

Health and Genetics Committee Mission Statement and Operating Guidelines

(revised November 2008)

Mission Statement

The Health and Genetics Committee of the FBDCA is responsible for addressing issues of importance to the health of French Bulldogs and of interest to members of the FBDCA. We address these issues by providing objective information from up to date and reliable sources, including the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation (AKC-CHF), scientific publications, veterinarians and researchers. The responsibilities of the Health and Genetics Committee include but are not limited to:

1. Conducting health surveys at intervals on the incidence of health problems in French bulldogs and making public the results of the survey.
2. Representing the FBDCA to the AKC Canine Health Foundation by:
 - a. Attending the biennial National Parent Club Canine Health Conference sponsored by the Canine Health Foundation.
 - b. Conducting other fundraisers to generate additional funding for the club's CHF Donor Advised Fund.
 - c. Recommending to the CHF specific health issues on which we would like to have research proposals solicited.
 - d. Making recommendations to the FBDCA on expenditures of the Donor Advised Fund for health and genetics research for betterment of the breed.
3. Working with the show committee to assist in organizing health clinics and/or seminars at the FBDCA National Specialty show each year.
4. Publishing occasional articles on pertinent health and genetics topics on the club's website.
5. Carrying out other projects as requested by the membership and accepted by the Health and Genetics Committee as appropriate to fulfilling the mission of the Health and Genetics Committee.
6. Making a quarterly report to the Board of Directors to be published in the minutes of the FBDCA Board meetings.

1. The committee will be composed of three to five members in good standing with the FBDCA.
2. Appointments to the Health and Genetics Committee will be for a three-year term. If willing to serve, members can be appointed for consecutive terms.
3. The Chair of the Health and Genetics Committee is appointed by the Board of Directors of the FBDCA. The Chair recommends to the Board additional committee members, subject to Board approval. If an opening on the existing committee is to be filled, a recommendation is sent to the Board from a consensus of the present committee members.
4. Any member of the FBDCA appointed to the committee will agree to use her/his committee appointment to fulfill the mission statement. All members of the Health and Genetics committee agree not to use their committee appointment to represent themselves for personal objectives or gain. A member will not make statements for the committee without agreement of the other members. If in doubt, a member must indicate whether a statement is a personal opinion or approved by the committee. Information that is deemed to be of a confidential nature must be held in confidence by all members of the committee.
5. In January of every calendar year the members of the Health and Genetics Committee will set the agenda of projects and responsibilities of each member for that year. Final approval of all projects are by a consensus of the committee members.
6. In the event a consensus for final deposition of a project cannot be reached, a vote is taken and presented to the Board of Directors of the FBDCA who will then make a recommendation to the committee chairperson.
7. The chairperson of the Health and Genetics Committee is responsible for communicating the Committee's quarterly reports to the board and generally assisting with communication among the committee members.