

# Olde English Bulldogge

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## Official UKC Breed Standard

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Guardian Dog Group

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The goals and purposes of this breed standard include: to furnish guidelines for breeders who wish to maintain the quality of their breed and to improve it; to advance this breed to a state of similarity throughout the world; and to act as a guide for judges.

Breeders and judges have the responsibility to avoid any conditions or exaggerations that are detrimental to the health, welfare, essence and soundness of this breed, and must take the responsibility to see that these are not perpetuated.

Any departure from the following should be considered a fault, and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

Absolute soundness and proper muscle tone is a must. Head properties should remain free of exaggeration so as to not compromise breathing and/or obstruct normal vision.

Breeders and judges are advised to always go for healthy and functional moderation, never for exaggeration.

### HISTORY

Bulldogs were created for the English sport of bull baiting, practiced from approximately 1100 until 1835. By the middle of the 1800's, the sport was no longer legal, and the athletic bulldog quickly began to disappear. Because the bulldog was revived solely for the conformation venue, selective breeding for appearance severely compromised the health and lifespan of this once agile, athletic and happy breed.

In 1971 a breeding project began using a linebreeding scheme developed by Dr. Fechimer of Ohio State to rapidly achieve a purebred dog. The goal of this project was to return the bulldog to the appearance of the "Regency-Period" bulldog, now named the Olde English Bulldogge (OEB) to clearly differentiate the new breed from the modern English Bulldog.

Today's Olde English Bulldogge matches the looks of the bull baiting dog of the early 1800's. They are, first and foremost, excellent companions, while also possessing the drive, temperament and agility to perform in numerous working venues as well as being service dogs. The revival of a healthy dog with the longevity to live well into its teens is a primary goal.

The Olde English Bulldogge was recognized by the United Kennel Club on January 1, 2014.

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Olde English Bulldogge is a muscular, medium sized dog of great strength, and possessed of fluid, agile movement. He is well balanced and proportioned, while appearing capable of performing without any breathing restrictions in either heat or in cold.

*Disqualifications:* Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

### CHARACTERISTICS

The disposition of the Olde English Bulldogge is confident, friendly and alert. An OEB should be an animated and expressive dog, both in and out of the show ring.

*Fault:* Shyness in a mature dog.

*Disqualification:* Viciousness or extreme shyness.

### HEAD

*Serious Faults:* Excessive wrinkle, lack of pigment around eyes, nose or mouth.

**SKULL** – The skull is large and well-proportioned to the dog's muscular body and prominent shoulders. There is a defined furrow from the stop to the occiput.

*Serious Faults:* Narrow skull; domed forehead.

**MUZZLE** – The muzzle appears square, wide and deep, with definite layback. Distance from the tip of the nose to the stop does not exceed one-third of the distance from the tip of the nose to the occiput. Flews are semi-pendulous.

**TEETH** - Bite is undershot or reverse scissors. Lower jawbone is moderately curved from front to back. Broken, chipped or extracted teeth are not to be faulted. Exposed canine teeth are to be faulted.

*Disqualifications:* Wry jaw; overbite.

**NOSE** - Nostrils are wide, with a line running vertically between nostrils from the tip of nose down to the bottom of the upper lip. Nose is large and broad in relationship to the width of the muzzle. Nose color is black.

*Serious Fault:* Slit nostrils.

*Disqualification:* Any color nose other than black.

**EYES** - Eyes are medium in size and almond shaped.

They are set wide and low, level with the top of the muzzle. Color is dark to light brown, with black pigmented eye rims.

*Disqualifications:* Any eye color other than brown; wall eyes; crossed eyes.

**EARS** - Ears are rose, button or tulip. Rose is preferred. They are set high, wide and to the back outer edge of the skull. The ears are small in size.

## NECK

The neck is medium length, wide, and slightly arched. It is slightly smaller than the head at their junction, and widens to point of the shoulders. Loose from jaw to chest, forming a double dewlap.

## FOREQUARTERS

Shoulders are broad, heavily muscled and have a separation between the shoulder blades. Moderate angulation of the shoulder blade, which should also be roughly equal in length to the upper foreleg.

ELBOWS - Elbows should be neither in nor out.

FORELEGS - Forelegs are of medium bone, set straight, with strong pasterns.

## BODY

Sturdy, powerful and slightly rectangular when viewed from the side. Chest is wide and deep, with a muscular brisket, and ribs well-sprung. There should be a distinct tuck between ribs and hindquarters. There is a dip behind the withers; topline rises over the loin with the appearance of a slight roach.

*Faults:* Narrow rib cage.

## HINDQUARTERS

Hind legs are well muscled and have the appearance of being slightly longer than the forelegs.

Viewed from the rear, the hind legs should be straight, parallel and set apart. Angulation is moderate.

*Fault:* Cow-hocked or bow-hocked.

## FEET

Feet are strong and rounded, with well-arched toes.

*Faults:* Flat feet or splayed toes.

## TAIL

A full tail is preferred. The characteristic tail is often referred to as a crank or pump handle tail. Straight tails are also acceptable. The tail is set on as a natural extension of the topline, and tapers to a point. When the dog is relaxed, the tail is carried low and extends approximately to the hock. When the dog is moving, the tail is carried level with the back. When the dog is excited, the tail may be carried in a raised, upright position (challenge tail), but never curled over the back (gay tail). A docked tail is acceptable, but not preferred.

*Faults:* Tail curling 360 degrees or carried up over the back.

*Disqualifications:* Natural bob tail. Screw tail. Kinked tail (a tail with one or more sharp bends).

## COAT

Coat is short, close and of medium density. It should be shiny, showing good health.

*Faults:* Fringe, feather or curl in the coat.

## COLOR

Accepted color patterns include brindle, and solid colors, with or without white.

Brindle is defined as a fine streaked or striped effect or pattern of black or tan hairs with hairs of a lighter or darker background color. Shades of colors accepted include red brindle, fawn brindle, brown brindle, and grey brindle; either solid or pied.

Accepted solid colors include white, fawn, red or black; with or without white.

*Disqualifications:* Albinism. Blue, and black with rust/mahogany/tan trim.

## GAIT

At a trot, the gait is smooth, powerful, energetic and confident. A slight roll to the gait should not be faulted. Footfalls approach the centerline as trotting speed increases.

When viewed from the front or rear, the legs turn neither in nor out, nor do feet cross or interfere with each other. From the side, the front legs should reach out smoothly with no obvious pounding.

## HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

Overall balance is never to be sacrificed in favor of size.

Dogs should be 60 to 80 pounds, and 17 to 20 inches at the withers. Bitches should be 50 to 70 pounds, and 16 to 19 inches at the withers.

Neither dog nor bitch appears fat. Measurements apply at age 2 or older. Weight of both dog and bitch should be proportionate to height.

## DISQUALIFICATIONS

*(A dog with a Disqualification must not be considered for placement in a conformation event, and must be reported to UKC.)*

Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

Viciousness or extreme shyness.

Albinism.

Wry jaw.

Overbite.

Any color nose other than black.

Any eye color other than brown.

Wall eyes.

Crossed eyes.

Natural bob tail.

Screw tail.

Kinked tail (a tail with one or more sharp bends)

Blue, and black with rust/mahogany/tan trim.

*The docking of tails and cropping of ears in America is legal and remains a personal choice. However, as an international registry, the United Kennel Club, Inc. is aware that the practices of cropping and docking have been forbidden in some countries. In light of these developments, the United Kennel Club feels that no dog*

*in any UKC event, including conformation, shall be penalized for a full tail or natural ears.*