province Kennel Club Championship Show

to be held under KUSA Rules and Regulations



Breed Assessors:	Mrs Monique Hodgkinson (Gauteng) Mrs Doreen Powell (Western Province)
Venue:	Brackenfell Rugby Club, Witels Road, Brackenfell
Veterinarian:	On call
Enquiries:	Doreen Powell (WPBC) Tel 021 715 9758 Marlien Heystek (SABOX) Tel 083 717 4120
Entries:	Fee: R80.00 per dog Entries on official KUSA entry form to reach Secretary by 1 st October 2010, accompanied by entry fee or proof of payment. Post: P O Box167, Constantia, 7848 Fax: 021 712 1489 e-mail: drn.pwl@gmail.com
Banking details:	Nedbank Milnerton. Account No: 1093047224 Branch: 109 304
Assessment Manager:	Mr Johan Kieser

DOMINIC



CH STANWIX CHASE THE WIND

30 AUG 02 – 1 JUN 10

Dominic was born early morning as a dreadful storm raged through Cape Town. We had been without electricity for most of the night and the whelping room was full of candles (very romantic!) the litter subsequently being named after the dreadful weather. He was 2nd born, weighing in at a hefty 525g – he was a very big baby and grew into a very big adult. But what a gentle giant, I have never had a Boxer with such a sweet, sweet nature, loving and being loved by everybody. (OK, except Rogan! He was an absolute clown leaping round in circles whenever he was happy, talking at the top of his voice - he could hold a long conversation with anyone willing to listen! In his day, Dom did well in the show ring, earning his Championship status as soon as he won his maturity CC at 18 months. His last triumph was taking the CC at the WPBC show in 2009 as a veteran, but, unlike his sister Rafaela who adored showing, he could take or leave the show ring. He loved to attend the shows, but was just as happy observing at the ringside, giving all the youngsters advice!

Dom had always been very healthy, but a few weeks ago he started having fainting episodes and after lots of tests we found had a tumour in his heart and an immune mediated anemia. He was treated in hospital and came home feeling much, much better when unexpectedly & totally unrelated he developed torsion and, as he would have been unable to tolerate the anaesthetic required for the surgery, I had to make the very difficult decision to say goodbye to my wonderful boy.

There is a huge gap in my life, as Dom was such a fantastic companion, walking partner and adored friend. He was a true, true gentleman.

I know it's a wonderful place over the rainbows bridge, but I am going to miss you Dom, Nic, Pic, my Bestest Boy in the Whole Wide World, Ever!

Jacqui Verrinder

BOXER RESCUE



Rescue has so far this year been quite quiet, with only a few Boxers needing new homes. Over the past month we have had a female Boxer, named “Juno”, rescued by SPCA when she was found in Sybrandt Park in an emaciated state, and after a few weeks of rehabilitation and loads of love in a foster home, she had put on some weight and found a new loving home. There were also the two 5 year olds “Bandit” and “Kayla” whose owner contacted me to help him find new home(s) for the dogs as he was moving into a house with cats, and we all know how much Boxers love cats! They found a home together, and have settled in well.

“Leah” is currently looking for a new home. She is a white spayed female Boxer, 4 years old, well socialised and very good with children. Her owners have a 3 year old child. She is micro chipped and up to date with her inoculations. Her owners are moving overseas mid August so if anyone knows of a possible home, or would like to “adopt” her please contact me.



Thanks so much to everyone who helps with rescue, whether it be informing me of Boxers looking for homes, or helping to spread the word when we have a Boxer looking for a home, and especially to the donations towards rescue.

All your help is greatly appreciated.

Michelle Martin
Boxer Rescue
082 738 5926