THE MINIATURE BULL TERRIER



HOW DID THE BREED EVOLVE?





THE BULL TERRIER

Interbreeding between Bull Terriers and Miniatures – in place for 50/60 years.

Current round - established 1999 - agreed by the KC as part of the research to isolate the PLL gene.

On completion of the research, AHT advised interbreeding continue as breed's gene pool was very limited.

The health of the breed has significantly improved due to health testing which developed as part of the interbreeding process.

Type has also significantly improved and breeders are now faced with the challenge of retaining type whilst reducing size.

WHAT BREEDS WERE USED TO CREATE THE BULL TERRIER?

THE OLD FASHIONED BULL DOG



The bulldog, highly regarded in the 1800's for its strength and tenacity, brought several things to the table, heavier bone, dense musculature, short back with an arched loin. Neither graceful nor fast but constructed to grab and keep hold of an adversary.

In addition it had a proportionately larger head, and great power of jaw and neck.

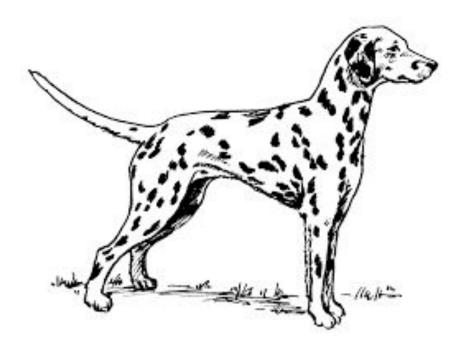
OLD ENGLISH WHITE TERRIER



The terrier believed to have been crossed with the bulldog was the Old English White. Small, agile and well made, with a short back and straight limbs. These terriers were largely used to find and kill small vermin which required a high degree of agility, but not brute muscular strength.

They brought a smoother musculature, alertness and quickness, doubling up on the short back and strength over the loin.

THE DALMATIAN



How much Dalmatian is in the breed is unknown but we can assume there is some as we see the grace and elegance of the Dalmatian with their longer necks and smooth shoulders but also their longer backs and legs with proportionately smaller headpieces

BREED TYPE - THE ULTIMATE VIRTUE

- The visual representation of the breed standard
- If we see virtue it MUST be rewarded
- Even if in doing so, you have to forgive some obvious faults
- BREED TYPE IS THE ULTIMATE
 VIRTUE



THE UNIQUE HEAD OF OUR BREED



THE UNIQUE HEAD

- The many points which make up an excellent head:
- Arc
- Width
- Depth
- Expression
- Ear placement
- Fill
- Finish
- Bite

BITE







BREED TYPE - BALANCE

AN EXCELLENT
EXAMPLE
OF BALANCE



SO, WHAT IS BALANCE?

Another adjective frequently heard when describing or discussing miniatures is 'balance'...but what does

this mean?

- Length of back
- Deep-chested
- Shoulders
- Length of neck
- Head size in proportion to body
- Breadth and depth
- Square
- Tail carriage**



AN EYE FOR A DOG

- What is an 'eye for a dog'?
- Is it a critical part of judging
- Is it possible to teach it?
- Is it purely natural aptitude?
- Art or Science



AN EYE FOR A DOG

Science - understanding the dog's purpose in order to understand the construction and movement

Art - the ability to recognise the beauty, form, symmetry and style of the dog

The breed standard – like The Lord's Prayer – can be easily memorised. It takes insight & dedication to interpret/understand it

'Knowledge, decisiveness, integrity and all the other virtues attributed to judges are useless without one vital possession – an 'eye' for a dog'



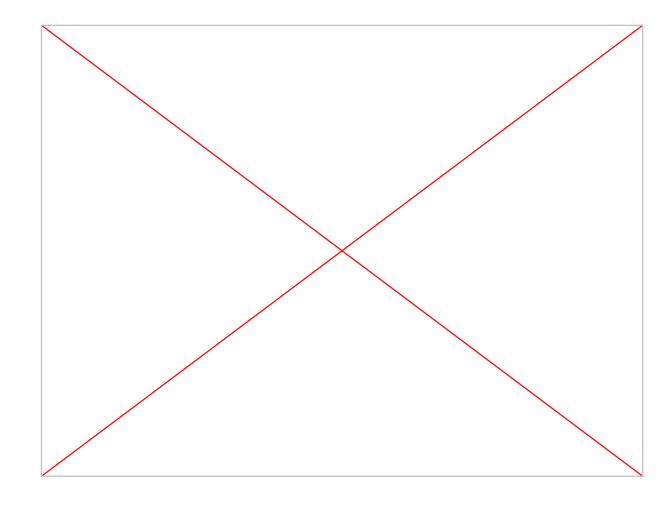
BREED SPECIFIC HANDLING

- Use the Table
- Know how to Measure
- Little 'hands on needed
- Movement back, front & side



MOVEMENT

- Parallel front & back
- Jaunty air
- Flexing well at stifle & hock



RESPONSIBILITY OF THE JUDGE

RHO: 'No breed can continue to progress if it is consistently badly judged because sooner or later a general air of confusion will grow so that neither the experienced breeder nor the novice knows what to do next'.....he went on to say'if the wrong animals are put up consistently, they are liable to be chosen for breeding, which is likely to have a harmful effect on the breed. So it is very important that a high level of judging be maintained. Unless this happens, the general standard of the dogs will almost certainly deteriorate.'

