



## BREEDERS PANEL NEWSLETTER

### Summer 2010

We are well into spring and many of us are making plans for the holiday season. Those of us going away need to have made plans for what to do with our Boxers. Kennels are almost fully booked this time of year and bookings often have to have been made a year to six months in advance. Dog-sitting services where people pop in and feed the dogs are becoming popular although it will mean that your Boxer[s] will be alone a great deal of the time! House-sitters where people live in and care for your pets are also popular but it is always good to get references from trusted sources. More and more holiday establishments nowadays allow for dogs to stay as well. Whatever arrangements you have made please make sure your Boxer is well looked after. We wish you all a safe journey.

We have included an article about guidelines for your puppy. There are many new puppy owners again! Breeders please look at the valuable pointers for breeders.

Who serves on the 2010/2011 committee?

Chairperson: Marinda Oosthuizen

Secretary: Els Sporen

Committee members: Helen Rennie, Pam Zeiler, Uschi Wöstmann, Magda Koekemoer, Adri Erasmus

Please contact us for more information

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## PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) **From 1 January 2011 ALL Adult Boxers** both male and female that are used for breeding purposes **MUST have a microchip inserted**. If you own an adult dog that is used for breeding purposes and he/she is not micro-chipped please have one inserted by your vet and send the number to the FBCSA secretary so it can be recorded in the data base.
  
- 2) **From 1 January 2011 ALL PUPPIES born MUST be micro-chipped in order to be registered**. This is to comply with our agreement with SA Stud Book. The FBCSA Secretary will still require a clear photo of the litter if you are living in an area where an official inspection is not practical. The photo is to prove to the Secretary that the puppies are in fact purebred but photos will no longer be used for identification purposes.
  
- 3) **From January 2011** the FBCSA will start to officially register all the Prefixes with SA Stud Book. Breeders can expect to receive correspondence re this from the FBCSA Secretary so please be on the lookout for this letter and act accordingly.
  
- 4) Look out for the new Introduction of a **Stud Dog Page** on the FBCSA Website. This will enable you to advertise your beautiful Stud for service.
  
- 5) The FBCSA will also be introducing a user friendly **electronic Stud Certificate and Litter Data Form** that you will be able to download from the website, thus making the registration process so much easier.

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# GUIDELINES FOR YOUR PUPPY

*(taken from: [www.chilternsdogrescue.org.uk](http://www.chilternsdogrescue.org.uk))*

It is always such a happy occasion to take a new puppy home. Here are a few health issues and tips to consider ensuring that you and your new puppy have many happy years together.



## 1. Vaccinations

~ Vaccinations are essential ~

Puppies are normally given their first inoculations at 6-8 weeks of age. The second inoculation is due at 10 weeks of age. Please contact your vet to make an appointment for the remaining vaccination for your puppy. The puppy must then wait for another week before it will be fully protected and be able to go out for walks safely. The diseases which your puppy will be vaccinated against are **parvovirus, distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis and parainfluenza**. Annual boosters must then be given for the rest of the dog's life to maintain its level of immunity.

## 2. Deworming

~ Deworming treatments are vital ~

Puppies must be dewormed regularly in the first few weeks after they are born, at about 3 weeks of age and then repeated every 2 - 3 weeks until the puppy is about 16 weeks of age. The treatment must then be administered every 3 months for the rest of the dog's life. We recommend going to your Veterinary surgery as they can offer the safest and most effective form of treatment.



### 3. Fleas

~ Your dog must be regularly treated for fleas ~

Veterinary clinics are the best place to purchase treatment as these are often far more effective than brands bought in shops. The best form of treatment to buy is Frontline or Advantage. These come in small capsules and the treatment is put between your dog's shoulder blades into the skin. Some dogs may have an allergic reaction to flea bites and therefore the dog and its living environment must be treated immediately otherwise the condition will lead to itchy sore skin, usually found on the lower back just above the tail.

### 4. Feeding routines and diet

Young puppies should be fed 4 times a day. When they reach 4 months of age you should feed then 3 times daily, reducing to twice a day at 6 months. The amount to feed your puppy will depend on age and size. If your puppy starts to get diarrhoea, cut down the amount you are feeding immediately and give them plain boiled rice and chicken for the day. If your puppy seems unwell or if there is blood in their faeces, contact your Vet immediately.

