



Exhibition judges shall prize healthy dogs

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For a long time, we have changed the appearance of our dogs in a way that has affected the health of some races. Against this background, the Swedish Kennel Club, SKK, once again brings together the organization's exhibition judge to discuss how we move on and counteract exaggerated excesses so that our dogs can become healthier and healthier. For the third time, we are organizing a conference where these important issues are in focus and there are more than 250 judges in place.

On 23-25 February, the Swedish Kennel Club will gather its external judge at Scandic Infra City to immerse itself in subjects around dogs health related to the exterior. The conference is called "Hundraser's sustainability" and participation is mandatory for SKK's judges. Participants from Norway, Denmark and Iceland will also be in place.

Healthy and healthy dogs are the goal

During the conference, a seminar on the brachycephal problem is held, ie respiratory distress on short-haired dogs, such as pug, boston terrier, French bulldog and English bulldog. Among other things, the judges will receive an update on ongoing measures to ensure good health for the races concerned. The goal is to get exhibition judges to prize individuals who are expected to produce offspring without respiratory distress.

Each dog breed has a breed standard that describes the ideal dog based on the purpose of the breed, from nose to tail tip, as well as motions and temperaments. At the show, the referee places the dog that best complies with the breed standard. During the weekend, questions about external exaggeration and interpretation of the written race standard will be discussed.

Another important issue at the conference is the value and risks of similarities and differences in both appearance and function in many races. The program also shows the assessment of health and other disorders, as well as the connection between mentality and movement.

The aim of the conference is that the Swedish Kennel Club judges should judge dogs from a health perspective so that excesses are not rewarded in the future, either at dog shows or in breeding.

Awareness is increasing

Since the previous conferences, 2007 and 2012, awareness of the problem with exaggerated excesses has increased in our clubs as well as with our breeders and external judges. In the Nordic countries, we are at the forefront of trying to reduce the problems, and this has in turn influenced other countries and their views on extraterrestrial excesses.

During 2016 and 2017 the Swedish Kennel Club participated in arranging conferences for breeders and veterinarians. Working groups have been appointed, which have developed new veterinary inspection certificates for the country's veterinarians to use in connection with puppy inspection. There are also tests for breeding certificates for breeding primarily: the Boston Terrier, the English Bulldog, the French Bulldog and the Pug.



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