

All Breeds with Points of Concerns (By Breed Group)

The objective of the Kennel Club is to promote, in every way, the general improvement of dogs. We believe that every dog should have the opportunity to lead a healthy, happy life and our 'Fit For Function: Fit For Life' campaign aims to encourage breeders, judges and all dog lovers to take the necessary steps to ensure that this happens, and to act as a reminder that a dog's health and welfare should be the most important consideration in any decisions made.

Breed Watch serves as an 'early warning system' to identify points of concern for individual breeds. Its primary purpose is to enable anyone involved in the world of dogs, but in particular dog show Judges, to find out about any breed specific conformational issues which may lead to health problems. These conditions are known as a 'point(s) of concern'. All Breeds form part of Breed Watch and fall into one of the following categories.

Category key/legend text:

- 1 – Breeds with no current points of concern reported
- 2 – Breeds with Breed Watch points of concern
- 3 - Breeds where some dogs have visible conditions or exaggerations that can cause pain or discomfort (previously known as High Profile)

The way in which the Kennel Club monitors the health of pedigree dogs has been enhanced through the expansion of the role of Breed Watch (Flow diagram refers). As part of this work, all Judges at Championship Shows have the opportunity to report on any visible conditions or exaggerations that they consider to be detrimental to the health and welfare of dogs.

The Kennel Club considers that Judges, Exhibitors and Breeders all need to support breed health improvements with the aim of creating a happy healthy future for dogs.

The following information provides a summary of the Breed Watch points of concern for Category 2 & Category 3 breeds.

Particular points of concern for individual breeds may include features not specifically highlighted in the breed standard including current issues. In some breeds, features may be listed which, if exaggerated, might potentially affect the breed in the future.

Prior to 2014 the features listed below derived from a combination of health surveys, veterinary advice, a meeting of Kennel Club Group judges, feedback from judges at shows or consultation with individual breed club(s)/councils via the breed health coordinators.

From 2014 the structure of Breed Watch allows for a greater involvement by judges in the reporting on and monitoring of the points of concern.

Gundog

Gordon Setter

Category 2

Excessive hind angulation

Excessively thick woolly coat

Overlong hip to hock

Sickle hock

Retriever (Golden)

Category 2

Legs too short in proportion to depth of body and to length of back

Significantly overweight

Retriever (Labrador)

Category 2

Legs too short in proportion to depth of body and to length of back

Significantly overweight

Spaniel (American Cocker)

Category 2

Excessively prominent eyes

Incorrect bite

Incorrect dentition

Spaniel (Clumber)

Category 2

Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present).

Obvious ear irritation

Overweight

Weak hindquarters

Hound

Basset Hound

Category 2

Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present). Handlers should be discouraged from pulling skin forward over head and eyes.

Excessive length of ears

Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Inadequate ground clearance – overly deep body and/or presence of excessive skin

Incorrect bite

Significantly overweight

Signs of dermatitis in skin folds

Bloodhound

Category 3

Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present).

Excessive skin on head or body. Handlers should be discouraged from pulling skin forward over head and eyes.

Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Nervous temperament

Signs of dermatitis in skin folds

Weak hindquarters

Borzoï

Category 2

Misplaced lower canine teeth

Overly narrow lower jaw

Dachshund (Miniature Long Haired)

Category 2

Body weight/condition

Dachshund (Miniature Smooth Haired)

Category 2

Body weight/condition

Dachshund (Miniature Wire Haired)

Category 2

Body weight/condition

Irish Wolfhound

Category 2

Misplaced lower canine teeth

Sloughi

Category 2

Significantly underweight

Pastoral

Collie (Rough)

Category 2

Cow hocks

Excessively small eyes

Incorrect dentition

Overly narrow lower jaw

Weak hindquarters

German Shepherd Dog

Category 3

Cow hocks

Excessive turn of stifle

Nervous temperament

Sickle hock

Weak hindquarters

Old English Sheepdog

Category 2

Cow hocks

Excessively long coat

Excessively profuse coat

Weak hind movement

Pyrenean Mountain Dog

Category 2

Significantly overweight

Unstable hocks

Weak hindquarters

Shetland Sheepdog

Category 2

Excessively small eyes

Misplaced upper canine teeth

Terrier

Bedlington Terrier

Category 2

Cracked and corny pads

Bull Terrier

Category 2

Misplaced lower canine teeth

Bull Terrier (Miniature)

Category 2

Misplaced lower canine teeth

Cesky Terrier

Category 2

Incorrect dentition

Irish Terrier

Category 2

Cracked and corny pads

Norwich Terrier

Category 2

Difficulty breathing

Staffordshire Bull Terrier

Category 2

Difficulty breathing

Misplaced lower canine teeth

West Highland White Terrier

Category 2

Misplaced lower canine teeth

Skin irritation

Toy

Chinese Crested

Category 2

Clipper rash or burns caused by shaving

Pekingese

Category 3

Dogs showing signs of respiratory distress

Excessive coat

Excessive nasal folds

Excessively prominent eyes

Heavy overnose wrinkle (roll)

Pinched nostrils

Poor muscle tone

Uncomfortable eyes due to damage or poor eyelid conformation

Weak hindquarters

Pomeranian

Category 2

In mature dogs, 18 months and over, the fontanelle should be fully closed

Pug

Category 3

Difficulty breathing

Excessive nasal folds

Excessively prominent eyes

Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Incomplete blink

Pinched nostrils

Significantly overweight

Signs of dermatitis in skin folds

Sore eyes due to damage or poor eyelid conformation

Unsound movement

Utility

Bulldog

Category 3

Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present).

Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Heavy overnose wrinkle (roll)

Inverted tail

Lack of tail

Pinched nostrils

Significantly overweight

Sore eyes due to damage or poor eyelid conformation

Tight tail

Unsound movement

Chow Chow

Category 3

Difficulty breathing

Excessive coat

Laboured breathing

Narrow eyelid opening

Small, deep set eyes with consequent eyelid abnormalities (e.g. the eyelids are turned in)

Unstable hocks

French Bulldog

Category 2

Difficulty breathing

Exaggerated roach in the top line

Excessively prominent eyes

Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Incomplete blink

Incorrect bite

Inverted tail

Lack of tail

Overly short neck

Pinched nostrils

Screw tail

Signs of dermatitis in skin folds

Tight tail

Keeshond

Category 2

Excessively long coat

Shar Pei

Category 3

Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present).

Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Lower lip folding over lower incisors (tight lip)

Signs of dermatitis in skin folds

Working

Dogue de Bordeaux

Category 3

Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present).

Grossly undershot Jaw

Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Nervous temperament

Significantly overweight

Significantly underweight

Signs of dermatitis in skin folds

Unsound movement - specifically resulting from weak hind movement

Great Dane

Category 2

Conformational defects of the upper and lower eyelids (loose eye lids)

Mastiff

Category 3

Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present).

Excessive skin on head or body

Excessive wrinkle

Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Significantly overweight

Signs of dermatitis in skin folds

Unsound movement

Weak hindquarters

Neapolitan Mastiff

Category 3

Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present).

Excessive dewlap

Excessive skin on head or body

Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Significantly overweight

Signs of dermatitis in skin folds

Unsound movement - specifically resulting from weak hind movement

Newfoundland

Category 2

Conformational defects of the upper and lower eyelids (loose eye lids)

Siberian Husky

Category 2

Significantly overweight

Significantly underweight

St. Bernard

Category 3

Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in, or out, or both abnormalities are present).

Incorrect bite

Incorrect dentition

Unsound movement

Weak hindquarters