~ Always have a fresh supply of water available ~



### 5. House Training

The most important aspect of house training is for the owner to **praise and reward** the dog each time it performs in the chosen toilet area. Always ignore any accidents and **never punish your puppy**. This is cruel and will only cause them to become frightened of performing in front of you and make them anxious and confused.

#### **TIPS**

- Lay some newspaper down in the kitchen preferably near the back door, praise your puppy each time it performs on the paper. After they have grasped this you can begin to train them to go in the garden. Try putting the newspaper outside to start with.
- Only if you catch your puppy doing its toilet where it should not say "NO" and put them either onto the paper or out in the garden.

- Times when your puppy is most likely to relieve itself are after sleeping, walking, playing, and particularly after each meal time.
- Wait quietly until your puppy has performed, as it is important to praise your puppy immediately afterwards.
- Reward them with a small titbit or by remaining outside for a play session.
- Introduce a toilet phrase such as "do your business" or "toilet".
- When your puppy has an accident indoors clean the surface thoroughly to remove scent and discourage them from repeating this.

## **6. Training and Socializing**

**~ Training and socialization are very important ~**

Training and socialization are the most important parts of raising a well behaved and happy dog. **This means it is essential for you to take your puppy to training classes as soon as possible.** This enables them to learn all the basic commands and obedience while at the same time socializing them with a variety of different dogs and large groups of people. Ask your Vet where your nearest training classes are being held. It is important that you introduce your puppy to as much of the world as possible, as early as possible.

Learning to interact normally with adults, children, dogs and other animals is vital. **A vast majority of behavioural problems in dogs are brought about by lack of socialization by the owners. A good rule of thumb is to introduce your dog to 100 people by the time it is 16 weeks old.** Dogs need to learn to accept being left alone from an early age if they are to cope well. Do not spend all your time with your puppy, short planned absences each day that gradually lengthen as the puppy learns to cope helps them to tolerate being alone. However, this does not mean your puppy should be left for long periods of time. Too much time on its own may result in your puppy becoming noisy, destructive and dirty.



## **7. Children**

- Children must be told to give the new dog time to settle in. Do not allow them to smother and tease your puppy.

- Children must be taught to **respect** the dog and must never treat them as a toy.
- Never allow a young child to pick up the puppy, encourage them to sit on the floor and call the puppy to their lap.
- However good you think your dog is with children **never leave them unattended.**
- No dog or child can be trusted 100%.
- Be careful with visiting children as they may never have been taught how to behave around animals.
- A child must be told never to disturb a dog while it is resting and particularly when they are sleeping.
- It is natural for puppies to play bite. This is sometimes painful for us but it is normal puppy behaviour. Your puppy must learn when they have gone too far and often a firm "NO" will stop them.
- A dog needs to be given time away from children. They need to be given their own bed in a quiet room. This is particularly important if a large group of children are visiting e.g. birthday parties, schools holidays.



## **8. Exercise**

Do not exercise your puppy for long periods of time. Short, regular walks are recommended at first, especially in larger breeds as it may cause long term damage. A 20 minute walk three times a day will be sufficient. Once they reach about 9 months old they will probably require longer depending on the breed of dog. We advise you not to buy an extendable lead - these have resulted in tragic accidents in the past when used walking on roads.

## **9. Travelling**

Always make sure your dog is safely secure in the car. A guard dog placed in the boot of the car or a travelling cage is the best and safest options. It is very important to get your puppy used to travelling in the car from a young age. Start off with short journeys, building to longer ones. Do not just take your dog on journeys to the Vets or boarding kennels. This will make them become anxious and scared of travelling. Take them out in the car for exciting walks or to visit friends. We recommend you do not feed the puppy immediately before travelling.



Taking on a puppy is a major responsibility. Following these guidelines will help to ensure your puppy grows up happy, healthy and well socialized. For further advice or support, please contact the Breeders Panel who will be happy to advice on particular issues or, if required, refer you to a specialist.

We hope you enjoy your new puppy and have many happy years together.



## WARNING

Outbreaks of Rabies are on the increase! Please have your dogs vaccinated!



We wish you a merry Christmas and a very happy New Year!

Breeders Panel

November 2010