<u>Petition</u>: Petition for breeders, and owners of so-called flat-faced dogs: WE CARE ABOUT THE WHOLE DOG!

Petition for serious breeders, and owners of brachycephalic dogs, so-called flat-faced dogs, following the rules set by the Swedish Kennel Club.

WE CARE ABOUT THE WHOLE DOG!

On account of the so-called "Brachycephalic Petition" signed by more than 650 veterinarians, about flat-faced dogs' right to breathe easily, we would like to, with our own petition once and for all, establish the fact that we have never denied the existence of respiratory problems and that we obviously support our dogs' right to breathing without any problem. "The Brachycephalic Petition" has unfortunately led to a situation in which breeders and owners of our breeds have been accused of not taking enough responsibility and only care about the exterior of the dogs. Nothing can be further from the truth.

Unlike the signatories of "The Brachycephalic Petition" we do not only focus on respiratory problems. We care about and take great responsibility in the whole dog. This means that Swedish breeders of brachycephalic dogs are constantly aware of all risks for diseases and poor health in all breeds respectively. Equally important is of course also the temperament of the dogs. Regardless of what some veterinarians

claim, we possess profound knowledge about breeding and genetics. Many have been breeders for decades. All breeding planning is carefully thought out and based on research and proven experience.

No breeder wants to produce sick dogs. The breeding is always carried out with the best interests for the breed. Yet it happens that dogs get sick. Unfortunately there are no guarantees when it comes to living creatures.

As breeders and owners of brachycephalic dogs we also demand to be treated professionally by veterinarians at clinics and elsewhere. Lately, on several occasions, dog owners have been verbally attacked by veterinarians questioning our choice of breed. Such a behaviour is totally unacceptable and must cease, as well as the hounding of brachycephalic dogs and their breeders, currently going on in full swing, orchestrated by the County Administrative Board in Skåne. With that said, we want to state that our combined and extensive knowledge is a valuable resource that must be utilized, and that deserves respect from veterinarians, county administrative boards, the Board of Agriculture and the dog loving general public.

Initiative: Anki Hagberg