

THE BULL TERRIER CLUB

FOUNDED 1887

Please Reply to:

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To whom it may concern

Bull Terriers – Nose colour.

It has come to our attention that there is some concern regarding the correct colour of the Bull Terrier's nose, and its importance, which I have been asked to clarify.

The Bull Terrier is a native British Breed, the standard of which is owned by The Kennel Club and has been used and recognised worldwide, largely without alteration. The only reference to nose colour is contained within the description of the head which states

“Profile curves gently downwards from top of the skull to tip of nose, which should be black and bent downwards at tip”

Furthermore the standard also says

“Faults. Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be exact proportion to its degree”

It is the opinion of the Bull Terrier Club that this adequately describes that the nose colour, which should be black, but also clearly gives an indication and a guide that discretion, may be used when apportioning this fault against the rest of the dog.

Nose colour is not considering a serious point in this country by most judges. Indeed many top dogs including the most successful show dogs and stud dogs have had partially pink noses. Some judges may have faulted the dogs as a result but most would consider that if a dog has significant other virtue the nose colour may be considered as superficial. It is widely believed that faults in construction, or of temperament, are far more serious, but even these do not disqualify an animal from being bred from of from being exhibited.

As the largest club of its type in the world, The Bull Terrier Club would strongly oppose any move to alter the breed standard or to impose any breeding or exhibition ban purely on account of nose colour.

Yours Sincerely

William Lambert

(For and on behalf of the Bull Terrier Club Committee)