### WHAT TO EXPECT FROM A BREEDER



The first and MOST important thing to expect from a reputable breeder is: A contract, mutually agreed upon and signed by all

parties, that outlines the rights and responsibilities of breeder and buyer. Other things to expect are:

- Some sort of health guarantee (fully covered in the contract).
- Some permanent identification of the dog like microchip or tattoo. (The contract should include the chip or tattoo number and this should match the one in, or on the dog) Be sure you get the dog that you paid for!
- The necessary AKC registration papers, whether you plan to show your puppy or not.
- A pedigree showing at least 3 generations of ancestors.
- Current health records.



FRENCH BULL DOG CLUB OF AMERICA

For Breeder Referral Services and more information about the French Bulldog Please go to the FBDCA website at:

#### www.frenchbulldogclub.org



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## FINDING A French Bulldog breeder

# **"WEBSITES"**

In this digital world, people are looking to



the internet more and more...even when looking for a puppy. Be Careful. Just because a person can

produce a good website does not mean they can, or are producing good puppies.

Some warning signs...

Is the site offering "rare " or "exotic" colors such as blue, chocolate, merle and black and tan? These are known as fad colors. They are a disqualification (DQ) and not accepted by the French Bulldog Breed Standard. Those who intentionally breed DQ colors in French Bulldogs are irresponsible. Known health conditions are linked to these fad colors which is why they were disallowed in the breed. No responsible breeder would breed against their breed standard. Fad breeders are breeding strictly for money; not the best interests of the breed!

Does the breeder disparage AKC registration? Is the pup eligible for AKC registration? Are Both Parents AKC Registered?

Is the breeder willing to ship anywhere, at any time, for extra money?

## WHERE TO LOOK AND WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Where do you start?

Breeder Referral lists are a good option. The FBDCA has Breeder referral service on their website, listed by state. These breeders have been a member of FBDCA for a minimum of three years, and have signed a written code of ethics.

Also on the FBDCA website is a list of member clubs. One may be close to you and you may have the ability to receive a recommendation for a breeder in your area.

AKC has a Breeder of Merit program that may give you some leads. These breeders have a history of at least 5 years involvement with AKC events. They have earned Conformation, Performance or Companion event titles on a minimum of 4 dogs they bred/co-bred. They are a member of an AKC club. They must certify that applicable health screens are performed on their breeding dogs as recommended by the Parent Club and they demonstrate a commitment to ensuring 100% of the puppies produced are AKC registered.

An AKC dog show in your area will allow you to meet some breeders who are competing with their dogs.

> Club Breeder Referral Lists... a good place to start

After you have a lead...Then what?

Referrals from individuals, from clubs or from AKC do not negate the need for further investigation.

Ask questions.

Did they breed the pup themselves?

Have the pups been around other pets, Children, etc. for socialization?

Are the parents of the pup health tested? Health testing does not mean the dog will never get sick. It means that the breeder is aware of known health issues common to the breed and is working to improve their lines.

Can the breeder give you referrals from people who have bought a pup from them in the past?

Do they have a health guarantee? What does it include?

May you come to their home and see their other dogs, the mother of the pup, and if on site the father too?

Are the pups eligible to be registered with AKC? AKC registration insures that the pup is purebred.